

SANDLEHEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

OCTOBER 2025

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(as amended)

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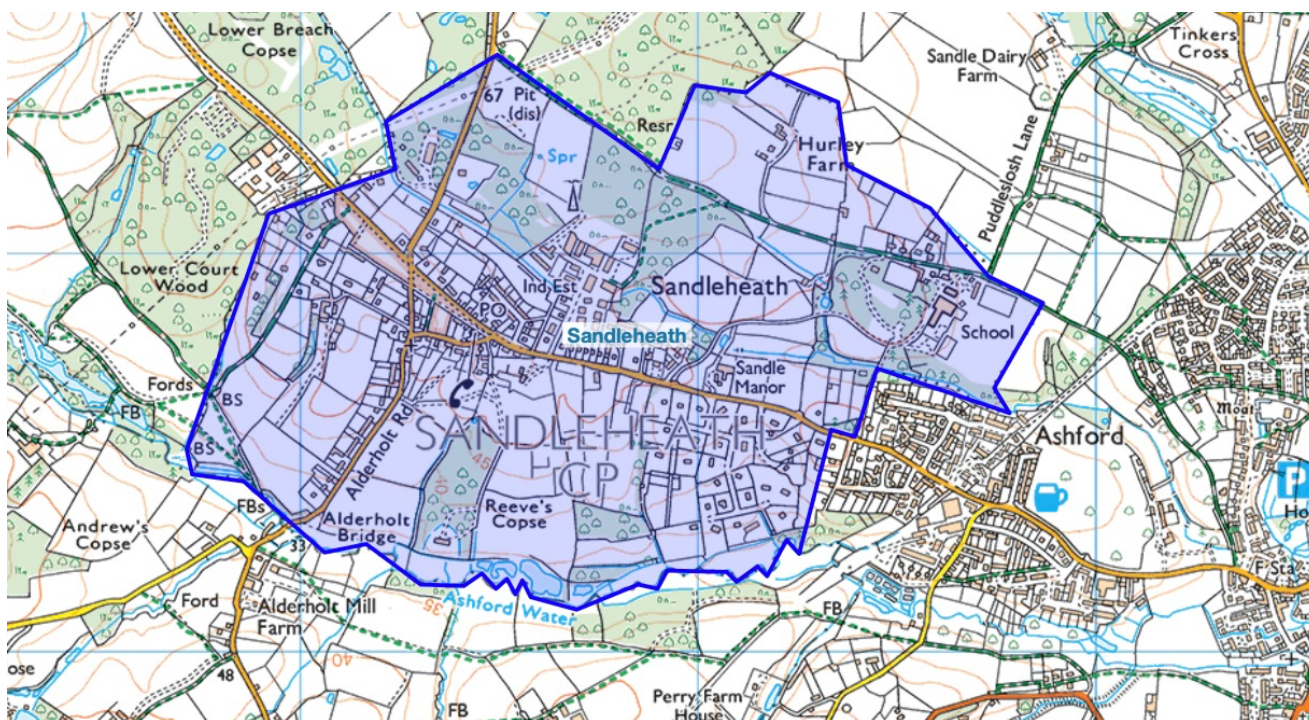
1.INTRODUCTION

The Neighbourhood Plan

1.1 This Statement has been prepared by ONH on behalf of Sandleheath Parish Council (“the Parish Council”) to accompany its submission of the Sandleheath Neighbourhood Plan (“the Neighbourhood Plan”) to the local planning authority, New Forest District Council (“the District Council”), under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”).

1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Parish Council, the ‘Qualifying Body’, for the Neighbourhood Area (“the Area”), which coincides with the boundary of the Civil Parish of Sandleheath shown on Plan A below. The Area was designated by the District Council on the 14th March 2024

1.3 ONH has provided the professional planning advice and support to the Parish Council throughout the project, alongside occasional help from officers of the District Council.



Plan A: Sandleheath Designated Neighbourhood Area

1.4 The Neighbourhood Plan contains 11 land use policies which are defined on the Policies Map where they apply to a specific part of the Area. The policies described in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to the development and use of land in the designated Area. They do not relate to 'excluded development', as defined by the Regulations. The plan period of the Neighbourhood Plan is up to 2044.

