

Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Development Plan

BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

Contents:	1. Legal Requirements	1
	2. Introduction and Background	3
	3. Regard to National Planning Policy and Guidance	3
	4. General conformity with the strategic policies of the Leeds Development Plan	18
	5. Contribution to the Achievement of Sustainable Development	38
	6. Compatibility with EU Obligations and legislation	41
	7. Strategic Environmental Assessment and Compatibility with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017	42
	8. Overall Conclusions	43

1. Legal Requirements

- 1.1 This Statement has been prepared by the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Forum to accompany its submission to the Local Planning Authority, Leeds City Council, of the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Development Plan (“the Neighbourhood Plan”) under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”).
- 1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan is a Neighbourhood Development Plan as defined by the Localism Act 2011. It has been prepared by the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Forum, a Qualifying Body, for the Neighbourhood Area covering the Oulton and Woodlesford area, as designated by Leeds City Council on the 15th July 2014.
- 1.3 The Interim Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Forum submitted an application to designate the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Area and the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Forum, in accordance with Regulations 5 and 8 on 4 February 2014. In line with Regulations 6 and 9

the Council publicised the application between 21 March and 6 May 2014 on their website, in the Yorkshire Evening Post on 21 March and made a copy available at Rothwell One Stop Centre. The Interim Forum also made the application available for viewing at two local post offices and at the Oulton Institute.

- 1.4 In July 2019, the original neighbourhood forum designation expired. In order to continue preparing the neighbourhood plan ready for submission and examination, the forum applied to be re-designated as a neighbourhood forum. The application was prepared and submitted in 14/5/2020. Leeds City Council undertook consultation on the application between 10/8/20 and 5/9/2020. The forum was subsequently re-designated in 2/11/2020.
- 1.5 The Leeds City Council decision confirming the designation of the Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Area is available to view: <https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=41374>.
- 1.6 The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to the development and use of land in the designated Neighbourhood Area only, it does not include policies related to excluded development. The plan period of the Neighbourhood Plan extends from 2018 until the end of 2033 to align with the most up-to-date Local Plan Period.
- 1.7 This Statement, a requirement of the Regulations addresses each of the five 'Basic Conditions' as set out by Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990) and explains how the Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirements of the Basic Conditions.
- 1.8 A Neighbourhood Plan will be considered to have met the Basic Conditions if:
 - Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan;
 - The making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
 - The making of the neighbourhood plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area);
 - The making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations; and
 - 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 2017.¹

¹ On 28 December 2018, the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018 came into force. Amongst other things, these Regulations amended the Basic Conditions prescribed in Regulation 32 and Schedule 2 (Habitats) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) which stated:

- The making of the neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

The amended Basic Condition is provided in paragraph 1.5, above.

2. Introduction and Background

Oulton and Woodlesford, two villages that have merged, lie 6 miles to the south east of the Leeds city centre. The Neighbourhood Area was designated by Leeds City Council on 15th July 2014, and the Neighbourhood Forum designated at the same time. The Neighbourhood Area contains three large parks and much farmland. The villages comprise a community of over 8000 residents. There is some employment locally but many residents commute to work in the neighbouring larger towns such as Rothwell, Leeds and Wakefield.

After consultation with the community a vision for the future of the villages has been developed:

Our vision is for Oulton and Woodlesford to be a pair of conjoined villages that share a wide range of services and facilities and offer a high quality of life through great educational, recreational and working opportunities for all. By 2033, the villages will have a wide range and diversity of high quality housing stock and will be surrounded by high quality and accessible countryside and the well maintained and highly prized parklands. A significant feature that epitomises our twin urban and rural character is the canal corridor which now provides a wide range of excellent recreational opportunities.

A draft Neighbourhood Plan was produced in 2018 containing the following key themes:

Housing	Green environment
Design of the built environment	Business and economy
Community services and facilities	High Speed Rail

Regulation 14 (Pre-Submission) Consultation took place between 8 March and 19 April 2018 and responses from this consultation have been considered, and changes have been made to the policies in the plan as a result (see Oulton and Woodlesford Consultation Statement for further information). It is now ready to be submitted to Leeds City Council, the Local Planning Authority, for independent examination to determine whether the plan meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements.

3. Regard to National Planning Policy and Guidance

- 3.1 The Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Plan must have regard to national policy and guidance issued by the secretary of state.
- 3.2 In July 2018 Government published the Revised National Planning Policy Framework. Transitional arrangements are set out in 'Annex 1: Implementation' at para 214 and state that policies in the Revised NPPF will apply for the purposes of examining plans submitted after 24th January 2019. The Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted after the 24 January 2019 and therefore the following section provides an assessment of how the Neighbourhood Plan has appropriate regard to the Revised National Planning Policy Framework.

- 3.3 The Neighbourhood Plan (NDP) has been prepared with regard to national policies as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) of February 2019. It has been prepared following the process as set out in the guidance of the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) published by the Government in April 2014 in respect of preparing and drafting Neighbourhood Plans and as updated, most recently in May 2019.
- 3.4 In February 2019, the Government published a further Revised National Planning Policy Framework. The further revisions to the NPPF include minor clarifications that do not affect the content of the neighbourhood plan. References provided in the analysis below are given to the 2019 NPPF.
- 3.5 The Forum acknowledges that having appropriate regard to the NPPF and guidance issued by the Secretary of State is not the same as “compliance”, nor is it the same as part of the test of soundness provided for in respect of Local Plan examinations. The Forum also notes the guidance of Lord Goldsmith that ‘have regard to’ means “such matters should be considered.”² The Guidance assists in understanding “appropriate”. In answer to the question “What does having regard to national policy mean?” the Guidance states a neighbourhood plan “must not constrain the delivery of important national policy objectives.”
- 3.6 Set out in Table 1 below, is a summary of how each of the draft Neighbourhood Plan policies have regard to the provisions of the NPPF. The particular paragraphs referred to in the table are those considered the most relevant to each policy but are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible relevant paragraphs. Paragraphs 28 – 30 of the NPPF establish how neighbourhood plans should be developed, specifically that they should shape, direct or deliver sustainable development through the development of a shared vision for the area. The NP sets a clear vision, established through extensive consultation, for how the community would like to see the villages of Oulton and Woodlesford develop during the plan period.

² The Attorney General, (Her Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for Justice) Lord Goldsmith, at a meeting of the Lord’s Grand Committee on 6 February 2006 to consider the Company Law Reform Bill (Column GC272 of Lords Hansard, 6 February 2006) and included in guidance in England’s Statutory Landscape Designations: a practical guide to your duty of regard, Natural England 2010 (an Agency of another Secretary of State)

Table 1: Assessment of draft NDP policies and ‘appropriate regard’ to National Policy (The National Planning Policy Framework, February 2019)

