

Marden Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan
Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4b
‘Basic Conditions’ Statement

1.0 Legal Requirements

The Submission Plan is being submitted by a qualifying body

This Submission Plan is being submitted by a qualifying body, namely Marden Parish Council.

What is being proposed is a neighbourhood development plan

The plan proposal relates to planning matters (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 by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan states the period for which it is to have effect

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan states the period for which it is to have effect. That period is from the Plan being made (2015) up to 2031 (the same period as the emerging Herefordshire Core Strategy Local Plan).

The policies do not relate to excluded development

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

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area and there are no other neighbourhood development plans in place within the neighbourhood area

The Neighbourhood Plan proposal relates to the Marden Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. There are no other Neighbourhood Plans relating to that neighbourhood area.

2.0 Basic Conditions

Have Appropriate Regard to National Policy

The Marden Neighbourhood Development Plan has been produced with appropriate regard to the guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Paragraphs 183-185 of the NPPF outline specific guidance in relation to the production of Neighbourhood Plans. Paragraph 184 states that “The ambition of the neighbourhood should be aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the local area. Neighbourhood Plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the local plan.” The Neighbourhood Development Plan has been drafted with regard to the planning policies of Herefordshire Council, and the comprehensive evidence base that supports these policies.

Paragraph 184 also states that Neighbourhood Plans should “not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan or undermine its strategic policies”. The Marden Neighbourhood Development Plan does not undermine the strategic policies of Herefordshire Council; the Plan aims to support these policies by protecting local built and natural heritage assets from insensitive new development, aiming to ensure appropriate landscaping and screening are in place if the proposed southern link road is brought forward, and supporting small scale housing development to meet local needs.

The Plan has regard to the twelve core planning principles set out within paragraph 17 of the Framework, as set out in Table 1 below:

Table 1 NPPF Core Planning Principles and the Marden Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan

NPPF Core Planning Principle	Regard that Marden Neighbourhood Development Plan has to guidance
Planning should be genuinely plan-led, empowering local people to shape their surroundings, with succinct local and Neighbourhood Plans setting out a positive vision for the future of the area. Plans should be kept up to date, and be based on joint working and co-operation to address larger than local issues. They should provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made with a high degree of predictability and efficiency.	The Parish Council has produced the Submission Plan in line with this guidance. It will provide a framework to ensure that development is genuinely plan-led, and through involvement of the local community in shaping its policies and proposals through informal and formal consultation, the Plan will empower local people to shape their surroundings. The emerging vision, objectives, policies and proposals in the Plan have been developed with a thorough approach to community engagement. The Plan sets out a positive vision for the area up to 2031.

	The Neighbourhood Development Plan sets out a concise and practical suite of policies (13 in total) to guide development control decisions.
Planning should not simply be about scrutiny, but instead be a creative exercise in finding ways to enhance and improve the places in which people live their lives.	The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan offers the local community the opportunity to shape the future development of Marden Parish in a creative way, ensuring that the quality of the place is enhanced by including policies which protect local community facilities and green spaces, support new housing, promote high quality design in new development, and protect local landscape character.
Planning should proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver the homes, business and industrial units, infrastructure and thriving local places that the country needs. Every effort should be made objectively to identify and then meet the housing, business and other development needs of an area, and respond to wider opportunities for growth. Plans should take account of market signals, such as land prices and housing affordability, and set out a clear strategy for allocating sufficient land which is suitable for development in their area, taking account of the needs of the residential and business communities.	The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan refines and amplifies Herefordshire-wide policies and proposals set out in Herefordshire's Core Strategy policies. The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan supports appropriate business and economic growth in the parish in Policies M7 and M8. Policy M9 encourages the development of communications infrastructure. The plan positively supports sustainable housing growth in the parish through housing allocations and criteria based policies.
Planning should always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings.	The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan sets out policies which encourage high quality design in new development (M4), protect and enhance local landscape character (M11) and identify local green space (M10) which will help to ensure that amenity is protected.
Planning should take account of the different roles and character of different areas, promoting the vitality of our main urban areas, protecting the Green Belts around them, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it.	The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan takes regard of this guidance fully in plan- making and decision- taking. The Plan recognises the rural character of this Parish, and the need to protect the rural landscape character. The important role of local community facilities in the Parish in relation to health and wellbeing is recognised in Policy M6.

<p>Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy).</p>	<p>The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan supports the re-use of brownfield sites / retention of buildings in Policy M4. The use of Sustainable Drainage Systems is promoted in in Policy M12. Policy M13 supports improvements to public rights of way and connectivity. Taken together these Policies should assist with reducing carbon emissions associated with high levels of dependency on the private car associated with rural areas.</p>
<p>Planning should contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution. Allocations of land for development should prefer land of lesser environmental value, where consistent with other policies in the Framework.</p>	<p>The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan is fully consistent with this principle. The Plan provides a policy framework for the protection and enhancement of this highly sensitive rural landscape in Policy M11 Landscape Character. This policy encourages the protection and enhancement of areas of woodland and seeks to encourage country stewardship and similar schemes to enhance the biodiversity and natural environment.</p>
<p>Planning should encourage the effective use of land by reusing land that has been previously developed (Brownfield land), provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p>	<p>The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan supports the re-use of brownfield sites / retention of buildings in Policy M1, M2, and M4.</p>
<p>Planning should promote mixed-use developments, and encourage multiple benefits from the use of land in urban and rural areas, recognising that some open land can perform many functions (such as wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, carbon storage or food production).</p>	<p>Overall the Plan supports an approach which should provide a sustainable future for this rural community, providing policies which protect existing community facilities in the Parish, support a mix of new housing and small scale rural enterprise appropriate to the local character, and which protect the open countryside and valued green spaces.</p>
<p>Planning should conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations</p>	<p>The Policies in the Marden Neighbourhood Development Plan seek to retain and enhance built and natural features in the Parish.</p>
<p>Planning should actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling, and</p>	<p>The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan seeks to support the enhancement of public rights of way / connectivity in M13.</p>

focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable	
Planning should take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural services to meet local needs	The Neighbourhood Development Plan is fully in accord with this principle. Policies in the plan safeguard and seek to improve open countryside and rural landscape setting and promote walking and cycling.

Have Special Regard to the Desirability of Preserving any Listed Building or its Setting or any Features of Special Architectural or Historic Interest

The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan has special regard to the desirability of preserving features of architectural or historic interest within the Parish in all of its policies.

Have Special Regard to the Desirability of Preserving or Enhancing Character or Appearance of any Conservation Area

The designated Plan area has no Conservation Areas.

The making of the neighbourhood development plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010(2)) or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007(3)) (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects).

