CORE STRATEGY ADOPTED VERSION JULY 2011

POLICIES

POLICY	POLICY	POLICY SUMMARY
No.	DESCRIPTION	
CS01	SPATIAL STRATEGY	Development Priorities for the Borough
CS02	SETTLEMENT HIERARCHY	Decision on investment in services and facilities and on the location and scale of new development will be taken on the basis of the Borough settlement hierarchy
CS03	KINGS LYNN AREA	In support of the overall development strategy Kings Lynn will continue to meet its obligations as a Growth Point and Key Centre for Development and Change and develop as a sub-regional centre
CS04	DOWNHAM MARKET	The role of DM will continue as a main town providing and supporting employment and essential services for the southern part of the borough.
CS05	HUNSTANTON	The focus for Hunstanton will be on ensuring that as a main town it develops its position as a successful service hub for the local area, while strengthening the role as a tourist destination with year round activities.
CS06	DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS	 Promote sustainable communities and patterns of development to ensure strong, diverse, economic activities Maintain local character and high quality environment Focus most new development in key rural service centres Ensure employment, housing, services and other facilities are provided in close proximity
CS07	DEVELOPMENT IN COASTAL AREAS	The Council will seek to balance the sensitive nature of the coastal area of West Norfolk with the national and international designations including the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty for wildlife, landscape and heritage with the need for economic and social development of the area and the effects of climate changeincluding the AONB for wildlife, landscape and heritage
CS08	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	All new development should be of high quality design
CS09	HOUSING	The plan will identify sufficient land for a

	DISTRIBUTION	minimum of 16,500 new dwellings across the Borough over the period 2001 to 2026, (12,000 to 2021 and an additional 3,000 to maintain a 15 year supply from adoption date of the Core Strategy, anticipated 2011. The total also allows 10% for flexibility and non-completion of commitments etc.)
CS10	THE ECONOMY	The local economy will be developed sustainably
CS11	TRANSPORT – STRATEGIC ISSUES	The Council will work with partner organisations (including the Regional Transport Board, Highways Agency, public transport operators, Network Rail, Norfolk County Council and neighbouring authorities) to deliver a sustainable transport network which improves connectivity within and beyond the borough, and reinforcing the role of King's Lynn as a regional transport node
CS12	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS – Green Infrastructure, Historic Environment, Landscape Character, Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Proposals to protect and enhance our historic environment and landscape character, biodiversity and geodiversity will be encouraged and supported. The Borough Council will work with partners to ensure an integrated network of green infrastructure throughout the urban and rural areas (identified through the Green Infrastructure Management Plan and Econet map) is successfully created and managed
CS13	COMMUNITY AND CULTURE	 (i) Delivering community well-being and enhancing quality of life through good design (ii) Creating sustainable communities through the provision of community infrastructure (iii) Protecting, enhancing and promoting cultural assets as well as facilitating new cultural facilities in growth areas
CS14	INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION	All development in the plan area will need to be accompanied by appropriate infrastructure (including off-site infrastructure) in a timely way, with arrangements for its subsequent maintenance

SITE ALLOCATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES PLAN ADOPTED VERSION SEPTEMBER 2016

POLICIES

POLICY		POLICY SUMMARY
No.	DESCRIPTION	
DM 1	PRESUMPTION IN FAVOUR OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	When considering development proposals the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. It will always work proactively and jointly with applicants to find solutions that allow proposals to be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.
		Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
		Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision, the Council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise – taking into account whether:
		 Any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework taken as a whole; or Specific policies in that Framework indicate that development should be restricted.
DM 2	DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARIES	Development will be permitted within the development boundaries of settlements shown on the Policies Map provided it is in accordance with the other policies in the Local Plan.
		The areas outside development boundaries (excepting specific allocations for development) will be treated as countryside where new development will be more restricted and will be limited to that identified as suitable in rural areas by other policies of the local plan, including:
		 farm diversification (under Core Strategy Policy CS06); small scale employment (under Core Strategy
		Policy CS10); tourism facilities (under Core Strategy Policy CS10);
		community facilities, development in support