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
H1a: Smaller homes	New housing developments, containing more than 10 units, should seek to contain at least 60% smaller homes (i.e. homes having a maximum of two bedrooms).	61 and 62	The policy supports the delivery of a sufficient supply of homes by using locally supplied evidence to direct development to meet the needs of the community in the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Area, supporting the development of mixed and balanced communities.
H1b: Affordable homes	New housing developments, containing more than 10 units, should seek to: a) Contain at least 20% affordable homes. b) Ensure that affordable homes are intermingled (“pepper-potted”) with the other homes. c) Be delivered either on the development site or, where possible, elsewhere in the Neighbourhood Area.	61 and 62	The policy supports the delivery of a sufficient supply of homes which help to meet locally-identified needs in terms of type, tenure and affordability.
H2 Design of new housing developments	New housing development should have regard to the following: a) Developments should reflect the scale and layout of adjoining neighbourhoods. New developments should have individuality and avoid “Open Plan Anywhere Suburbia” and should include a mix of single storied housing, terraces, and yards, and where appropriate, apartments. b) Developments should provide adequate off-road parking, designed so that vehicles do not dominate house frontages, either within the curtilage of new homes or through the provision of on street bays and other areas dedicated to car parking, that do not serve to clutter the street scene or act as an obstruction to the free flow of vehicles and that are located within the development site. Provision should be as follows: 1 bedroom units: 1 space; 2 bedroom units: 1.5 spaces; 3 and 4 bedroom units spaces 2 spaces; 4, 5 bedroom and larger units: 3 spaces. In addition, 1.5 spaces/dwelling should be provided for visitor parking. c) Developments should be designed with the security of residents in mind, with “Secured by Design” principles followed. d) Developments should have high standards of insulation and	40, 41, 68, 102 127 - 129, 148, 150	The policy seeks to encourage developers and their agents to engage with the Neighbourhood Forum and the wider local community during the design stages of any development proposals which should support the early consideration of the issues affecting a proposal and speed up the process. The policy supports the development of smaller/mediums sized sites which make an important contribution to meeting housing needs and should help to speed up delivery. The policy helps to ensure that developments will function well and add to the overall quality of the area as well as being visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping. Development should also be sympathetic to local character and history and establish a strong sense of place. The policy helps to ensure that patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes and contribute to making high quality places. The level of off-street parking provision in the NP, were arrived in at by assessing the level of car ownership in recently built estates in the neighbourhood area and are intended to support high-quality place-making The policy supports the development proposals that are safe, inclusive and accessible and promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
<p>should conform to the Passive House Standard of near carbon neutrality.</p> <p>e) Landowners and developers should be strongly encouraged and should actively seek to engage with local residents and the Forum at the pre application stage for major and significant developments. This should normally lead to a pre-application design code. If they then wish to make proposals that are at variance with consultation inputs, an opportunity to discuss these with residents and the Forum should be afforded. Consultation should be on going and should gain consensus on local priorities and policies; this should involve discussion about design, landscape and greening issues and local concerns.</p> <p>f) New housing developments should be developed in small phases in order not to overwhelm surroundings, to speed development, to encourage the use of small and medium builders and to achieve variety in the urban landscape</p>		<p>for existing and future residents and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.</p> <p>The policy supports the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and encourages proposals to consider opportunities for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the orientation and design of sites.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
H3: Design principles for identified site allocations	<p>Development proposals for the following locations should have regard to the following design principles:</p> <p>a) HG2-176. Windlesford Green Hostel, Holmsley Lane, Woodlesford: There are mature trees on the site that should be protected. Preference for this site to be developed as flats or extra care housing, as this would allow more units to be accommodated.</p> <p>b) HG2--178. Aberford Road - site of Glenoit and Minerva Mills, Oulton: There may be an opportunity for mixed-use development at this location. Small business premises may be viable on this site together with flats and the canal-side location could make it an ideal location for one or more restaurants which would be popular, especially as the site is accessible from the canal, from nearby housing developments and from Woodlesford station. By building flats instead of houses, the capacity of the site could be increased considerably.</p> <p>c) MX2-14. Aberford Road (77/79), Oulton LS26 8HS: The southern part of the site should be developed to strengthen the Oulton village hub. The site would also be ideal for extra care housing. It is well situated for this, being near to shops, food outlets, a café and on a bus route. Such a development will increase the site's capacity. The frontage on to Midland Street (approximately 30m) also has potential for development.</p>	29	The site-based policies help to shape, direct and deliver sustainable development and influence local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan. The policies seek to shape sites that have been allocated through the development plan to fit with the Vision for Oulton and Woodlesford which has been developed through the neighbourhood planning process.
DBE1: Design of the Built Environment	<p>The following principles should apply to all developments:</p> <p>a) Development proposals should respect local architecture and valued heritage assets.</p> <p>b) Development proposals within the Conservation Areas should endeavour to preserve and enhance their character, in line with the Oulton and Woodlesford Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plans.</p> <p>c) Gardens in Conservation Areas should be enhanced and protected.</p> <p>d) Large, mature trees in gardens and on streets provide a soft</p>	Chapter 12, Achieving Well-designed Places, paras 124 – 132, 70, 170, 185	The policy seeks to support developments achieve a high quality of design, minimise harm to the Conservation Area. It also helps to ensure that new developments are sympathetic to local character and history, whilst supporting innovation and change, as well as resisting inappropriate development and seeking to enhance the natural environment by protecting valued trees as sites of ecological importance within the neighbourhood area.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment	
<p>backdrop for views within and into the village. These should be maintained or, where lost, be replaced by two trees on a like for like basis.</p> <p>For each individual Character Area, all developments should demonstrate how proposals meet the stated “Aspirations for Neighbourhood Plan policies” as identified in Appendix 1. Character Areas are defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oulton village • The Parkways • Woodlesford village • Pottery Lane • Beechwood and the Northwoods • The Lynwoods • The Maltings • All Saints • North Oulton • The Eastfields • Derwent Avenue and Langdales • Holmsley Grange • South Oulton • Oulton Hall and Park and St John the Evangelist Church • Water Haigh Country Park 			
<p>DBE2: Develop village centre shopping and leisure environments</p>	<p>In order to facilitate the cohesive and sustainable growth of the Neighbourhood Area, development proposals will be welcomed which support a more integrated, high street style village centre on Aberford Road, Oulton from the Calverley Road/Aberford intersection through to Clown House (former Ritz Cinema). Development proposals that support this cohesive, sustainable and integrated village centre are welcomed and should include, where appropriate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Improved safety for pedestrians and vehicle users b) Enhancement of the built environment and the street scene c) Increased greening of the street scene d) Maintaining a balance and mix between residential and commercial property e) Prioritisation of mixed development on any new development site in this area 	<p>85, 91, 104, 118, 127</p>	<p>The policy seeks to achieve increased/greater co-ordination of the village centres which, in turn, support the role that the centres play at the heart of the community by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation, supporting the achievement of healthy, inclusive and safe places, supporting an appropriate mix and sense of place by supporting the benefits of multiple uses within an area.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
	<p>f) Promotion of commercial footfall through physical improvements to pedestrian access, street scene and car-parking.</p> <p>g) New commercial activity in use classes A1-A3.</p> <p>Development proposals at the commercial centre on Church Street, Woodlesford, should be in line with existing use classes in this location and support the ongoing sustainability of this smaller village centre.</p>		
DBE3: Protection and enhancement of non-designated heritage assets	<p>The non-designated heritage assets detailed in Appendix 3 of the Plan have been identified as being important in the local community. Any development proposal that would impact upon an identified feature should consider their heritage value and have regard to how the proposal will contribute towards the sustainability of the affected asset.</p>	Chapter 16 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment, para 197	The policy seeks to support the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment within the neighbourhood area by identifying the non-designated heritage assets within Oulton and Woodlesford and setting out a policy for their management and how they should be treated through the development process.
CF1: Community facilities	<p>The change of use of the following community facilities will only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that reasonable efforts have been made to secure their continued use for the current purposes and/or alternative provision is made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St John the Evangelist church, Oulton • Methodist Chapel, Woodlesford • Oulton Institute, Quarry Hill, Oulton • All Saints Parish Hall, Woodlesford • Oulton & Woodlesford community sports club • Rothwell Leisure Centre 	83,91,92	The policy supports the achievement of healthy, inclusive and safe places by giving a degree of protection to identified community facilities in Oulton and Woodlesford which provide an opportunity for increased social interaction, support healthy lifestyles and enhance the social sustainability of the neighbourhood area. The identified facilities also contribute to the rural economy in the villages and the neighbourhood p[lan is seeking to safeguard that.
CF2: Sports facilities	<p>Development proposals for new or improved sporting facilities should seek to:</p> <p>a) Protect and enhance, as well as promote and improve accessibility to established formal sport facilities (leisure centre, sports clubs) and informal all-age exercise and play facilities.</p> <p>b) Encourage the provision of new and replacement sports facilities.</p> <p>c) Where existing facilities are improved or enhanced – for example, through the provision of a replacement Rothwell Leisure Centre –</p>	20, 91, 92	The policy supports the achievement of healthy, inclusive and safe places by lending support to development proposals that include new, improved, or enhanced sports and leisure facilities or that promote accessibility to existing facilities.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
	<p>every effort should be made to ensure that disruption of services is minimised to the community and users.</p> <p>d) Demonstrate demand, need and support from the community.</p>		
CF3: Educational facilities	<p>Support will be given to proposals whose purpose is to facilitate the development of educational facilities, in particular:</p> <p>a) The growth of educational facilities on their current sites where this does not lead to the unacceptable loss of recreational open space or cause unacceptable amenity loss to neighbours.</p> <p>b) Proposals that deliver a public library function, supporting educational establishments in the neighbourhood area.</p>	20, 90, 91	The policy supports the achievement of healthy, inclusive and safe places by lending support to development proposals that include new, improved, or enhanced educational facilities or that promote accessibility to existing facilities.