The Neighbourhood Development Plan has been subject to a separate Screening Process for Strategic Environmental Assessment prepared by Herefordshire Council that accompanies the Submission Plan and this Basic Condition Statement. Plans that may have a significant effect on European Sites have to undertake a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA).

Responses were received from English Heritage and Natural England. The response from Natural England agrees with the recommendation for a HRA and an SEA for the plan.

The accompanying Consultation Statement for the Marden Neighbourhood Development Plan includes the full responses from both English Heritage and Natural England.

The Draft Environmental report produced by Herefordshire Council concludes as follows

On the whole, it is considered that the Marden NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). Nor does it propose any growth that would be over and above that prescribed by strategic policies. Therefore no changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of the SEA.

Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the effects of the policies within the Marden NDP will be monitored annually via the Council's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).

Contribute to the Achievement of Sustainable Development

The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan contributes strongly to the achievement of sustainable development.

Paragraphs 6-10 of the National Planning Policy Framework outline the Government's definition of sustainable development.

The UK Government's interpretation of the concept of sustainable development builds on that of the UN resolution 24/187, which is 'meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.'

The NPPF amplifies this simple definition, at paragraph 7, stating that sustainable development has three dimensions, economic, social and environmental. Planning needs to perform a number of roles in relation to these issues:

- ❑ “an economic role - contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;
- ❑ a social role - supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of the 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
- ❑ an environmental role - 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.”

In Paragraph 6, the NPPF states that “the policies in paragraphs 18-219, taken as a whole, constitute the Government’s view of what sustainable development in England means in practice for the planning system”.

Table 1 above gives a clear and comprehensive narrative of how the planning framework complies with the Core Planning Principles of the NPPF, and by corollary, the achievement of sustainable development.

Table 2 below summarises how the policies and allocations in the Submission Plan contribute to the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development.

Table 2 Submission Plan’s contribution to the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development.

Sustainable Development Role	Neighbourhood Development Plan’s Contribution
Economic	The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan seeks to support appropriate local economic development which is sensitive to the rural landscape and setting of the Group Parish, for example through supporting and enhancing existing local employment (M8), encouraging new local employment opportunities in M7.
Social	The plan protects local community facilities (M6 and M10) and recognises the role of the landscape and countryside (M13) in supporting health and wellbeing of parish residents The Plan also supports new market and local needs housing and a mix of tenures, types and sizes of houses in Policies M1, M2, M3 and M5.
Environmental	The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan sets out policies that protect local wildlife and biodiversity and rural landscapes in Policy M11. The Plan seeks to promote more sustainable transport patterns through walking and cycling. Policies seek to promote the local distinctiveness of the area, and recognises the important natural and built heritage assets to local residents as an important aspect of the Parish’s identity.

Be in General Conformity with Strategic Local Planning Policy

The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan is in general conformity with strategic Local Plan policies contained in the Herefordshire Core Strategy (2011-2031).

Planning Practice Guidance 2014 para 009 advises that “*Neighbourhood plans, when brought into force, become part of the development plan for the neighbourhood area. They can be developed before or at the same time as the local planning authority is producing its [Local Plan](#).*”

A draft neighbourhood plan or Order must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan in force if it is to meet the [basic conditions](#). A draft Neighbourhood Plan or Order is not tested against the policies in an emerging Local Plan although the reasoning and evidence informing the Local Plan process may be relevant to the consideration of the basic conditions against which a neighbourhood plan is tested.”

Table 3 below sets out the way that the Neighbourhood Development Plan conforms to the relevant strategic policies from the Adopted Plan, the Core Strategy Local Plan for Herefordshire.

Table 3 Conformity with Local Strategic Policy

<i>Marden Neighbourhood Development Plan</i>	<i>Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011 – 2031 Submission Draft</i>
<p>Policy M1 (Marden 1) – Scale and Type of New Housing Development in Marden village</p> <p>In order to retain the rural character of Marden village over the plan period, proposals for new housing development will only be permitted within the Settlement Boundary or on allocated sites, as shown below and in Appendix 10, in accordance with the Herefordshire Core Strategy and where it meets all the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Designed to be an integrated addition to the village, well connected to the existing village settlement and community facilities; (b) Does not lead to the loss of protected open space, shops or other local facilities; (c) Maintains an appropriate density in context with the immediate surrounding area and not exceeding 25 dwellings per hectare; (d) Ensures appropriate and safe access can be achieved; (e) Provides appropriate residential amenity for future occupiers (not located adjacent 	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>When considering development proposals Herefordshire Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained within national policy. It will always work proactively to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible and to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire.</p> <p>Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Core Strategy (and, where relevant with policies in other Development Plan Documents and Neighbourhood Development Plans) will be approved, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.</p> <p>Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision then the council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise - taking into account whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in national policy taken as a whole; or b) specific elements of national policy indicate that development should be restricted. <p>Policy RA1 – Rural housing distribution</p> <p>In Herefordshire’s rural areas a minimum of 5,300 new dwellings will be provided between 2011 and 2031 to contribute to the county’s housing needs. The development of rural housing will contribute towards the wider regeneration of the rural economy.</p> <p>New dwellings will be broadly distributed across the county’s rural areas on the basis of seven Housing Markets Areas (HMA) and as illustrated in Figure 4.13. This acknowledges that different areas of Herefordshire have different housing needs and requirements.</p>

to noise generating agricultural, industrial or commercial activities);

- (f) Is of high quality design and is in keeping with the immediate surroundings, environment and rural landscape;
- (g) Demonstrates a contribution to the delivery of an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes including affordable housing, to meet the needs of all sectors of the community;
- (h) Reflects the scale and function of the village of Marden; and
- (i) Ensures that any likely significant effect on the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is avoided or adequately mitigated.
- (j) Where a Transport Assessment is submitted in support of a planning application, this quantifies in detail the likely impact on the rail network.

In addition, the use of a brownfield site within the Settlement Boundary or conversion/replacement of an existing building or the use of an infill site will be given priority.

The 5,300 dwellings will be delivered throughout the rural HMAs as set out in the table below. The indicative housing growth targets in each of the rural HMAs will be used as a basis for the production of neighbourhood development plans in the county. Local evidence and environmental factors will determine the appropriate scale of development.

Rural HMA	Approximate number of dwellings 2011 -2031	Indicative housing growth target for the villages (%)*
Hereford	1870	18%

Policy RA2 – Housing in settlements outside Hereford and the market towns

To maintain and strengthen locally sustainable communities across the rural parts of Herefordshire, sustainable housing growth will be supported in or adjacent to those settlements identified in Figures 4.14 and 4.15. This will enable development that has the ability to bolster existing service provision, improve facilities and infrastructure and meet the needs of the communities concerned.

