



**Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan 2024 to 2041
Basic Conditions Statement**

November 2024

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Registered office: e-space North, 181 Wisbech Road, Littleport, Ely, CB6 1RA

Introduction to Cambridgeshire ACRE

Cambridgeshire ACRE is an independent charity established in 1924. We are part of a network of 38 Rural Community Councils across England and are a member of ACRE (the national umbrella for RCCs). We are proud to support local communities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and nearby where appropriate. We put a lot of effort into getting to know our customers so we can understand what they need from us. This ensures we focus on providing products and services that really make a difference to local people as they work in their own communities.

As part of our work, we provide a Neighbourhood Planning service for local communities. We have developed this service by building on our skills, knowledge and competencies gained in other project areas such as rural affordable housing and community-led planning and by working with local planning consultants to broaden our capacity.

Our current partners are:



You can find out more about our team and our work on our website [here](#).

Cambridgeshire ACRE's Head of Business Services will be responsible for this contract. Her contact details are:

Alison Brown
Head of Business Services
Email: alison.brown@cambsacre.org.uk
Direct Dial: 01353 865029
Main Switchboard: 01353 860850

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1 An overview to this Basic Conditions Statement

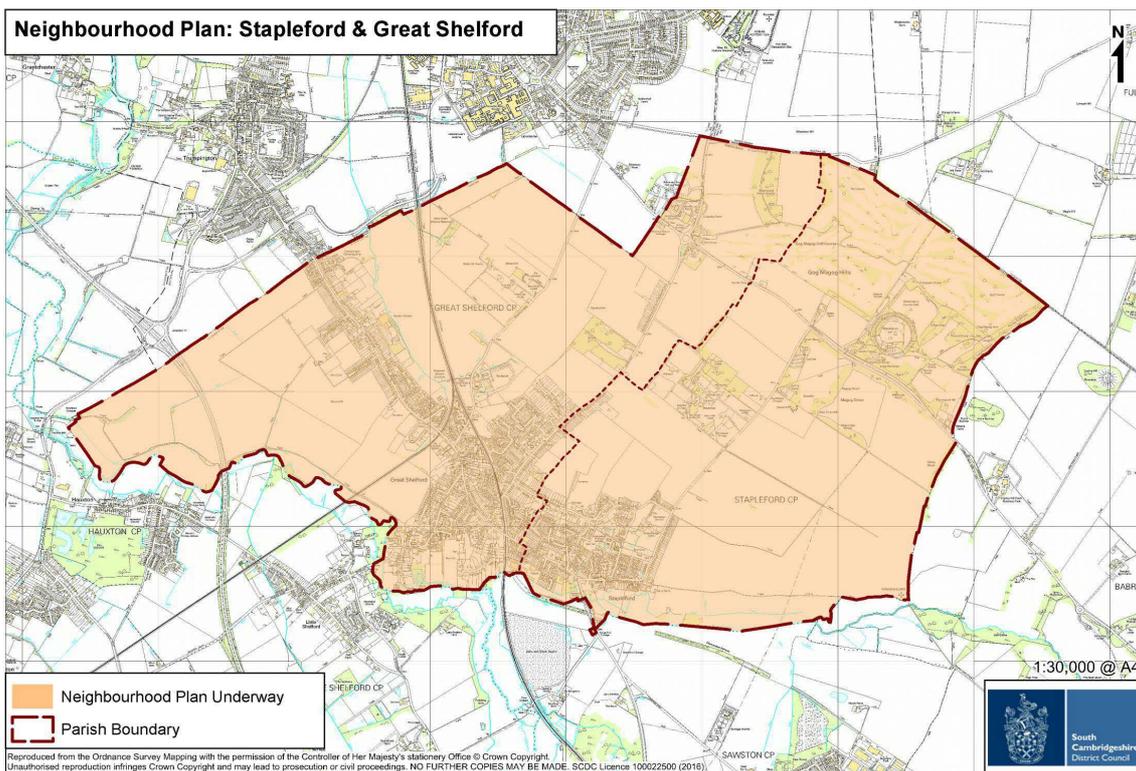
- 1.1 This Basic Conditions Statement has been prepared by Cambridgeshire ACRE on behalf of the two parish councils of Stapleford and Great Shelford, to accompany the submission of the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan (the “S&GS NP”) to the local planning authority, South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC).
- 1.2 The S&GS NP is being submitted under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), referred to in this document as “the Regulations”.
- 1.3 The neighbourhood plan area was formally designated by the Planning Portfolio Holder in SCDC on 8 November 2016 - <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/stapleford-and-great-shelford-neighbourhood-plan/> The plan area – see Map 1 – is the same area covered by the two parish council areas.
- 1.4 Stapleford Parish Council is the lead parish on the S&GS NP. This is confirmed in the application¹ made to the local planning authority in July 2016, for the purpose of designating the neighbourhood plan area.
- 1.5 The S&GS NP is being submitted to the local planning authority by Stapleford Parish Council on behalf of both parish councils. On 21 November 2024, Great Shelford Parish Council wrote to Stapleford Parish Council confirming its agreement with the content of the submission S&GS NP, together with the accompanying submission documents – see Appendix 1.
- 1.6 The planning policies in the S&GS NP relate to the development and use of land in the designated neighbourhood area. The neighbourhood plan covers the period 2024 to 2041 and the Plan does not contain policies relating to excluded development in accordance with Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA).
- 1.7 This statement addresses each of the ‘basic conditions’ required by the Regulations and explains how the submitted neighbourhood plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the 1990 TCPA.
- 1.8 Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B of the 1990 TCPA states that a draft neighbourhood development order meets the basic 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 order;
 - b) the making of the order contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
 - c) the making of the order 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);
 - d) the making of the order does not breach and is otherwise compatible with European Union (EU) obligations (the existing body of environmental regulation is retained in UK law); and

¹ www.scambs.gov.uk/media/11842/application-form-for-area-designation-web-version-sept-2016-1.pdf

- e) prescribed conditions are met in relation to the order and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the order.

1.9 Schedule 2 to the Regulations also confirms that the following basic condition is prescribed for the purpose of paragraph 8(2) (g) of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Act:

“The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017”.



Map 1: The designated neighbourhood plan area

2 The Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan

2.1 The vision underpinning the plan is:

“In 2041, Stapleford and Great Shelford will be thriving villages distinct from Cambridge, where people want to live, work, shop and play. We value and want to protect our landscape setting, improve its biodiversity and reduce our contribution to climate change. Modest new development, which is sensitively and sustainably designed, will focus on addressing identified housing needs, in particular affordable housing needs, within our community. Where appropriate, it will also support the creation of new amenities and infrastructure to meet the needs of our population. Part of this infrastructure will be a safe and sustainable travel network supporting everyday journeys and healthy recreation.”

2.2 The vision is supported by 10 theme-based objectives and 21 planning policies as listed and summarised in Table 1 below.

Themes, objectives and policies	A summary of what the policies are seeking to achieve
Theme 1: Housing	
<p>Objective 1: New residential development proposals will contribute to addressing existing and future housing needs in Stapleford and Great Shelford in terms of affordability, accessibility, tenure and suitability for all stages of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 1: Housing mix • Policy S&GS 2: Prioritising local needs in the allocation of affordable housing • Policy S&GS 3: Rural exceptions housing • Policy S&GS 4: Meeting the needs of the older population • Policy S&GS 5: Residential annexes to facilitate multi-generational living 	<p>The housing policies have been informed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stapleford and Great Shelford Housing Needs Assessment, undertaken by AECOM in 2023 • Information provided by the local planning authority with respect to number of households on the housing register with a connection to either of the two parishes. • 2021 Census data • Stapleford Housing Needs Survey 2017 • Great Shelford Housing Needs Survey 2017 • GL Hearn’s 2021 report ‘Housing Needs of Specific Groups’ covering Cambridgeshire and West Suffolk and a key document informing the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan. <p>Policy S&GS 1 seeks to ensure that the housing mixes of new schemes are such that they contribute to addressing Plan-level needs and that the affordable housing products are tailored so they address Plan-level issues. With respect to addressing the growing ageing population, Policy S&GS 1 requires new homes to be built to accessible and adaptable M4 (2) standards.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 2 applies to new development, excluding Rural Exception Site schemes, that could occur outside but adjacent to the currently adopted village settlement boundaries (referred to as the “development framework”). An example would be a site allocation outside the current development framework for residential use being confirmed as part of the future Greater Cambridge Local Plan. Recognising the acute affordable housing needs in the Plan area and the limited opportunities for sites to be allocated through the NP,</p>

Themes, objectives and policies	A summary of what the policies are seeking to achieve
	<p>the policy seeks up to 50% of all new affordable dwellings that come forward on such sites to be subject to local connection criteria so that households with a need and with local connection are offered these homes on a priority basis.</p> <p>Further recognising the acute need for affordable housing, Policy S&GS 3 supports rural exceptions housing adjacent to the development framework and requires such homes to be offered on a priority basis to households with a strong local connection.</p> <p>The local connection criteria for Policies S&GS 2 and S&GS 3 are intentionally distinct from one another and distinct from the district-wide connection criteria.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 4 is a response to the high level of existing specialist housing units in the Plan area and the continued interest by the developer sector. The policy seeks to ensure that if further specialist units come forward, they contribute positively to the Plan area and they are located and designed so that the occupiers can easily integrate into Stapleford and Great Shelford community.</p> <p>Recognising the challenges associated with an ageing population and ongoing housing pressures, Policy S&GS 5 supports the building of residential annexes where these can facilitate multi-generational living, subject to further criteria.</p>
The built environment	
<p>Objective 2: New development will be designed and in its built form will reinforce the distinctive rural look, feel and quality of the two villages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 6: Development and design 	<p>A design policy specific to the Plan area and informed by the following evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stapleford and Great Shelford Design Guidance and Codes (S&GS DG&C), undertaken by AECOM in 2023 • Stapleford Conservation Area Character Appraisal, adopted by SCDC in 2021 • Great Shelford Conservation Area Character Appraisal, adopted by SCDC in 2017 • Great Shelford Village Design Statement, adopted by SCDC in 2004 (and to be superseded by the S&GS NP)
Climate change	
<p>Objective 3: New development will be designed to be a) compatible with, and belong in, a net zero emissions future, and b) resilient to the effects of climate change. The water supply must be protected</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 7 is intended to work alongside other planning policies at the Local Plan level and at the national level. The policy is focused on ensuring that all development proposals follow a hierarchy when it comes to energy demand. This means prioritising measures that reduce the overall demand for energy before looking at a low carbon or carbon neutral heat source and, having done that, before making use of renewable energy</p>