GE1a: Local Green Spaces	<p>The following areas are designated as Local Green Spaces. The numbers in brackets refer to positions on Map 2. For fuller descriptions and plans, see Appendix 4a. For all sites designated, development will be ruled out unless there are special circumstances, equivalent to national policy on Green Belt:</p> <p>Applegarth Manor amenity green space (9). Midland Street (11). Oulton Sports and Social Club (4). Oulton Hall Park (3). Oulton Primary School playing field (6). Oulton War Memorial (10). Pymont Drive amenity green space (7). Royds School grounds and playing fields (1). Sherwood Way (8). South Oulton (2) St. John the Evangelist Church and Graveyard (5). The Maltings entrance and amenity green space (16). Water Haigh Park (12) Woodlesford Park (13). Woodlesford Primary School playing fields and garden (15). Woodlesford Village Green (14).</p>	99 -101	The policy seeks to designate sites as Local Green Spaces, in accordance with the NPPF. The policy is supported by a Local Green Space assessment which is provided as Appendix 4a to the neighbourhood plan. The Local Green Space assessment sets out, in detail, how the proposed sites meet the NPPF criteria.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
GE1b: Smaller Green Spaces	<p>For sites designated as Smaller Green Spaces, the Forum seeks to maintain the contribution they provide to the character and appearance of the street scene. Changes of use arising from development which do not protect, enhance and preserve these smaller green spaces should be resisted.</p> <p>The following areas are designated as Smaller Green Spaces:</p> <p>Albert Road amenity green spaces (H). Albert Road allotments (I). All Saints Road amenity green spaces (Q). Ashleigh Gardens amenity green space (R). Bernard Street /Sydney Street amenity green spaces (M). Calverley Road amenity green spaces (B). Eastfield Crescent/ Eastfield Drive grassed strip (X). Farrer Lane amenity green spaces (A). Gipsy Lane grassed area (W). Gipsy Lane/ Oulton Primary School grassed strip (G). Green Lea amenity green spaces (E). Holmsley Field Lane/ Parkways walkway (F). Holmsley Field Lane amenity green space (C) Holmsley Lane – Sixth Avenue to Pymont Drive amenity green spaces (V). Holmsley Lane/Pymont Drive amenity green spaces (U). Holmsley Walk amenity green spaces (D). Lynwood Avenue amenity green space (N). Lynwood Crescent amenity green space (O). Midland Street/ Claremont Street and two sites in Midland Street/ Roberts Street (K). Northwood Park amenity green spaces (S). Pickpocket Lane ancient Green Lane (T). Quarry Hill amenity green space (J). Station Lane amenity green space (P). Sydney Street allotments (L).</p>	97	The policy seeks to identify these sites as smaller greenspaces which are not to be formally designated as Local Green Space sites but are instead identified for their important contribution to local character. They form a network of green spaces for consideration in development proposals. . The policy is supported by a Smaller Green Space assessment which is provided as Appendix 4b to the NDP.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
GE2a: Green corridors	<p>The following identified green corridors, as illustrated on the Policies map (Map 5, page XXX), are important for the multiple benefits derived from them for the community. Development proposals should not result in the disruption of the functioning of these corridors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeds Special Landscape Area • Aire and Calder Navigation/ River Aire corridor 	20, 127, 170, 171	The policy identifies green corridors which form part of a wider green infrastructure and benefit the community for example through recreation, as well as through the provision of biodiversity and landscape corridors.
GE2b: Green infrastructure	<p>Development proposals should seek to integrate strong green infrastructure, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New accessible public green spaces for formal and informal recreation. New green space should seek to address identified deficits in the area and/or vicinity of the development. • Retention of hedges, trees and landscape features. • Retention of existing street trees and those 'off street' which form part of the street scene and provision of new trees wherever practicable. Existing trees should be conserved and should felling be deemed inevitable, they should be replaced on a 1:3 basis,. • Provision of porous surfaces wherever hard standing is required off the carriageway. • Provide corridors for wildlife to move through, around or across a development site. 	20,91,170,171	The policy seeks to improve, enhance and extend green infrastructure networks for their wildlife and wider environmental benefits to support increased opportunities for recreation and for wildlife habitats.
GE3: Protecting views in the landscape	<p>Development proposals should respect and maintain key views across the area, as identified in the Oulton and Woodlesford Design Statement, Conservation Area Appraisals and illustrated on Map 5, in order to maintain the character and appearance of the area. Views identified as important are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Views out to the surrounding countryside are important to the east side of the Conservation Area. The flat topography is a feature of the long-distance views. b) Significant views from Methley Lane to Oulton Park and the spire of St John the Evangelist Church; also across to Oulton village and its Conservation Area both from Methley Lane over Oulton Beck and from Fleet Lane with the spire again in the background. c) Panoramic views from Leeds Road to the south and west. d) The view of the spire of St John the Evangelist Church and Oulton 	127	The policy seeks to protect the wider landscape setting within the neighbourhood area by identifying key views that should be maintained and respected within development proposals.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment	
<p>Park from Parkways Avenue provides an interesting vista.</p> <p>e) Top of North Lane has excellent long-distance views down the hill. The wide verges add a sense of openness.</p> <p>f) The tree at the junction of Quarry Hill and Midland Street is the focal point of the views down Oulton Lane.</p> <p>g) From Beechwood and Northwood there are dramatic views across the Aire Valley to Temple Newsam.</p> <p>h) The view of Woodlesford Village set on its hillside from across the river from the A642 and Bullerthorpe Lane.</p> <p>i) Views into the village along Aberford Road announcing arrival into Oulton.</p> <p>j) Views to the open countryside over the river and navigation, link Woodlesford with its setting. Leventhorpe Hall is a particular feature of these views.</p> <p>k) Views from Oulton Hall across Oulton, Woodlesford and the surrounding area l) Views of St John the Evangelist Church from St Johns Street.</p> <p>l) Views of St John the Evangelist Church from St Johns Street.</p> <p>m) Views from Church Street, Woodlesford, to the east, which highlights the former All Saints' Woodlesford church and the surrounding countryside.</p> <p>n) The view across Woodlesford Recreation Park from Oulton Lane.</p> <p>o) Long-distance views from Clumpcliffe across Oulton village and the surrounding countryside</p>			
<p>GE4: Improve access to Public Rights of Way</p>	<p>All new developments proposals should seek to provide safe pedestrian access to link up with existing or proposed footpaths, ensuring that residents can walk safely to bus stops and other village facilities.</p> <p>All new development should demonstrate how it contributes to improved off-road and non-motorised accessible routes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve to link the villages together. • Provide for improved access to the surrounding countryside. • Link the villages to nearby communities and facilities outside the neighbourhood area. 	<p>98</p>	<p>The policy seeks to protect and enhance the existing public rights of way network and supports improvements to pedestrian accessibility within the neighbourhood area and to nearby communities and facilities outside of the neighbourhood area.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
BE1: New business and employment development	<p>Proposals for new business development are welcomed in the village centres identified in Policy DBE2 and illustrated on the Map 5 where such development:</p> <p>a) Provides greater diversity in the commercial/retail sectors (shops, restaurants).</p> <p>b) Provides new small “start-up units” for businesses</p> <p>c) Encourages the development of a local visitor/tourism economy, particular in canal corridor locations</p>	81, 83, 85 and 182	The policy supports the development of the local economy in the neighbourhood area by supporting development that diversifies the local economy and provides for smaller businesses whilst seeking to protect the sustainability of existing businesses. These help to improve the offer of the local centres within the neighbourhood area and promote their longer-term vitality and viability. This policy, along with others in the plan, will promote Oulton and Woodlesford as a visitor destination and will support the local economy, helping to promote the area and improve local sustainability.
HSR1: Managing the impact of the development phase (of the High Speed Rail line)	<p>During the period leading up to and during construction through the Neighbourhood Area, the developer and their contractors should seek to limit adverse environmental impacts upon the community and its environment. To this end, prior to the period in question, the developer shall:</p> <p>a) develop a sustainable development policy setting out defining principles regarding all aspects of operations and how potential impacts will be avoided or mitigated in respect of all areas where there is potential for impact, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agriculture, forestry and soils; • air quality; • climate change; • community; • ecology; • electromagnetic interference; • health; • historic environment; • land quality; • landscape and visual; • major accidents and disasters; • socio-economics; • sound, noise and vibration; • traffic and transport; • waste and material resources; and • water resources and flood risk. <p>b) Engage with local authorities and other stakeholders to identify additional potential regeneration opportunities within the Neighbourhood Area.</p>	5 National Infrastructure Commission, Infrastructure Design Principles	<p>Paragraph 5 of the NPPF clarifies that it does not contain specific policies for nationally significant Infrastructure projects. These are determined in accordance with the decision making framework in the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and relevant national policy statements for major infrastructure, as well as any other matters that are Relevant (which may include the National Planning Policy Framework). National policy statements form part of the overall framework of national planning policy, and may be a material consideration in preparing plans and making decisions on Planning applications.</p> <p>The National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) has established 4 key guiding principles for the delivery of nationally significant infrastructure projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate; • people; • places; and • value <p>Whilst it is not within the scope of the neighbourhood plan to determine or guide the delivery of HS2, it is important that the plan reflects the concerns of the local community. Therefore, the plan seeks to encourage the development to be undertaken in accordance with these principles in mind. https://www.nic.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/NIC-Design-Principles-Final.pdf</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		NPPF paragraph(s)	Comment
<p>HSR2: Design, community and the landscape</p>	<p>The promoter and the nominated developer(s) will seek to ensure that:</p> <p>a) Design contributes to the government’s pursuit of sustainable development which involves seeking positive improvements in the quality of the built, natural and historic environment, as well as in people’s quality of life. Design of all visible elements of the built and landscaped environment is sympathetic to their local context and to the environment and setting in respect of the local community;</p> <p>b) The design is developed through engagement to seek peoples' views and ideas on the aesthetic design of the visible buildings and permanent structures.</p>		<p>Paragraph 5 of the NPPF clarifies that it does not The NPPF does not contain specific policies for nationally significant infrastructure projects. These are determined in accordance with the decision making framework in the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and relevant national policy statements for major infrastructure, as well as any other matters that are relevant (which may include the National Planning Policy Framework). National policy statements form part of the overall framework of national planning policy, and may be a material consideration in preparing plans and making decisions on planning applications.</p> <p>The National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) has established 4 key guiding principles for the delivery of nationally significant infrastructure projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate; • people; • places; and • value. <p>Whilst it is not within the scope of the neighbourhood plan to determine or guide the delivery of HS2, it is important that the plan reflects the concerns of the local community. Therefore, the plan seeks to encourage the development to be undertaken in accordance with these principles in mind.</p> <p>https://www.nic.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/NIC-Design-Principles-Final.pdf</p>