1.5 The Plan has deliberately avoided containing policies that duplicate saved or forthcoming development plan policies or national policies that are already or will be used to determine planning applications. The policies are therefore a combination of site-specific allocations or other proposals and of development management matters that seek to refine and/or update existing policies.

The Basic Conditions

1.6 The statement addresses each of the four 'Basic Conditions', which are relevant to this plan, required of the Regulations and explains how the submitted Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Parish & Country Planning Act.

1.7 The Regulations state that a Neighbourhood Plan will be considered to have met the Conditions if:

- A. Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the Neighbourhood Development Plan;
- D. The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- E. The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area); and
- F. The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.

1.8 It is noted that the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023 has made provision for Condition E to be amended by replacing the current requirement with a narrower condition in respect of not undermining the housing site allocation provisions in an adopted Local Plan. However, at the time of the expected examination of the Neighbourhood Plan, the regulations enabling that part of the Act have not been made.

2.BACKGROUND

2.1 The decision to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan was made by the Parish Council in summer 2024. The key driver of this decision was a sense of wanting to plan positively for the future of the Parish, with the District Council undertaking a full review of their Local Plan and a number of changes to National Policy. Sandleheath remains a rural, tranquil location near to both the New Forest and the Cranborne Chase National Landscape, with a range of small-Parish facilities. The Parish Council considered having a neighbourhood plan would improve the way in which future development proposals are managed and allow the community to control and shape future growth.

2.2 A Steering Group was formed comprising the residents and Parish Council representatives. The group has been delegated authority by the Parish Council to make day-to-day decisions on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. However, as the qualifying body, the Parish Council approved the publication of the Pre-Submission plan in June 2025 and the Submission Plan now.

2.3 The Parish Council has consulted the local community over the duration of the project. It has also worked with officers of the District Council to collate and examine the evidence base, to design and iterate policy proposals and to define the proper relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan and the adopted development plans, as well as the direction of the emerging Local Plan (which is still at an early stage, not yet reaching the Regulation 18 consultation)

3. CONDITION (A): REGARD TO NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY

3.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with full regard to national policies as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and is mindful of the PPG in respect of formulating Neighbourhood Plans. As demonstrated in Table A, this plan has taken to opportunity to revise development plan policies to reflect the amendments to the Use Classes Order introduced in September 2020 as they apply to this Area (PPG 13-009c). In overall terms, there are four NPPF paragraphs that provide general guidance on neighbourhood planning, to which the Neighbourhood Plan has directly responded:

General Paragraphs

3.2 The Parish Council believes the Neighbourhood Plan “support(s) the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans ... and ... shape(s) and direct(s) development that is outside of these strategic policies” (§13). It considers the Neighbourhood Plan contains only non-strategic policy proposals or proposals that refine strategic policy to fit the circumstances of the Area without undermining the purpose and intent of those strategic policies (§18). It considers that the Neighbourhood Plan sets out more “detailed policies for specific areas” including “the provision of infrastructure and community facilities at a local level, establishing design principles, conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment and setting out other development management policies” (§29).

3.3 The Parish Council considers that its Neighbourhood Plan has provided its communities the power to develop a shared vision for the Area that will shape, direct and help to deliver sustainable development, albeit in a modest way, by influencing local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan. Whilst the Plan encourages the re-use of brownfield sites within the Parish boundary and does not contain any policies that will result in less development than set out in the strategic policies for the area (§30), it does not seek to engage §14, so in this regard, the NPPF provisions of meeting local housing needs (as per §69/§70) are therefore not relevant to this Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan is underpinned by relevant and up-to-date evidence. This is considered to be adequate and proportionate, focused tightly on supporting and justifying the policies concerned (§32)

Specific Paragraphs

3.4 Each policy engages one or more specific paragraphs of the NPPF. Those that are considered to be of the most relevance and substance are identified in Table A below.