Themes, objectives and policies	A summary of what the policies are seeking to achieve
<p>alongside the need for new homes and other buildings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 7: Mitigating and adapting to climate change through building design • Policy S&GS 8: Renewable energy infrastructure 	<p>infrastructure. The policy also requires all proposals to be designed to be future-proofed with respect to adapting to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 8 supports in principle small scale community-led low carbon and renewable energy infrastructure in line with Local Plan policy and subject to the landscape and settlement character being respected or enhanced.</p>
Biodiversity	
<p>Objective 4: Biodiversity enhancements will be delivered at all development sites within the Plan area. We will also protect and enhance specific features and sites of ecological value identified in the Landscape Character Assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 9: Development and biodiversity • Policy S&GS 10: Mitigation hierarchy and delivering biodiversity net gain and enhancements • Policy S&GS 11: Trees and development 	<p>Policy S&GS 9 identifies sites of biodiversity value in the Plan area and requires proposals to take account of this. The policy also expects proposals to take available opportunities to create or strengthen links between habitats and flags up existing nature networks in the Plan area that could be relevant in this regard.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 10 describes requirements with respect to applying the hierarchy of mitigation as well as the delivery of biodiversity net gain and other biodiversity enhancements.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 11 sets out requirements with respect to trees and hedgerows as far as development proposals are concerned.</p>
Our rural setting and landscape	
<p>Objective 5: New development will actively minimise its impact on the landscape and character of the Plan area, recognising the value of long views and vistas into and out of the rural setting of the villages, the open spaces within it and, critically, the separation of the villages from the expanding urbanised Greater Cambridge area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 12: Protecting and enhancing Stapleford's and Great Shelford's landscape character • Policy S&GS 13: Important views and visually important areas of open land in 	<p>Policy S&GS 12 seeks to protect and enhance landscape character in the Plan area. In doing so the policy is informed by the Stapleford and Great Shelford Landscape Character Assessment (S&GS LCA), undertaken in 2019.</p> <p>Also informed by the S&GS LCA is Policy S&GS 13, which identifies locally valued landscape views requiring proposals to respect them.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 14 identifies three Important Countryside Frontages (a designation that is unique in the district) in addition to two existing ones, designated as such via South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan). Developments are to respect the strong countryside character that these settlement gaps give to an area.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 15 identifies eight important green spaces to be designated as Local Green Spaces. It also identifies one site to be recognised as a Protected Village Amenity Area (a designation that is unique in the district) in</p>

Themes, objectives and policies	A summary of what the policies are seeking to achieve
<p>Stapleford and Great Shelford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 14: Important countryside frontages • Policy S&GS 15: Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Areas • Policy S&GS 16: Preserving our dark landscape 	<p>addition to six areas already recognised as such via South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 16 seeks to protect the dark landscape by limiting any new external lighting proposals and influencing the design of this in cases where external lighting features as part of a scheme.</p>
Community amenities and infrastructure	
<p>Objective 6: We will ensure that development addresses its associated demands on, and existing shortfalls in, our community's amenity and infrastructure needs, specifically in healthcare, primary school education, transport, open spaces and play spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 17: Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development 	<p>Policy S&GS 17 identifies existing and anticipated infrastructure shortfalls that may need to be addressed when new development comes forward. The following are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal open space provision, in particular in the north • Play space deficiencies • A need to improve access via active travel routes to natural green space • Early years education • Projected shortfalls in primary school capacity • Improving active travel infrastructure • Need to improve community meeting space
Active travel	
<p>Objective 7: Residents travelling in and out of the Plan area, and people travelling through the Plan area, will find it increasingly easy to choose active travel modes to reach their destinations, whether for work or leisure purposes. The safety of active travellers will be both a priority of new development and upgraded throughout the Plan area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 18: Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford 	<p>Policy S&GS 18 requires development proposals to be designed so as to facilitate active travel wherever applicable. The policy and its supporting text prioritises the following active travel initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge across River Cam at Great Shelford Recreation Ground • Improvements to off-road path along Haverhill Road between A1307 and Stapleford village • Improvements to existing infrastructure for users on the active travel network (e.g. cycle ways and the DNA path) • Improving and maintaining a pleasant street scene environment • Sawston Greenway – extension through Great Shelford.
Managing the impacts of traffic movements	

Themes, objectives and policies	A summary of what the policies are seeking to achieve
<p>Objective 8: The adverse effects of increased road traffic movements from new development on our community's quality of life (and apparent in, for example, air pollution, noise, vibration, road safety, accessibility and street scene environment) will be identified and appropriately mitigated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 19: Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan area with respect to the movement of people and vehicles 	<p>Policy S&GS 19 identifies six locations in the Plan area where congestion issues are experienced and where particular attention should be paid when considering the transport impacts of development proposals in the Plan area. The policy welcomes proposals that could lead to an overall reduction in traffic volume/traffic congestion in the Great Shelford civic core and highlights examples of potential intervention measures.</p>
<p>Countryside access and countryside enhancements</p>	
<p>Objective 9. Existing routes for non-motorised users into the much-valued countryside in our Plan area will be protected and maintained. New routes for non-motorised users from our villages into our countryside will be opened up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 20: Protecting and improving rural routes into our countryside • Policy S&GS 21: Stapleford and Great Shelford Improved Landscape Area 	<p>Policy S&GS 20 is focused on protecting existing rural routes and supports the provision of improvements in the network. To address the identified issue of poor provision of off-road routes into the wider countryside, the policy seeks the provision of new routes, referring to an accompanying map that details priorities with respect to the delivery of new routes.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 21 details opportunities for the delivery of countryside enhancement measures in the Plan area, largely within an area of land identified as the Improved Landscape Area. This latter element brings forward a policy provision set out in the Southern Fringe Area Action Plan that is a component of South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan. The policy is informed by the Stapleford and Great Shelford Landscape Character Assessment.</p>

Table 1: NP themes, objectives and planning policies and what they are seeking to achieve

3 How the Neighbourhood Plan policies are appropriate having regard to national policies and guidance

- 3.1 National planning policy is principally provided by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), last updated 19 December 2023. National planning guidance is provided by planning practice guidance available online at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>
- 3.2 Ministerial statements are also relevant, including:
- 13 December 2023 – Local Energy Efficiency Standards Update
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2023-12-13/hcws123>
 - 24 May 2021 – Affordable Homes Update <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2021-05-24/hlws48>
- 3.3 The NPPF provides a framework within which local communities can produce neighbourhood development plans for their area and sets out how planning should help achieve sustainable development.
- 3.4 This section demonstrates that S&GS NP has regard to the relevant policies in the NPPF in relation to:
- Achieving sustainable development (NPPF Chapter 2)
 - Plan-making (NPPF Chapter 3)
 - Delivering a sufficient supply of homes (NPPF Chapter 5)
 - Building a strong, competitive economy (including supporting a prosperous rural economy) (NPPF Chapter 6)
 - Ensuring the vitality of town centres (NPPF Chapter 7)
 - Promoting healthy and safe communities (NPPF Chapter 8)
 - Promoting sustainable transport (NPPF Chapter 9)
 - Supporting high quality communications (NPPF Chapter 10)
 - Making effective use of land (NPPF Chapter 11)
 - Achieving well-designed and beautiful places (NPPF Chapter 12)
 - Protecting Green Belt land (NPPF Chapter 13)
 - Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change (NPPF Chapter 14)
 - Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (NPPF Chapter 15)
 - Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (NPPF Chapter 16)
 - Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals (NPPF Chapter 17)

How the S&GS NP objectives and policies relates to national policy and guidance, by NP objectives and policies

3.5 Table 2 is organised by objectives and associated policies. It sets out how these are appropriate having regard to policy and guidance set out in the NPPF 2023.

How S&GS NP objectives and policies relate to NPPF chapters and paragraphs
<p>Objective 1: New residential development proposals will contribute to addressing existing and future housing needs in Stapleford and Great Shelford in terms of affordability, accessibility, tenure and suitability for all stages of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 1: Housing mix • Policy S&GS 2: Prioritising local needs in the allocation of affordable housing • Policy S&GS 3: Rural exceptions housing • Policy S&GS 4: Meeting the needs of the older population • Policy S&GS 5: Residential annexes to facilitate multi-generational living
<p>Objective 1 is consistent with Chapters 2 and 5 of the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Chapter 2 'Achieving sustainable development':</p> <p>Paragraph 11 a) states "all plans should promote a sustainable pattern of development that seeks to: meet the development needs of their area; align growth and infrastructure; improve the environment; mitigate climate change (including by making effective use of land in urban areas) and adapt to its effects".</p> <p>Chapter 5 'Delivering a sufficient supply of homes':</p> <p>Paragraph 63 states that "...the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies".</p> <p>Paragraph 82 states that "In rural areas, planning policies and decisions should be responsive to local circumstances and support housing developments that reflect local needs, including proposals for community-led development for housing. Local planning authorities should support opportunities to bring forward rural exception sites that will provide affordable housing to meet identified local needs, and consider whether allowing some market housing on these sites would help to facilitate this."</p>
<p>Objective 2: New development will be designed and in its built form will reinforce the distinctive rural look, feel and quality of the two villages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 6: Development and design
<p>Objective 2 is consistent with Chapter 12 of the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Chapter 12 'Achieving well-designed and beautiful places':</p> <p>Paragraph 132 states that "Design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area's defining characteristics. Neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development..."</p>

How S&GS NP objectives and policies relate to NPPF chapters and paragraphs
<p>Paragraph 135 states that planning policies should ensure that developments “will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development”.</p>
<p>Objective 3: New development will be designed to be a) compatible with, and belong in, a net zero emissions future, and b) resilient to the effects of climate change. The water supply must be protected alongside the need for new homes and other buildings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 7: Mitigating and adapting to climate change through building design • Policy S&GS 8: Renewable energy infrastructure
<p>Objective 3 is consistent with Chapters 2 and 14 of the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Chapter 2 ‘Achieving sustainable development’:</p> <p>Paragraph 8 c) establishes that the planning system has an environmental objective “to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.”</p> <p>Chapter 14 ‘Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change’:</p> <p>Paragraph 158 states that “Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures.”</p> <p>Paragraph 159 b) states that new development should be planned for in ways that “can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as through its location, orientation and design.”</p> <p>Paragraph 160 states that plans should provide a positive strategy for energy from renewable and low carbon energy and heat sources.</p> <p>Paragraph 161 states that local planning authorities should support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy.</p>
<p>Objective 4: Biodiversity enhancements will be delivered at all development sites within the Plan area. We will also protect and enhance specific features and sites of ecological value identified in the Landscape Character Assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 9: Development and biodiversity • Policy S&GS 10: Mitigation hierarchy and delivering biodiversity net gain and enhancements • Policy S&GS 11: Trees and development
<p>Objective 4 is consistent with Chapters 12 and 15 of the NPPF.</p> <p>Chapter 12 ‘Achieving well-designed and beautiful places’:</p> <p>Paragraph 136 states that “Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments, and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and</p>

How S&GS NP objectives and policies relate to NPPF chapters and paragraphs

community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Applicants and local planning authorities should work with highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users.”

Chapter 15 ‘Conserving and enhancing the natural environment’:

Paragraph 180 states that “Planning policies should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by ... d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures” and e) “preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans.”

Paragraph 185 states that “To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should...

- a) “identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks.....” and
- b) “promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.”

Objective 5: New development will actively minimise its impact on the landscape and character of the Plan area, recognising the value of long views and vistas into and out of the rural setting of the villages, the open spaces within it and, critically, the separation of the villages from the expanding urbanised Greater Cambridge area.

- Policy S&GS 12: Protecting and enhancing Stapleford’s and Great Shelford’s landscape character
- Policy S&GS 13: Important views and visually important areas of open land in Stapleford and Great Shelford
- Policy S&GS 14: Important countryside frontages
- Policy S&GS 15: Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Areas
- Policy S&GS 16: Preserving our dark landscape

Objective 5 is consistent with Chapters 8, 12, and 15 of the NPPF 2023.

Chapter 8 ‘Promoting healthy and safe communities’:

Paragraph 105 states that “Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services.”

Paragraph 106 provides criteria for LGS designation. The spaces put forward in the S&GS NP all meet these criteria. An open spaces assessment demonstrating this is submitted alongside the NP.

Chapter 12 ‘Achieving well-designed and beautiful places’:

Paragraph 135 c) states that planning policies should ensure developments “are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment

How S&GS NP objectives and policies relate to NPPF chapters and paragraphs

and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities).”

Chapter 15 ‘Conserving and enhancing the natural environment’:

Paragraph 180b) states that planning policies should recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland”.

Paragraph 191 c) states that planning policies should “limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation”.

Objective 6: We will ensure that development addresses its associated demands on, and existing shortfalls in, our community’s amenity and infrastructure needs, specifically in healthcare, primary school education, transport, open spaces and play spaces.