4. General conformity with the strategic policies of the Leeds development plan

4.1 Neighbourhood Plans must demonstrate that they are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan. In considering a now repealed provision that “a local plan shall be in general conformity with the structure plan” the Court of Appeal stated “the adjective ‘general’ is there to introduce a degree of flexibility.”³ The use of ‘general’ allows for the possibility of conflict. Obviously, there must at least be broad consistency, but this gives considerable room for manoeuvre. Flexibility is however not unlimited. The test for neighbourhood plans refers to the strategic policies of the development plan rather than the development plan as a whole.

Planning Practice Guidance states:

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.*⁴
-

4.2 The development plan for Leeds is a suite of documents being prepared in accordance with the Council’s Local Development Scheme. At the time of submission, the development plan for Leeds contains the following key development plan documents:

- Leeds Core Strategy (2014) including as amended by the Core Strategy Selective Review (2019)
- Saved Policies of the Unitary Development Plan Review (UDPR) (2006)
- The National Resources and Waste Local Plan (2013)

³ Persimmon Homes v. Stevenage BC the Court of Appeal [2006] 1 P &CR 31

⁴ Planning Practice Guidance, Paragraph: 074 Reference ID: 41-074-20140306

- The Leeds Site Allocations Plan (2019)
- The Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan (2017)
- The Policies Map
-

4.3 Throughout the preparation of the neighbourhood plan, the Leeds Core Strategy (2014) has been used to guide and inform the development of neighbourhood plan policies and proposals. The Core Strategy sets the strategic vision for the city to support the growth and enhancement of communities in Leeds and establishes the strategic policies of the development plan which apply within the district.

4.4 Table 2 below, sets out how each policy is in general conformity with Leeds City Council's Core Strategy and clearly identifies the relationship between the policies of the Core Strategy and the policies of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. The proposed Neighbourhood Plan policies seek to add a level of locally-specific detail to the policies set out in the Core Strategy.

Table 2: Conformity of the Neighbourhood Plan (NDP) policies to Strategic Policies of the Development Plan and other Local Plan Policies (where appropriate)

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
H1a: Smaller homes	New housing developments, containing more than 10 units, should seek to contain at least 60% smaller homes (i.e. homes having a maximum of two bedrooms).	<p>POLICY H4: HOUSING MIX Developments should include an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes to address needs measured over the long term, taking into account the nature of the development and character of the location. This should include the need to make provision for Independent Living</p> <p>Policy H8: INDEPENDENT LIVING Encourages development to take account of the need for independent living, on smaller schemes this is expected through the provision of bungalows or level access flats (in addition to the Accessible Housing built to meet the requirements of Policy H10).</p> <p>Policy H10: ACCESSIBLE HOUSING 30% of dwellings meet the requirements of M4(2) ‘accessible and adaptable dwellings’ of Part M Volume 1 of the Building Regulations and 2% of dwelling should meet the requirements of part M4(3) ‘wheelchair user’ dwellings</p>	The Core Strategy sets a minimum of 10%, a maximum of 50% and a target of 10% for one-bedroom homes, and a minimum of 30%, a maximum of 80% and a target of 50% for two-bedroom homes, the NDP policy is within these limits and encourages new development to take account of locally identified needs such as the need for accommodation to account for needs of residents over the long term as identified in the Arc4 Report. the arc4 report.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
H1b: Affordable homes	<p>New housing developments, containing more than 10 units, should seek to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Contain at least 20% affordable homes. Ensure that affordable homes are intermingled (“pepper-potted”) with the other homes. Be delivered either on the development site or, where possible, elsewhere in the Neighbourhood Area. 	<p>POLICY H5: AFFORDABLE HOUSING. The Council will seek affordable housing either on-site, off-site or financial contributions from all developments of new dwellings. Housing developments above a certain threshold should include a proportion of affordable housing to be normally provided on the development site. On major housing developments* affordable housing provision should be provided on-site at the target levels specified (for zone 2 at or above 15%)</p> <p>*Footnote: Major development means either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provision of 10 or more or provision of a building or buildings where the floor space to be created would be 1,000 square metres or more; or development on a site having an area of 1 hectare or more; <p>The Council will seek affordable housing either on-site, off-site or financial contributions from all developments of new dwellings. Housing developments above a certain threshold should include a proportion of affordable housing to be normally provided on the development site.</p>	<p>The NDP target of the provision of at least 20% affordable or more conforms to the Core Strategy’s target of at least 15% on developments of 10 or above new dwellings. The Housing Market Assessment for Oulton and Woodlesford identifies a clear need for additional affordable housing provision.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
H2 Design of new housing developments	<p>New housing development should have regard to the following:</p> <p>a) Developments should reflect the scale and layout of adjoining neighbourhoods. New developments should have individuality and avoid “Open Plan Anywhere Suburbia” and should include a mix of single storied housing, terraces, and yards, and where appropriate, apartments.</p> <p>b) Developments should provide adequate off-road parking, designed so that vehicles do not dominate house frontages, either within the curtilage of new homes or through the provision of on street bays and other areas dedicated to car parking, that do not serve to clutter the street scene or act as an obstruction to the free flow of vehicles and that are located within the development site. Provision should be as follows: 1 bedroom units: 1 space; 2 bedroom units: 1.5 spaces; 3 and 4 bedroom units spaces 2 spaces; 4, 5 bedroom and larger units: 3 spaces. In addition, 1.5 spaces/dwelling should be provided for visitor parking.</p> <p>c) Developments should be designed with the security of residents in mind, with “Secured by Design” principles followed.</p> <p>d) Developments should have high standards of insulation and should conform to the Passive House Standard of near carbon neutrality.</p> <p>e) Landowners and developers should be strongly encouraged and should actively seek to engage</p>	<p>POLICY P10: DESIGN</p> <p>New development for buildings and spaces, and alterations to existing, should be based on a thorough contextual analysis and provide good design that is appropriate to its location, scale and function.</p> <p>New development will be expected to deliver high quality inclusive design that has evolved, where appropriate, through community consultation and thorough analysis and understanding of an area. Developments should respect and enhance existing landscapes, waterscapes, streets, spaces and buildings according to the particular local distinctiveness and wider setting of the place with the intention of contributing positively to place making, quality of life and wellbeing.</p> <p>Proposals will be supported where they accord with the following key principles;</p> <p>(i) The size, scale, design and layout of the development is appropriate to its context and respects the character and quality of surrounding buildings; the streets and spaces that make up the public realm and the wider locality.</p> <p>(ii) The development protects and enhances the district’s existing, historic and natural assets, in particular, historic and natural site features and locally important buildings, spaces, skylines and views,</p> <p>(iii) The development protects the visual, residential and general amenity of the area through high quality design that protects and enhances surrounding routes, useable space, privacy, air quality and satisfactory penetration of sunlight and daylight</p> <p>(iv) Car parking, cycle, waste and recycling storage should</p>	<p>The Core Strategy encourages development to be sympathetic to the prevailing character within neighbourhoods and communities. The neighbourhood plan defines appropriate development within Oulton and Woodlesford in terms of design, which takes account of the local character.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>with local residents and the Forum at the pre application stage for major and significant developments. This should normally lead to a pre-application design code. If they then wish to make proposals that are at variance with consultation inputs, an opportunity to discuss these with residents and the Forum should be afforded. Consultation should be on going and should gain consensus on local priorities and policies; this should involve discussion about design, landscape and greening issues and local concerns.</p> <p>f) New housing developments should be developed in small phases in order not to overwhelm surroundings, to speed development, to encourage the use of small and medium builders and to achieve variety in the urban landscape.</p>	<p>be designed in a positive manner and be integral to the development</p> <p>(v) The development creates a safe and secure environment that reduces the opportunities for crime without compromising community cohesion, (vi) The development is accessible to all users.</p>	

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
H3: Design principles for identified site allocations	<p>Development proposals for the following locations should have regard to the following design principles:</p> <p>a) HG2-176. Windlesford Green Hostel, Holmsley Lane, Woodlesford: There are mature trees on the site that should be protected. Preference for this site to be developed as flats or extra care housing, as this would allow more units to be accommodated.</p>	<p>P10: DESIGN H8: INDEPENDENT LIVING P12: LANDSCAPE The policy seeks to protect valued landscapes. Site Allocations Plan for site HG2-176 (4082). Housing allocation - Site capacity 26 units. An Ecological Assessment of the site is required and where appropriate, mitigation measures will need to be provided, including provision of a biodiversity buffer (not private garden space) adjacent to the eastern boundary.</p>	<p>The NDP supports development of this site and would prefer it to be used for extra-care housing. The policy requires that development of the site take account of identified housing needs and on-site landscape issues.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>b) HG2-178. Aberford Road - site of Glenoit and Minerva Mills, Oulton: This should be used for mixed-use development at this location, including premises for small businesses, one or more canal-side restaurants and flats instead of houses, increasing its capacity considerably.</p>	<p>H3: HOUSING DENSITY P10: DESIGN P12: LANDSCAPE Site Allocations Plan for site HG2-178 (143). Site capacity 70 units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highway Access to Site: An acceptable access will require measures to reduce traffic speed on the A642 Aberford Road approaching from the east. • Local Highway Network: The site should provide improved pedestrian and cycle links to the station at Woodlesford. • Flood Risk: The site, or part of the site, is located within Flood Zone 3. Flood risk mitigation measures set out in the Site Allocations Plan Flood Risk Exception Test and site-specific flood risk assessment should be applied. • Ecology: An Ecological Assessment of the site is required and where appropriate, mitigation measures will need to be provided, including provision of a biodiversity buffer (not private garden space) adjacent to the northern boundary with the Aire and Calder Navigation. • Culverts and Canalised Water Courses: The site contains a culvert or canalised watercourse. Development proposals should consider re-opening or restoration in accordance with saved UDP Policy N39B • Listed Buildings: The site is within the setting of a Listed Building. Any development should preserve the special architectural or historic interest of Listed Buildings and their setting. 	<p>The NDP supports the development of this site and supports some commercial development as part of the scheme. The site provides a regeneration opportunity and would help to improve the local economy. The policy identifies a number of considerations for developments to take into account.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>c) MX2-14. Aberford Road (77/79), Oulton LS26 8HS: The southern part of the site should be developed for commercial use and for extra care housing. The frontage on to Midland Street (approximately 30m) also has potential for small houses, increasing the capacity of the site.</p>	<p>H3: HOUSING DENSITY P10: DESIGN P12: LANDSCAPE Site Allocations Plan for site MX2-14 (130). Site capacity 25 units. • Conservation Area: The site is adjacent to Woodlesford Conservation Area. Any development should preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Conservation Area.</p>	<p>The NDP supports development of this site which provides an opportunity to strengthen the Oulton Village hub. The policy identifies a number of key considerations for the design of the proposed development.</p>

	Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>DBE1: Design of the Built Environment</p>	<p>The following principles should apply to all developments:</p> <p>a) Development proposals should respect local architecture and valued heritage assets.</p> <p>b) Development proposals within the Conservation Areas should endeavour to preserve and enhance their character, in line with the Oulton and Woodlesford Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plans.</p> <p>c) Gardens in Conservation Areas should be enhanced and protected.</p> <p>d) Large, mature trees in gardens and on streets provide a soft backdrop for views within and into the village. These should be maintained or, where lost, be replaced by three trees on a like for like basis.</p> <p>For each individual Character Area, all developments should demonstrate how proposals meet the design guidance as identified in Appendix 1.</p> <p>Character Areas are defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oulton village • The Parkways • Woodlesford village • Pottery Lane • Beechwood and the Northwoods • The Lynwoods • The Maltings • All Saints • North Oulton • The Eastfields • Derwent Avenue and Langdales 	<p>POLICY P10.</p> <p>POLICY P11: CONSERVATION.</p> <p>The historic environment, consisting of archaeological remains, historic buildings townscapes and landscapes including locally significant undesignated assets and their settings, will be conserved and enhanced, particularly those elements which help to give Leeds its distinctive identity</p> <p>POLICY G1: ENHANCING AND EXTENDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE. ii)..... Street trees and green roofs are particularly encouraged</p> <p>POLICY G2: CREATION OF NEW TREE COVER Development in the urban area of the City, including the City Centre will include the planting of street trees in appropriately designed pits to increase the area of tree canopy which help to give Leeds its distinct identity</p> <p>POLICY G1: ENHANCING AND EXTENDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE. ii)..... Street trees and green roofs are particularly encouraged</p> <p>POLICY G2: CREATION OF NEW TREE COVER Development in the urban area of the City, including the City Centre will include the planting of street trees in appropriately designed pits to increase the area of tree canopy cover</p>	<p>NDP policy is consistent with Core Strategy Policy P11 as it seeks to protect valued heritage assets, important trees, and the prevailing character of the Conservation Areas. Additionally the policy seeks to preserve the contribution that informal greenspaces and gardens make to the neighbourhood area. The policy also identifies some key guiding principles for identified Character Areas.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>DBE2: Develop village centre shopping and leisure environments</p> <p>In order to facilitate the cohesive and sustainable growth of the Neighbourhood Area, development proposals will be welcomed which support a more integrated, high street style village centre on Aberford Road, Oulton from the Calverley Road/Aberford intersection through to Clown House (former Ritz Cinema). Development proposals that support this cohesive, sustainable and integrated village centre are welcomed and should include, where appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Improved safety for pedestrians and vehicle users b) Enhancement of the built environment and the street scene c) Increased greening of the street scene d) Maintaining a balance and mix between residential and commercial property e) Prioritisation of mixed development on any new development site in this area f) Promotion of commercial footfall through physical improvements to pedestrian access, street scene and car-parking. g) New commercial activity in use classes E (a) & (b). <p>Development proposals at the commercial centre on Church Street, Woodlesford, should be in line with existing use classes in this location and support the ongoing sustainability of this smaller village centre.</p>	<p>POLICY P4: SHOPPING PARADES AND SMALL SCALE STAND ALONE FOOD STORES SERVING LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES</p> <p>Local service facilities, including extensions to existing retail uses to improve their viability, will be supported within shopping parades in residential areas, providing that they are of a size compatible with the scale and function of the shopping parade, do not compromise the main retail function of the parade to service day-to-day shopping requirements, and comply with other relevant planning policies. Proposals for standalone or for small scale food stores up to 372 sq. metres gross within residential areas, will be acceptable in principle where there is no local centre or shopping parade within a 500-metre radius that is capable of accommodating the proposal within or adjacent to it. Consideration will also be taken of the number of existing small stores in the vicinity to avoid cumulative impact on parades and centres. Proposals for the change of use of existing retail units to non-retail units (including restaurants, cafes and take-away hot food shops) will be resisted where the vitality and viability of the range of shops to meet day to day local needs will be undermined and increase the need to travel or where the proposal will lead to a concentration of non-retail uses in a locality which will detrimentally impact on the community. Proposals for such uses will be considered against the following criteria: (i) The cumulative impact of such development, particularly upon the amenity of the area and traffic generation, especially where concentrations of such uses already exist, (ii) Where a proposal involves evening opening, account will be taken of the proposal in relation to the proximity of the premises (and associated parking requirements), to nearby residential</p>	<p>The neighbourhood plan policy seeks to support the appropriate development and enhancement of the local shopping parades within the neighbourhood area in order to support and enhance local sustainability.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
DBE3: Protection and enhancement of non-designated heritage assets	The non-designated heritage assets detailed in Appendix 3 of the Plan have been identified as being important in the local community. Any development proposal that would impact upon an identified feature should consider their heritage value and have regard to how the proposal will contribute towards the sustainability of the affected asset.	<p>POLICY P10: DESIGN</p> <p>New development for buildings and spaces, and alterations to existing, should be based on a thorough contextual analysis and provide good design that is appropriate to its location, scale and function. New development will be expected to deliver high quality inclusive design that has evolved, where appropriate, through community consultation and thorough analysis and understanding of an area. Developments should respect and enhance existing landscapes, waterscapes, streets, spaces and buildings according to the particular local distinctiveness and wider setting of the place with the intention of contributing positively to place making, quality of life and wellbeing. Proposals will be supported where they accord with the following key principles;</p> <p>(i) The size, scale, design and layout of the development is appropriate to its context and respects the character and quality of surrounding buildings; the streets and spaces that make up the public realm and the wider locality.</p> <p>(ii) The development protects and enhances the district's existing, historic and natural assets, in particular, historic and natural site features and locally important buildings, spaces, skylines and views,</p> <p>(iii) The development protects the visual, residential and general amenity of the area through high quality design that protects and enhances surrounding routes, useable space, privacy, air quality and satisfactory penetration of sunlight and daylight,</p> <p>(iv) Car parking, cycle, waste and recycling storage should be designed in a positive manner and be integral to the development,</p> <p>(v) The development creates a safe and secure environment that reduces the opportunities for crime without compromising community cohesion,</p> <p>(vi) The development is accessible to all users.</p>	The NDP policy supports Core Strategy Policies P10 and P11 by identifying non-designated heritage assets within the neighbourhood area that warrant additional consideration through the planning process. These assets have been identified as important to the local community and are therefore identified for consideration and inclusion on the Local List / Schedule being developed by the Local Planning Authority.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
CF1: Community facilities	<p>The change of use of the following community facilities will only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that reasonable efforts have been made to secure their continued use for the current purposes and/or alternative provision is made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Saints Parish Hall, Woodlesford • Fleet Lane Canal and Marina/Woodlesford Lock and Canal side • Iveridge Hall • Methodist Church, Woodlesford • Oulton Hall and Park • Oulton Institute, Quarry Hill, Oulton • Oulton & Woodlesford community sports club • Rothwell Juniors Football Club, Fleet Lane, Oulton • Rothwell Leisure Centre • St John the Evangelist church, Oulton • West Riding Football HQ, Fleet Lane • Woodlesford Park 	<p>POLICY P9: COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER SERVICES.</p> <p>Access to local community facilities and services, such as education, training, places of worship, health, sport and recreation and community centres, is important to the health and wellbeing of a neighbourhood. New community facilities and services should be accessible by foot, cycling, or by public transport in the interests of sustainability and health and wellbeing. Facilities and services should not adversely impact on residential amenity and should where possible, and appropriate, be located in centres with other community uses. The scale of the facility or service should be considered in conjunction with the level of need within the community and its proposed location within the Settlement Hierarchy. Where proposals for development would result in the loss of an existing facility or service, satisfactory alternative provision should be made elsewhere within the community if a sufficient level of need is identified.</p>	<p>The neighbourhood plan policy seeks to safeguard the identified community facilities in line with Core Strategy Policy P9.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
CF2: Sports facilities	<p>Development proposals for new or for improving existing sporting facilities should seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Protect and enhance, as well as promote and improve accessibility to established formal sport facilities (leisure centre, sports clubs) and informal all-age exercise and play facilities. b) Encourage the provision of new and replacement sports facilities. c) Where existing facilities are improved or enhanced – for example, through the provision of a replacement Rothwell Leisure Centre – every effort should be made to ensure that disruption of services is minimised to the community and users. d) Demonstrate demand, need and support from the community. <p>Priority should be given to the rebuilding of the Rothwell Recreation Centre, and this should provide an opportunity to provide facilities at present lacking in the Neighbourhood Area</p>	<p>POLICY P9: COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER SERVICES Access to local community facilities and services, such as education, training, places of worship, health, sport and recreation and community centres, is important to the health and wellbeing of a neighbourhood. New community facilities and services should be accessible by foot, cycling, or by public transport in the interests of sustainability and health and wellbeing. Facilities and services should not adversely impact on residential amenity and should where possible, and appropriate, be located in centres with other community uses.</p> <p>POLICY G6: PROTECTION AND REDEVELOPMENT OF EXISTING GREEN SPACE. Green will be protected from development unless one of the following criteria is met: (i) There is an adequate supply of accessible green space/open space within the analysis area and the development site offers no potential for use as an alternative deficient open space type, as illustrated in the Leeds Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment; or (ii) The green space/open space is replaced by an area of at least equal size, accessibility and quality in the same locality; or (iii) Where supported by evidence and in the delivery of wider planning benefits, redevelopment proposals demonstrate a clear relationship to improvements of existing green space quality in the same locality.</p>	<p>The neighbourhood plan policy supports the development of new sports facilities in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which highlights the importance of access to local communities to support local community health and wellbeing.</p>
CF3: Educational facilities	<p>Support will be given to proposals whose purpose is to facilitate the development of educational facilities, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The growth of educational facilities on their current sites where this does not lead to the unacceptable loss of recreational open space or cause unacceptable amenity loss to neighbours. b) Proposals that deliver a public library function, supporting educational establishments in the neighbourhood area. 	<p>POLICY P9: COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND OTHER SERVICES Access to local community facilities and services, such as education, training, places of worship, health, sport and recreation and community centres, is important to the health and wellbeing of a neighbourhood.</p>	<p>The neighbourhood plan policy seeks to protect, improve and develop Educational facilities within the Neighbourhood area in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which supports access to local community facilities including education and training.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>GE1a: Local Green Spaces</p>	<p>The code numbers in brackets refer to positions on NDP Map 2. For fuller descriptions and plans, see NDP Appendix 3a.</p> <p>The following areas are designated as Local Green Spaces For all sites designated, development will be ruled out unless there are special circumstances, equivalent to national policy on Green Belt:</p> <p>Albert Road allotments (6) Applegarth Manor amenity green space (10). Land flanking Aire and Calder Canal and River Calder (19) Midland Street (12). Oulton Sports and Social Club (4). Oulton Hall Park (3). Oulton Primary School playing field (7). Oulton War Memorial (11). Pymont Drive amenity green space (8). Royds School grounds and playing fields (1). Sherwood Way (9). South Oulton (2) St. John the Evangelist Church and Graveyard (5). Sydney Street allotments (14). The Maltings entrance and amenity green space (18). Water Haigh Park (13) Woodlesford Park (15). Woodlesford Primary School playing fields and garden (17). Woodlesford Village Green (16).</p>	<p>POLICY G6: PROTECTION AND REDEVELOPMENT OF EXISTING GREEN SPACE</p> <p>Green space (including open space in the City Centre) will be protected from development unless one of the following criteria is met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) There is an adequate supply of accessible green space/open space within the analysis area and the development site offers no potential for use as an alternative deficient open space type, as illustrated in the Leeds Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment; or (ii) The green space/open space is replaced by an area of at least equal size, accessibility and quality in the same locality; or (iii) Where supported by evidence and in the delivery of wider planning benefits, redevelopment proposals demonstrate a clear relationship to improvements of existing green space quality in the same locality. 	<p>The identification and protection of additional green spaces in Leeds supports the Core Strategy ambitions to improve and protect green space (formal or informal) from redevelopment and to enhance green infrastructure.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>GE1b: Smaller Green Spaces</p> <p>The following areas are designated as Smaller Green Spaces. The code letters in brackets refer to positions on NDP Map 2. For fuller descriptions and plans, see NDP Appendix 3b.</p> <p>For sites designated as Smaller Green Spaces, the Forum seeks to maintain the contribution they provide to the character and appearance of the street scene. Changes of use arising from development which do not protect, enhance and preserve these smaller green spaces should be resisted.</p> <p>Albert Road amenity green spaces (H). All Saints Road amenity green spaces (O). Ashleigh Gardens amenity green space (P). Bernard Street /Sydney Street amenity green spaces (K). Calverley Road amenity green spaces (B). Eastfield Crescent/ Eastfield Drive grassed strip (V). Farrer Lane amenity green spaces (A). Gipsy Lane grassed area (U). Gipsy Lane/ Oulton Primary School grassed strip (G). Green Lea amenity green spaces (E). Holmsley Field Lane/ Parkways walkway (F). Holmsley Field Lane amenity green space (C) Holmsley Lane – Sixth Avenue to Pymont Drive amenity green spaces (T). Holmsley Lane/Pymont Drive amenity green spaces (S). Holmsley Walk amenity green spaces (D). Lynwood Avenue amenity green space (L). Lynwood Crescent amenity green space (M). Midland Street/ Claremont Street and two sites in Midland Street/ Roberts Street (J). Northwood Park amenity green spaces (Q). Pickpocket Lane ancient Green Lane (R). Quarry Hill amenity green space (I). Station Lane amenity green space (N).</p>	<p>G1 G6 P10</p>	<p>The Core Strategy supports improvements and extensions to local green infrastructure and whilst this policy does not formally designate smaller greenspaces, it identifies them as making an important contribution to green infrastructure networks and local character.</p>	

	Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>GE2a: Green corridors</p>	<p>The following identified green corridors, as illustrated on the Policies map (Map 5, page XXX), are important for the multiple benefits derived from them for the community. Development proposals should not result in the disruption of the functioning of these corridors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeds Special Landscape Area • Aire and Calder Navigation/ River Aire corridor 	<p>POLICY P12: LANDSCAPE</p> <p>The character, quality and biodiversity of Leeds’s townscapes and landscapes, including their historical and cultural significance, will be conserved and enhanced to protect their distinctiveness through stewardship and the planning process.</p> <p>Saved UDP Policy N37 - Special Landscape Areas</p> <p>5.5.7 The countryside around Leeds shows a great diversity of landscape character, ranging from areas where that character is strong and attractive to areas where the character has been seriously depleted. Development proposals in the areas of best quality landscape must show particular regard to conservation of the landscape, but throughout the countryside as a whole the effect on landscape character will be a material consideration in determining planning applications.</p> <p>5.5.8 Countryside with high landscape value needs to be protected from visually harmful development and be maintained and improved where necessary in order to safeguard its attractive character and appearance. The most attractive areas have been designated Special Landscape Areas. Those areas have been judged to possess several of the following positive characteristics and few or none of the negative: Positive factors: strong structure and visual unity [arising, for example, from hedges or walls marking field boundaries], interesting topography, high scenic quality, local rarity, attractive groups of buildings, landmarks, natural or semi-natural woods, trees, hedgerows, water bodies. Negative factors: untidy or derelict land, large and visually intrusive industrial buildings, other eyesores.</p> <p>A brief description of the special qualities of each of the SLAs is included in Appendix 26 of the Plan:</p> <p>14. Methley Park. The core of this area is the well-wooded Methley Park estate, a 19th Century landscape designed around the now-demolished Methley Hall. The area extends eastwards to Methley Conservation Area centred on the attractive village green. Between the park and Watergate is an area of low-lying fields with a very strong pattern of hedgerow trees though the hedges themselves have largely vanished. North of Methley</p>	<p>Throughout the Core Strategy the Council places great emphasis on the importance, management and protection of Green Corridors. The NDP Policy 2a is consistent with both the Core Strategy’s Policy P12 and the more detailed saved UDP policy relating to Special Landscape Areas.</p> <p>Additionally the Core Strategy encourages enhancement of green infrastructure though Policy G1 and SP13, the neighbourhood plan policy identifies local green corridors which make an important contribution to the wider green infrastructure network in Leeds</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
	<p>SPATIAL POLICY 13: STRATEGIC GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>The Strategic Green Infrastructure for the Leeds District is indicated on the Key Diagram. This infrastructure performs many important functions and provides for opportunities for recreation. Within these areas the Council will maintain and, in partnership with others, enhance the following key corridors:</p> <p>(i) The Aire Valley, along the river and canal corridors and including; West Leeds Country Park and Kirkstall Valley Park to the north; Fairburn Ings; St Aidans and Aire Valley Leeds to the South, incorporating the proposed Urban Eco-Settlement (which has particular aims to strengthen green links to Leeds City Centre, the lower Aire Valley, Temple Newsam, and Rothwell Country Park)</p>	
<p>GE2b: Green infra-structure</p>	<p>Development proposals should seek to integrate strong green infrastructure, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New accessible public green spaces for formal and informal recreation. New green space should seek to address identified deficits in the area and/or vicinity of the development. • Retention of hedges, trees and landscape features. • Retention of existing street trees and those 'off street' which form part of the street scene and provision of new trees wherever practicable. Existing trees should be conserved and should felling be deemed inevitable, they should be replaced on a 1:3 basis,. • Provision of porous surfaces wherever hard standing is required off the carriageway. • Provide corridors for wildlife to move through, around or across a development site. 	<p>Policy G1: enhancing and extending green infrastructure.</p> <p>Where a development is considered to be acceptable within or adjoining areas defined as Green Infrastructure on map 16 or on any future LDF Allocation Documents, development proposals should ensure that:</p> <p>(i) Green Infrastructure/corridor function of the land is retained and improved, particularly in areas of growth,</p> <p>(ii) Where appropriate, the opportunity is taken to extend Green Infrastructure by linking green spaces or by filling in gaps in Green Infrastructure corridors, including (where relevant) extending these into Leeds City Centre. Street trees and green roofs are particularly encouraged,</p> <p>(iii) A landscaping scheme is provided which deals positively with the transition between development and any adjoining open land,</p> <p>(iv) The opportunity is taken to increase appropriate species of woodland cover in the District,</p> <p>(v) Provision for and retention of biodiversity and wildlife,</p> <p>(iv) Opportunities are taken to protect and enhance the Public Rights of Way (PROW) network through avoiding unnecessary</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>GE3: Protecting views in the landscape</p>	<p>Development proposals should respect and maintain key views across the area, as identified in the Oulton and Woodlesford Design Statement, Conservation Area Appraisals and illustrated on NDP Map 6, in order to maintain the character and appearance of the area. Views identified as important are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Views out to the surrounding countryside are important to the east side of the Conservation Area. The flat topography is a feature of the long-distance views. b) Significant views from Methley Lane to Oulton Park and the spire of St John the Evangelist Church; also across to Oulton village and its Conservation Area both from Methley Lane over Oulton Beck and from Fleet Lane with the spire again in the background. c) Panoramic views from Leeds Road to the south and west. d) The view of the spire of St John the Evangelist Church and Oulton Park from Parkways Avenue provides an interesting vista. e) Top of North Lane has excellent long-distance views down the hill. The wide verges add a sense of openness. f) The tree at the junction of Quarry Hill and Midland Street is the focal point of the views down Oulton Lane. g) From Beechwood and Northwood there are dramatic views across the Aire Valley to Temple Newsam. h) The view of Woodlesford Village set on its hillside from across the river from the A642 and Bullerthorpe Lane. i) Views into the village along Aberford Road announcing arrival into Oulton. j) Views to the open countryside over the river and navigation, link Woodlesford with its setting. Leventhorpe Hall is a particular feature of these views. k) Views from Oulton Hall across Oulton, Woodlesford and the surrounding areas. l) Views of St John the Evangelist Church from St Johns Street. m) Views from Church Street, Woodlesford, to the east, which highlights the former All Saints' Woodlesford church and the surrounding countryside. n) The view across Woodlesford Recreation Park from Oulton Lane. 	<p>POLICY P10: DESIGN POLICY P12 LANDSCAPE</p>	<p>The neighbourhood plan policy identifies key views that should be taken into consideration during the planning process which will serve to protect the special characteristics of the Conservation Areas in Oulton and Woodlesford, as well as protecting the distinctive character of the landscape.</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>GE4: Improve access to Public Rights of Way</p>	<p>New developments proposals should seek to provide safe pedestrian access to link up with existing or proposed footpaths, ensuring that residents can walk safely to bus stops and other village facilities.</p> <p>A new development should demonstrate, where appropriate, how it contributes to improved off-road and non-motorised accessible routes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve to link the villages together. • Provide for improved access to the surrounding countryside. • Link the villages to nearby communities and facilities outside the neighbourhood area. 	<p>POLICY G1: ENHANCING AND EXTENDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>Where a development is considered to be acceptable within or adjoining areas defined as Green Infrastructure on Map 16 or on any future LDF Allocation Documents, development proposals should ensure that:</p> <p>(i) Green Infrastructure/corridor function of the land is retained and improved, particularly in areas of growth,</p> <p>(ii) Where appropriate, the opportunity is taken to extend Green Infrastructure by linking green spaces or by filling in gaps in Green Infrastructure corridors, including (where relevant) extending these into Leeds City Centre. Street trees and green roofs are particularly encouraged,</p> <p>(iii) A landscaping scheme is provided which deals positively with the transition between development and any adjoining open land,</p> <p>(iv) The opportunity is taken to increase appropriate species of woodland cover in the District,</p> <p>(v) Provision for and retention of biodiversity and wildlife</p>
<p>BE1: New business and employment development</p>	<p>Proposals for new business development are welcomed in the village centres identified in Policy DBE2 and illustrated on the NDP Map 5, where such development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provides greater diversity in the commercial/retail sectors (shops, restaurants). b) Provides new small “start-up units” for businesses c) Encourages the development of a local visitor/tourism economy, particular in canal corridor locations (see NDP map 2). 	<p>SPATIAL POLICY 8: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES</p> <p>A competitive local economy will be supported through (<i>inter alia</i>):</p> <p>(ii) Promoting the development of a strong local economy through enterprise and innovation</p> <p>(iii) Job retention and creation, promoting the need for a skilled workforce, educational attainment and reducing barriers to employment opportunities,</p> <p>(iv) Seeking to improve accessibility to employment opportunities by public transport, walking and cycling across the District</p> <p>(x) Support the retention and provision of new business start-up units including small workshops, where appropriate.</p> <p>POLICY P4: SHOPPING PARADES AND SMALL SCALE STAND ALONE FOOD STORES SERVING LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES</p>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy		Leeds Core Strategy Policy	Comment on conformity
<p>HSR1: Managing the impact of the development phase (of the High-Speed Rail line)</p>	<p>During the period leading up to and during construction through the Neighbourhood Area, the developer and their contractors should seek to limit adverse environmental impacts upon the community and its environment. To this end, prior to the period in question, the developer should:</p> <p>a) develop a sustainable development policy setting out defining principles regarding all aspects of operations and how potential impacts will be avoided or mitigated in respect of all areas where there is potential for impact, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agriculture, forestry and soils; • air quality; • climate change; • community; • ecology; • electromagnetic interference; • health; • historic environment; • land quality; • landscape and visual; • major accidents and disasters; • socio-economics; • light pollution; • sound, noise and vibration; • traffic and transport; • waste and material resources; and • water resources and flood risk. <p>b) Engage with local authorities, the Forum’s Steering Committee and other stakeholders to identify additional potential regeneration opportunities within the Neighbourhood Area.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy does not contain specific policies for nationally significant infrastructure projects. These are determined in accordance with the decision-making framework in the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and relevant national policy statements for major infrastructure.</p>	<p>Core Strategy Policy SP11 identifies HS2 as a key component of the strategic transport infrastructure for the city. The neighbourhood plan policies aim to manage the impact of HS2 locally whilst acknowledging the importance of the project at the City Region and National Level.</p>
<p>HSR2: Design, community and the landscape</p>	<p>HSR2: Design, community and the landscape</p> <p>The promoter and the nominated developer(s) will seek to ensure that:</p>		