Table A: Neighbourhood Plan & NPPF Conformity Summary

No.	Policy Title	Commentary
SAN1	Spatial Strategy	The policy accords with plan-led approach (§15) containing a positive vision and promoting sustainable development (§16). There are two distinct areas that make up the designated neighbourhood area, defined as the town of New Milton, the settlement of Sandleheath, and the countryside around. The policy defines these three distinct areas for the purposes of providing clarity as to ‘how a decision maker should react to development proposals’ (§16d). This policy promotes the development in the most sustainable locations therefore making effective use of land (§124)
SAN2	Local Gap	
SAN3	Design Guidance and Codes	SAN3 ensures that development proposals have full regard to the relevant local design principles, which set out clear design vision and expectations, meaning development positively reflects the local area and its defining characteristics (§132). The plan also introduces a Sandleheath Design Guidance and Codes in accord with §134, which also helps to provide “<i>maximum clarity about design expectations at an early stage</i>” (§133)
SAN4	Housing Mix and Type	The policy seeks to meet local housing needs and support a mixed community. This policy seeks to diversify Sandleheath’s housing stock with a particular focus on supplying a mix of homes (§61), especially those suitable for younger people (§8b NPPF), contributing to creating a mixed and balanced community for the future (§64b NPPF) The policy also seeks to ensure sufficient supply of homes for older persons (§63), through the requirement for new development to be accessible and adaptable
SAN5	Site Allocations	This policy supports §88 in seeking “the development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space....” through the allocation of sites for development which will enable the delivery of enhanced community facilities. The policy also accords with §89 in identifying that the only way to meet community need in this rural area is to allocate sites adjacent to the existing settlement boundary <i>“In these circumstances it will be important to ensure that development is sensitive to its surroundings, does not have an unacceptable impact on local roads and exploits any opportunities to make a location more sustainable (for example by improving the scope for access on foot, by cycling or by public transport). The use of ... sites that are</i>

		<i>physically well-related to existing settlements, should be encouraged where suitable opportunities exist.”</i> The policy has a focus on supplying a balanced mix of homes (§63) and particularly those suitable for younger people (§8b), contributing to creating a mixed and balanced community for the future (§64b). Finally, ‘<i>Planning policies ... should support development that makes efficient use of land</i>’ (§124). A number of opportunity areas have been identified within the defined Parish and capacity work indicates that collectively 97 new homes can be achieved.
SAN6	Local Business and Employment	The policy “helps create the conditions in which business can invest, expand and adapt (§85) through seeking to protect existing employment land and safeguarding this land for future employment uses as part of ‘a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth’ (§86a).
SAN7	Green Infrastructure	This policy aims to protect and enhance the many green infrastructure assets across the Parish to contribute to wider nature recovery strategies and to increase accessibility to recreational spaces. In relation to §96c, the policy addresses the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure. The policy is aimed at maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure (§187)
SAN8	Connecting the Village	Planning policies should consider transport issues from an early stage including: “<i>identifying and pursuing opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use</i>” (§109e) ‘Planning policies should ... provide for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks’ (§111d). The policy does this, by defining the existing network, including opportunities for enhancement and seeks its protection from unnecessary loss or obstruction, requiring suitably located development schemes to respond positively to opportunities to improve route connectivity.
SAN9	Dark Skies	<i>Planning policies and decisions should also ensure that new development is appropriate for its location taking into account the likely effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment, as well as the potential sensitivity of the site or the wider area to impacts that could arise from the development. In doing so they should:</i> <i>limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation (§198c)</i>

		The policy does this, by defining where and what type of external lighting is permitted in order to retain the dark skies that the parish is known given its rural location in the setting of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape.
SAN10	Mitigating Effects on European Sites	‘Planning policies ... should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by ... protecting and enhancing ... sites of biodiversity or geological value ... in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan ... recognising ... the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services ...’ (§187). The policy does this by seeking to support the existing development plan in relation to mitigating effects on designated European Sites. Although the policy provisions repeat those of national and strategic policy, it is intended to draw attention to this specific and fundamental matter and is not therefore an unnecessary duplication (§16).
SAN11	Local Non-Designated Heritage Assets	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.’ (§203). The District Council is “mindful of the desire to collate a list of locally listed buildings”, however it does not currently have a specific process for identifying buildings, structures or landscapes as non-designated heritage assets. The policy therefore seeks to identify buildings and structures which are considered to have local heritage value. The policy also sets out criteria that reflect that value to engage the provisions of §207/208.

4. CONDITION (D): CONTRIBUTING TO ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4.1 A screening request/draft version of the Pre-Submission Plan was submitted to New Forest District Council (NFDC) to inform its ‘screening opinion’ on the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the European Directive 2001/42/EC and Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended). A final screening opinion (‘Determination’) was issued in December 2024 by NFDC following a consultation period with the statutory bodies, as per those Regulations. The Determination statement concluded that an SEA is required.