- Policy S&GS 17: Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development.

Objective 6 is consistent with Chapter 8 of the NPPF 2023

Chapter 8 ‘Promoting healthy and safe communities’:

Paragraph 97 a) states that planning policies should plan positively for the provision of community facilities.

Paragraph 97 e) states that planning policies should ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.

Objective 7: Residents travelling in and out of the Plan area, and people travelling through the Plan area, will find it increasingly easy to choose active travel modes to reach their destinations, whether for work or leisure purposes. The safety of active travellers will be both a priority of new development and upgraded throughout the Plan area.

- Policy S&GS 18: Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford

Objective 7 is consistent with Chapters 8 and 9 of the NPPF 2023.

Chapter 8 ‘Promoting healthy and safe communities’:

Paragraph 96 c) states that planning policies should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which “enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling”.

Chapter 9 ‘Promoting sustainable transport’:

Paragraph 108 states that “Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals...” (see below for more detail)

Objective 8: The adverse effects of increased road traffic movements from new development on our community’s quality of life (and apparent in, for example, air pollution,

How S&GS NP objectives and policies relate to NPPF chapters and paragraphs
<p>noise, vibration, road safety, accessibility and street scene environment) will be identified and appropriately mitigated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 19: Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan are with respect to the movement of people and vehicles
<p>Objective 8 is consistent with Chapter 9 of the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Chapter 9 'Promoting sustainable transport':</p> <p>Paragraph 108 states that "Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals so that:</p> <p>a) the potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed;</p> <p>b) opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and in changing transport technology and usage, are realised- for example in relation to the scale, location or density of development that can be accommodated;</p> <p>c) opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport are identified and pursued;</p> <p>d) the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account – including appropriate opportunities for avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects, and for net environmental gains; and</p> <p>e) patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes and contribute to making high quality places."</p>
<p>Objective 9. Existing routes for non-motorised users into the much-valued countryside in our Plan area will be protected and maintained. New routes for non-motorised users from our villages into our countryside will be opened up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy S&GS 20: Protecting and improving rural routes into our countryside • Policy S&GS 21: Stapleford and Great Shelford Improved Landscape Area
<p>Objective 9 is consistent with Chapters 8 and 9 of the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Chapter 8 'Promoting healthy and safe communities':</p> <p>Paragraph 96 c) states that planning policies should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which "enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling".</p> <p>Paragraph 104 states that "Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks..."</p>

Table 2: S&GS NP objectives and policies assessed against the NPPF chapters.

How the NP policies are appropriate having regard to the policy guidance set out in the NPPF 2023, by NPPF chapter

3.6 Table 3 sets out policy guidance from the NPPF 2023 organised by NPPF chapter and explores how the NP policies are appropriate having regard for these.

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>Chapter 2: Achieving sustainable development.</p> <p>Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an economic objective; - a social objective; and - an environmental objective. <p>Chapter 2: Achieving sustainable development. Paragraph 11 a) states that “all plans should promote a sustainable pattern of development that seeks to: meet the development needs of their area; align growth and infrastructure; improve the environment; mitigate climate change (including by making effective use of land in urban areas) and adapt to its effects...”</p>	All	<p>The S&GS NP does not contain policies that direct the location or pattern of growth. South Cambridgeshire’s 2018 Local Plan, together with its future replacement, the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan, fulfils this role. The current Local Plan focuses residential growth within the village development frameworks and designates the land surrounding the two villages as part of the Cambridge Green Belt. The emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan proposes a similar strategy for Stapleford and Great Shelford with the exception that it has proposed release of Green Belt on land between Hinton Way and Mingle Lane for the purpose of a residential allocation. The emerging Local Plan is at too early a stage for these proposals to have any status. Notwithstanding this, it is important to note that the policies in the S&GS NP would work within the context of both the current Local Plan and the emerging Local Plan.</p> <p>The S&GS NP is concerned with ensuring infrastructure is aligned with growth. In this respect Policies S&GS 4, S&GS 17, S&GS 18, S&GS 20 and S&GS 21 are relevant as they flag up existing and projected shortfalls in health provision, education provision, open space provision, active travel infrastructure and rural routes.</p>
<p>Chapter 3: Plan Making.</p> <p>“Planning should be genuinely plan-led. Succinct and up to date plans should provide a positive</p>	All	<p>The S&GS NP sets out a positive framework for addressing economic, social and environmental priorities.</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>vision for the future of each area; a framework for meeting housing needs and addressing other economic, social and environmental priorities; and a platform for local people to shape their surroundings.”</p>		
<p>Chapter 5: Delivering a sufficient supply of homes.</p> <p>“...strategic policies should also set out a housing requirement for designated neighbourhood areas which reflects the overall strategy for the pattern and scale of development and any relevant allocations” (paragraph 67).</p> <p>“In rural areas, planning policies and decisions should be responsive to local circumstances and support housing developments that reflect local needs including proposals for community-led development for housing. Local planning authorities should support opportunities to bring forward rural exception sites that will provide affordable housing to meet identified local needs and consider whether allowing some market housing on these sites would help to facilitate this” (paragraph 82).</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 1 ‘Housing Mix’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 2 ‘Prioritising local needs in the allocation of affordable housing’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 3 ‘Rural exception housing’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 4 ‘Meeting the needs of the older population’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 5 ‘Residential annexes to facilitate multi-generational living’</p>	<p>The LPA has provided the parish with an indicative housing requirement of 45 dwellings to be delivered during the period 2017 to 2031. This figure is comfortably met through existing planning permissions, completions and sites under construction. As at March 2023, 5 dwellings had been completed in Stapleford parish and 82 in Great Shelford. As at March 2023, a further 51 dwellings had been permitted but not completed in Great Shelford parish; and a further 147 dwellings had been permitted but not commenced in Stapleford parish.</p> <p>Supported by the S&GS Housing Needs Assessment 2023, Policy S&GS 1 seeks to ensure that the housing mix of new schemes is responsive to local circumstances in Stapleford and Great Shelford. In recognition of the acute affordable housing needs in the Plan area and the limited opportunities to prioritise such needs, Policy S&GS 2 seeks to secure a proportion of affordable housing for local people on market housing schemes where they come forward outside the existing development framework (not including rural exception sites). Policy S&GS 3 appropriately supports the delivery of rural exception sites and requires all affordable housing delivered on these sites to have local connection criteria attached to them.</p> <p>With respect to addressing the growing ageing population:</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy S&GS 1 requires new homes to be built to accessible and adaptable M4(2) standards - Policy S&GS 4 is a response to the high level of existing specialist housing units in the Plan area and the continued interest by the developer sector. The policy seeks to ensure that if further specialist units come forward, they contribute positively to the Plan area and that they are located and designed so that the occupiers can easily integrate into Stapleford and Great Shelford community - Recognising the challenges associated with an ageing population and ongoing housing pressures, Policy S&GS 5 supports the building of residential annexes where these can facilitate multi-generational living and subject to further criteria
<p>Chapter 6: Building a strong, competitive economy.</p> <p>“Planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt” (paragraph 85).</p> <p>“Planning policies and decisions should enable:</p> <p>a) the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed, beautiful new buildings;</p> <p>b) the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses;</p> <p>c) sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which</p>	<p>S&GS 17 ‘Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development’</p> <p>S&GS 18 ‘Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford’</p> <p>S&GS 19 ‘Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan are with respect to the movement</p>	<p>Objective 6, and its associated policy S&GS 17 ‘Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development’, identifies existing and anticipated shortfalls in community infrastructure, including health provision, education, open space, place space and community meeting place. The policy will help ensure that existing facilities are retained and improved. This is particularly appropriate in light of paragraph 88 of the NPPF.</p> <p>Objective 7, together with its associated policy S&GS 18, is focused on ensuring development proposals contribute positively to the active travel network. Having a good active travel network in place, particularly within close distance to Cambridge City, will help create</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>respect the character of the countryside; and d) the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship” (paragraph 88).</p>	<p>of people and vehicles’</p>	<p>conditions where businesses can invest. In this respect the objective and policy support the principles in Chapter 6 ‘Building a strong competitive economy’.</p> <p>The S&GS NP gives full recognition to the disruptive and adverse effects that high levels of congestion and high levels of traffic movements can have on the quality of civic cores within the two villages. A high quality street scene within civic cores will help create the conditions for business to invest. In this respect, Policy S&GS 19 is also appropriate in the way it welcomes proposals that could lead to an overall reduction in traffic volume/traffic congestion in the Great Shelford civic core and because it signposts to potential intervention measures.</p>
<p>Chapter 7: Ensuring the vitality of town centres.</p> <p>“Planning policies and decisions should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities...” (paragraph 90).</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 19 ‘Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan area with respect to the movement of people and vehicles’</p>	<p>The S&GS NP gives full recognition to the disruptive and adverse effects that high levels of congestion and high levels of traffic movements can have on the quality of civic cores within the two villages. Policy S&GS 19 welcomes proposals that could lead to an overall reduction in traffic volume/traffic congestion in the Great Shelford civic core and highlights examples of potential intervention measures.</p>
<p>Chapter 8: Promoting healthy and safe communities.</p> <p>“Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places and beautiful buildings which a) promote social interaction... b) are safe and accessible.... and c) enable and support healthy lifestyles especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 4 ‘Meeting the needs of the older population’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 6 ‘Development and design in Stapleford and Great Shelford’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 7 ‘Mitigating and</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 4 would apply to proposals that deliver specialist homes for older people. The policy is appropriate with regards to paragraph 96 NPPF in the way it requires older persons housing to be located within the village development frameworks and in locations that are easily accessible to shops, services and community facilities without the need to rely on private transport.</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling” (paragraph 96).</p> <p>“Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sports and physical activity is important for health and well-being of communities, and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change” (paragraph 102).</p> <p>“Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks...” (paragraph 104).</p> <p>“The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services.” (paragraph 105).</p>	<p>adapting to climate change through building design’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 15 ‘Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 17 ‘Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 18 ‘Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 20 ‘Protecting and improving routes into our countryside’</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 6 requires proposals to ensure good standards of amenity for people, which is compatible with paragraph 96.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 7 will help to support the health and wellbeing of the community as far as new build development is concerned. It does this through its emphasis on ensuring that measures are taken to help occupants adapt to climate change (preventing overheating during hot spells, managing water and energy consumption).</p> <p>Policy S&GS 15 designates land in the Plan area as Local Green Space in line with paragraphs 105 and 106 of the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 17 is also appropriate having regard to paragraph 102 of the NPPF by identifying requirements with respect to open space provision, such as the existing shortfall in informal open space provision within the villages.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 18 expects proposals to incorporate safe and attractive walking and cycling routes and take opportunities to improve connections to the existing active travel network. This policy is particularly compatible with paragraph 96 of the NPPF (Chapter 8).</p> <p>Objective 9 and Policy S&GS 20 recognise the high importance of increasing access for non-motorised users from the settlements into the wider countryside and to public open spaces, including Wandlebury and Magog Down. This is directly compatible with paragraph 102 of the NPPF.</p>
<p>Chapter 9: Promoting sustainable transport.</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 6 ‘Development</p>	<p>The objectives and policies in the S&GS NP are a demonstration of</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>“Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed. b) opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and in changing transport technology and usage, are realised- for example in relation to the scale, location or density of development that can be accommodated c) opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport are identified and pursued; d) the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account – including appropriate opportunities for avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects, and for net environmental gains; and e) patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes, and contribute to making high quality places” (paragraph 108). <p>“Planning policies should...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) provide for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks with supporting facilities such as secure cycle parking (drawing on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans)...” (paragraph 110). 	<p>and design in Stapleford and Great Shelford’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 18 ‘Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 19 ‘Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan area with respect to the movement of people and vehicles’</p>	<p>transport issues being considered from the earliest stage of plan making and facilitates for transport issues to be fully considered as part of the development management process.</p> <p>In recognition of high levels of cycle theft in the locality, Policy S&GS 6 requires public cycle parking to meet high security standards, and links to the Cambridgeshire County Council’s Active Travel toolkit for new developments. This policy approach is appropriate in light of paragraph 110 d).</p> <p>Policy S&GS 18 expects proposals to incorporate safe and attractive walking and cycling routes and take opportunities to improve connections to the existing active travel network. With regards to the latter, it highlights specific issues in the Plan area and opportunities for improvements (active travel projects) This policy is particularly compatible with paragraph 110 of the NPPF (Chapter 8).</p> <p>Policy S&GS 19 is directly compatible with Paragraph 108 a), d) and e), particularly because it identifies locations in the Plan area where congestion issues are experienced and where particular attention should be paid when considering the transport impacts of a development proposal. The policy is also directly compatible with paragraph 108 c) because it identifies potential intervention measures that would promote walking and cycling (street scene enhancement such as pavement widening, street scene planting, provision of crossing points, narrowing of junctions to allow for safer crossing).</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
Chapter 10: Supporting high quality communications.	No specific policies	
<p>Chapter 11: Making effective use of land.</p> <p>Paragraph 128 states that “Planning policies and decisions should support development that makes effective use of land, taking into account</p> <p>a) the identified need for different types of housing and other forms of development, and the availability of land suitable for accommodating it</p> <p>b) local market conditions and viability</p> <p>c) the availability and capacity of infrastructure and services</p> <p>d) the desirability of maintaining an area’s prevailing character and setting (including residential gardens), or of promoting regeneration and change and</p> <p>e) the importance of securing well-designed and beautiful, attractive and healthy places.”</p>	Policy S&GS 4 ‘Meeting the needs of older people’	Policy S&GS 4 seeks to ensure that if further specialist units for older people come forward, they should contribute positively to the Plan area and be located within the existing settlements (and not outside) and designed so that the occupiers can easily integrate into Stapleford and Great Shelford community.
<p>Chapter 12: Achieving well-designed and beautiful places.</p> <p>“The creation of high quality buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve” (paragraph 131).</p> <p>Paragraph 132 states that “Plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable. Design policies should be developed with local communities, so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area’s defining characteristics. Neighbourhood</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 6 ‘Development and design’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 11 ‘Trees and Development’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 12 ‘Protecting Stapleford and Great Shelford’s character’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 13 ‘Important views’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 14 ‘Important</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is informed by the Stapleford and Great Shelford Design Guidance and Codes 2023, the Stapleford Conservation Character Appraisal, the Great Shelford Conservation Character Appraisal and the Stapleford and Great Shelford Landscape Character Assessment (LCA 2019).</p> <p>Policies S&GS 6, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 21 have all been informed by this suite of evidence, together with community-led engagement work at a number of stages (e.g. as part of developing the S&GS LCA pre-2019 and during mid-term engagement (2023) on draft policy content such as the landscape views, visually important open spaces, Local Green</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and by engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers.”</p> <p>Paragraph 135 states “Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments</p> <p>a) will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development;</p> <p>b) are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;</p> <p>c) are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities);</p> <p>d) establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit;</p> <p>e) optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development (including green and other public space) and support local facilities and transport networks; and</p> <p>f) create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users; and where crime and disorder, and the</p>	<p>countryside frontages’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 15 ‘Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 21 ‘Stapleford and Great Shelford’s Improved Landscape Area’</p>	<p>Spaces). The policies are consistent with Chapter 12 in the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 11 ‘Trees and Development’ is appropriate having regard to paragraph 136 in the NPPF. This states that “Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments, and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Applicants and local planning authorities should work with highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users.”</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.”		
Chapter 13: Protecting Green Belt land.	All	The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with reference to the strategic policy that designates land around the two settlements as part of the Cambridge Green Belt. The NP is appropriate having regard to the national policy context set out in Chapter 13 of the NPPF 2023.
<p>Chapter 14: Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change.</p> <p>Paragraph 157 states that the planning system should “support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and support renewable or low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.”</p> <p>Paragraph 158 states that “plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures.”</p> <p>Paragraph 159 states that “New development should be planned for in ways that:</p> <p>a) avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 7 ‘Mitigating and adapting to climate change through building design’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 8 ‘Renewable energy infrastructure’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 9 ‘Development and biodiversity’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 10 ‘Mitigation hierarchy and delivering biodiversity net gain and enhancements’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 11 ‘Trees and development’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 18 ‘Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford’</p>	<p>The implementation of Policy S&GS 7 should result (as per paragraph 157 in the NPPF 2023) in the ‘radical reduction in greenhouse gas emissions’ as far as new build development is concerned. It should also ensure that new build development is designed so that occupants are able to adapt to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>Para 159 of the NPPF 2023 refers to the local requirements for the sustainability of buildings to reflect the government’s policy for national technical standards. In December 2023, the government issued the ‘Local Energy Efficiency Standards Update’. This update guards against planning policies at the local level proposing energy efficiency standards that go beyond current or planned building regulations. S&GS 7 is appropriate having regard to this national guidance.</p> <p>Propose S&GS 8 is appropriate having regard to paragraph 157 of the NPPF 2023 as the policy supports renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure in the parish.</p> <p>Facilitating lifestyles that minimise the need to travel by motorised vehicles is an important way in which the planning system can contribute towards mitigating climate change (reducing greenhouse gas emissions).</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green infrastructure; and b) can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as through its location, orientation and design. Any local requirements for the sustainability of buildings should reflect the Government’s policy for national technical standards.”</p>		<p>In this respect, Policy S&GS 18 is very appropriate having regard to paragraph 157 in the NPPF 2023.</p> <p>Adapting to climate change involves ensuring that the natural environment and local eco-systems are able to cope with extreme weather events. Policies S&GS 9, 10 and 11 are appropriate having regard to paragraph 158 of the NPPF 2023.</p>
<p>Chapter 15. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.</p> <p>Paragraph 180 a) and b) states that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes ... b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.</p> <p>“To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should...</p> <p>c) identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks...” and</p> <p>d) “promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity” (paragraph 185).</p> <p>“When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles: a) if</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 9 ‘Development and biodiversity’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 10 ‘Mitigation hierarchy and delivering biodiversity net gain and enhancements’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 11 ‘Trees and development’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 12 ‘Protecting Stapleford and Great Shelford’s landscape character’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 13 ‘Important views’</p> <p>Policy S&GS 14 ‘Important countryside frontages’</p>	<p>Policies S&GS 9 and 10 are linked to parish specific maps that identify sites of biodiversity value and existing corridors, together with an indication of the opportunities to strengthen ecological corridors. This is consistent with paragraph 185 of the NPPF.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 10 requires the mitigation hierarchy to be embedded into the design of a development. This is appropriate having regard to paragraph 186 a) of the NPPF 2022, as well as national planning practice guidance that supports it. See www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment</p> <p>Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 8-019-20240214</p> <p>Revision date: 14 02 2024</p> <p>Policy S&GS 11 ‘Trees and development’ specifies requirements applicable when a development proposal will affect trees and/or where it incorporates tree planting. This is appropriate having regard to paragraph 185 in the NPPF 2023.</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
<p>significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused...” (paragraph 186 a). National planning practice guidance provides further guidance on applying the mitigation hierarchy www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment</p> <p>Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 8-019-20240214</p> <p>Revision date: 14 02 2024</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 21 ‘Stapleford and Great Shelford’s Improved Landscape Area’</p>	<p>Policies S&GS 12, 13, 14 and 21 are appropriate having regard to paragraph 180 of the NPPF 2023.</p>
<p>Chapter 16. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.</p> <p>Heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal Value. These assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations (paragraph 195).</p>	<p>Policy S&GS 12 ‘Protecting Stapleford and Great Shelford’s landscape character’</p>	<p>The NP area is rich in heritage assets. These are noted in Chapter 2 (context), including the site specific heritage designations applied by South Cambridgeshire’s 2018 Local Plan (two conservation areas, six scheduled monuments). Heritage assets are also recognised in the evidence supporting the Plan, including the Stapleford Conservation Area Character Appraisal, the Great Shelford Conservation Area Character Appraisal, and the S&GS Design Guidance and Codes document. The S&GS LCA 2019 is relevant with respect to heritage assets in the landscape. Chapter 3 of the S&GS LCA 2019 includes a description of the ‘historic land use’ for each of the 27 land parcels. The S&GS LCA 2019 directly informs Policy S&GS 12 which requires proposals to be “c) sympathetic to the characteristics (including sensitivities to change) found in each landscape character area as described in Chapter 3 of the LCA 2019”.</p>