The minimum growth target in each rural Housing Market Area will be used to inform the level of housing development to be delivered in the various settlements set out in Figures 4.14 and 4.15. Neighbourhood Development Plans will allocate land for new housing or otherwise demonstrate delivery to provide levels of housing to meet the various targets, by indicating levels of suitable and available capacity.

Housing proposals will be permitted where the following criteria are met:

1. Their design and layout should reflect the size, role and function of each settlement and be located within or adjacent to the main built up area. In relation to smaller settlements identified in Fig 4.15 proposals will be expected to demonstrate particular attention to the form, layout, character and setting of the site and its location in that settlement and/or they result in development that contributes to or is essential to the social well-being of the settlement concerned;
2. Their locations make best and full use of suitable brownfield sites wherever possible;

	<p>3. They result in the development of high quality, sustainable schemes which are appropriate to their context and make a positive contribution to the surrounding environment and its landscape setting; and</p> <p>4. They result in the delivery of schemes that generate the size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular settlements, reflecting local demand.</p> <p>Specific proposals for the delivery of local need housing will be particularly supported where they meet an identified need and their long-term retention as local needs housing is secured as such.</p> <p>Marden is identified in Fig 4.14 as a settlement which will be the main focus of proportionate housing development.</p> <p>Burmarsh, Litmarsh and The Vaultd are identified in Fig 4.15 as other settlements where proportionate housing is appropriate.</p> <p>Policy H3 – Ensuring an appropriate range and mix of housing</p> <p>Residential developments should provide a range and mix of housing units which can contribute to the creation of balanced and inclusive communities. In particular, on larger housing sites of more than 50 dwellings developers will be expected to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. provide a range of house types and sizes to meet the needs of all households, including younger single people; 2. provide housing capable of being adapted for people in the community with additional needs; and 3. provide housing capable of meeting the specific needs of the elderly population by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing specialist accommodation for older people in suitable locations; - ensuring that non-specialist new housing is built to take account of the changing needs of an ageing population;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ensuring that developments contain a range of house types, including where appropriate, bungalow accommodation. <p>The latest Local Housing Market Assessment will provide evidence of the need for an appropriate mix and range of housing types and sizes.</p>
<p>Policy M2 – Scale and Type of New Housing Development in designated hamlets</p> <p>In order to retain the rural character of the three settlements, proposals for new housing within Litmarsh, Burmarsh and The Vault, will be considered in accordance with the Herefordshire Core Strategy subject to the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Located on an infill site, see below and Proposals Maps for Settlement Boundaries; (b) Small-scale comprising of 1-3 dwellings; (c) Maintains an appropriate density in context with the immediate surrounding area; (d) Ensures appropriate and safe access can be achieved; (e) Provides appropriate residential amenity for future occupiers (not located adjacent to noise generating agricultural, industrial or commercial activities); 	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy RA1 – Rural housing Distribution</p> <p>Policy RA2 – Housing in settlements outside Hereford and the market towns</p> <p>Policy H3 – Ensuring an appropriate range and mix of housing</p>

- (f) Is of high quality design and is in keeping with the immediate surroundings, environment and rural landscape;
- (g) Demonstrates a contribution to the delivery of an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes including affordable housing, to meet the needs of all sectors of the community;
- (h) Reflects the scale and function of the settlement; and
- (i) Ensures that any likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC is avoided or adequately mitigated.

For the purposes of this policy infill is defined as

- Development which fills a restricted gap in the continuity of existing buildings where the site has existing building curtilages, normally residential, adjoining on at least two sides; and
- Development within the settlement which does not involve outward extension of that area; and
- Development of the site is a complete scheme and not the first stage of a larger development.

<p>Policy M3 – Scale and Type of New Housing Development in the countryside</p> <p>Proposals for new housing in the countryside, will only be considered in the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Meets an agricultural or forestry need or other farm diversification enterprise for a worker to live permanently at or near their place of work; or (b) Accompanies and is necessary to the establishment or growth of a rural enterprise; or (c) Involves the replacement of an existing dwelling (with a lawful residential use) that is comparable in size and scale with, and is located in the lawful domestic curtilage, of the existing dwelling; or (d) Would result in the sustainable re-use of a redundant or disused building(s); or (e) Is rural exception housing in accordance with Policy H2 of the Herefordshire Core Strategy; and (f) Ensures that any likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC is avoided or adequately mitigated. 	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy RA3 – Herefordshire’s countryside</p> <p>In rural locations outside of settlements, as to be defined in either neighbourhood development plans or the Rural Areas Sites Allocations DPD, residential development will be limited to proposals which satisfy one or more of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. meets an agricultural or forestry need or other farm diversification enterprise for a worker to live permanently at or near their place of work and complies with Policy RA4; or 2. accompanies and is necessary to the establishment or growth of a rural enterprise, and complies with Policy RA4; or 3. involves the replacement of an existing dwelling (with a lawful residential use) that is comparable in size and scale with, and is located in the lawful domestic curtilage, of the existing dwelling; or 4. would result in the sustainable re-use of a redundant or disused building(s) where it complies with Policy RA5 and leads to an enhancement of its immediate setting; or 5. is rural exception housing in accordance with Policy H2; or 6. is of exceptional quality and innovative design satisfying the design criteria set out in Paragraph 55 of the National Planning Policy Framework and achieves sustainable standards of design and construction; or 7. is a site providing for the needs of gypsies or other travellers in accordance with Policy H4. <p>Policy RA4 – Agricultural, forestry and rural enterprise dwellings</p> <p>Proposals for dwellings associated with agriculture, forestry and rural enterprises will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that there is a sustained essential functional need for the dwelling and it forms an essential part of a financially sustainable business, and that such need cannot be met in existing accommodation. Such dwellings should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. demonstrate that the accommodation could not be provided in an existing building(s);
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2. be sited so as to meet the identified functional need within the unit or in relation to other dwellings and
3. be of a high quality, sustainable design which is appropriate to the context and makes a positive contribution to the surrounding environment and rural landscape.

Where evidence of the economic sustainability of the rural enterprise is not proven or where an enterprise is not yet established, planning permission for temporary accommodation may be granted for a maximum period of three years to enable the sustainability of the enterprise to be assessed. Successive extensions will not normally be granted. Temporary accommodation should be carefully sited within the unit or in relation to other dwellings.

Dwellings permitted in accordance with this policy will be subject to occupancy controls secured through a Section 106 Agreement. In some situations it will be appropriate to use legal agreements to tie other dwellings to the unit and/or restrict the occupancy of other dwellings within the farm/business unit.