4.2 A separate SEA Report sets out the environmental effects of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan. There is no legal requirement for Neighbourhood Plans to have a sustainability appraisal, however the ‘basic conditions’ require a qualifying body to demonstrate how its plan will contribute to the achievements of sustainable development in a systematic way. In terms of environmental effects, the draft SEA Report concluded:

- *Significant positive effects are concluded under the community wellbeing SEA topic. This is because the draft Sandleheath NP delivers new homes (including affordable housing); supports accessibility, the rural economy, and the delivery of an Alternative Natural Recreational Greenspace; improves access to public open space; enhances the active travel network; and prioritises pedestrian safety.*
- *Minor positive effects are concluded under the biodiversity and geodiversity, historic environment, landscape, and transportation and movement SEA topics. With regard to biodiversity and geodiversity, this is because the policy framework has a strong focus on protecting and enhancing ecological networks, including via the identification of mitigation and enhancement measures for the proposed site allocations, and an emphasis on supporting the integrity of locally valued green infrastructure networks. With regard to the historic environment, this is because the policy framework seeks to protect locally important heritage assets and makes wider heritage considerations, particularly with regard to the design of future developments. With regard to landscape, this is because development is largely contained within the settlement boundary; there is a strong focus on preserving sense of place, identity, and local distinctiveness; and the policy framework discusses the various design factors which will need to be considered by proposals. With regard to transportation and movement, this is because the spatial strategy seeks to deliver a new car park to service the village hall. In addition, the policy framework seeks to improve active travel opportunities and public transport provision locally, which will likely reduce traffic and congestion.*
- *Broadly neutral effects are concluded under the climate change and flood risk and land, soil and water resources SEA topics. With regard to climate change and flood risk, this is because the policy framework suitably addresses areas at increased risk of surface water flooding in the site allocations. With regard to land, soil and water resources, this is because the loss of greenfield / BMV land is largely unavoidable if the draft Sandleheath NP is to meet its indicative housing requirement. In addition, the policy framework suitably addresses any adverse impacts future development may have on water quality locally.*

4.3 The draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was prepared by AECOM and published by the qualifying body along with the Pre-Submission SNP in June 2025 for consultation. AECOM is unable complete the final Report due to the ending of the Government's Neighbourhood Plan Support Programme, which funded the production of the draft Report. A supplementary report is produced alongside the SEA for clarity.

4.4 In addition, a summary of the sustainability performance of the policies is set out in Table B below by identifying the potential of each policy to lead to positive, neutral or adverse effects, taking into account any proposed mitigation measures.

Table B: Neighbourhood Plan & Sustainable Development

Policy No. & Name	Social Impacts	Economic Impacts	Environmental Impacts	Overall Assessment (S/E/E)
SAN1: Spatial Strategy	+ Supports community identity, access to services, and housing need. - Some risk of increased pressure on local services.	+ Supports rural economy, local business, and farm diversification. - Restricts some development outside boundary.	+ Limits sprawl, protects countryside and landscape. - Some greenfield loss unavoidable.	Positive / Positive / Positive
SAN2: Local Gap	+ Maintains village identity and prevents coalescence with Fordingbridge. + Supports community cohesion.	+ Protects rural setting, which can support tourism and local business. - May limit some economic development opportunities.	+ Protects landscape, habitats, and visual separation. + Maintains green infrastructure.	Positive / Neutral / Positive
SAN3: Design Guidance and Codes	+ Ensures high-quality, accessible, and healthy living environments. + Preserves local character and heritage.	+ Supports property values and attractiveness for investment.	+ Promotes sustainable design, energy efficiency, and landscape protection.	Positive / Positive / Positive