NPPF (2023) chapter and statements	Relevant S&GS Policies	How the submission S&GS NP has regard to the NPPF
		<p>Whilst the S&GS NP does not include a policy specific to heritage assets (the South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan and national policy and guidance is relied on in this respect), it does have an important role in highlighting heritage features in the Plan area.</p> <p>The S&GS NP is appropriate having regard to Chapter 16 in the NPPF 2023.</p>
<p>Chapter 17. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals.</p> <p>"It is essential that there is a sufficient supply of minerals to provide the infrastructure, buildings, energy and goods that the country needs. Since minerals are a finite natural resource, and can only be worked where they are found, best use needs to be made of them to secure their long-term conservation" (paragraph 215).</p>	None.	<p>The NP policies are appropriate having regard to this. See Chapter 5 for more information on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan adopted in 2021.</p>

Table 3: How the NP policies are appropriate having regard to national policy and guidance, by NPPF chapter

4 How the Neighbourhood Plan contributes towards the achievement of sustainable development

- 4.1 The NPPF states, in paragraph 11, that plans and decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development.
- 4.2 Paragraph 8 of the NPPF explains that to achieve sustainable development the planning system has three overarching objectives (economic, social and environmental) which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways.

The three overarching objectives in the planning system as defined in the NPPF:
<p>An economic objective: “to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure.”</p>
<p>A social objective: “to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural well-being.”</p>
<p>An environmental objective: “to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.”</p>

- 4.3 Table 4 below provides an overview as to how the Plan as a whole contributes towards the sustainable development goals as defined in the NPPF.