Applications for the removal of occupancy conditions (or section 106 Agreements) will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated the dwelling is surplus to the current and sustained original business needs, as well as other rural enterprises in the locality and there has been a genuine and unsuccessful attempt to market the property at a realistic price (for rent or sale) which has been independently verified.

Policy RA5 – Re-use of rural buildings

The sustainable re-use of individual and groups of redundant or disused buildings, including farmsteads in rural areas, which will make a positive contribution to rural businesses and enterprise and support the local economy (including live work units) or which otherwise contributes to residential development, or is essential to the social well-being of the countryside, will be permitted where:

1. design proposals respect the character and significance of any redundant or disused building and demonstrate that it represents the most viable option for the

	<p>long term conservation and enhancement of any heritage asset affected, together with its setting;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. design proposals make adequate provision for protected and priority species and associated habitats; 3. the proposal is compatible with neighbouring uses, including any continued agricultural operations and does not cause undue environmental impacts and; 4. the buildings are of permanent and substantial construction capable of conversion without major or complete reconstruction; and 5. the building is capable of accommodating the proposed new use without the need for substantial alteration or extension, ancillary buildings, areas of hard standing or development which individually or taken together would adversely affect the character or appearance of the building or have a detrimental impact on its surroundings and landscape setting. <p>Any planning permissions granted pursuant to this policy will be subject to a condition removing permitted development rights for future alterations, extensions and other developments.</p> <p>Policy H2 – Rural exception sites</p> <p>Proposals for affordable housing schemes in rural areas may be permitted on land which would not normally be released for housing where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the proposal could assist in meeting a proven local need for affordable housing; and 2. the affordable housing provided is made available to, and retained in perpetuity for local people in need of affordable housing; and 3. the site respects the characteristics of its surroundings, demonstrates good design and offers reasonable access to a range of services and facilities normally in a settlement identified in Policy RA2. <p>In order to enable the delivery of affordable housing some market housing may be permitted as part of the development to subsidise a significant proportion of affordable housing provision. However, evidence will be required – by way of a financial appraisal,</p>
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	in order to demonstrate that the proposed scale of market housing is that required for the successful delivery of affordable housing.
<p>Policy M4 – General Design Principles</p> <p>All new housing development within the parish will be considered when it meets all the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Gives priority to the use of brownfield sites or involves conversion of an existing building; (b) Utilises existing services and facilities (where appropriate and practicable); (c) Does not have a detrimental effect on residential amenity by reason of noise or other nuisance; (d) Does not have a detrimental effect on the safe and efficient operation of the existing transport and road infrastructure; (e) Does not result in the loss of an area which makes a significant contribution to public amenity by virtue of its open space character, appearance and function; (f) Includes the use of sustainable and high energy efficient development using environmental technology for electricity 	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy SS6 – Environmental quality and local distinctiveness</p> <p>Development proposals should conserve and enhance those environmental assets that contribute towards the county’s distinctiveness, in particular its settlement pattern, landscape, biodiversity and heritage assets and especially those with specific environmental designations. In addition, proposals should maintain and improve the effectiveness of those ecosystems essential to the health and wellbeing of the county’s residents and its economy. Development proposals should be shaped through an integrated approach to planning the following environmental components from the outset, and based upon sufficient information to determine the effect upon each where they are relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • landscape, townscape and local distinctiveness, especially in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; • biodiversity and geodiversity especially Special Areas of Conservation and Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • historic environment and heritage assets, especially Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings; • the network of green infrastructure; • local amenity, including light pollution, air quality and tranquillity; • agricultural and food productivity; • physical resources, including minerals, soils, management of waste, the water environment, renewable energy and energy conservation. <p>The management plans and conservation objectives of the county’s international and nationally important features and areas will be material to the determination of future development proposals. Furthermore assessments of local features, areas and sites, defining local distinctiveness in other development plan documents, neighbourhood</p>

<p>generation, heating and cooling, where appropriate; and</p> <p>(g) Where contaminated land is present, includes appropriate remediation where it can be demonstrated that this will be effective.</p> <p>As described in the Vision, Marden Parish is a rural area with a special character. Development will be considered which would make a positive contribution to that character and be of good design and quality. In seeking to protect and enhance the identity of the Parish, all development will take account of the following:</p> <p>(h) Maintain the historic pattern of development by respecting the layout associated with historic plots in the immediate area;</p> <p>(i) Suitability of the overall design and appearance of the proposed development (including size, scale, density, layout, access) when assessed in relationship with surrounding buildings, spaces, and other features of the street scene;</p> <p>(j) Use, and where appropriate re-use, of local and traditional materials;</p> <p>(k) Use of space and landscape design;</p>	<p>development plans and supplementary planning documents should inform decisions upon proposals.</p> <p>Policy LD1 – Landscape and townscape</p> <p>Development proposals should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate that character of the landscape and townscape has positively influenced the design, scale, nature and site selection, protection and enhancement of the setting of settlements and designated areas; • conserve and enhance the natural, historic and scenic beauty of important landscapes and features, including Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, nationally and locally designated parks and gardens and conservation areas; through the protection of the area’s character and by enabling appropriate uses, design and management; • incorporate new landscape schemes and their management to ensure development integrates appropriately into its surroundings; and • maintain and extend tree cover where important to amenity, through the retention of important trees, appropriate replacement of trees lost through development and new planting to support green infrastructure. <p>Policy LD4 – Historic environment and heritage assets</p> <p>Development proposals affecting heritage assets and the wider historic environment should :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect, conserve, and where possible enhance heritage assets and their settings in a manner appropriate to their significance through appropriate management, uses and sympathetic design, in particular emphasising the original form and function where possible; 2. the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and their settings through appropriate management, uses and sympathetic design. Where opportunities exist, contribute to the character and local distinctiveness of the townscape or wider environment, especially within conservation areas; 3. use the retention, repair and sustainable use of heritage assets to provide a focus for wider regeneration schemes;
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<p>(l) Movement to, within, around, and through the development;</p> <p>(m) Include adequate parking (preferably off-road), garaging, private and public amenity space for future residents;</p> <p>(n) Originality and innovation;</p> <p>(o) Use of Sustainable Drainage Systems.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. record and advance the understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) and to make this evidence or archive generated publicly accessible and . 5. where appropriate, improve the understanding of and public access to the heritage asset. <p>The scope of the works required to protect, conserve and enhance heritage assets and their settings should be proportionate to their significance. Development schemes should emphasise the original form and function of any asset and, where appropriate, improve the understanding of and public access to them.</p> <p>Policy SD1 – Sustainable design and environmental efficiency</p> <p>Development proposals should create safe, sustainable, well integrated environments for all members of the community. In conjunction with this, all development proposals should incorporate the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that proposals make efficient use of land - taking into account the local context and site characteristics, • new buildings should be designed to maintain local distinctiveness through incorporating local architectural detailing and materials and respecting scale, height, proportions and massing of surrounding development. while making a positive contribution to the architectural diversity and character of the area including, where appropriate, through innovative design; • safeguard residential amenity for existing and proposed residents; • ensure new development does not contribute to, or suffer from, adverse impacts arising from noise, light or air contamination, land instability or cause ground water pollution; • where contaminated land is present, undertake appropriate remediation where it can be demonstrated that this will be effective; ensure that distinctive features of existing buildings and their setting are safeguarded and where appropriate, restored; • utilise physical sustainability measures that include, in particular, orientation of buildings, the provision of water conservation measures, storage for bicycles and waste including provision for recycling, and enabling renewable energy and
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	<p>energy conservation infrastructure; where possible, on-site renewable energy generation should also be incorporated;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create safe and accessible environments, and that minimise opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour by incorporating Secured by Design principles, and consider the incorporation of fire safety measures, particularly; • ensuring designs can be easily adapted and accommodate new technologies to meet changing needs throughout the lifetime of the development; and • utilise sustainable construction methods which minimise the use of non-renewable resources and maximise the use of recycled and sustainably sourced materials; <p>All planning applications including material changes of use, will be expected to demonstrate how the above design and energy efficiency considerations have been factored into the proposal from the outset.</p>
<p>Policy M5 – Ensuring an appropriate range of tenures, types and sizes of houses</p> <p>All proposals for new housing development will have to demonstrate how they contribute to maintaining a mix of tenures, types and size of dwelling in the parish in accordance with the housing needs of the Parish.</p> <p>Sites including affordable housing and low cost market housing should integrate with open market housing across a site. Development that leads to concentrations of different types and tenures of homes in separate groups on a site will not be permitted.</p>	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy H1 – Affordable housing – thresholds and targets</p> <p>All new open market housing proposals on sites of more than 10 dwellings which have a maximum combined gross floor space of more than 1000sqm will be expected to contribute towards meeting affordable housing needs.</p> <p>The amount and mix of affordable housing including those on strategic housing sites will vary depending on evidence of housing need as identified through the latest housing market assessment, and, an assessment of the viability of the development. The following indicative targets have been established based on evidence of need and viability in the county’s housing market and housing value areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a target of 35% affordable housing provision on sites in the Hereford, Hereford Northern and Southern Hinterlands, and Kington and West Herefordshire housing value areas; 2. a target of 40% affordable housing provision on sites in the Ledbury, Ross and Rural Hinterlands; and Northern Rural housing value areas (which includes Bromyard);

