



Local Plan

Monitoring and Implementation Framework

September 2019

1. Context

- 1.1 The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and The Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), together with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), require local authorities to monitor local plans and their policies on a regular (at least annual) basis.
- 1.2 Local planning authorities are legally required to formally review their local plans at least once every five years from adoption to assess whether or not policies need updating. The review should take account of changing circumstances affecting the area, particularly any significant changes in Local Housing Need that may affect relevant strategic policies or any relevant changes in national policy. The PPG confirms that a local plan and its policies do not, however, automatically become out-of-date after five years.
- 1.3 This Monitoring and Implementation Framework (MIF) sets out the principal measures and indicators that will be used to monitor the delivery and effectiveness of the sustainability objectives and planning policies of the Local Plan.

2. Sustainability Appraisal Targets

- 2.1 The table below sets out a suggested range of monitoring indicators pertinent to the Sustainability Appraisal objectives. The framework for monitoring the Local Plan policies are set out in Section 3.

Table 14: Monitoring Proposals by Sustainability Framework Objectives¹

	Sustainability Test	Potential Monitoring indicator(s)	Monitoring Target Proposals
1	To foster the social and economic well being of local communities.	General objective covered by subsequent policy suite	N/A
2	To protect the special qualities of the National Park from unsuitable development.	General objective covered by subsequent policy suite	N/A
3	To create local jobs within the community to support sustainable levels of local economic growth and strengthen and maintaining a resilient local	Employment/Unemployment Rates (by age categories) Employment generating development proposals approved/refused	Increase/decrease on 2019 levels Net positive/gain

¹ Publication Draft Sustainability Appraisal (May 2019)

	economy.		
4	To increase public involvement in decision-making and participation in community activity, especially amongst under- represented groups.	Local Plan 2017-2037 is not expected to significantly influence this objective. Number of community led Neighbourhood Plans are adopted and/or endorsed by the National Park Authority compliant with the Local Plan	N/A NPA to determine target
5	To improve the quality, range and accessibility of jobs, community services, goods and facilities.	See 3 above. Provision of new development providing community service development (where planning permission is required).	Net gain on 2019 levels
6	To avoid or reduce flood risk to people and property.	Developments approved contrary to Environment Agency advice (flood risk).	Nil
7	To ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent and affordable home.	Delivery of affordable housing numbers	Meet objectively Assessed affordable housing needs forecast
8	To reduce crime and fear of crime and deliver safer communities.	Within Northumberland National Park context, this objective will be unlikely to be significantly affected by development proposals	N/A
9	To ensure good local air quality and mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions	Applications approved which facilitate non-motorised traffic infrastructure Applications approved with sustainable design and construction attributes	NPA to determine target NPA to determine target
10	To encourage sustainable farm business in the National Park.	Applications approved for farm diversification proposals or new farm enterprises.	NPA to determine target
11	To create, protect and enhance the quality, distinctiveness and diversity of the National Park's landscape.	Proposals approved which undermine distinctive landscape character assessment and/or undermine SPD objectives.	Nil
12	To protect, maintain and enhance a landscape rich in	% of SSSIs in Favourable/ Unfavourable / Recovering condition.	Net increase/improvement

	biodiversity and geodiversity.	BAP priority habitats extent/condition % of land area managed under national agri-environment schemes Planning applications approved which secure habitat /wildlife corridor enhancement	NPA to determine target NPA to determine target NPA to determine target
13	To protect, maintain and enhance designated habitats.	See 12 above.	
14	To protect and enhance the quality of the Park's ground and river waters	% Applications approved contrary to EA advice	Nil
15	To protect and enhance the Park's cultural heritage and settings, and their diversity.	Percentage /number change of heritage assets 'at risk'. Historic buildings 'delisted' Planning applications approved which enhance understanding or access to historic / cultural heritage assets	NPA to determine target Nil NPA to determine target
16	To support sustainable tourism and leisure consistent with protection of the environment	Planning applications approved which diversify and enhance the National Park's sustainable tourism offer whilst protecting special qualities.	NPA to determine target
17	To support the enjoyment of the countryside and the health and wellbeing benefits to be gained from it.	Planning applications approved which will deliver/facilitate appropriate recreational interpretation opportunities. Facilities approved with multi-user access integrated into scheme Planning applications which enhance/reduce accessibility to the national park's special qualities.	NPA to determine target NPA to determine target NPA to determine target
18	To establish with partners, ways to reduce the need for travel, reduce the impact of traffic and improve local transport integration.	Applications approved for employment, education, retail, leisure and community services which reduce the need to travel beyond the national park.	NPA to determine target

19	To improve understanding and awareness of the National Park and deliver accessible education and training opportunities.	Target group visitor monitoring	N/A
20	To reduce the amount of waste produced and increase the proportion that is reused, recycled or composted.	Proportion of new developments/uses which facilitate waste reduction, recycling and/or composting schemes	NPA to determine target
21	To improve health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities.	Affordable Housing provision (see 7 above). Provision of community services/housing to meet needs of aging population profile.	NPA to determine target

2.2 As outlined in the Sustainability Appraisal, ultimately the breadth and depth of monitoring indicators and targets are a matter for the NNPA to refine and confirm, having regard to its capacity to access, or itself collect suitable data on which the monitoring of the plan can be undertaken, informing as necessary appropriate policy review in due course. In Section 3, the Authority sets out the Monitoring Framework.