The Sustainable Development Goals	S&GS Neighbourhood Plan
Economic	<p>The S&GS NP does not contain policies which directs the location or pattern of growth. The principal reason for this is that the spatial strategy is already well established through the extent of the Cambridge green belt that envelopes the two villages and there are very limited options available to NP groups with respect to planning for development within the green belt. South Cambridgeshire’s 2018 Local Plan, together with its future replacement, the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan, fulfils task of ‘ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity’. The S&GS NP does however concern itself with the role of ‘identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure’ . Objective 6, and its associated policy S&GS 17 ‘Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development’, identifies existing and anticipated shortfalls in</p>

The Sustainable Development Goals	S&GS Neighbourhood Plan
	<p>community infrastructure, including health provision, education, open space, place space and community meeting space.</p> <p>With respect to economic activity at the more local level, Stapleford, the smaller of the two settlements has a Spar shop, two pubs, Stapleford Granary (an arts centre with its own café) a builder's merchant and a small number of other businesses. Great Shelford has a larger civic core and is home to a small business centre, several pubs, cafés, restaurants, a large garden centre, two national chain grocers and some further independent shops.</p> <p>The S&GS NP gives recognition to the disruptive and adverse effects that high levels of congestion and high levels of traffic movements can have on the quality of civic cores within the two villages and the Plan area generally. The adverse affects are felt by employers and residents alike. A high quality street scene within civic cores will, for example, help to create the conditions for business to invest.</p> <p>In this respect the following objectives and their associated policies align with this sustainability goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 7 'Residents travelling in and out of the Plan area, and people travelling through the Plan area, will find it increasingly easy to choose active travel modes to reach their destinations, whether for work or leisure purposes. The safety of active travellers will be both a priority of new development and be upgraded throughout the Plan area' • Objective 8 "The adverse effects of increased road traffic movements from new development on our community's quality of life (and apparent in, for example, air pollution, noise, vibration, road safety, accessibility and street scene environment) will be identified and appropriately mitigated'.
Social	<p>The S&GS NP vision, objectives and policies have a strong focus on the social goal. The housing policies (S&GS 1 to S&GS 5) seek to ensure that new development contributes to meeting existing and future need within the S&GS community. Policies S&GS 6, S&GS 11, S&GS 12, S&GS 13, S&GS 14 and S&GS 16 are focused on ensuring that new development delivers high quality design that will contribute positively to existing characteristics of the settlements and their surrounding landscape. They will help to ensure development can support the communities' "health, social and cultural well-being", as will Policy S&GS 17.</p>
Environmental	<p>The S&GS NP vision, objectives and policies have a strong focus on the environmental goal. Policies S&GS 7 and S&GS 8 will influence the sustainability of new build proposals and S&GS 8 will support new renewable or local carbon infrastructure in the Plan area.</p> <p>Adapting to climate change involves ensuring that the natural environment and local eco-systems are able to cope with extreme weather events. Policies S&GS 9, 10 and 11 therefore have an</p>

The Sustainable Development Goals	S&GS Neighbourhood Plan
	<p>important part to play in contributing to this sustainable development goal.</p> <p>An important way in which the planning system can mitigate the effects of climate change is to minimise the need for people to travel using motorised forms of transport. Policy S&GS 4 'Meeting the needs of the older population' there has an important role with respect to this sustainable development goal, as does Policy S&GS 18 'Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford'.</p>

Table 4: How the S&GS NP contributes towards the achievement of sustainable development

4.4 Table 5 below provides an analysis, policy by policy, as to how the S&GS NP contributes towards achieving the sustainable development goals in the NPPF.

	Economic		Social	Environmental
Housing				
Policy S&GS 1 'Housing mix'			✓	
Policy S&GS 2 'Prioritising local needs in the allocation of affordable housing'			✓	
Policy S&GS 3 'Rural exception housing'			✓	
Policy S&GS 4 'Meeting the needs of the older population'			✓	✓
Policy S&GS 5 'Residential annexes to facilitate multi-generational living'			✓	
The built environment				
Policy S&GS 6 'Development and design in Stapleford and Great Shelford'	✓		✓	✓
Climate change and biodiversity				
Policy S&GS 7 'Mitigating and adapting to climate change through buildings design'	✓		✓	✓
Policy S&GS 8 'Renewable energy schemes in Stapleford and Great Shelford'	✓		✓	✓

	Economic		Social	Environmental
Policy S&GS 9 'Protecting and enhancing nature networks and sites of biodiversity value in Stapleford and Great Shelford'				✓
Policy S&GS 10 'Mitigation hierarchy and delivering biodiversity net gain and enhancements'				✓
Policy S&GS 11 'Trees and development'	✓		✓	✓
Our rural setting and landscape				
Policy S&GS 12 'Protecting Stapleford and Great Shelford's landscape character'			✓	✓
Policy S&GS 13 'Important views'			✓	✓
Policy S&GS 14 'Important Countryside Frontages'			✓	✓
Policy S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Areal			✓	
Policy S&GS 16 'Preserving our dark landscape'			✓	✓
Community amenities and infrastructure				
Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development'	✓		✓	
Active travel and managing the impacts of traffic movement				
Policy S&GS 18 'Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford'	✓		✓	✓
Managing the impacts of traffic movements				

	Economic		Social	Environment al
Policy S&GS 19 'Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan area with respect to the movement of people and vehicles'	✓		✓	✓
Countryside access				
Policy S&GS 20 'Protecting and improving routes into our countryside'			✓	
Countryside enhancement				
Policy S&GS 21 'Stapleford and Great Shelford's Improved Landscape Area'				✓

Table 5: An analysis of the S&GS NP policies against the sustainable development goals

5 General conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan

5.1 Within South Cambridgeshire District, the statutory development plan comprises:

- The 2018 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan
- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan July 2021
- The Northstowe Area Action Plan 2007
- Cambridge East Area Action Plan 2008
- Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan 2008
- North West Cambridge Area Action Plan 2009
- made neighbourhood plans.

5.2 The development plan is also supported by Supplementary Planning Documents, including:

- Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD 2018
- Sustainable Design and Construction SPD 2020
- Greater Cambridge Biodiversity SPD 2022

5.3 Of the above, it is the 2018 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan which is of most relevance to the S&GS NP. The supplementary planning documents listed above also provide useful planning guidance, although they do not have development plan status.

Emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan

5.4 Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council are working together to create a joint Local Plan for the two areas, Greater Cambridge, for the period to 2041. This referred to as the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan (GCLP).

5.5 The GCLP is expected to cover a plan period of 20 years. Greater Cambridge Shared Planning services (GCSP) published its 'First Proposals' in August 2021 and undertook consultation on these during the period 1 November 2021 to 13 December 2021. The First Proposals stage sets out the preferred approach by GCSP to the level of growth that should be planned for and where it should be planned. In early 2023, GCSP published its intentions with respect to its preferred development strategy and key sites, as well as providing an update on the need for new jobs and homes.

5.6 The latest information on the progress of the GCLP is found here: <https://greatercambridgeplanning.org/emerging-plans-and-guidance/greater-cambridge-local-plan/>

2018 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan

5.7 The Local Plan vision is set out in Policy S/1. It is a concise vision:

Policy S/1: Vision “South Cambridgeshire will continue to be the best place to live, work and study in the country. Our district will demonstrate impressive and sustainable economic growth. Our residents will have a superb quality of life in an exceptionally beautiful, rural and green environment.”

5.8 The Local Plan objectives are set out in Policy S/2. This presents six overriding objectives:

Policy S/2: Objectives of the Local Plan “The vision for the Local Plan will be secured through the achievement of 6 key objectives:

- a. To support economic growth by supporting South Cambridgeshire's position as a world leader in research and technology based industries, research, and education; and supporting the rural economy.
- b. To protect the character of South Cambridgeshire, including its built and natural heritage, as well as protecting the Cambridge Green Belt. New development should enhance the area, and protect and enhance biodiversity.
- c. To provide land for housing in sustainable locations that meets local needs and aspirations, and gives choice about type, size, tenure and cost.
- d. To deliver new developments that are high quality and well-designed with distinctive character that reflects their location, and which responds robustly to the challenges of climate change.
- e. To ensure that all new development provides or has access to a range of services and facilities that support healthy lifestyles and well-being for everyone, including shops, schools, doctors, community buildings, cultural facilities, local open space, and green infrastructure.
- f. To maximise potential for journeys to be undertaken by sustainable modes of transport including walking, cycling, bus and train.”

5.9 The spatial strategy set out across the two planning authority areas (Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District) is for Cambridge to remain the focus of development (comprising 54% of the housing requirement of both Councils 2011 to 2031) (see paragraph 2.24 of the Local Plan 2018). For South Cambridgeshire, the spatial strategy can be summarised as:

- maintaining a green belt around Cambridge with the intent of defining the urban edge (See Local Plan Policy S/4: Cambridge Green Belt)
- delivering development that will facilitate provision during 2011 to 2031 for 22,000 additional jobs to support the Cambridge cluster and 19,500 new homes including affordable homes (see Local Plan Policy S/5: Provision of new jobs and homes)
- focusing development in order of preference on a) the edge of Cambridge b) at new settlements and c) in the rural area at Rural Centres and the Minor Rural Centres (see Local Plan Policy S/6: The Development Strategy to 2031).

5.10 Of particular relevance to the S&GS NP:

- the Cambridge Green Belt envelopes the villages of Stapleford and Great Shelford
- Stapleford and Great Shelford are classified as one Rural Centre in the district-wide settlement
- the inclusion in the Local Plan of an employment allocation E/2. This strategic allocation supports an extension to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC) on land located at the northern edge of the S&GS Plan area
- Improved Landscaping Policies CSF/5. This is linked to Policy CSF/5 in the 2008 Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan, titled ‘Enhancing landscape, biodiversity, recreation and public access in the Cambridge Southern Fringe – Policy CSF/5 Countryside Enhancement Strategy’. The policy applies to the area of land identified on the Local Plan Proposals Map referred to in the policy text as “the area bounded by the Cambridge City boundary, Babraham Road, Haverhill Road, and the edge of the built up area of Great Shelford and Stapleford”. The

policy commits South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) to seek contributions toward the delivery of the strategy via development coming forward in the Cambridge Southern Fringe. The policy also specifies what should be included in the strategy, including requirements for landscape improvements and “new footpaths, cyclepaths and bridleways creating routes through the area and linking to Wandlebury Country Park/The Magog Down”.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan

5.11 The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2036, adopted in 2021² is the waste and minerals plan that applies to Stapleford and Great Shelford.

5.12 Land to the south of Stapleford is identified as a Minerals Consultation Area. Stapleford and Great Shelford parishes are also identified within a Mineral Safeguarding Area for Chalk and parts of the parishes are identified within a Mineral Safeguarding Area for Sand and Gravel. The policies in the Minerals and Waste Local Plan seek to ensure that the County Council is consulted on planning applications to enable them to consider the impact of the development on the longer term access to minerals.

The conformity assessment

5.13 “When considering whether a policy is in general conformity a qualifying body, independent examiner, or local planning authority, should consider the following:

- whether the neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal supports and upholds the general principle that the strategic policy is concerned with
- the degree, if any, of conflict between the draft neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal and the strategic policy
- whether the draft neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal provides an additional level of detail and/or a distinct local approach to that set out in the strategic policy without undermining that policy
- the rationale for the approach taken in the draft neighbourhood plan or order and the evidence to justify that approach.”

Paragraph: 074 Reference ID: 41-074-20140306, revision date: 06 03 2014

5.14 Table 6 considers whether the NP policies are in general conformity with the policies in South Cambridgeshire’s 2018 Local Plan. Column 2 provides a brief summary of each Local Plan policy. The 3rd column clarifies whether the Local Plan policy has any relevance to the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan area. The 4th column provides a commentary on how the Neighbourhood Plan conforms with Local Plan policy wherever relevant. Four different conclusions are reached:

- not applicable (NA)
- the NP is in general conformity (GC)
- an area of tension has been identified (T)
- the S&GS NP complements or adds to the approach set out by the Local Plan policy by providing an additional level of detail or a distinct local approach (Complements).

² <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/planning-policy/adopted-minerals-and-waste-plan>

- 5.15 In one case, the S&GS NP is found to introduce tension with the approach taken in the Local Plan. This applies to:

Policy S&GS 1 'Housing Mix' against Local Plan policy H/9 'Housing Mix.

Policy H/9 in the Local Plan requires market homes in developments of 10 or more homes to consist of at least 30% 3 bedroom homes. Policy S&GS 1 applies to smaller schemes and requires proposals to include a mix of at least 50% of new dwellings to be 3 bed units. Tension is therefore introduced with respect to the Local Plan policy. Importantly, however: Policy S&GS 1 is informed by the Plan-level specific Housing Needs Assessment 2023 and also includes a clause allowing for an alternative mix, subject to appropriate justification being in place. Whilst there is tension with the Local Plan policy, the approach taken in Policy S&GS 1 is underpinned by evidence set out in the S&GS Housing Needs Assessment and the policy allows for flexibility in the event of changing circumstances and more up to date evidence being available that indicates different requirements. The policy is in general conformity with the Local Plan.

