

Plan Objectives

1. Enable the health and wellbeing of the district's population. *[Enabling health and wellbeing]*
2. Ensure the delivery of new homes, including affordable housing, which meet local housing needs including in terms of number, size, tenure and type. *[Ensuring the delivery of new homes]*
3. Achieve high quality development which is sustainable, which responds positively to local character and which creates safe places to live, work and travel. *[Achieving high quality development].*
4. Reduce the need to travel including by private car and increase opportunities for cycling, walking and public transport use, including connecting homes, workplaces and facilities using green infrastructure where possible and through the delivery of dedicated new infrastructure. *[Reducing the need to travel].*
5. Support the district's economy, including its rural economy, by providing for a range of employment opportunities and sufficient new sites which respond to the needs of businesses and local workers. *[Supporting the district's economy].*
6. Enhance the vitality and viability of the district's town and local centres which have an important role serving our local communities with a particular focus on the regeneration of Coalville. *[Enhancing our town and local centres]*
7. Ensure new development mitigates for and adapts to climate change, including reducing vulnerability to flooding, and contributes to reduced net greenhouse gas emissions to support the district becoming carbon neutral by 2050. *[Mitigating for and adapting to climate change].*
8. Conserve or enhance the district's historic character including its built, cultural, industrial and rural heritage and heritage assets and their setting. *[Conserving and enhancing our heritage].*
9. Conserve and enhance the district's natural environment, including its biodiversity and habitat connectivity, geodiversity, green infrastructure, water environments and landscape character, notably the River Mease Special Area of Conservation, the National Forest and Charnwood Forest as well as its other valued landscapes and achieve Biodiversity Net Gain. . *[Conserving and enhancing our natural environment].*
10. Ensure the efficient use of natural resources, in particular brownfield land, control pollution and facilitate the sustainable use and management of minerals and the minimisation of waste. *[Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources].*
11. Maintain and where possible enhance access to services and facilities including jobs, shops, education, sport and recreation, green space, cultural facilities, communication networks and health & social care and ensure that development is supported by the physical and social infrastructure the community needs and

that this is brought forward in a co-ordinated and timely way. *[Ensuring sufficient infrastructure]*

Draft Policy S1- Future Development Needs (Strategic Policy)

- (1) The housing requirement for North West Leicestershire is 686 dwellings each year, and 13,720 dwellings over the plan period of 2020-2040 as set out in the Statement of Common Ground for Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area (June 2022).
- (2) The requirement for general needs employment land for the period 2024 to 2040 is at least 35,000sqm for office uses (defined as the former B1 (now part of Class E)) and at least 146,000sqm for industrial and small warehousing (defined as Class B2 and Class B8) of less than 9,000 sqm.
- (3) The requirement for land for strategic B8 (warehousing) of more than 9,000 sqm will have regard to the outcome from the Leicester & Leicestershire Apportionment of Strategic Distribution Floorspace study.
- (4) For the avoidance of doubt, the annualised district housing requirement for five year land supply and Housing Delivery Test purposes is 686 dwellings each year.
- (5) In meeting the future development needs of the district, new development will be required to contribute towards meeting the Local Plan's objectives with particular emphasis upon the following:
 - (a) Being of a high-quality design, reflecting the Council's Design Code whilst also respecting the natural and built environment;
 - (b) Addressing climate change and reduce carbon emissions;
 - (c) Delivering new infrastructure to support both existing and future residents and businesses; and
 - (d) Contributing towards creating healthy places.

Draft Policy S2 – The Development Strategy (Strategic Policy)

- (1) The strategy of this plan is to direct new development to appropriate locations within the Limits to Development consistent with the settlement hierarchy below and other policies of this plan, subject to development

being proportionate to the scale and character of the settlement concerned.

- (2) As an exception to the hierarchy, which is based on established settlements, Policy H3 identifies land south of East Midlands Airport (Isley Woodhouse) for a new settlement where a large amount of growth will take place during the plan period and beyond.