	<p>3. a target of 25% affordable housing provision on sites in the Leominster housing value area.</p> <p>Any affordable housing provided under the terms of this policy will be expected to be available in perpetuity for those in local housing need.</p> <p>Policy H2 – Rural exception sites</p> <p>Policy H3 – Ensuring an appropriate range and mix of housing</p>
<p>Policy M6 – Protection/extension of Local Community Facilities</p> <p>Developments must make a proportionate, positive and tangible improvement to the level of community facilities. Such facilities should, wherever possible, be located in or adjacent to the settlement boundary, close by existing community facilities and provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The community facility is accessible by walking and cycling and has appropriate car parking; (b) There are opportunities to integrate services; (c) Detrimental impacts on road safety or traffic flow can be satisfactorily mitigated in the interests of both road users and users of the proposed development; and (d) The proposal would not have any adverse effect on neighbouring residential amenity. 	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy SS6 – Environmental quality and local distinctiveness</p> <p>PolicySC1 – Social and community facilities</p> <p>Development proposals which protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible will be supported. Such proposals should be in or close to settlements, have considered the potential for co-location of facilities and where possible be safely accessible by foot, by cycle and public transport.</p> <p>New development that creates a need for additional social and community facilities that cannot be met through existing social facilities - will be expected to meet the additional requirements through new, or extension of existing, provision or by developer contributions which meet the relevant tests of paragraph 204 of the NPPF.</p> <p>Proposals involving the provision or expansion of social and community facilities will be expected to provide publicly accessible toilets (including facilities for disabled people and baby changing).</p> <p>Existing facilities will be retained, unless it can be demonstrated that an appropriate alternative facility is available, or can be provided to meet the needs of the community affected; or it can be shown that the facility is no longer required, viable or is no longer fit for purpose; and where appropriate, it has been vacant and marketed for community use</p>

<p>There will be a presumption in favour of the re-use of local community facilities for community and health type uses. The change of use of existing facilities to other uses will not be permitted unless the following can be demonstrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) The proposal includes alternative provision, on a site within the locality, of equivalent or enhanced facilities. Such sites should be accessible by public transport, walking and cycling and have adequate car parking or (f) Satisfactory evidence is produced that there is no longer a need for the facility. <p>The current local community facilities within the Parish include but are not limited to: school; community centre; playing fields, recreation ground including children’s play equipment and tennis courts; and two public houses.</p>	<p>without success. Viable alternative facilities must be equivalent to those they replace, in terms of size, quality and accessibility.</p> <p>The provision or improvement of higher education facilities and the continuing enhancement of existing, or provision of new, training and skills facilities will be actively promoted.</p> <p>Policy OS1 – Requirement for open space, sports and recreation facilities</p> <p>The provision of appropriate open space, sports and recreation facilities will arise in the following proposals for planning applications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. all new residential dwellings; or 2. retail and employment proposals where there is need to provide informal areas of amenity greenspace for the use of employees and visitors; and 3. residential institutions, student accommodation, assembly and leisure, hotels or hostels. <p>Policy OS2 – Meeting open space, sports and recreation needs</p> <p>In order to meet the needs of the community, provision for open space, sports and recreation facilities will be sought, where appropriate, taking into account the following principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. any new development must be in accordance with all applicable set standards of quantity, quality and accessibility as defined; and 2. provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities should be located onsite unless an off-site or partial off-site contribution would result in an equally beneficial enhancement to an existing open space, sports and/or recreation facility which is of benefit to the local community.
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	<p>Policy OS3 – Loss of open space, sports or recreation facilities</p> <p>In determining the appropriateness of proposals which results in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility, the following principles will be taken into account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. clear evidence that the open space, sports or recreation facility is surplus to the applicable quantitative standard; 2. the loss of the open space, sports or recreation facility results in an equally beneficial replacement or enhanced existing facility for the local community; 3. the loss of the open space, sports and recreation facility is for the purpose of providing an ancillary development which improves the functioning, useability or viability of the open space, sport and recreation use, e.g. changing rooms, toilets, grandstand accommodation, assembly and function uses; 4. the loss of the open space, sports or recreation facility will not result in the fragmentation or isolation of a site which is part of a green infrastructure corridor.
<p>Policy M7 – New local employment opportunities</p> <p>The development of new local employment opportunities will be considered within the Settlement Boundary and allocated sites providing that they:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Do not have a detrimental impact on surrounding residential amenity; (b) Do not lead to the loss of open space or green infrastructure; (c) Are located close to existing highways and do not have an unacceptable impact on traffic; 	<p>Policy RA5 – Re-use of rural buildings</p> <p>Policy RA6 – Rural economy</p> <p>Employment generating proposals which help diversify the rural economy such as knowledge based creative industries, environmental technologies, business diversification projects and home working will be supported. A range of economic activities will be supported, including proposals which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support and strengthen local food and drink production; • support and/or protect the vitality and viability of commercial facilities of an appropriate type and scale in rural areas, such as village shops, petrol filling stations, garden centres and public houses; • involve the small scale extension of existing businesses; • promote sustainable tourism proposals of an appropriate scale in accordance with Policy E4 - Tourism; • promote the sustainable use of the natural and historic environment as an asset which is valued, conserved and enhanced; • support the retention of existing military sites;