- 5.16 In a number of cases, the S&GS NP is found, in line with accepted practice, to provide an additional level of detail and/or a distinct local approach to that set out in the strategic policy, without undermining the strategic policy. This applies as follows:

Local Plan Policy CC/1: Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change.

Policy S&GS 7 'Mitigating and adapting to climate change through building design' is more specific than the Local Plan with respect to what information should be included in the sustainability statement. The supporting text to Policy S&GS 7 provides a more up to date context than information in the Local Plan and links to specific energy targets. The policy complements the Local Plan policy by being a bit more specific in the context of the S&GS NP area and providing a more up to date background context.

Local Plan Policy CC/2: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation

The Local Plan Policy CC/2 supports in principle (and subject to criteria) proposals that generate energy from renewable and low carbon energy sources (with the exception of wind turbines). The policy also provides a decision-making framework for proposals for wind energy development involving one or more wind turbines. Policy S&GS 8 relates specifically to small scale community-led renewable or low carbon energy projects. It complements the approach at the local level by supporting such schemes, subject to proposals protecting or enhancing landscape character in line with Policy S&GS 12.

Local Plan Policy CC/8: Sustainable Drainage Systems

Policy S&GS 7 complements the Local Plan policy with its two last clauses relating to SuDs and the management of run off.

Local Plan Policy HQ/1 Design Principles

Policy S&GS 6 'Development and design in Stapleford and Great Shelford' complements the Local Plan approach by providing a set of Plan area specific design requirements. The policy is informed by a comprehensive evidence base specific to the Plan area: 'Stapleford and Great Shelford Design Guidance and Codes 2023', the 'Stapleford Conservation Area Character Appraisal, 2021', and the 'Great Shelford Conservation Area Character Appraisal'. The policy complements the strategic design Policy HQ/1 Design Principles.

Local Plan Policy NH/2: Protecting and enhancing Landscape Character

Directly informed by the S&GS Landscape Character Assessment 2019 and applicable content from the Greater Cambridge Landscape Character Assessment 2021, Policies S&GS 12 'Protecting Stapleford and Great Shelford's landscape character', S&GS 13 'Important views', S&GS 14 'Important Countryside Frontages' and S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Village Amenity Area' complement the approach at the Local Plan level.

Local Plan Policy NH/4: Biodiversity

Policy S&GS 9 'Protecting and enhancing nature networks and sites of biodiversity value in Stapleford and Great Shelford' and S&GS 10 'Mitigation hierarchy and delivering biodiversity net gain and enhancements' provide a parish specific approach that will sit alongside Local Plan Policy NH/4. They do this by mapping the features in the parish that are of biodiversity value and by mapping opportunities for strengthening biodiversity (Policy S&GS 9), by identifying Plan area-specific opportunities for delivering biodiversity enhancements (Policy S&GS 10), and by providing an up to date policy position with respect to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). Policy S&GS 10 includes a statement applicable to delivery of off-site BNG that is consistent with advice set out in the Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document published by Greater Cambridge Shared Planning in 2022.

Local Plan NH/5 Sites of Biodiversity or Geological Importance

Policy S&GS 9 will help with the implementation of the Local Plan policy since it lists and names the SSSIs, the local nature reserves and county wildlife sites, as well as listing other sites of importance to local biodiversity.

Local Plan NH/6 Green Infrastructure

Policies S&GS 9 and S&GS 10 will help with the implementation of the Local Plan policy at the NP level since they are informed by the Cambridge Nature Network 2021, an initiative supporting the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan that identifies priority landscape areas and the best opportunities for creating new habitats and large-scale natural green spaces. The opportunities identified or referred to in Policies S&GS 9 and S&GS 10 include opportunities in the Plan area that are linked to this strategic strategy. Policy S&GS 10 is supported by Appendix 5 which contains extracts for the 'River Cam Corridor South' area from the Cambridge Nature Network, illustrating the existing network alongside the opportunities for strengthening links.

Local Plan NH/8: Mitigating the Impact of Development in and Adjoining the Green Belt

Policy S&GS 12 'Protecting and enhancing Stapleford and Great Shelford's character', Policy S&GS 13 'Important views', Policy S&GS 14 'Important Countryside Frontages' and Policy S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area' will be particularly effective at implementing this Local Plan policy at the NP-level.

Non-strategic Local Plan Policy NH/11: Protected Village Amenity Area.

The policy will apply alongside the NP policies. In addition, Policy S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area' identifies a further site, in Stapleford village, to be designated as a PVAA.

Non-strategic Local Plan Policy NH12: Local Green Space

Policy S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area' designates eight areas of land as Local Green Spaces.

Non-strategic Local Plan Policy NH13: Important Countryside Frontages

Policy S&GS 14 'Important Countryside Frontages' identifies three frontages suitable for designation as ICFs. These are in Stapleford village.

Local Plan Policy H/10 Affordable housing

The policy will apply alongside the NP Policies, although the S&GS NP does apply an added level of detail.

Policy S&GS 1, which is informed directly by the findings of the S&GS Housing Needs Assessment 2023

- a) applies a suggested tenure mix of 70% social/affordable rent and 30% affordable home ownership
- b) In the case of First Homes (an affordable homes product) being delivered it states they should be delivered at a discount 40% rather than 30% in order for such homes to be providing a realistic option to first time buyers in the locality.

Local Plan Policy H/11 Rural Exception Site Affordable Housing

Policy S&GS 3 'Rural exception housing' directly complements the Local Plan Policy by articulating Plan-level support for rural exception sites and via its S&GS specific local connection criteria.

Local Plan Policy SC/4 Meeting Community Needs

Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development' complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying Plan-area specific priorities.

SC/6 Indoor Community Facilities.

Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development' complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying Plan-area specific priorities, e.g. improvements to the Memorial Hall in Great Shelford.

SC/7 Outdoor Play Space, Informal Open Space and New Developments

Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development' complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying Plan-area specific priorities with respect to informal open space requirements and play space.

SC/9 Lighting proposals

Policy S&GS 16 'Preserving our dark landscape' complements the Local Plan policy by providing more specific requirements and by linking the policy to sensitive sites (in wildlife terms) in the Plan area.

T1/2 Planning for Sustainable Travel

Policy S&GS 18 'Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford' complements the Local Plan approach by providing more detail that is linked to the Stapleford and Great Shelford Design Guidance and Codes 2023, as well as identified active travel projects in the Plan area.

Policy S&GS 19 'Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan area with respect to the movement of people and vehicles' also complements the Local Plan approach by identifying six locations where congestion is a particular issue in the Plan area and identifying initiatives to reduce overall traffic that would be supported.

TI/8 Infrastructure and New Development

Policy S&GS 4 'Meeting the needs of the older population', Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development', Policy S&GS 18 'Facilitating active travel', Policy S&GS 20 'Protecting and improving routes into our countryside' and Policy S&GS 21 'Stapleford and Great Shelford's Improved Landscape Area' complement the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying parish specific infrastructure requirements and priorities.