Hierarchy Classification	Settlements
<p>Principal Town</p> <p>The primary settlement in the district which provides an extensive range of services and facilities including employment, leisure and shopping and which is accessible by sustainable transport from surrounding areas and to other large settlements outside the district. The largest amount of new development will be directed here, including retail development, to support the regeneration of Coalville Town Centre.</p>	<p>Coalville Urban Area comprising Coalville, Donington le Heath, Greenhill, Hugglescote, Snibston, Thringstone, Whitwick and Bardon employment area</p>
<p>Key Service Centre</p> <p>Smaller than the Principal Town in terms of population and also the range of services and facilities they provide, they play an important role providing services and facilities to the surrounding area and are accessible by some sustainable transport. A significant amount of development will take place in these settlements but less than that in the Principal Town</p>	<p>Ashby de la Zouch</p> <p>Castle Donington</p>
<p>Local Service Centre</p> <p>Settlements which provide some services and facilities primarily of a local nature meeting day-to-day needs and where a reasonable amount of new development will take place.</p>	<p>Ibstock</p> <p>Kegworth</p> <p>Measham</p>
<p>Sustainable Villages</p>	<p>Albert Village, Appleby Magna, Belton, Blackfordby, Breedon on the Hill, Diseworth, Donisthorpe,</p>

Settlements which have a limited range of services and facilities where a limited amount of growth will take place.	Ellistown, Heather, Long Whatton, Moira (including Norris Hill), Oakthorpe, Packington, Ravenstone, Swannington, Woodville, Worthington
Local Housing Needs Villages Settlements with very limited services and where development will be restricted to that which meets a local need in accordance with policy S3	Batram, Boundary, Coleorton, Griffydam, Hemington, Lockington, Lount, Newbold, Newton Burgoland, Normanton le Heath, Osgathorpe, Peggs Green, Sinope, Snarestone, Swepstone, Wilson
Small villages or hamlets in the countryside Small groups of dwellings with no services and facilities and where development will be considered in the context of the countryside policy (Policy S4).	Settlements not named in the above tiers

- (3) If during the plan period any of the Sustainable Villages were to lose facilities and services to the extent that they would no longer meet the requirements for a Sustainable Village, this will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications in these settlements.
- (4) If during the plan period any of the Local Needs Villages gains facilities and services to the extent that they would meet the requirements for a Sustainable Village, this will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications in these settlements"

Draft Policy S3 – Local Housing Need Villages (Strategic Policy)

- (1) Other than dwellings that accord with Policy S5 (Residential Development in the Countryside) or Policy H6 (Rural Exceptions Sites), proposals for new dwellings at the Local Housing Need Villages will only be supported when each dwelling is:
- (a) Physically well-related to the Local Housing Needs Village; and
 - (b) Intended for occupation by at least one person with a demonstrable local connection to the Local Housing Needs Village.
- (2) To demonstrate a local connection, at least one of the intended occupants must satisfy at least one of the following criteria:

- (a) They are an existing resident in the Parish in which the application site is located and have been so for a continuous period of at least 10 years prior to an application being submitted;
 - (b) They are no longer a resident in the Parish in which the application site is located but were previously residents for a continuous period of at least 10 years;
 - (c) They require frequent attention and/or care due to age, ill health, disability and/or infirmity as demonstrated by written evidence from a medical doctor or relevant statutory support agency and therefore has an essential need to live close to a close family member who currently resides in the Parish in which the application site is located and has done so for a continuous period of at least 10 years; or
 - (d) Their existing accommodation is in the Parish in which the application site is located but is no longer suitable for their needs due to ill health or disability, as demonstrated by written evidence from a medical doctor or relevant statutory support agency.
- (3) As part of any planning permission granted under this policy, the applicant(s) will be obliged to enter a Section 106 legal agreement that requires:
- (a) The applicant(s) to occupy the approved dwelling for a period of at least three years from the date of completion; and
 - (b) The local connection criteria at part (2) of this policy to be applied to any subsequent sale of the dwelling for at least the first three months it is on the market.