(d) Ensure that any likely significant effect on the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is avoided or adequately mitigated.

Marden Parish Council will support the integration of live-work units within new developments.

- support the retention and/ or diversification of existing agricultural businesses;
- Planning applications which are submitted in order to diversify the rural economy will be permitted where they;
- ensure that the development is of a scale which would be commensurate with its location and setting ;
- do not cause unacceptable adverse impacts to the amenity of nearby residents by virtue of design and mass, noise and dust, lighting and smell;
- do not generate traffic movements that cannot safely be accommodated within the local road network and
- do not undermine the achievement of water quality targets in accordance with Policies SD3 and SD4..

Policy MT1 – Traffic management, highway safety and promoting active travel

Development proposals should incorporate the following principle requirements covering movement and transportation:

1. demonstrate that the strategic and local highway network can absorb the traffic impacts of the development without adversely affecting the safe and efficient flow of traffic on the network or that traffic impacts can be managed to acceptable levels to reduce and mitigate any adverse impacts from the development;
2. promote and, where possible, incorporate integrated transport connections and supporting infrastructure (depending on the nature and location of the site), including access to services by means other than private motorised transport;
3. encourage active travel behaviour to reduce numbers of short distance car journeys through the use of travel plans and other promotional and awareness raising activities;
4. ensure that developments are designed and laid out to achieve safe entrance and exit, have appropriate operational and manoeuvring space, accommodate provision for all modes of transport, the needs of people with disabilities and provide safe access for the emergency services;
5. protect existing local and long distance footways, cycleways and bridleways unless an alternative route of at least equal utility value can be used, and facilitate improvements to existing or provide new connections to these routes, especially

where such schemes have been identified in the Local Transport Plan and/or Infrastructure Delivery Plan; and

6. have regard to with both the council's Highways Development Design Guide and cycle and vehicle parking standards as prescribed in the Local Transport Plan - having regard to the location of the site and need to promote sustainable travel choices.

Where traffic management measures are introduced they should be designed in a way which respects the character of the surrounding area including its landscape character. Where appropriate, the principle of shared spaces will be encouraged.

Policy E1 – Employment provision

The focus for new employment provision in Herefordshire is to provide a range of locations, types and sizes of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy. Larger employment proposals will be directed to the strategic employment sites of Hereford, the market towns and rural industrial estates where appropriate.

Development proposals which enhance employment provision and help diversify the economy of Herefordshire will be encouraged where:

- the proposal is appropriate in terms of its connectivity, scale, design and size;
- the proposal makes better use of previously developed land or buildings;
- the proposal is an appropriate extension to strengthen or diversify an existing business operation;
- the proposal provides for opportunities for new office development in appropriate locations.

The provision of viable live/work units as part of mixed use developments will also be encouraged.

Policy E3 – Homeworking

The value of home working will be recognised by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling, where the dwelling remains as the principle place of residence for

	<p>the home worker; and recognising the potential to encourage and expand home working, by allowing small extensions or conversions where the proposed use and operation would be compatible with its location and heritage value, and where it would not adversely affect the amenity of the neighbourhood by any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes to the appearance of any building; • noise disturbance from the use or any increased traffic and parking generated; • unsociable hours of operation; and • the storage of hazardous materials or emissions from the site.
<p>Policy M8 – Supporting enhancing and protecting existing local employment</p> <p>Existing sources of local employment will be protected from change from business to residential use. Development that would lead to the expansion or improvement of existing business premises will be considered when it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Is suitable in terms of size, layout, access, parking, design and landscaping; (b) Does not harm the amenity of nearby occupiers; (c) Does not harm the character, appearance or environment of the site and its surroundings; (d) Has adequate access, or potential access, by a choice of transport modes; (e) Retains and enhances any built and natural features/areas that contribute to the amenity or biodiversity of the area; 	<p>Policy RA5 – Re-use of rural buildings</p> <p>Policy RA6 – Rural economy</p> <p>Policy MT1 – Traffic management, highway safety and promoting active travel</p> <p>Policy E2 – Redevelopment of existing employment land and buildings</p> <p>Employment land and buildings rated as ‘best’ and ‘good’ using the methodology in the Employment Land Study 2012 (or successor document) will be safeguarded from redevelopment to other non-employment uses.</p> <p>Proposals which would result in the loss of employment land rated as ‘moderate’ will be permitted where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the development of the site for other uses would not result in an overall shortage in the quality and quantity of employment land supply in the area; or 2. there would be a net improvement in amenity through the removal of a nonconforming use from within a residential area, and where an alternative use would offer amenity benefits. For sites in existing employment use, consideration should also be given to the ability to relocate existing occupiers where this is necessary; or 3. the proposal would not result in a piecemeal loss of employment land where there is potential for a more comprehensive scheme; <p>In all cases:</p>

<p>(f) Includes mechanisms to improve environmental performance to that of current best practice standards; and</p> <p>(g) Ensures that any likely significant effect on the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is avoided or adequately mitigated.</p> <p>Redevelopment or change of use of existing employment premises will only be permitted when:</p> <p>(h) The employment premises have been empty for six months or more and during that time actively marketed without securing a viable alternative employment use</p> <p>(i) Equivalent, or better, provision is made, elsewhere within the settlement boundary, to replace the proposed loss of local employment space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the viability of the development proposal must be confirmed through a comprehensive assessment; and - there must be evidence of appropriate and active marketing of at least 12 months for a change of use of a B Class employment use and it can be shown that this marketing has been unsuccessful. <p>The provision of ancillary and complementary uses which help meet the day-to-day needs of employment sites and their employees and improve the sites' attractiveness to businesses, will be permitted where they are of a scale which does not impact on the overall supply of employment land.</p>
<p>Policy M9 – Supporting Development of Communications Infrastructure</p> <p>The development of new high speed broadband infrastructure to serve the Parish will be supported:</p> <p>(a) Where it is sympathetically designed and appropriate suitably camouflaged</p>	<p>Policy LD1 – Landscape and townscape</p> <p>Policy SD1 – Sustainable design and energy efficiency</p>