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
S/1 Vision	Overarching vision for the Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire	Yes	The vision is a high-level vision for the district as a whole. The approach taken in the NP upholds the approach taken here.	GC
S/2 Objectives of the Local Plan	Overarching objectives of plan	Yes	The S&GS NP as a whole (the vision, objectives and policies) is in general conformity with the six Local Plan objectives.	GC
S/3 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	Policy reflecting presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out in NPPF	Yes. Although see NPPF 2023 also.	A high-level strategic policy that will apply alongside NP policies. The S&GS NP is consistent with this approach.	GC
S/4 Cambridge Green Belt	Strategic policy regarding the green belt	Yes	The S&GS NP fully takes into account the extent of the green belt in the Plan area and works within the strategic context provided by this policy.	GC
S/5 Provision of New Jobs and Homes	Strategic policy to deliver homes and jobs	Yes	A high-level strategic policy that will apply alongside NP policies.	GC
S/6 The Development Strategy to 2031	Policy setting out an overarching spatial strategy for the district	Yes	The policies in the S&GS NP are in general conformity with this strategic policy.	GC
S/7 Development Frameworks	A district wide policy which allows in principle development within the development framework and resists development outside	Yes.	This is an important strategic policy for the S&GS NP. It is linked to the Local Plan Policies map that defines settlement boundaries referred to as 'Development Frameworks' around both Stapleford village and Great Shelford village. The policy will sit alongside the policies in the NP.	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
S/8 Rural Centres	Policy concerning rural centres in the district	Yes	Stapleford and Great Shelford are together identified as a Rural Centre in the Local Plan where development will be permitted within this boundary. This is subject to adequate services, facilities and infrastructure being available or able to be available as a result of the development. There is no overall size limited on the size of an individual scheme.	GC
S/9 Minor Rural Centre	Policy concerning minor rural centres in the district	No		NA
S/10 Group Villages	Policy concerning group villages in the district	No		T
S/11 Infill Villages	Policy concerning development in infill villages	No		NA
S/12 Phasing, Delivery and Monitoring	Policy regarding strategic monitoring	Not directly		NA
Site Allocations SS/1 - SS/8	Eight strategic site allocations in six different detailed policies	No		NA
CC/1 Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change	A policy requiring all proposals to embed the principles of climate change mitigation and adaptation	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 7 'Mitigating and adapting to climate change through building design' is more specific than the Local Plan with respect to what information should be included in the sustainability statement. The supporting text to Policy S&GS 7 provides a more up to date context than the information in the Local Plan and links to specific energy targets.	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
			The policy complements the Local Plan policy by being a bit more specific in the context of the S&GS NP area and providing a more up to date background context.	
CC/2 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	A policy providing a decision-making framework for renewable and low carbon energy generation	Yes	The Local Plan Policy CC/2 supports in principle (and subject to criteria) proposals that generate energy from renewable and low carbon energy sources (with the exception of wind turbines). The policy also provides a decision-making framework for proposals for wind energy development involving one or more wind turbines. Policy S&GS 8 relates specifically to small scale community-led renewable or low carbon energy projects. It complements the approach at the local level by supporting such schemes, subject to proposals protecting or enhancing landscape character in line with Policy S&GS 12.	Complements
CC/3 Renewable and low carbon energy in new developments	A policy requiring on site renewable generation for larger schemes	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
CC/4 Water Efficiency	A policy setting water efficiency standards and BREAM standards for non-residential development.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 7 requires water usage on new projects to be minimised in line with Local Plan requirements, although its supporting text references more up to date information that is informing the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan. It refers to higher targets (ideally 80 litres per day) for residential development.	GC
CC/5 Sustainable Show Homes	A policy regarding show homes on larger schemes	Unlikely		NA
CC/6 Construction Methods	A policy concerning construction	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	standards across the country			
CC/7 Water Quality	A policy establishing standards for water supply, drainage and sewerage	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
CC/8 Sustainable Drainage Systems	A policy establishing the standards that will be expected regarding the management of surface water run-off	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 7 complements the Local Plan policy with its two last clauses relating to SuDs and the management of run off.	Complements
CC/9 Managing Flood Risk	A policy establishing approach to flood risk	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
HQ/1 Design Principles	Contains generic design principles with which all development should comply	Yes	Policy S&GS 6 'Development and design in Stapleford and Great Shelford' complements the Local Plan approach by providing a set of Plan area specific design requirements. The policy is informed by a comprehensive evidence base specific to the Plan area: 'Stapleford and Great Shelford Design Guidance and Codes 2023', the 'Stapleford Conservation Area Character Appraisal, 2021', and the 'Great Shelford Conservation Area Character Appraisal'. The policy complements the strategic design Policy HQ/1 Design Principles.	Complements
HQ/1 Public Art and New Development	Provides a strategy for providing public art alongside new development	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP.	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
NH/1 CA and Green Separation at Longstanton	A policy specific to Longstanton	No		NA
NH/2 Protecting and enhancing Landscape Character	A policy establishing that proposals will only be supported where they respect, retain or enhance the local character and distinctiveness of the local landscape	Yes	Directly informed by the S&GS Landscape Character Assessment 2019 as well as applicable content from the Greater Cambridge Landscape Character Assessment 2021, Policies S&GS 12 'Protecting Stapleford and Great Shelford's landscape character', S&GS 13 'Important views', S&GS 14 'Important Countryside Frontages' and S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Village Amenity Area' complement the approach at the Local Plan level.	Complements
NH/3 Protecting agricultural Land	States that permission will not be granted for development which would lead to the irreversible loss of Grades 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land unless: a. Land is allocated for development in the Local Plan; b. Sustainability considerations and the need for the development are sufficient to override the need to protect the	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	agricultural value of the land			
NH/4 Biodiversity	A policy providing the decision-making framework regarding biodiversity and development	Yes	Policy S&GS 9 'Protecting and enhancing nature networks and sites of biodiversity value in Stapleford and Great Shelford' and S&GS 10 'Mitigation hierarchy and delivering biodiversity net gain and enhancements' provide a parish specific approach that will sit alongside Local Plan Policy NH/4. They do this by mapping the features in the parish that are of biodiversity value and by mapping opportunities for strengthening biodiversity (Policy S&GS 9), by identifying Plan area-specific opportunities for delivering biodiversity enhancements (Policy S&GS 10), and by providing an up to date policy position with respect to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). Policy S&GS 10 includes a statement applicable to delivery of off-site BNG that is consistent with advice set out in the Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document published by Greater Cambridge Shared Planning in 2022.	Complements
NH/5 Sites of Biodiversity or Geological Importance	A policy providing a decision-making framework for proposals affecting sites of biodiversity or geological importance	Yes. Will apply to two designated SSSIs, three local nature reserves and three county wildlife sites	Policy S&GS 9 will help with the implementation of the Local Plan policy since it lists and names the SSSIs, the local nature reserves and county wildlife sites, whilst also listing other sites of importance to local biodiversity.	Complements
NH/6 Green Infrastructure	A policy providing a strategy for maintaining and improving the green	Yes	Policies S&GS 9 and S&GS 10 will help with the implementation of the Local Plan policy at the NP-level since they are informed by the Cambridge Nature Network 2021, an initiative supporting the emerging	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	infrastructure network across the district. The policy supports proposals that will deliver the strategic green infrastructure network and priorities set out in the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy		Greater Cambridge Local Plan that identifies priority landscape areas and the best opportunities for creating new habitats and large-scale natural green spaces. The opportunities identified or referred to in Policies S&GS 9 and S&GS 10 include opportunities in the Plan area that are linked to this strategic strategy. Policy S&GS 10 is supported by Appendix 5 which contains extracts for the 'River Cam Corridor South' area from the Cambridge Nature Network, illustrating the existing network alongside the opportunities for strengthening links.	
NH/7 Ancient Woodlands and Veteran Trees	A policy providing a decision-making framework for proposals affecting ancient woodlands and veteran trees	No ancient woodland in plan area recorded at www.magic.gov.uk	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
NH/8 Mitigating the Impact of Development in and Adjoining the Green Belt	A policy focused on ensuring that no proposals will have an adverse impact on the rural character and openness of the Green Belt. Policy requires proposals on the edge of Green Belt to include careful landscaping and	Yes. The majority of the parishes are part of the Cambridge Green Belt	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 12 'Protecting and enhancing Stapleford and Great Shelford's character', Policy S&GS 13 'Important views', Policy S&GS 14 'Important Countryside Frontages' and Policy S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area' will be particularly effective at implementing this Local Plan policy at the NP-level.	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	design measures of a high quality			
Policy NH/9 Redevelopment of Previously Developed Sites and Infilling in the Green Belt	A policy providing a decision-making framework for Green Belt sites	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
Policy NH/10 Facilities for Recreation in the Green Belt	Policy allows for development in Green Belt where this support recreation facilities where development will not (either individually or cumulatively) harm the openness of the Green Belt and the purposes of including land within it	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
Non-strategic Policy NH/11 Protected Village Amenity Area	A non-strategic policy identifying village amenity area in the Plan area	Yes. There are six PVAAAs identified in the S&GS Plan area	The policy will apply alongside the NP policies. In addition, Policy S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area' identifies a further site, in Stapleford village to be designated as a PVAA.	Complements .
Non-strategic Policy NH/12 Local Green Space	A non-strategic policy identifying Local Green Spaces in the plan area.	Yes. Although there are no LGSs designated	Policy S&GS 15 'Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Area' designates eight areas of land as Local Green Spaces.	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
		via the Local Plan in the S&GS NP area		
Non-strategic Policy NH/13 Important Countryside Frontages	A non-strategic policy identifying important countryside fringes in the Plan area	Yes. There are two stretches of ICF identified in Great Shelford	Policy S&GS 14 'Important Countryside Frontages' identifies three frontages suitable for designation as ICFs. These are in Stapleford village.	Complements
NH/14 Heritage Assets & NH/15 Heritage Assets and Adapting to Climate Change	Policies providing a decision-making framework for heritage assets	Yes. There is a wealth of heritage assets in the Plan area	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
H1 - H7 Allocations	Policies applicable to sites allocated in other parts of the district	No		NA
H/8 Housing Density	Policy requires minimum density of 30 dph to be achieved in rural centres. Policy allows for rural densities to be varied to reflect site context	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies, including Policy S&GS 6: Development and design in Stapleford and Great Shelford.	GC
H/9 Housing Mix	A district wide housing mix policy	Yes	Policy S&GS 1 'Housing Mix' adds to the strategic policy here. Policy H/9 in the Local Plan requires market homes in developments of 10 or more homes to consist of at	Complements with some tension

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
			<p>least 30% 3 bedroom homes. Policy S&GS 1 applies to smaller schemes and requires proposals to include a mix of at least 50% of new dwellings to be 3 bed units. Tension is therefore introduced with respect to the Local Plan policy. Importantly, however: Policy S&GS 1 is informed by the Plan-level specific Housing Needs Assessment 2023 and also includes a clause allowing for an alternative mix, subject to appropriate justification being in place. Whilst there is a bit of tension with the Local Plan policy, Policy S&GS 1 is in general conformity with the Local Plan.</p>	
H/10 Affordable Housing	Affordable housing policy establishing district level affordable housing requirements (40% on sites of 11 or more)	Yes	<p>The policy will apply alongside the NP Policies, although the S&GS NP does apply an added level of detail.</p> <p>Policy S&GS 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applies a suggested tenure mix of 70% social/affordable rent and 30% affordable home ownership • in the case of First Homes (an affordable homes product) being delivered, it states they should be delivered at a discount of 40% rather than 30% in order for such homes to be providing a realistic option to first time buyers in the locality. <p>The policy is informed directly by the findings in the S&GS Housing Needs Assessment 2023.</p>	Complements
H/11 Rural Exception Site Affordable Housing	Policy allows for sites adjoining development framework boundaries to deliver rural exception housing	Yes	Policy S&GS 3 'Rural exception housing' directly complements the policy by articulating Plan-level support for rural exception sites and S&GS-specific local connection criteria.	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
H/12 Residential Space Standards for Market Housing	A district wide policy providing minimum internal space standards for new housing	Yes	Local plan policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
H/13 Extensions to Dwellings in the Countryside	A district wide emerging policy (similar to adopted policy) allowing for extensions to dwellings in the countryside	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP.	GC
H/14 Replacement Dwellings in the countryside	A district wide emerging policy (similar to adopted policy) allowing for replacements dwellings in the countryside.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP.	GC
H/15 Countryside Dwellings of Exceptional Quality	A district wide emerging policy allowing for new residential proposals of exceptional quality in the countryside, subject to a strict criterion	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP.	C
H/16 Development of Residential Gardens	A district wide policy providing an approach for residential garden	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP. Policy S&GS 5 'Residential annexes to facilitate multi-generational living' provides a NP area specific dimension to a similar topic. However, Policy S&GS 5 would not apply to countryside	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	development. The policy allows for this in countryside locations in line with Local Plan policy H7		locations (unlike H/16) and allows for residential annexes within the curtilage of an existing dwelling where this would allow for a household with a dependent (e.g. an older person or a person with a disability) to live adjacent to a household with a familial or community link.	
H/17 Re-use of Buildings in the Countryside for Residential use.	A district wide policy providing an approach for re-use of buildings in the countryside for residential use	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
H/18 Working at home	A district wide policy allowing for alterations in a rural home in order to facilitate home working	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
H/19 Dwellings to support a rural-based enterprise	A district wide policy that allows, if special circumstances can be demonstrated, countryside dwellings where this is essential to support a rural-based enterprise	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
H/20 Provision for Gypsies and Travellers	A district wide approach to planning for housing	Possibly	Policies will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
and Travelling Showpeople	for Gypsies and Travellers			
H/21 Gypsy and Traveller Provision at New Communities	A policy concerning planning for the needs of gypsies and travellers to be addressed as part of larger schemes	No	NA	NA
H/22 Proposals for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Sites on unallocated land outside development frameworks & H/23 Design of Gypsy and Traveller Sites, and Travelling Showpeople Sites	Policies providing a decision-making framework for proposals in the countryside for gypsies, travellers and travelling show people and for all proposals in terms of design	Possibly	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
Policy E/1 New Employment Provision near Cambridge – Cambridge Science Park	A strategic policy that supports appropriate proposals for employment development at Cambridge Science Park	No	NA	NA
Policy E/2 Cambridge Biomedical Campus Extension	A strategic policy that supports an extension to the Cambridge	Yes, the site allocation falls in the	Clause 2 in Policy E/2 includes a series (a-j) of criteria that development should meet including: - creating landscaped edges to the western, eastern and southern boundaries	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	Biomedical Campus (CBC). The land is adjacent to the existing campus and is allocated for employment (B1), higher education and sui generis medical research uses	S&GS NP area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing an appropriate setting for the Nine Wells Local Nature Reserve (LNR) - ensuring no adverse impact on the volume, pattern of flow or water quality of the chalk springs at Nine Wells and Hobson's Brook and Conduit - not including pedestrian access from the site that would facilitate access to Nine Wells LNR - having building heights that are no higher than those on the adjoining part of the CBC and which provide for a suitable transition with respect to the edge of settlement location. <p>The S&GS NP recognises the existing policy context provided by Local Plan Policy E/2. Policy S&GS 9 'Protecting and enhancing nature networks and sites of biodiversity value in Stapleford and Great Shelford' is compatible with the policy in the way that it recognises the importance of protecting/enhancing both Nine Wells Local Nature Reserve and Hobson's Brook chalk river.</p> <p>The landscape enhancement measures set out in Policy S&GS 21 'Delivering Stapleford and Great Shelford's Improved Landscape Area' are also compatible with the requirements of Local Plan Policy E/2.</p>	
Policies E/3 - E6	Employment allocations or strategic policies not applicable to the S&GS Plan area	No		NA
E/7 Imperial War Museum at Duxford	Policy specific to the war museum	No	NA	NA