5. Contribution to Achieving Sustainable Development

5.1 The Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Plan must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Government's vision for achieving this is by providing the planning system with 'three overarching objectives, which are independent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways' (NPPF Para 8).

These are:

- **An economic role** - 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;
- **A social role** – 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 a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and
- **An environmental role** – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.

5.3 The Basic Conditions require that the making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. There is no requirement as to the nature or extent of that contribution, nor a need to assess whether the plan makes a particular contribution. The requirement is simply that there should be a contribution. A sustainability appraisal of the neighbourhood plan has not been undertaken as this is not a legal requirement within neighbourhood planning. However, the neighbourhood plan has taken account of the need to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

5.4 NDP Table 3 (below) provides an analysis of how the neighbourhood plan makes a contribution to local economic, social and environmental sustainability, which in turn, give an indication of how the neighbourhood plan performs against the requirement set out in the Basic Conditions.

5.5 The neighbourhood plan policies have been considered against the three dimensions of sustainability and scored as appropriate.

Table 3: Assessment of sustainability of Neighbourhood Plan policies

NDP Policy	Economic factors	Social factors	Environmental factors	Comments on sustainability and contribution made to achieving sustainable development
H1a: Smaller homes	**	**	**	The arc4 report identifies the need for more smaller homes allowing families to remain in the Forum's area. Smaller homes also occupy less land and so protect sensitive environments.
H1b: Affordable homes	-	**	-	The arc4 report also identifies the need for more affordable homes which will also allow families to remain in the Forum's area.
H2 Design of new housing developments	*	*	**	The high quality and variety of the built environment is a key component of sustainability in the village and the maintenance of this and reflection of quality in new development ensures future growth is compatible sustainably.
H3: Design principles for site HG2-176	*	**	-	The use of this site for assisted living accommodation will contribute to the overall needs of the community.
H3: Design principles for site HG2-177	-	**	*	The site has mature trees that need to be protected, but is otherwise sustainable in terms of the low impact it will have upon the surrounding built and natural environment
H3: Design principles for site HG2-178	**	**	**	Development of this derelict site offers an opportunity to improve the environment. The inclusion on the site of facilities for small businesses and, for example, for a canal-side restaurant, would enhance sustainability both by providing employment and by providing leisure facilities accessible on foot and by both bus and train.
H3: Design principles for site MX2-14	**	**	-	Mixed development on this site has the potential to strengthen the "high street" of Oulton. It would also be suitable for some assisted-living accommodation, being near to shops and bus stops.
H3: Design principles for site HG2-180	-	x	xx	Development of this site, which is partially within the Methley Special Landscape Area, will reduce the overall sustainability of the Neighbourhood. Its distance from Woodlesford Station will increase its likelihood of being a car-dependent development.
DBE1: Design of the Built Environment	-	**	**	This policy contributes to sustainability by seeking to protect gardens and preserving mature trees. By preserving and enhancing the Conservation areas, the social fabric of the villages will be maintained.
DBE2: Develop village centre shopping and leisure environments	-	**	**	The enhancement of shopping and leisure facilities reduces car dependency and encourages healthier lifestyles. Greening the street scene will enhance the environment.