		 (under Core Strategy Policy CS13); renewable energy generation (under Policy DM20 of the rural economy or to this Plan); rural workers' housing (under Policy DM6 of this Plan); and affordable housing (under Core Strategy Policy CS09)
		In Smaller Villages and Hamlets, infilling in accordance with Policy DM3 will also be permitted in addition to those categories identified in the previous paragraph.
DM 2A	EARLY REVIEW OF LOCAL PLAN	An early review of the Local Plan will be undertaken, commencing with the publication of a consultation document (a Draft Local Plan) in 2016. This is set out in the Local Development Scheme (LDS). An early review will ensure a set of deliverable and achievable housing sites for the duration of the Plan period, with the most up to date policy framework to secure continuity for the longer term.
		The review will identify the full, objectively assessed housing needs for the District and proposals to ensure that this is met in so far as this is consistent with national policy (National Planning Policy Framework).
DM 3	DEVELOPMENT IN THE SMALLER VILLAGES AND HAMLETS	New development in the designated Smaller Villages and Hamlets will be limited to that suitable in rural areas, including:
		 small scale employment uses (under Policy CS10); community facilities (under Policy CS13); smaller scale tourism facilities (under Policy
		CS10); • conversions of existing buildings (under Policy
		 CS06); rural exceptions affordable housing; and development to meet specific identified local need, including housing to support the operation of rural businesses (under Policies CS01 and CS06);
		Plus housing as set out following:
		The sensitive infilling of small gaps within an otherwise continuously built up frontage will be permitted in Smaller Villages and Hamlets where:
		 the development is appropriate to the scale and character of the group of buildings and its surroundings; and it will not fill a gap which provides a positive contribution to the street scene.
		In exceptional circumstances the development of small

DM 4	HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION	groups of dwellings in Smaller Villages and Hamlets may be considered appropriate where the development is of a particularly high quality and would provide significant benefits to the local community. The conversion of existing dwellings to and new development of properties for multiple occupation may be permitted where: • there is no adverse impact on the amenity of existing and new residents and the historic and natural environment; and • the development and associated facilities, including bin storage, car and cycle parking, can be provided without significant detriment to the occupiers of adjoining or neighbouring properties; and • the site is within reasonable distances to facilities, public open space, supporting services and local employment.
DM 5	ENLARGEMENT OR REPLACEMENT OF DWELLINGS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE	Proposals for replacement dwellings or extensions to existing dwellings will be approved where the design is of a high quality and will preserve the character or appearance of the street scene or area in which it sits. Schemes which fail to reflect the scale and character of their surroundings or which would be oppressive or adversely affect the amenity of the area or neighbouring properties will be refused.
DM 6	HOUSING NEEDS OF RURAL WORKERS	1. Development proposals for occupational dwellings must demonstrate the stated intentions to engage in farming, forestry or any other rural-based enterprise, are genuine, are reasonably likely to materialise and are capable of being sustained. Proposals should show that the needs of the intended enterprise require one or more of the people engaged in it to live nearby. 2. Agricultural or rural based occupancy conditions will be placed on any new permanent or temporary occupational dwellings specifying the terms of occupation. Permanent occupational dwellings 3. New permanent dwellings should only be allowed to support existing rural based activities on wellestablished rural based enterprises, providing: a. there is a clearly established existing functional need, requiring occupants to be adjacent to their enterprises in the day and at night,

- b. the need could not be met by existing dwellings within the locality,
- c. the application meets the requirements of a financial test demonstrating that:
- d. the enterprise(s) and the rural based activity concerned have been established for at least three years, have been profitable for at least one of them and;
 - i. are currently financially sound, and have a clear prospect of remaining so and;
 - ii. the rural based enterprise can sustain the size of the proposed dwelling;
 - iii. acceptable in all other respects

Temporary occupational dwellings

- 4. if a new dwelling is essential to support a new rural based activity, it should normally, for the first three years, be provided by a caravan, or other temporary accommodation.
- 5. new temporary dwellings should only be allowed to support rural based activities providing:
 - a. the proposal satisfies criteria 3a and 3b above
 - b. the application is supported by clear evidence of a firm intention and ability to develop the enterprise concerned (for example significant investment in new farm buildings is often a good indication of intentions);
 - c. the application is supported by clear evidence that the proposed enterprise has been planned on a sound financial basis.