Table B: Neighbourhood Plan & Sustainable Development

Policy No. & Name	Social Impacts	Economic Impacts	Environmental Impacts	Overall Assessment (S/E/E)
SAN4: Housing Mix, Type and Tenure	+ Delivers a mix of homes for all ages and needs, including affordable and accessible housing. + Supports social inclusion.	+ Attracts a diverse population, supports local economy and workforce.	+ Encourages efficient land use and sustainable building.	Positive / Positive / Positive
SAN5: Site Allocations	+ Delivers new homes, public open space, and community facilities. - Potential for increased local traffic.	+ Construction and new residents support local economy. - Loss of agricultural land.	- Loss of greenfield/BMV land, but mitigated by design and drainage. + Biodiversity net gain and mitigation required.	Positive / Positive / Neutral
SAN6: Local Business and Employment	+ Protects local shop and employment, supports social cohesion.	+ Retains and encourages local employment, supports business.	Neutral (no significant direct impact).	Positive / Positive / Neutral
SAN7: Green Infrastructure	+ Enhances access to open space, supports health and wellbeing.	+ Supports recreation and tourism.	+ Retains and enhances habitats, trees, and hedgerows; supports biodiversity net gain.	Positive / Positive / Positive

Table B: Neighbourhood Plan & Sustainable Development

Policy No. & Name	Social Impacts	Economic Impacts	Environmental Impacts	Overall Assessment (S/E/E)
SAN8: Connecting the Village (Active Travel)	+ Improves pedestrian safety, supports active travel, and social inclusion.	+ Enhances access to local businesses and facilities.	+ Reduces car use, supports sustainable transport, improves air quality.	Positive / Positive / Positive
SAN9: Dark Skies	+ Supports community character and wellbeing.	Neutral (no significant direct impact).	+ Reduces light pollution, benefits wildlife and landscape.	Positive / Neutral / Positive
SAN10: Mitigating Effects of European Sites	+ Ensures continued access to high-quality natural environment.	- Financial contributions required from developers.	+ Protects SAC/SSSI, ensures nutrient neutrality, mitigates recreational pressure.	Positive / Neutral / Positive

Table B: Neighbourhood Plan & Sustainable Development				
Policy No. & Name	Social Impacts	Economic Impacts	Environmental Impacts	Overall Assessment (S/E/E)
SAN11: Non-Designated Heritage Assets	+ Protects local heritage, strengthens community identity and pride.	+ Heritage assets can support tourism and local distinctiveness.	+ Preserves historic environment and landscape character.	Positive / Positive / Positive

5. CONDITION (E): GENERAL CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC POLICIES OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

5.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to ensure its general conformity with the development plan for the District, that is the New Forest District Council Core Strategy (2009) Local Plan Part 2 (2014) and Local Plan Part 2 (2020) all of which are considered to be of a strategic nature (as per Planning Practice Guidance (§41-076). The modified Sandleheath Neighbourhood Plan will be judged against the adopted Local Plans.

5.2 In accordance with Planning Practice Guidance (§ 41-009), this Statement does not seek to demonstrate general conformity with the policies of any emerging Development Plan Documents. However, it is noted that the evidence base for emerging Development Plan Documents is important to informing the Neighbourhood Plan and conformity with emerging policies is crucial for the long-term success of the Neighbourhood Plan given that in the event of any future conflict the most recent policy will take precedent.

5.3 The NFDC Local Plan defines Sandleheath as a Main Village in the settlement hierarchy of the District.

5.4 An assessment of the general conformity of each policy, and its relationship with emerging policy where relevant, is contained in Table C below.