<p>All new residential and commercial development will be required to facilitate the infrastructure to support high speed broadband.</p>	
<p>Policy M10 – Protection of Local Green Spaces</p> <p>The local green spaces listed below and shown below and in Appendix 11 are protected from development in accordance with Paragraphs 76 and 77 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):</p> <p>Land round war memorial; pond; area at top of Rudge Grove; area at Small Ashes, C1124/C1125 junction; area opposite Paradise Meadow; areas where flagpoles and notice boards are sited.</p> <p>New development which impacts adversely on the openness, biodiversity or geodiversity of these sites will not be permitted. New development must ensure that any likely significant effect on the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is avoided or adequately mitigated.</p>	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy SS6 – Environmental quality and local distinctiveness</p> <p>Policy LD1 – Landscape and townscape</p> <p>Policy LD3 – Green infrastructure</p> <p>Development proposals should protect, manage and plan for the preservation of existing and delivery of new green infrastructure, and should achieve the following objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identification and retention of existing green infrastructure corridors and linkages; including the protection of valued landscapes, trees, hedgerows, woodlands, water courses and adjoining flood plain; 2. provision of on-site green infrastructure; in particular proposals will be supported where this enhances the network and 3. integration with, and connection to, the surrounding green infrastructure network.
<p>Policy M11 – Landscape Character</p> <p>All development proposals will have to show regard to the distinctive landscape character of the Herefordshire Lowlands Character Area by:</p> <p>(a) Outside the Marden settlement boundary, retaining the development</p>	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy SS6 – Environmental quality and local distinctiveness</p> <p>Policy LD1 – Landscape and townscape</p> <p>Policy LD2 – Biodiversity and geodiversity</p>

<p>form of scattered hamlets and farmsteads within the wide setting of the area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) Using appropriate local building materials (c) Retaining existing field patterns and boundaries, including low hedgerows and tree cover (d) Protecting and enhancing areas of woodland (e) Encouraging country stewardship and similar schemes to enhance the biodiversity and natural and historic environments. 	<p>Development proposals should conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire, through the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. retention and protection of nature conservation sites and habitats, and important species in accordance with their status as follows : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Development that is likely to harm sites and species of European Importance will not be permitted; b) Development that would be liable to harm Sites of Special Scientific Interest or nationally protected species will only be permitted if the conservation status of their habitat or important physical features can be protected by conditions or other material considerations are sufficient to outweigh nature conservation considerations; c) Development that would be liable to harm the nature conservation value of a site or species of local nature conservation interest will only be permitted if the importance of the development outweighs the local value of the site, habitat or physical feature that supports important species. d) Development that will potentially reduce the coherence and effectiveness of the ecological network of sites will only be permitted where adequate compensatory measures are brought forward. 2. restoration and enhancement of existing biodiversity and geodiversity features on site and connectivity to wider ecological networks; and 3. creation of new biodiversity features and wildlife habitats. <p>Where appropriate the council will work with developers to agree a management strategy to ensure the protection of, and prevention of adverse impacts on, biodiversity and geodiversity features.</p> <p>Policy LD3 – Green infrastructure</p>
<p>Policy M12 – Flood Risk and Surface Water Run-off</p> <p>All developments should be located within Flood Zone 1 (Low Risk) and accord with National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) and</p>	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy SS6 – Environmental quality and local distinctiveness</p> <p>Policy SS7 – Addressing climate change</p>