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
Non-Strategic Site Allocation: E/8 Mixed-use development in Histon & Impington Station area	Non-strategic site allocation in the plan area. Not in NP area	No	NA	NA
E/9 Promotion of Clusters	A policy which supports new employment provision where this will assist with clusters	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/10 Shared Social Spaces in Employment Areas	Allows for leisure, eating and social hub facilities in employment areas	Yes. Potentially within existing employment areas	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/11 Large Scale Warehousing and Distribution Centres	Does not permit large scale warehousing or distribution centres in the district	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/12 New Employment Development in Villages	Allows new employment development within development frameworks within villages	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/13 New employment on the edges of villages	Policy allows for new employment on	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	edges of villages subject to criteria			
E/14 Loss of employment land to non-employment uses	Policy preventing the loss of employment within and on the edge of villages	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/15 Established Employment areas	Applicable to defined employment areas	No		NA
E/16 Expansion of existing businesses in the countryside	This allows for expansion of employment uses in the country subject to criteria	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/17 Conversion or Replacement of Rural Building for Employment	Policy allows, subject to criteria, conversion of rural buildings for employment use	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/18 Farm Diversification	Policy provides a framework for determining applications involving farm diversification	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/19 Tourist Facilities and Visitor Attractions	Policy providing a framework for tourist facilities in the countryside	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
E/20 Tourist Accommodation	Policy providing a framework for applications providing tourist accommodation	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/21 Retail Hierarchy	Identifies Minor Rural Centres Village Centres as second tier in the district retail hierarchy.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/22 Applications for new Retail Development	Applies to new retail proposals within development frameworks	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
E/23 Retailing in the countryside	Provides a framework for determining countryside proposals for retail	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
<u>Non-strategic policy</u> SC/1 Allocation for Open Space	Non-strategic policy that allocates land for future open space requirements on five sites in the district. This includes two sites in the S&GS Plan area	Yes	Local Plan policy SC/1 allocates one site in Stapleford parish for an extension to the existing Recreation Ground and a new site in Great Shelford parish. This applies to 'land east of Bar Lane, Stapleford and west of access road to Green Hedge Farm' and 'land south of Granhams Road, Great Shelford'. Neither of these sites have yet been delivered. The former is included in proposed Local Green Space LGS 6 'Horse pasture surrounding Greenhedge Farm'. With regards to the latter, proposed Local Green Space LGS 3 'Horse pasture bounded by Granham's Road, the DNA path and Macaulay Avenue, Great Shelford' falls	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
			within part of the extent of the area of land designated in the Local Plan for future open space.	
SC/2 Health Impact Assessment	Policy applicable to larger schemes (20 or more homes or more than 1,000 sq m floorspace)	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies	GC
SC/3 Protection of village services and facilities	Policy protecting village services and facilities	Yes. To existing facilities in the parishes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
SC/4 Meeting Community Needs	A policy requiring all proposals to contribute towards community infrastructure	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development' complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying Plan-area specific priorities.	Complements
SC/5 Community Healthcare Facility Provision	A policy supporting community healthcare facilities in development frameworks	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
SC/6 Indoor Community Facilities.	A policy requiring all housing proposals to contribute to the provision of indoor community facilities to meet the needs generated by the development. Where proposals are of sufficient	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development' complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying Plan-area specific priorities, e.g. Memorial Hall in Great Shelford.	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	scale to generate the need for new on-site facilities they will be required to do so			
SC/7 Outdoor Play Space, Informal Open Space and New Developments	A policy requiring all development proposals to contribute towards outdoor play space and informal recreation space. Policy includes standards for all types of open space. Policy states that only informal open space will be required on site for schemes of less than 10 units	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development' complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying Plan-area specific priorities with respect to informal open space requirements and play space.	Complements
SC/8 Protection of existing recreation areas, allotments and community orchards	A policy protecting existing spaces	Yes. Existing allotments and recreation areas in Plan area	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
SC/9 Lighting proposals	A policy providing an approach towards proposals involving lighting	Yes	Policy S&GS 16 'Preserving our dark landscape' complements the Local Plan policy by providing more specific requirements and by linking the policy to sensitive sites (in wildlife terms) in the Plan area.	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
SC/10 Noise pollution	A policy managing impact of noise from development	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
SC/11 Contaminated Land	A policy managing new development and contamination	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
SC/12 Air Quality	A policy managing new development and air quality	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
SC/13 Hazardous Installations	A policy specific to hazardous installations	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
SC/14 Odour and other fugitive emissions to air	A policy specific to fugitive emissions to air	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
TI/I Chesterton Rail Station and Interchange	Site specific	No		NA
TI/2 Planning for Sustainable Travel	District wide policy providing an approach to planning applications. Clause 1 states that development must be located and designed to reduce the need to travel, particularly by car. Clause 2 sets out requirements for proposals that will	Yes	Policy S&GS 18 'Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford' complements the local plan approach by providing more detail that is linked to the Stapleford and Great Shelford Design Guidance and Codes 2023 as well as identified active travel projects in the Plan area. Policy S&GS 19 'Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan area with respect to the movement of people and vehicles' also complements the local plan approach by identifying six locations where congestion is a particular issue in the Plan area and identifying initiatives to reduce overall traffic that would be supported	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	give rise to increased travel demands. Clause 3 states that developers will be required to mitigate the likely impacts of their proposal including environmental impacts and impact on amenity and health		The S&GS NP will complement the approach in the Local Plan.	
TI/3 Parking Provision	District wide policy providing an approach to planning applications	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
TI/4 Rail Freight and Interchanges	Allows for new freight interchange facilities and safeguards existing sidings	Unlikely		NA
TI/5 Aviation-Related Development Proposals	A decision-making framework for new aviation related proposals	Unlikely		NA
TI/6 Cambridge Airport Public Safety Zone	Specific to Cambridge Airport public safety zone. Also applies to Air	Yes	The S&GS Plan area falls partly within the purple zone (meaning the policy applies to structures greater than 90m above ground level) and partly within the yellow zone (this means the policy applies to structures greater	GC

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	Safeguarding Zone around Imperial War Museum Duxford		than 45m above ground level). It also falls within the Zone 2 height restriction zone (45m) that encircles the Imperial War Museum Duxford.	
TI/7 Lord's Bridge Radio Telescope	Essential to protect operation of internationally important telescope	Yes. The Plan area falls within Consultation Area 2	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
TI/8 Infrastructure and New Development	A district wide policy stating that planning permission will only be granted for proposals that have made suitable arrangements for the improvement or provision of infrastructure necessary to make the schemes acceptable in planning terms. The policy indicates that this could be via CIL or planning obligations and that any contributions need to be related to the form of the development and its	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. Policy S&GS 4 'Meeting the needs of the older population', Policy S&GS 17 'Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development', Policy S&GS 18 'Facilitating active travel', Policy S&GS 20 'Protecting and improving routes into our countryside' and Policy S&GS 21 'Stapleford and Great Shelford's Improved Landscape Area' complement the approach taken in the Local Plan by clarifying parish specific priorities.	Complements

South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan policy	Subject	Relevant to NP area?	How the S&GS NP conforms with the policy	Outcome
	impact upon the surrounding area			
TI/9 Education Facilities	Strategic policy regarding education infrastructure	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC
TI/10 Broadband	Strategic policy regarding broadband infrastructure	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.	GC

Table 6: Conformity assessment of S&GS NP policies against South Cambridgeshire's 2018 Local Plan

Key to Column 5: NA = Not Applicable, GC = The NP is in general conformity, T = An area of tension has been identified, Complements = The S&GS NP complements or adds to the approach set out by the Local Plan policy by providing an additional level of detail or a distinct local approach

6 Compatibility with EU Obligations and Legislation

- 6.1 European Union Directive 2001/42/EC requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be undertaken for certain types of plans or programmes that would have a significant environmental effect. The EU Directive has been transposed into UK legislation through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). Regulation 9 states that the responsible body (the local planning authority) shall determine whether or not a plan is likely to have a significant effect and that before making such a determination it shall take into account the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations and consult the consultation bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency).
- 6.2 In February 2024, SCDC published the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening report. This reported that the S&GS NP could be screened out for its requirement of SEA in line with the requirements of Directive 2001/42/EC.
- 6.3 In line with Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes 2004, the environmental bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) were consulted on the report. Responses were received from all three confirming their agreement with the findings that an SEA would not be needed.
- 6.4 The SEA screening determination report was subsequently published and is submitted alongside the neighbourhood plan.

Human Rights and Equalities

- 6.5 The neighbourhood plan has been prepared having regard to the fundamental rights and freedom guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights
- 6.6 An assessment has been carried out of the potential impacts of the S&GS NP in relation to the protected characteristics as identified in the Equality Act 2010. This assessment is shown in Table 7 and shows that the S&GS NP is not likely to lead to increased inequalities or discrimination in the Plan area.
- 6.7 The assessment finds that the S&GS NP policies will have no negative impact on persons with protected characteristics. There could however be a range of minor positive impacts for younger adults, older people and children.

Protected Characteristic	Impact	Commentary
Age	+ Positive	<p>Policies S&GS 1 'Housing mix', S&GS 2 'Prioritising local needs in the allocation of affordable housing, S&GS 3 'Rural exception sites', S&GS 4 'Meeting the needs of the older population', and S&GS 5 'Residential annexes to facilitate multi-generational living' could assist with younger adults in the area currently having difficulties with accessing affordable homes or smaller market homes to suit their needs. Policies S&GS 1, S&GS 4 and S&GS 5 could assist older people who are looking to downsize into smaller properties and in the case of S&GS 5 live close to family members.</p> <p>On the basis that the most vulnerable in society are those who are likely to suffer the most from the effects of climate change (wet weather events, periods of drought and heat waves), Policies S&GS 7 'Mitigating and adapting to climate change through building design' and S&GS 8 'Renewable energy schemes in Stapleford and Great Shelford' could have, depending on implementation, a minor positive impact on the very young and very old.</p> <p>Policies S&GS 12 'Protecting and improving routes into our countryside' and S&GS 18 'Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford' may also benefit younger people reliant on active travel as a means of getting around the parishes and accessing neighbouring settlements. Older people who no longer drive will also benefit from this.</p>
Disability	Neutral	
Gender reassignment	Neutral	
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	
Race	Neutral	
Religion or belief	Neutral	
Sex	Neutral	
Sexual orientation	Neutral	

Table 7: Assessment of the NP against protected characteristics

7 How the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

- 7.1 In February 2024, SCDC published the Stapleford and Great Shelford SEA/HRA screening report. This concluded that the NP could be screened out for its potential impact upon a European habitat site.
- 7.2 Natural England was engaged on the findings of the report and confirmed on 21 March 2024 that it concurred with this view.
- 7.3 The Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Determination is submitted alongside the neighbourhood plan. It is concluded that the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Appendix 1: Copy of email Great Shelford Parish Council confirming its agreement for Stapleford Parish Council to submit the S&GS NP under Regulation 15

From: Nicola Webster <clerk@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: 21 November 2024 09:07
To: 'Stapleford PC Clerk'
Cc: 'S&GS Neighbourhood Plan'; Rachel
Subject: Submission Confirmation

Dear Belinda,

I am writing to inform Stapleford Parish Council that Great Shelford Parish Council agreed the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan at its meeting held on 20 November 2024 and to confirm to you that Great Shelford Parish Council is happy for Stapleford Parish Council (in its capacity as the qualifying body for the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan) to submit the Neighbourhood Plan and its accompanying documents to our local planning authority as per Regulation 15 in 'The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended)'.

By accompanying documents, we mean the Consultation Statement, the Basic Conditions Statement and the SEA/HRA screening determination, together with the suite of supporting evidence comprising the Design Guidance and Codes 2023, including its 2024 update character area map; the Landscape Character Assessment including its 2024 addendum; the Housing Needs Assessment (updated 2024) and the open spaces assessment 2024.

Kind regards
Nicola

Nicola Webster CertHE PSLCC
Clerk to Great Shelford Parish Council

PO Box 1492, Cambridge, CB22 5LZ
T: 01223 61 66 22 W: www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