Table C: Neighbourhood Plan & Development Plan Conformity Summary

		NFDC Core Strategy (2009)	NFDC Local Plan Part 2 (2014)	NFDC Local Plan Part 1 (2020)
No.	Policy Title	Commentary		
SAN1	Spatial Strategy	This policy is in conformity with NFDC Local Plan Part 1 in defining a settlement boundary for Sandleheath and directing development within that boundary, which has been redrawn to accommodate the proposed development locations and the completion of the site allocation within the Part two Local Plan. Sandleheath is identified as a Main Village, in the settlement hierarchy, suitable for small and medium scale developments. Development also needs to conserve and enhance the countryside and ensure it avoids harm to the setting of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape as set out in the Local Plan Part 1 Policies STR1 – STR4 & ENV2. The policy recognises the spatial elements which make up the designated area and their roles within it. It addresses the need to direct development to the most sustainable locations in the village, restricting development in the countryside as per Local Plan Part 2 policy DM20. The policy approach is therefore considered to be in line with the District Council spatial Plan.		
SAN2	Local Gap	The NFDC Local Plan Core Strategy, Local Plan Part 1 or Part 2 do not contain any policies direct related to Local Gaps. However, Local Plan Part 1 Policy ENV4 seeks to ensure that where development is proposed, it integrates into the local landscape context through the retention and/or enhancement of the landscape setting of the settlement and the transition between the settlement fringe and the open countryside.		
SAN3	Design Guidance and Codes	Achieving high quality design that contributes positively to local distinctiveness, quality of life and enhances the character and identity of the locality forms part of the District Council's approach to design as per its Local Plan Part 1 Policies STR1 & ENV3. The policy seeks to ensure that the Sandleheath Design Guidance and Codes leads to better design outcomes. The policy also identifies locally distinctive views (ENV4) to ensure that development proposals respond positively to these. The policy approach is therefore considered to be in general conformity with strategic policies.		
SAN4	Housing Mix and Type	NFDC Local Plan Part 1 Policy HOU1 on housing type, size, tenure and choice, states that proposals should improve the diversity of housing choice. It recognises that the existing housing stock of the Plan Area is predominantly 3- and 4-bedroom homes and that a turnover within the existing housing stock will continue to be the main source of supply for meeting future demand for larger homes. The policy is intended to provide a starting point for proposals in New Milton to ensure an improved diversity of choice. The Policy also aligns with NFDC Local Plan Policy HOU2 in respect of the requirement for affordable housing provision (although this is set at 10 as per the NPPF rather than 11) The Policy also accords with HOU3 in seeking to enable older people to live independently through the provision of adaptable accessible dwellings and broadly aligns with NFDC Local Plan Part 1 Policy IMPL2 in seeking to ensure homes		

		are adaptable to the future needs of occupiers, although the neighbourhood plan has justified why it seeks to exceed the minimum standard set out in the policy.
SAN5	Site Allocations	The policy supports NFDC Local Plan Part 1 Policy STR5 which seeks to deliver around 400 homes on sites to be identified in other towns and large villages. Whilst NFDC is unable to provide an indicative housing number for Sandleheath at this time, using the current standard method figure for Sandleheath results in a requirement of just under 4.5 homes per annum; this equates to around 90 over a 20-year period. The allocation of 97 therefore is considered to be broadly in conformity with this. The policy also supports Local Plan Part 1 HOU1 and HOU2 by bringing forward a mix of housing types, sizes and tenures to meet local needs, in this case, including some First Homes to provide additional home ownership tenures, responding to the local housing needs survey which indicates a desire for adult children to move back into the village, but currently unable to do so due to the cost of buying a home. The policy also supports ENV1 through the requirement to bring forward alternative natural recreational green space (ARNG) for development in excess of 50 homes with financial contributions for development below this level. It also aligns with ENV4 in ensuring development successfully integrates into the local landscape setting through the chosen locations for development. Further, the policy aligns with NFDC Local Plan Part 1 Policy STR8 in its support of community infrastructure to address the needs of current and future communities in identifying the community facilities and infrastructure to accompany new development and IMPL1 in ensuring development contributes to the provision of infrastructure and facilities to support development, this has been secured through detailed direct discussions between land interests at the Steering Group.
SAN6	Local Business and Employment	The policy is consistent with the provisions of the NFDC Local Plan Policy STR6 (Sustainable Economic Growth) in safeguarding opportunities for future business by retaining employment sites which are suitable and viable for continued business use as well as ECON1 which allows for the redevelopment or intensification of use on existing employment sites. It also supports Local Plan Part 2 Policy DM24 which resists the loss of rural employment sites. In relation to the village shop, the policy also aligns with Local Plan Part 2 Policy DM19 which resists the loss of small local shops where the proposal would result in the loss of such an important local facility.
SAN7	Green Infrastructure	Maintaining and where possible, enhancing green infrastructure is an important element in delivering sustainable development as per the NFDC Local Plan Part 1 Policy STR1 and Local Plan Part 2 Policies DM2 and DM9. It seeks to ensure any proposed development which causes harm to the green infrastructure network is not permitted and that new development is expected to enhance existing nature conservation as part of its proposal, providing new spaces and corridors to better connect the network. The policy also works in support of ENV4 in seeking to enhance and retain the green infrastructure network. The policy is therefore considered to be in general conformity with strategic policies.