Existing Occupational Dwellings

- preference will be given to retaining agricultural or other rural based occupancy dwellings where there is a local identified need.
- proposals for the relaxation or removal of agricultural occupancy conditions will only be permitted where the applicant can demonstrate that:
 - a. the dwelling has been occupied in accordance with the terms of the occupancy condition for a minimum of 5 years; and

		b. there is no longer a need for the dwelling by those working, or last working, in the locality in agricultural, forestry or a rural enterprise, established by evidence of marketing (including the provision of details of an independent market valuation reflecting the occupancy condition, as well as all viewings and offers made) for a 12 month period at a price that reflects the occupancy condition.
DM 7	RESIDENTIAL ANNEXES	Development of residential annexes will be approved only subject to the following being secured by condition or planning agreement:
		it remains in the same ownership as, and is occupied in conjunction with the principal dwelling; and does not appear as tantamount to a new dwelling
		 it is ancillary and subordinate in scale to the principal dwelling; • Its occupant(s) share(s) the existing access, garden and parking of the main dwelling;
		occupation of the annexe is subsidiary to that of the main dwelling; and
		•
		not capable of sub-division.
DM 0	DEL IVEDINO	Development of residential annexes outside the development boundaries of settlements will also be judged against the criteria in Policy DM5: Enlargement or Replacement of Dwellings in the Countryside.
DM 8	DELIVERING AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON PHASED DEVELOPMENT	Allocated Sites On sites allocated for residential development through the Local Plan process the requirement to provide affordable housing under Core Strategy CS09 Housing will apply jointly to the whole of a single allocated site that is developed incrementally (through sub-division etc.) and where development of the whole site results in a requirement for a proportion of (or in exceptional circumstances a contribution to) affordable housing.
		Windfall Sites
		On windfall sites the requirement to provide affordable housing under Core Strategy CS09 Housing will apply where the Council considers that the proposed development forms part of a larger site which, if developed, would result in a requirement for a proportion of (or contribution to) affordable housing. If

		the application site satisfies one or more of the following criteria, then it will be considered to be part of a larger site for the purposes of this policy:-
		 land ownership – If an application site is in the same ownership as one or more adjacent plots of land at the time the application is made or within 3 years of the date the application is made and development of those sites would comply with other policies of the Local Plan;
		 planning history – If there is evidence of previous applications for development of a larger site of which the application site forms a part within the past 3 years of the date an application is made and development of the larger site would still be acceptable under other policies of the Local Plan; or
		 extensions to existing consented development If the site forms an extension to a development that has been approved in the 3 years before the application is made and which is still capable of being implemented or the site forms an extension to a development that is being built out on the date the application is made.
DM 9	FACILITIES	The Council will encourage the retention of existing community facilities and the provision of new facilities, particularly in areas with poor levels of provision and in areas of major growth.
		Development leading to the loss of an existing community facility will not be permitted unless it is demonstrated that either:
		a) the area currently served by it would remain suitably provided following the loss, or if not
		b) it is no longer viable or feasible to retain the premises in a community facility use.
DM 10	RETAIL DEVELOPMENT	The Council attach a high priority to the need to support and maintain King's Lynn, Downham Market and Hunstanton as major retail centres. This will be achieved by a combination of measures to improve attractiveness (by increased accessibility, environmental enhancements, events and promotions), as well as strongly supporting proposals to redevelop and invest in the town centres including, where necessary, the use of compulsory purchase powers to consolidate land.
		New retail uses will be expected to be located in these town centres unless an alternative location is

demonstrated to be necessary. If there are no suitable sites in the town centre, an edge of centre location will be expected. Other locations will only be acceptable where it is demonstrated either that there are no suitable sites in the town centre and edge of centre, or the format or nature of the proposed use would not be appropriate in a town centre location (e.g. bulky goods and trade, rural retail services, etc.).

The Council will strongly resist proposals for out of town retail uses that either individually or cumulatively would undermine the attractiveness and viability of the town centres. Retail impact assessments will be required for individual schemes having a floorspace of greater than 2500 square metres, although in the case of the Hardwick area in King's Lynn (where there is already a significant accumulation of out of town centre retailing) greater weight will be attached to the cumulative impact of new development on the town centre. New retail uses in this area will not be subject to a floorspace threshold and will only be approved where they meet the sequential test set out in the NPPF and will not individually or cumulatively undermine the viability of the town centre.

DM 11 TOURING AND PERMANENT HOLIDAY SITES

(NOTE – For the purposes of this policy the term 'holiday accommodation' is used to describe caravan based accommodation, including touring and permanent sites/units, as well as permanent buildings constructed for the purpose of letting etc.)