DBE3: Protection and enhancement of non-designated heritage assets	-	**	-	Protection of the non-designated heritage assets is central to preserving and maintaining the character of Oulton and Woodlesford.
CF1: Community facilities	-	**	**	The policy contributes strongly to the sustainability of the place in the future by seeking to protect these assets for future generations.
CF2: Sports facilities	-	**	*	The policy contributes to health and well-being.
CF3: Educational facilities	*	**	-	The policy supports the improvement of educational facilities and seeks to improve access to a public library, both contributing to educational and social improvement.
GE1a: Local Green Spaces	*	**	**	Maintaining existing key green spaces ensures sustainability by providing for places for outdoor recreation and healthy activity as well as aesthetic well-being.
GE1b: Smaller Green Spaces	-	**	**	Ensuring that the smaller green spaces scattered around Oulton and Woodlesford are maintained is very important both to the well-being of residents and to wildlife.
GE2a: Green corridors	-	**	**	Maintaining continuous green space is important for the more long-distance needs of wild life, particularly along the Aire Valley bird migration route.
GE2b: Green infrastructure	-	**	**	The policy seeks to integrate and promote a strong green infrastructure, contributing to sustainability by ensuring new and existing residents have space for outdoor recreation and healthy living
GE3: Protecting views in the landscape	*	**	**	Great importance is placed locally upon the maintenance of views of the Grade II* listed St. John's church, as it dominates the skyline. The policy is designed to shape new development and enable this to be sustainable in not overshadowing or detracting from the heritage of the place.
GE4: Improve access to Public Rights of Way	*	**	**	Improvement of public rights of way contributes towards sustainability by reducing vehicle movements and promoting healthy walking and cycling.
BE1: New business and employment development	**	**	**	The development of new businesses and of new employment opportunities within Oulton and Woodlesford will reduce vehicle movement and promote pedestrian access to and from the workplace.
HSR1: Managing the impact of the development phase (of the High Speed	-	**	**	Limiting the impact on the community of this major infrastructure project during its construction is essential.

HSR2: Design, community and the landscape	-	*	X	The policy seeks to ensure that the design of the high-speed rail line contributes to the Government’s pursuit of sustainable development. All visible elements of the built and landscaped environment should be sympathetic to their local context. The design should be developed through engagement with the local community. Whilst the sustainability of the wider HS2 project is a debate to be held elsewhere, the policy seeks to ensure that the impact of HS2 at a local level is minimised and makes a positive contribution to local sustainability.
---	---	---	---	---

Assessment of policies ** very positive * positive - neutral x negative xx very negative

Table 3 above, provides an analysis of how the policies in the Felsted Neighbourhood Plan will help contribute to economic, social and environmental sustainability objectives. It demonstrates that the policies will for the most part have a positive impact on at least one of the elements or at least have a neutral effect. The assessment above does not provide an exhaustive analysis as would be required by a sustainability appraisal however does provide a high level commentary on how the individual policies will help to improve and enhance the sustainability of Oulton and Woodlesford.

6 Compatibility with EU Obligations and legislation

6.1 A neighbourhood plan must not breach, or be otherwise incompatible with, European Union obligations including Human Rights in order to meet the Basic Conditions. The following section provides an analysis and commentary on how the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Condition “Be compatible with EU Obligations, including Human Rights”. This Basic Condition also includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC) seeking to provide a high level of protection to the environment integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing plans. It is considered below.

6.2 The Vision for the Neighbourhood Plan is:

*Our vision is for Oulton and Woodlesford to be a pair of conjoined villages that share a wide range of services and facilities and offer a high quality of life through great educational, recreational and working opportunities for all. **By 2033, the villages will have a wide range and diversity of high-quality housing stock and will be surrounded by high quality and accessible countryside and the well maintained and highly prized parklands. A significant feature that epitomises our twin urban and rural character is the canal corridor which now provides a wide range of excellent recreational opportunities.***

6.3 The Vision for Oulton and Woodlesford reflects the community’s desire to ensure that the villages remain an attractive and safe place to live. The neighbourhood area will develop in a way that will see the retention, expansion and enhancement of our valued local services, community facilities and green spaces whilst maintaining the distinctive character of the area. New housing development will be successfully integrated with the existing community and infrastructure will be in place to support improved non-motorised accessibility. Local shopping parades will be enhanced and new services will be offered to meet the needs of the community.

6.4 The plan has been prepared through continued, active, and committed consultation with the local community and other key stakeholders. It

reflects the views and aspirations of local people. The consultation undertaken to prepare the plan has been inclusive and provide the opportunity to participate in the preparation of the plan through various methods that were used to consult and engage. The plan proposed by the Forum presents opportunities for further involvement, participation and engagement with all groups within the community through the delivery of projects and other local aspirations.

6.5 The Forum has taken into consideration the European Union Convention on Human Rights and in particular Article 8 (Privacy); Article 14 (Discrimination) and Article 1 of the first Protocol (Property). It is not considered that any of the policies within the plan would breach the Convention.

6.6 The Neighbourhood Plan has regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights. It is not considered that the neighbourhood plan has any adverse or discriminatory impact on any particular group with protected characteristics as set out the Equality Act 2010.

7. Strategic Environmental Assessment and Compatibility with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

The neighbourhood plan falls within the definition of ‘plans and programmes’ as the Local Planning Authority is obliged to ‘make’ (adopt) the plan following a positive referendum result. In order for the neighbourhood plan to meet the Basic Conditions, it must consider the requirements of the SEA Regulations which transpose the European Union’s SEA Directive into law. Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) sets out an additional Basic Condition to those set out in the primary legislation.

The objective of EU Directive 2001/42 is:

“to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

Leeds City Council, as the Local Planning Authority, have undertaken a Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening exercise on the draft neighbourhood plan, published in November 2017. The Screening concludes that:

In conclusion, as a result of the assessment carried out in Table 2 above and the more detailed consideration of the draft policies, it is considered that it is unlikely that any significant environmental effects will arise as a result of the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Plan. Consequently, the assessment within Table 1 concludes (subject to HRA screening outcome), that an SEA is not required when judged against the application of the SEA Directive criteria.

Notably, the draft neighbourhood plan does not propose any allocations. No sensitive natural or heritage assets will also be significantly affected by proposals within the plan. The neighbourhood plan’s policies seek to guide development within the Neighbourhood Area and are required to be in general conformity with those within the Local Plan. It is unlikely that there will be any significant additional environmental effects that have not already been

considered and dealt with through a SEA/SA of the Local Plan. The environmental effects of HS2 will be assessed by others and mitigation measures are expected to be an integral part of the scheme. Finally, none of the environmental consultation bodies raised any concerns regarding any likely significant environmental effects.

The SEA Screening Report is submitted alongside the neighbourhood plan for independent examination.

The final Basic Condition states that the neighbourhood plan must not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 7 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. On 28 December 2018, The Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018 came into force. Amongst other things, these regulations amended the Basic Condition prescribed in Regulation 32 and Schedule 2 (Habitats) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) which stated:

- The making of the neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

The amended Basic Condition is as follows:

- 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.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 include regulations on the assessment of plans (including neighbourhood plans) and projects on European sites or European offshore marine sites. The first stage is to screen the plan to see whether it is likely to have a significant effect on any European site. If the plan is 'screened in' because significant effects cannot be ruled out, the next stage is for an appropriate assessment to be carried out considering the impact on the European site's conservation objectives. Consent for the plan can only be given if it is 'screened out' at the first stage or the appropriate assessment concludes the integrity of the European site will not be adversely affected.

In response to the European Union Court of Justice Judgement in 'People Over Wind' dated 12 April 2018 and the subsequent update to the Basic Conditions in December 2018, Leeds City Council re-screened the neighbourhood plan in order to determine whether it meets the Basic Conditions or breaches the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations.

The Screening update from July 2019 concludes that none of the policies in the Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Plan are likely to have a significant effect on the Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC and does not give rise to or include any mitigation measures. As a result, the neighbourhood plan is screened out from any further Habitats Regulations Assessment.

The updated HRA Screening is also submitted alongside the neighbourhood plan for independent examination.

8 Overall conclusions.

The Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Forum has drafted a Neighbourhood Development Plan that conforms with both the National Planning Policy Framework and the Leeds City Council Core Strategy and therefore meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements.

The Oulton and Woodlesford NDP plans positively for sustainable development across the designated neighbourhood area, recognising and responding to the need for housing growth and business development while seeking to conserve the best of the area in terms of its environmental quality and heritage assets. Policies are proposed across key themes identified through a substantive process of community engagement and working closely with the City Council's Planning Service. Policies are clear, based on strong evidence and provide a direct link to the sustainable development of the neighbourhood area, in promoting sustainable growth for residents in relation to new housing, business development, alongside strong conservation measures for the built and 'green' environments and opportunities for the local community to preserve and enhance existing community and recreational assets and to increase provision. It is on this basis that the Neighbourhood Forum considers that the plan meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements, and may therefore proceed to referendum.