SAN8	Connecting the Village	The NFDC Local Plan Part 1 Policies CCC1 & CCC2 support the objective to prioritise and secure safe and sustainable travel. The policy seeks to encourage safe, accessible, convenient and enjoyable means of walking and cycling in the parish and is therefore considered to be in general conformity with these policies.
SAN9	Dark Skies	Local Plan Part 1 Policy ENV4 seeks to ensure that where development is proposed, it integrates into the local landscape context through the retention and/or enhancement of areas of tranquility and areas of intrinsically dark skies. Policy SAN9 seeks to ensure Sandleheath, as such an area in the setting of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape, maintains its dark sky.
SAN10	Mitigating Effects on European Sites	ENV1: Mitigating the impacts of development on International Nature Conservation sites seeks to secure the appropriate measures within new development to avoid adverse impacts on International Nature Conservation sites. The supporting text for the policy identifies several existing related initiatives The policy supports the provisions of NFDC Local Plan Part 1 ENV1 and Part 2 Policy DM3 in respect of mitigating effects on European Sites. It also makes specific provision to protect the integrity of European sites within the Solent. Although the Parish Council recognises that the policy does not materially differ from the adopted it considers the issue is of such importance the local community will expect to see a policy on the matter in the Neighbourhood Plan as did the draft HRA.
SAN11	Local Non-Designated Heritage Assets	The policy support NFDC Local Plan Part 2 DM1: Heritage and Conservation through seeking to conserve and enhance the historic environment and heritage assets.

6. CONDITION (F): COMPATABILITY WITH EU-DERIVED OBLIGATIONS

6.1 The District Council provided a screening opinion in December 2024 that determined that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), in accordance with Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessments of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), was required, following consultation with statutory bodies as per those Regulations. A copy of the SEA is published separately.

6.2 As set out in Section 4 the Parish Council has met its obligations in relation to the EU Directive 2001/42 in respect of assessing the potential for significant environmental effects of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Final SEA Report is published as a separate document for submission and examination.

6.3 The Parish Council has also met its obligations in relation to the habitats provisions of EU Directive 92/43/EEC (and the associated Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)). In this regard, the Parish Council has provided the District Council with all the necessary information it required for the purposes of determining whether an Appropriate Assessment was required or to carry out the Appropriate Assessment as required. The District Council Habitats Regulations (HRA) Screening Assessment concludes that the making of the Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the 2017 Regulations) either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. An HRA has been provided separately.

6.4 The Parish Council has been mindful of the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights in process of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan and considers that it complies with the Human Rights Act. The Neighbourhood Plan has been subject to extensive engagement with those people local to the area who could be affected by its policies and their views have been taken into account in finalising the Plan.

6.5 In respect of Directive 2008/98/EC – the Waste Framework Directive – the Neighbourhood Plan does not include any policies in relation to the management of waste, nor does the area include a waste management site. On that basis, this Directive is not considered relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan and therefore could not be breached.

6.6 In respect of Directive 2008/50/EC – the Air Quality Directive – the Neighbourhood Plan includes some policies relevant to Air Quality. These policies are tested in accordance with national policy and guidance relevant to their content. The policies are not considered to breach the requirements of the Air Quality Directive as they comprise small-scale interventions and do not negate from the framework for measurement and improvement of air quality set in the Directive.

7. SUMMARY

7.1 In Section 3 it is considered that each of the policies have had full regard to national policy, with no incidence of two or more national policies being in tension, nor of the Parish Council having to strike a balance between them. As a result, the Neighbourhood Plan, as a whole, meets Condition (a).

7.2 In Section 4 it is considered that each of the policies either contributes to the achievement of sustainable development or is neutral in its impact on one of more of the three sustainability themes. Where it is considered that a policy has the potential to have a minor or moderate adverse effect, even with mitigation measures in place, the SEA Report explains how the nature and scale of that effect are outweighed by other positive effects, either of the policy itself or of other policy(s). As a result, the Neighbourhood Plan, as a whole, meets Condition (d).

7.3 In Section 5 it is considered that all of the policies are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted and emerging development plan, with no incidence of two or more strategic policies being in tension, nor of the Parish Council having to strike a balance between them. As a result, the Neighbourhood Plan, as a whole, meets Condition (e).

7.4 In Section 6 it is considered the making of the Neighbourhood Plan accords with all EU-derived environmental and other obligations. As a result, the Neighbourhood Plan, as a whole, meets Condition (e).