Location requirements

Proposals for new holiday accommodation sites or units or extension or intensification to existing holiday accommodation will not normally be permitted unless:

- the proposal is supported by a business plan demonstrating how the site will be managed and how it will support tourism or tourist related uses in the area:
- the proposal demonstrates a high standard of design in terms of layout, screening and landscaping ensuring minimal adverse impact on visual amenity and the historical and natural environmental qualities of the surrounding landscape and surroundings; and
- the site can be safely accessed;
- it is in accordance with national policies on flood risk;
- the site is not within the Coastal Hazard Zone

indicated on the Policies Map, or within areas identified as tidal defence breach Hazard Zone in the Borough Council's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and the Environment Agency's mapping;

Small scale proposals for holiday accommodation will not normally be permitted within the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) unless it can be demonstrated that the proposal will not negatively impact on the landscape setting and scenic beauty of the AONB or on the landscape setting of the AONB if outside the designated area. Proposals for uses adversely affecting Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) or European Sites will be refused permission.

Conditions to be applied to new holiday accommodation

Where development is permitted in the open countryside for new holiday accommodation, it is essential that such uses are genuine and will be operated and maintained as tourist facilities in the future. To achieve this aim, occupancy conditions will be placed on future planning permissions requiring that:

- the accommodation is occupied for holiday purposes only and shall be made available for rent or as commercial holiday lets;
- the accommodation shall be for short stay accommodation only (no more than 28 days per single let) and shall not be occupied as a person's sole or main place of residence; and
- the owners / operators shall maintain an up-todate register of lettings / occupation and shall make this available at all reasonable times to the Local Planning Authority.

DM 12 | STRATEGIC ROAD | NETWORK

The Strategic Road Network within the Borough, comprising the A10, A17, A47, A134, A148, A149, A1101 & A1122 and shown on the Policies Map, will be protected as follows outside of the settlements specified within Core Strategy policy CS02:

- new development, apart from specific plan allocations, will not be permitted if it would include the provision of vehicle access leading directly onto a road forming part of this Strategic Road Network;
- new development served by a side road which connects to a road forming part of the Strategic

Road Network will be permitted provided that any resulting increase in traffic would not have a significant adverse effect on: the route's national and strategic role as a road for long distance traffic highway safety the route's traffic capacity the amenity and access of any adjoining occupiers. In appropriate cases a Transport Assessment will be required to demonstrate that development proposals can be accommodated on the local road network, taking into account any infrastructure improvements proposed. Policy CS11 of the Adopted Core Strategy sets out the transport requirements for development proposals to demonstrate that they accord with. Paragraph 013 -Transport Assessments and Statements of Planning Practice Guidance should also be considered." **DM 13 RAILWAY** The following existing and former railway trackways TRACKBEDS and routes, as indicated on the Policies Map, will be safeguarded from development which would prejudice their potential future use for paths, cycleways, bridleways, new rail facilities, etc. unless the proposals for trackway use are accompanied by appropriate alternative route provision that makes the safeguarding unnecessary: King's Lynn Harbour Junction - Saddlebow Road: King's Lynn east curve; King's Lynn docks branch to Alexandra Dock and Bentinck Dock: Denver - Wissington; King's Lynn to Hunstanton; and part of the former King's Lynn to Fakenham line route from the West Winch Growth Area to the Bawsey/Leziate countryside sports recreation area. The King's Lynn docks branch (as above) will, however, not be safeguarded to the extent this

ASSOC		compromises port operations within the Port Estate. The Council strongly supports the roles that the	
CONST COLLE BIRCH	DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION COLLEGE, BIRCHAM NEWTON AND RAF MARHAM	National Construction College, Bircham Newton and RAF Marham play as local employers and as centres of excellence for construction and advanced engineering respectively.	
AND R		AND RAF MARHAM	AND RAF MARHAM
		Non-operational 'enabling' development which supports the retention, enhancement or expansion of these facilities will be permitted where it can be demonstrated	
		 that the development will enhance the facility's long term value to the Borough's economy and employment; and 	
		there are robust mechanisms to ensure the improvements justifying the enabling development are delivered and sustained; and	
		 the resulting development will not undermine the spatial strategy set out in Core Strategy Policy CS01; and 	
		 it will not result in the loss of land needed for operation of the facility, or reduce its reasonably foreseeable potential to expand or be reconfigured. 	
DM 15 ENVIRO DESIG AMENI		Development must protect and enhance the amenity of the wider environment including its heritage and cultural value. Proposals will be assessed against their impact on neighbouring uses and their occupants as well as the amenity of any future occupiers of the proposed development. Proposals will be assessed against a number of factors including:	
		heritage impact;	
		 overlooking, overbearing, overshadowing; 	
		• noise;	
		• odour;	
		air quality;light pollution;	
		iight polition;contamination;	
		water quality and	