<p>Herefordshire Council's Core Strategy (Policy SD3 – Sustainable Water Management). Where development is deemed acceptable within Flood Zones 2 and 3 (in accordance with the Sequential Test) we would expect proposals to demonstrate that they are safe and will not increase flood risk to third parties, with flood-risk betterment provided where possible.</p> <p>New development should be designed to maximise the retention of surface water on the development site and to minimise runoff. Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) should be implemented wherever possible.</p> <p>The design of new buildings and infrastructure should take account of existing topography to manage the flow of water along specific flow routes away from property and into appropriate storage facilities.</p> <p>Water attenuation facilities such as lagoons, ponds and swales should be provided within development sites.</p> <p>Opportunities, where appropriate, should help to conserve and enhance watercourses and riverside habitats. Where necessary, this should be through management and mitigation measures for the improvement and/or enhancement of water quality and habitat of any aquatic environment in or adjoining the development site. New development must ensure that any likely significant effect on the</p>	<p>Development proposals will be required to include measures which will mitigate their impact on climate change.</p> <p>At a strategic level, this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focussing development to the most sustainable locations; • delivering development that seeks to reduce the need to travel by private car and which encourages sustainable travel options including walking, cycling and public transport; • designing developments to reduce carbon emissions and use resources more efficiently; • promoting the use of decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy where appropriate; • supporting affordable, local food production, processing and farming to reduce the county's contribution to food miles; • protecting the best agricultural land where possible; <p>Key considerations in terms of responses to climate change include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • taking into account the known physical and environmental constraints when identifying locations for development; • ensuring design approaches are resilient to climate change impacts, including the use of passive solar design for heating and cooling and tree planting for shading; • minimising the risk of flooding and making use of sustainable drainage methods; • reducing heat island effects (for example through the provision of open space and water, planting and green roofs); • reduction, re-use and recycling of waste with particular emphasis on waste minimisation on development sites; and • developments must demonstrate water efficiency measures to reduce demand on water resources. <p>Adaptation through design approaches will be considered in more locally specific detail in a Design Code Supplementary Planning Document.</p> <p>Policy SD1 – Sustainable Design and energy efficiency</p>
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<p>River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is avoided or adequately mitigated</p> <p>Sustainable design of buildings which support rain water harvesting are supported. Storage of rain water for non-drinking water purposes such as watering gardens and flushing toilets is encouraged.</p> <p>Driveways and parking areas should use porous materials where possible, in line with current planning requirements.</p> <p>The protection, management, and planning for the preservation of existing, and delivery of new green infrastructure is supported in accordance with Herefordshire Core Strategy Policy LD3, to maximise the retention of surface water on sites.</p>	<p>Policy SD3 – Sustainable water management and water resources</p> <p>Measures for sustainable water management will be required to be an integral element of new development in order to reduce flood risk; to avoid an adverse impact on water quantity; to protect and enhance groundwater resources and to provide opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation. This will be achieved by ensuring that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. development proposals are located in accordance with the Sequential Test and Exception Tests (where appropriate) and have regard to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2009 for Herefordshire; 2. development is designed to be safe taking into account the lifetime of the development, and the need to adapt to climate change by setting appropriate floor levels, providing safe pedestrian and vehicular access, where appropriate, implementing a flood evacuation management plan and avoiding areas identified as being subject to Rapid Inundation from a breach of a Flood Defence; 3. where flooding is identified as an issue, new development should reduce flood risk through the inclusion of flood storage compensation measures, or provide similar betterment to enhance the local flood risk regime; 4. development will not result in the loss of open watercourse, and culverts should be opened up where possible to improve drainage and flood flows. Proposals involving the creation of new culverts (unless essential to the provision of access) will not be permitted; 5. development includes appropriate sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to manage surface water appropriate to the hydrological setting of the site. Development should not result in an increase in runoff and should aim to achieve a reduction in the existing runoff rate and volumes, where possible; 6. water conservation and efficiency measures are included in all new developments, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • residential development should achieve Housing - Optional Technical Standards - Water efficiency standards At the time of adoption the published water efficiency standards were 110 litres/person/day ; or • non-residential developments in excess of 1,000 sq.m gross floorspace to achieve the equivalent of BREEAM 3 credits for water consumption as a minimum; 7. the separation of foul and surface water on new developments is maximised;
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. development proposals do not lead to deterioration of EU Water Framework Directive water body status; 9. development should not cause an unacceptable risk to the availability or quality of water resources; and 10. in particular, proposals do not adversely affect water quality, either directly through unacceptable pollution of surface water or groundwater, or indirectly through overloading of Wastewater Treatment Works. <p>Development proposals should help to conserve and enhance watercourses and riverside habitats, where necessary through management and mitigation measures for the improvement and/or enhancement of water quality and habitat of the aquatic environment.</p> <p>Proposals which are specifically aimed at the sustainable management of the water environment will in particular be encouraged, including where they are required to support business needs such as for agriculture. Innovative measures such as water harvesting, winter water storage and active land use management will also be supported. In all instances it should be demonstrated that there will be no significant adverse landscape, biodiversity or visual impact.</p>
<p>Policy M13 – Public Rights of Way/Connectivity</p> <p>Proposals for the enhancement and improvement of the Public Rights of Way within the Parish will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals for improved linkages and accessibility within Marden and to the areas beyond will be supported.</p> <p>All new proposals for additional dwellings should include the following enhancements to maximise accessibility to residents and to support local biodiversity:</p>	<p>Policy SS1 – Presumption in favour of sustainable development</p> <p>Policy SS4 – Movement and Transportation</p> <p>New developments should be designed and located to minimise the impacts on the transport network; ensuring that journey times and the efficient and safe operation of the network are not detrimentally impacted. Furthermore, where practicable, development proposals should be accessible by and facilitate a genuine choice of modes of travel including walking, cycling and public transport.</p> <p>Development proposals that will generate high journey numbers should be in sustainable locations, accessible by means other than private car. Alternatively, such developments will be required to demonstrate that they can be made sustainable by reducing unsustainable transport patterns and promoting travel by walking, cycling and public transport.</p>

<p>(a) Enhanced public access and appropriate signage from residential areas</p> <p>(b) New footpaths, cycle routes and bridleways linking to existing and new networks</p> <p>(c) Linkages to wildlife corridors and provision of landscaping and planting along routes to support local biodiversity objectives such as provision of new areas of woodland, new hedgerows, grassland and wetland habitats.</p>	<p>Proposals to provide new and improved existing public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure will be supported. Where appropriate, land and routes will be safeguarded as required in future local or neighbourhood development plans and developer contributions, which meet the statutory tests, sought to assist with the delivery of new sustainable transport infrastructure, including that required for alternative energy cars.</p> <p>Herefordshire Council will work with the Highways Agency, Network Rail, bus and train operators, developers and local communities to bring forward improvements to the local and strategic transport network to reduce congestion, improve air quality and road safety and offer greater transport choices, including the provision of the following major schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESG Link Road (safeguarded route) and Transport Hub; • Hereford Relief Road; • Leominster Relief Road; • Connect 2 Cycleway in Hereford; • Park and Choose schemes; and • other schemes identified in the Local Transport Plan and Infrastructure Delivery Plan. <p>Proposals which enable the transfer of freight from road to rail will be encouraged. Development proposals incorporating commercial vehicular movements that could detrimentally impact on the environmental quality, amenity, safety and character of the surrounding locality will be expected to incorporate evidence demonstrating how the traffic impacts are to be mitigated.</p> <p>Policy MT1 – Traffic management, highway safety and promoting active travel</p>
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Be Compatible with EU Obligations

The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan is fully compatible with EU Obligations.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan has been subjected to an SEA Screening Assessment undertaken by Herefordshire Council.

The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan is fully compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. It has been prepared with full regard to national statutory regulation and policy guidance, which are both compatible with the Convention. The Plan has been produced in full consultation with the local community. The Plan does not contain policies or proposals that would infringe the human rights of residents or other stakeholders over and above the existing strategic policies at national and district-levels, as demonstrated below.

The Human Rights Act 1998 incorporated into UK law the European Convention on Human Rights (“The Convention”). The Convention includes provision in the form of Articles, the aim of which is to protect the rights of the individual.

Section 6 of the Act prohibits public bodies from acting in a manner, which is incompatible with the Convention. Various rights outlined in the Convention and its First Protocol are to be considered in the process of making and considering planning decisions, namely:

Article 1 of the First Protocol protects the right of everyone to the peaceful enjoyment of possessions. No one can be deprived of possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided by law and by the general principles of international law. The Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan is fully compatible with the rights outlined in this Article. Although the Submission Plan includes policies that would restrict development rights to some extent, this does not have a greater impact than the general restrictions on development rights provided for in national law, namely the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Localism Act 2011. The restriction of development rights inherent in the UK’s statutory planning system is demonstrably in the public interest by ensuring that land is used in the most sustainable way, avoiding or mitigating adverse impacts on the environment, community and economy.

Article 6 protects the right to a fair and public hearing before an independent tribunal in determination of an individual’s rights and obligations. The process for Neighbourhood Development Plan production is fully compatible with this Article, allowing for extensive consultation on its proposals at various stages, and an independent examination process to consider representations received.

Article 14 provides that “The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in ... [the] ... European Convention on Human Rights shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.” The Parish Council has developed the policies and proposals within the Plan in full consultation with the community and wider stakeholders to produce as inclusive a document as possible. In general, the policies and proposals will not have a discriminatory impact on any particular group of individuals.