Draft Policy S4 – Countryside (Strategic Policy)

(1) Land outside the Limits to Development, as shown on the Policies Map, is identified as countryside where the uses listed (a) to (s) below will be supported, subject to the considerations set out in criteria 2 (a) to (d).

- (a) Agriculture, forestry and equestrian use where it can be demonstrated that any new building is reasonably necessary for the efficient long-term operation of the business;
- (b) Rural workers dwellings in accordance with Policy S5.
- (c) The conversion of redundant or disused buildings;
- (d) Flood protection;
- (e) Local needs housing in accordance with Policy S3;
- (f) Affordable housing exceptions sites in accordance with Policy H6;
- (g) The extension and subdivision of existing dwellings,
- (h) Replacement dwellings in accordance with Policy S5;

- (i) New employment land in accordance with the provisions of Policy Ec4;
- (j) Expansion of existing business and enterprise including agricultural diversification, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings;
- (k) Sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in accordance with Policy H9;
- (l) Community services and facilities meeting a proven local need in accordance with Policy IF2;
- (m) Tourism attractions and facilities and visitor accommodation in accordance with Policy Ec12;
- (n) Sports and recreation facilities;
- (o) Renewable energy; in accordance with Policy AP3;
- (p) Development at East Midlands Airport in accordance with Policy Ec8;
- (q) Development at Donington Park Circuit in accordance with Policy Ec11;
- (r) Transport infrastructure;
- (s) Development by statutory undertakers or public utility providers.

(2) Where a proposed use is considered acceptable in a countryside location it should: :

- (a) Respect the appearance and character of the landscape, including its historic character; and
- (b) Not undermine, either individually or cumulatively with existing and proposed development, the physical or perceived separation between nearby settlements; and
- (c) Not create or extend ribbon development; and
- (d) Be well integrated with existing buildings where these are close to the proposed development.

Draft Policy S5 –Residential Development in the Countryside

Rural workers dwellings

- (1) Proposals for rural workers dwellings will only be permitted providing it has been demonstrated:

- (a) The rural enterprise has been established for at least three years,
- (b) The rural enterprise is economically viable and has clear prospects of remaining so; and
- (c) That there is an essential operational need to live permanently at or near their place of work in the countryside; and
- (d) The need cannot be met within a nearby settlement, or by existing housing at or near the site or through the conversion of a suitable redundant or disused rural building at the site; and
- (e) The size and nature of the dwelling is reflective of the location and setting and proportionate to the needs of the intended occupants.

Temporary rural workers dwellings

- (2) Where Part (1)(b) to (e) are met but the rural enterprise has been established for less than three years, the Council will only permit temporary rural workers accommodation, such as a caravan or mobile home.
- (3) Proposals for temporary rural workers dwellings will only be permitted where a condition or planning obligation is used to require that the temporary accommodation is removed three years from the date of the planning permission.

Loss of rural workers dwellings

- (4) Permission for rural workers dwellings will be subject to an occupancy condition. Proposals to remove an agricultural or other workers' occupancy condition will be permitted where it has been demonstrated:
 - (a) A dwelling is no longer needed for the enterprise; and
 - (b) The property has been actively marketed for at least 12 months at a price which reflects the existence of the occupancy condition.

Replacement residential dwellings

- (5) The replacement of residential dwellings in the countryside will only be permitted providing:
 - (a) The original dwelling is a permanent structure, not a temporary or mobile structure; and
 - (b) The replacement dwelling is of a similar size and scale and no more visually intrusive than the original dwelling; and
 - (c) The number of new dwellings is no more than the number of dwellings to be demolished and replaced; and
 - (d) The replacement dwelling is positioned on the footprint of the existing dwelling, unless a more appropriate location within the existing dwelling's curtilage is identified.