visual impact. The scale, height, massing, materials and layout of a should respond sensitively development sympathetically to the local setting and pattern of adjacent streets including spaces between buildings through high quality design and use of materials. Development that has a significant adverse impact on the amenity of others or which is of a poor design will be refused. Development proposals should demonstrate that safe access can be provided and adequate parking facilities are available. DM 16 PROVISION OF All new residential development will be expected to RECREATIONAL make adequate provision for open space to the OPEN SPACES FOR following standards: RESIDENTIAL **DEVELOPMENTS** Schemes of up to 19 units will ensure that their schemes contain sufficient space to ensure a high standard of layout and amenity to the residents of the proposed development and to ensure that the scheme integrates into the wider landscape setting. On windfall sites the requirement to provide open space will apply where the Council considers that the proposed development forms part of a larger site which, if developed, would result in a requirement for a proportion of (or contribution to) open space. Schemes of 20 units or greater will provide 2.4 hectares of open space per 1000 population comprising approximately: 70% for either amenity, outdoor sport, and allotments (see below) and 30% for suitably equipped children's play space developments of 20 - 99 dwellings will be expected to meet the requirement for suitably equipped children's play space only; developments of 100 dwellings and above will be expected to meet the whole requirement. on sites allocated for residential development through the Local Plan process, and where development of the whole site results in a requirement for a proportion of (or contribution to) open space, the requirement to provide open space will apply to the whole of a single even if it is developed allocated site.

incrementally (through sub-division etc).

All proposals involving the provision of publicly accessible areas of open space must include robust arrangements for the management and future maintenance of that open space. The Council may take on and adopt areas of public open space within developments, subject to bringing the scheme up to an appropriate standard and the payment of an appropriate fee.

The Council will adopt a flexible approach to the types of open space required within a particular scheme only where it can be demonstrated:

- i) that there is excess provision available in the locality, or
- ii) where opportunities exist to enhance existing local schemes, or
- iii) the townscape or other context of the development is such that the provision of open space is not desirable.

The Council will provide full details on the provision and maintenance of open space within Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Allotments

The Council will seek to resist the loss of allotments in areas where there is a current or predicted demand for such facilities, unless the loss were to be offset by alternative provision of an equal or higher quality in the vicinity. The provision of new allotments may be sought in locations for large-scale residential development (such as the strategic allocations) where there is an identified need. This will be balanced against the need for other types of recreational space and facilities and the financial viability of any development.

DM 17 PARKING PROVISION IN NEW DEVELOPMENT

Residential dwellings

New dwellings (including flats and maisonettes) will be required to include car parking to the following minimum standards:

- a. one bedroomed unit 1 space per dwelling;
- b. two or three bedroomed unit 2 spaces per dwelling;
- c. four or more bedroomed unit 3 spaces per dwelling.

This provision may include under-croft parking and car ports providing these have no other use, but garages under 7m x 3m (internal dimensions) will not be counted.

Reductions in car parking requirements may be considered for town centres, and for other urban locations where it can be shown that the location and the availability of a range of sustainable transport links is likely to lead to a reduction in car ownership and hence need for car parking provision.

Each dwelling will also be required to provide a minimum of one secure and covered cycle space per dwelling.

Other developments

For developments other than dwellings car parking provision will be negotiated having regard to the current standards published by Norfolk County Council.

This policy applies within the Coastal Flood Risk Hazard Zone as defined on the Policies Map.

New Developments

The following developments will not be permitted within Tidal Flood Zone 3 (including climate change) as designated on the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Maps:

- new dwellings;
- new or additional park homes/caravans.