3. Monitoring and Implementation framework

- 3.1 The majority of planning applications received for proposed development within Northumberland National Park Authority are small scale minor developments. The monitoring and implementation framework therefore needs to take a proportionate approach. Whilst many local planning authorities monitor the effects of their policies through contextual information and indicators (eg. people in work), in Northumberland National Park the effect of policies can be more precisely measured through developments undertaken (eg. housebuilding completions, number of conversions permitted within the open countryside). The performance of the majority of draft policies will be monitored through the granting or refusal of planning permissions.
- 3.2 In line with PPG, the resources required for monitoring the Local Plan necessitate a proportionate approach. Therefore the overall assessment of how well the Plan's vision and strategic objectives are being met and achieved will be undertaken to coincide with the review of the Plan itself.
- 3.3 The Authority's Monitoring Reports (AMR) process will help to inform whether there is a need to undertake a partial or full update of the local plan through the five-year review.
- 3.4 It is proposed that the following indicators and targets will be included and monitored.

Local Plan Monitoring and Implementation Framework 2019 (Draft)		
Policy	Indicator	Target
Strategic Approach		
Strategic Policy ST1: Sustainable Development	All permissions to accord with ST1	100%
Strategic Policy ST2: General Development Principles	All permissions to accord with ST2	100%
Strategic Policy ST3: Major Development	No specific indicator proposed.	Avoid major development except in exceptional circumstances
Strategic Policy ST4: Spatial Strategy	All permissions to accord with ST4	100%
Strategic Policy ST5: New Housing	Number of net housing completions overall	OAN target of 8 dwellings each year.
	Number of net housing completions in Smaller Villages	n/a
	Number of net housing completions in Local Centres	n/a
	Number of net housing completions in the Open Countryside	n/a
	Number of completions of dwellings subject to a principal residence	n/a

Local Plan Monitoring and Implementation Framework 2019 (Draft)		
Policy	Indicator	Target
	restriction	
	Number of custom and self-build housing completions.	n/a
Policy DM1: Community Facilities and Infrastructure	Number of new community facilities permitted.	n/a
	Number of new infrastructure proposals permitted.	n/a
Policy DM2: Householder Development	Number of householder developments granted permission	n/a
Policy DM3: Affordable Housing	Number of net affordable housing completions.	Target of 2 affordable dwellings each year (SHMA).
Policy DM4: Rural Workers' Housing	Number of new agricultural dwellings completed.	n/a
Policy DM5: Accommodation for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers	No specific indicator proposed.	n/a
Policy DM6: Conversion of Buildings	Number of conversions permitted in the Open Countryside through application of this policy.	n/a
Policy DM7: Rural Economy and Diversification	Number of new developments permitted.	n/a
	Amount of net floorspace developed by type (B1, B2 and B8 use classes)	n/a
	Number of visitor days	To increase
Policy DM8: Agricultural Development	Number of agricultural developments permitted through application of this policy.	n/a
Policy DM9: Transport and Accessibility	No specific indicator proposed.	n/a
Policy DM10: Habitats, Biodiversity and Geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The number of wildlife corridor connections made</i> • <i>% of the area of the National Park managed in line with conservation objectives</i> • <i>Wading birds breeding on moorland</i> • <i>% of SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition</i> • <i>% of water bodies identified as 'good' under the WFD.</i> • <i>Change in areas designated for their environmental value;</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Area covered by SAC</i> - <i>Area covered by SSSI</i> 	n/a

Local Plan Monitoring and Implementation Framework 2019 (Draft)		
Policy	Indicator	Target
Policy DM11: Landscape, Tranquillity and Dark Night Skies	Number of applications with conditions for dark sky lighting	n/a
Policy DM12: Trees, Woodlands and Forests	No specific indicator proposed.	n/a
Policy DM13: Renewable Energy	Number of developments permitted with an element of small-scale on-site renewables.	n/a
Policy DM14: Historic Landscape Assets and Built Heritage	Number of monuments on the 'At Risk' register	n/a
	Number of buildings on the Authority's 'At Risk' register	n/a
	Number of buildings on Historic England's 'At Risk' register	n/a
	Number of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans	n/a
	Planning permissions granted for enabling development.	n/a
Policy DM15: Archaeological Heritage	Planning permission granted for development on the site of a Scheduled Ancient Monument	n/a
Policy DM16: Minerals Development	No specific indicator proposed.	n/a
Policy DM17: Minerals Safeguarding Areas	No specific indicator proposed.	n/a
Policy DM18: Waste Prevention	No specific indicator proposed.	n/a
Policy DM19: Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities	No specific indicator proposed.	n/a