

West Haddon Neighbourhood Development Plan Review July 2022
**Consideration of Minor (Non-material)/Major (Material) Changes to the Made West
Haddon Development Neighbourhood Plan (29 January 2016)**

1. Background

- 1.1 The purpose of this statement is for the Council to issue a formal decision on the nature of the changes proposed to the “made” West Haddon Neighbourhood Development Plan. In doing so, it has had regard to the definition of the categories of modifications set out in the National Planning Policy Guidance.
- 1.2 There is no requirement to review or update a made neighbourhood plan. However, there are circumstances where it could become out of date, for example where it conflicts with policies in a local plan that was adopted after it was made. In such cases, the most recent plan policy takes precedence. There may be other circumstances, particularly if a plan has been in force for a period of time, where other material considerations could mean that the evidence base which underpins aspects of the neighbourhood plan are out of date and policies are consequently less robust.
- 1.3 The Council has produced a Review Toolkit to guide neighbourhood plan steering groups through the review process. The Toolkit breaks the process into three stages, the first of which involves screening the made neighbourhood plan for consistency against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which was most recently revised in 2021 and the Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) for Daventry District (SCLP), which was adopted in February 2020. It also advises groups to consider whether new evidence and monitoring activities in the neighbourhood area might need to be taken into consideration. Groups are advised to undertake the screening and to submit the results to the Council for consideration.
- 1.4 The West Haddon Neighbourhood Development Plan (WHNDP) was made in January 2016 and covers the period 2011-2029. The making predates both the NPPF revisions and the adoption of the SCLP. In November 2021 West Haddon Parish Council as the qualifying body (QB), decided to review the WHNDP.
- 1.5 The Parish Council has undertaken the screening process and submitted the following documents to the Council on 10 August 2022:
 - a) Review Neighbourhood Development Plan as both tracked changes and “clean” versions.

- b) Screening tables 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D.
 - c) Table 2 setting out the modifications to policy, the reasons for the modification and an opinion on the nature of the modification.
 - d) Statement of Modifications, which includes a table setting out all changes including supporting text, with the reason for each change and an opinion on the nature of the change.
- 1.6 West Haddon Parish Council considered that the changes were minor (non-material) changes. No public consultation has been undertaken on the proposed modifications.

2. Changes to the West Haddon Neighbourhood Development Plan

- 2.1 The Review Neighbourhood Development Plan has introduced a small number of changes to policies. Table 1 below is based on submitted document (d) and sets out the changes which have been made to six policies. It includes the opinion of the QB as to whether the changes are minor or material and an explanation of the Council's interpretation of the changes and whether it agrees with the view of the QB.
- 2.2 The Review NDP has also a number of changes to the supporting text and appendices, many of which are consequential as a result of policy changes. These fall into the following categories:
- i. Changes to explain that the NDP has been reviewed and the reasons for this.
 - ii. Changes to references to relevant NPPF paragraphs to reflect the 2021 revision.
 - ii. Changes to references to relevant strategic policies in the SCLP which have replaced the 1997 Local Plan saved policies.
 - iii. References to two sources of evidence which were produced after the NDP was made in 2016, the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (2020) and the West Haddon Parish Housing Survey (2019).
- 2.3 Table 1 below is based on submitted document c) which only details changes to policies. Changes to supporting text are explained in submitted document d).

Table 1: Changes to policies of the West Haddon Neighbourhood Development Plan

Change/ modification reference	Policy	Summary of changes to West Haddon Neighbourhood Plan	Qualifying Body View	Local Planning Authority View
1	WH1	Minor amendments to take account of adopted policy in the SCLP (Local Plan Part 2).	Minor (non-material) alteration	Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. Policy has been amended to make it clear that development will be expected to be within the confines unless it is for one of the specific circumstances set out in RA2 of the SCLP.
2	WH2	Technical amendment to take into account new paragraph numbering for Local Green Spaces in NPPF July 2021.	Minor (non-material) alteration	Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. The amendment updates the paragraph reference to the NPPF.
3	WH4	<p>Reference to village shop in list of identified community assets deleted after shop's closure – factual amendment.</p> <p>Replacement of “village” with “neighbourhood area”. Amendment brings policy into line with Local Plan Part 2.</p>	Minor (non-material) alteration	<p>Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. It reflects the fact that the village shop has closed.</p> <p>Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. The amendment allows alternative sites to come forward outside the village confines in suitable locations that are accessible by sustainable forms of</p>

Change/ modification reference	Policy	Summary of changes to West Haddon Neighbourhood Plan	Qualifying Body View	Local Planning Authority View
				transport, in accordance with policy RA2 of the SCLP.
4	WH9	Technical amendment to take account of revised NPPF, July 2021.	Minor (non-material) alteration	Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. Policy has been amended to draw attention to relevant policies of the SCLP.
5	WH10	Site allocations – factual amendments to reflect development status of the sites. Policy wording updates Policy WH10 to reflect adopted development plan policy in Local Plan Part 2.	Minor (non-material) alteration	Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. Policy has been amended to reflect the fact that two of the allocation have been developed and one is still available. Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. Policy has been amended to reflect policy RA2 of the SCLP.
6	WH11	New criterion c) takes into account adopted development plan policy in the JCS and Local Plan Part 2.	Minor (non-material) alteration	Agreed that this is a minor (non-material) change. Policy has been amended to reflect the WNJCS and SCLP in respect of development outside the confines.

3. Nature of the Changes

3.1 Officers are authorised under the Scheme of Delegation to issue a statement to the QB on the nature of the modifications contained in the review of the West Haddon NDP. This statement considers whether the changes represent material or non-material amendments to the made NDP.

3.2 National Planning Policy Guidance was reviewed in 2019 and introduced the following categories:

- Minor (non-material) modifications to a neighbourhood development plan or order are those which would not materially affect the policies in the plan or permission granted by the order. These may include correcting errors, such as a reference to a supporting document, and would not require examination or a referendum.
- Material modifications which do not change the nature of the plan or order would require examination but not a referendum. This might, for example, entail the addition of a design code that builds on a pre-existing design policy, or the addition of a site or sites which, subject to the decision of the independent examiner, are not so significant or substantial as to change the nature of the plan.
- Material modifications which do change the nature of the plan or order would require examination and a referendum. This might, for example, involve allocating significant new sites for development.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1 Table 1 sets out the policy changes with views of both the QB and the Council on the nature of the changes. The QB has concluded that, in undertaking the screening of the made NDP against the NPPF and adopted SCLP, the changes that are proposed to the NDP are wholly minor and fall into the first category set out in the PPG.

4.2 The Council agrees that the changes fall into the first category, that they are minor in nature and would not materially affect the policies in the plan. These changes include:

- i. The revised NPPF and development plan, including policy references reflecting the adoption of the SCLP.
- ii. Update on proposals that have subsequently been constructed.
- iii. To reflect the status of village facilities.



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Date: 22 August 2022