Replacement Dwellings

Replacement dwellings will only be permitted in Tidal Flood Zone 3 where all of the following seven criteria are satisfied:

- a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) must be undertaken for the development;
- all habitable accommodation will be provided (habitable above ground floor level accommodation would include usually bedrooms, sitting rooms, dining rooms, kitchens and any other room designed for habitation. Rooms that are not normally used for living in, such as toilets, storerooms, pantries, cellars and garages, are not considered to be habitable):

DM 18

COASTAL FLOOD RISK HAZARD ZONE (HUNSTANTON TO DERSINGHAM)

- the dwelling will only be occupied between 1st April and 30th September in any one year;
- the dwelling will incorporate flood mitigation and resiliency measures in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government publication: "Improving the flood performance of new buildings, flood resilient construction" (2007);
- the building must be appropriately designed to withstand and be resilient to hydrostatic pressure resulting from a breach/overtopping of the tidal defences;
- a flood warning and evacuation plan will be prepared for the property and retained on site;
- the level of habitable accommodation provided by the new dwelling would not be materially greater than that provided by the original dwelling. Proposals should not result in an increase in the number of bedrooms over and above the number in the original dwelling.

Extensions

Extensions to existing properties (beyond any Permitted Development Rights that could be exercised) should not materially increase the amount of habitable rooms. Significant extensions or those that raise the amount of habitable rooms in the property could lead to an increase in the number of people at risk and will not be permitted.

Change of Use

Any proposed Change of Use will not be permitted if, as a result of the change, the flood risk vulnerability (as defined in the National Planning Practice Guidance) would be increased.

Seasonal Occupancy

Seasonal occupancy will be limited to between 1 April and 30 September. Applications to remove, relax or vary (by way of extension) any existing seasonal occupancy condition will be resisted.

DM 19 **GREEN** INFRASTRUCTURE / **HABITATS** MONITORING AND MITIGATION

Opportunities will be taken to link to wider networks, working with partners both within and beyond the Borough.

The Council supports delivery of the projects detailed in the Green Infrastructure Study including:

- the Fens Waterway Link- Ouse to Nene;
- the King's Lynn Wash/Norfolk Coast Path Link;
- Gaywood Living Landscape Project;
- the former railway route between King's Lynn and Hunstanton; and
- Wissey Living Landscape Project.

The Council will identify, and coordinate strategic delivery, with relevant stakeholders, of an appropriate range of proportionate green infrastructure enhancements to support new housing and other development and mitigate any potential adverse effects on designated sites of nature conservation interest as a result of increased recreational disturbance arising from new development. All new development must ensure there is no adverse effect on a European Protected Site through the provision of appropriate measures. These enhancements will be set out in a Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

Major development will contribute to the delivery of green infrastructure, except:

 where it can be demonstrated the development will not materially add to the demand or need for green infrastructure.

Where such a contribution would make the development unviable, the development will not be permitted unless:

- it helps deliver the Core Strategy; and
- the relevant contribution to that Strategy could not be achieved by alternative development, including in alternative locations or in the same location at a later time; or
- unless the wider benefits of the proposed development would offset the need to deliver green infrastructure enhancements.

More detailed local solutions based on the Green Infrastructure Strategy will be developed for Downham Market and Hunstanton, particularly in relation to the main growth areas and King's Lynn and surrounding settlements.

In relation to Habitats Regulations Assessment

monitoring and mitigation the Council has endorsed a Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy including:

- project level HRA to establish affected areas (SPA, SAC, RAMSAR) and a suite of measures including all / some of:
- provision of an agreed package of habitat protection measures, to monitor recreational pressure resulting from the new allocations and, if necessary, mitigate adverse impacts before they reach a significant threshold, in order to avoid an adverse effect on the European sites identified in the HRA. This package of measures will require specialist design and assessment, but is anticipated to include provision of:
 - A monitoring programme, which will incorporate new and recommended further actions from the Norfolk visitor pressure study (anticipated to be completed in Spring 2016) as well as undertaking any other monitoring not covered by the County-wide study.
 - ii. Enhanced informal recreational provision on (or in close proximity to) the allocated site [Sustainable Accessible Natural Greenspace], to limit the likelihood of additional recreational pressure (particularly in relation to exercising dogs) on nearby relevant nature conservation sites. This provision will be likely to consist of an integrated combination of:
- 1. informal open space (over and above the Council's normal standards for play space);
- 2. landscaping, including landscape planting and maintenance:
- a network of attractive pedestrian routes, and car access to these, which provide a variety of terrain, routes and links to the wider public footpath network.
 - iii. contribution to enhanced management of nearby designated nature conservation sites and/or alternative green space;
 - iv. a programme of publicity to raise awareness of relevant environmental sensitivities and of alternative recreational opportunities.

Notwithstanding the above suite of measures the Borough Council will levy an interim Habitat Mitigation Payment of £50 per house to cover monitoring/small scale mitigation at the European sites. The amount payable will be reviewed following the results of the 'Visitor Surveys at European Sites across Norfolk during 2015 and 2016'. the Borough Council anticipates utilising CIL receipts (should a CIL charge be ultimately adopted) for contributing to green infrastructure provision across the plan area. forming a HRA Monitoring and Mitigation and GI Coordination Panel to oversee monitoring, provision of new green infrastructure through a Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan and the distribution of levy funding. **DM 20** RENEWABLE Proposals for renewable energy (other than proposals **ENERGY** wind energy development) and associated infrastructure, including the landward infrastructure for offshore renewable schemes, will be assessed to determine whether or not the benefits they bring in terms of the energy generated are outweighed by the impacts, either individually or cumulatively, upon: sites of international, national or local nature or landscape conservation importance, whether directly or indirectly, such as the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and Ramsar Sites: the surrounding landscape and townscape; designated and un-designated heritage assets, including the setting of assets; ecological interests (species and habitats); amenity (in terms of noise, overbearing relationship, air quality and light pollution); contaminated land; water courses (in terms of pollution); public safety (including footpaths, bridleways and other non-vehicular rights of way in addition to vehicular highways as well as local, informal pathway networks); and tourism and other economic activity.

	In addition to the consideration of the above factors, the Borough Council will seek to resist proposals where:
	a) there is a significant loss of agricultural land;
	or
	 b) where land in the best and most versatile grades of agricultural land are proposed to be used.
	Development may be permitted where any adverse impacts can be satisfactorily mitigated against and such mitigation can be secured either by planning condition or by legal agreement.
DM 21 SITES IN AREAS OF FLOOD RISK	Where the Borough Council has allocated sites in flood risk Zones 2 and 3 or flood defence breach Hazard Zones identified by the Council's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment or more recent Environment Agency mapping:
	these will be subject to (and no relevant planning permission will be granted before):
	 a site specific flood risk assessment satisfactorily demonstrating the development will be safe for its lifetime, taking climate change into account, and with regard to the vulnerability of its users, without increasing flood risk elsewhere and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall; and
	 satisfactory demonstration that any design or development features necessary to address flood risk issues are compatible with heritage assets in the vicinity (including conservation areas and listed buildings), local visual amenity and (where relevant) the landscape and scenic beauty of the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
	2. the sequential test set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) policy 101 is deemed to be met by the allocation process, as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance - Flood Risk and Climate Change, so that development is, as far as reasonably possible, located where the risk of flooding (from all sources) is lowest.
	2. in relation to the exceptions test set out in the

NPPF policy 102: the first part (demonstration of wider sustainability benefits) is deemed to be met by the allocation process; and the second part (site specific flood risk assessment, etc.) is not deemed to be met by the allocation process, and shall remain the responsibility of the prospective developer. No relevant planning permission shall be granted unless and until this second part of the test is met, as set out in section 1 of this policy, above for further information, reference is made to Appendix 3 and Appendix 4 The Borough Council will take into account advice from the Lead Local Flood Authority and the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan to ensure that where a serious and exceptional risk of surface water flooding exists adequate and appropriate consideration has been given to mitigating the risk. Mitigation measures should minimise the risk of flooding on the development site and within the surrounding area. the design of new dwellings will be in accordance with the Environment Agency/Borough Council Flood Risk Design Guidance (Appendix 5) The Borough Council will take into account advice from the Lead Local Flood Authority and the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan to ensure that where a serious and exceptional risk of surface water flooding exists adequate and appropriate consideration has been given to mitigating the risk. Mitigation measures should minimise the risk of flooding on the development site and within the surrounding area. DM 22 PROTECTION OF The Council will have careful regard to the value of any LOCAL OPEN area of open space when assessing planning SPACE applications for development. In assessing the contribution that an area of open space plays, the Council will consider the following factors: public access;

visual amenity;

local distinctiveness:

landscape character;

- recreational value;
- biodiversity, geodiversity;
- cultural value and historic character;
- whether the site has been allocated for development in the local plan.

Proposals that will result in the loss or restriction of access to locally important areas of open space will be refused planning permission unless such loss can be offset by the replacement of equivalent or higher standard of provision or the wider benefits of allowing development to proceed outweigh the value of the site as an area of open space.

The Borough Council will support local communities in designating local green space for protection in neighbourhood plans where this:

- meets the criteria for local green space as detailed in the National Planning Policy Framework; and
- does not conflict with other policies in the Borough's Local Plan.