



Planning

Monitoring Update

November 2019

Introduction

- i. Northumberland National Park Authority (NNPA) is the Local Planning Authority for the National Park. NNPA prepares planning policies, designed to guide the type and location of development, and determines the outcome of applications for planning permission based on those policies.
- ii. The current Core Strategy (2009) was previously monitored through an Annex to the State of the Park Report 2012, which covered the years 2009 to 2012. Two subsequent State of the Park Reports have been produced, in 2013 and 2015, but these no longer included the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) appendix.
- iii. As no AMR has been published since 2012, this Monitoring Update covering the past four years 2015-2019. The Monitoring Update has been produced by NNPA in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012. Regulation 34 (see Appendix) contains statutory requirements for a monitoring report, which form the structure of this document:

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Monitoring

1. Progress of Local Development Scheme

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the timetable for the preparation of the documents that will form the Local Plan. NNPA adopted its LDS in June 2016 and the first row of Table 1 below outlines the programme, as approved in 2016, for Local Plan preparation to 2019.

Table 1 – Local Development Scheme

Local Development Scheme (LDS)	Consultation	Publication	Submission	Adoption
2016-2019	Feb – Apr 2017 (Issues Paper)	Nov – Dec 2017	Mar – May 2018	Sep 2018 – Mar 2019
2017-2019	Feb – Apr 2017 (Issues Paper) Oct – Dec 2017 (Policy Options)	Jul – Aug 2018	Oct 2018	Mar 2019
2018-2020	Jul – Aug 2018 (Preferred Options)	Mar – May 2019	Jun – Aug 2019	Dec 2019
Update (Sep 2019)	May – Jul 2019 (Publication Draft)	-	Sep 2019	Examination: Spring 2020 Adoption: Summer 2020

- 1.2 In September 2017, NNPA updated its LDS (see second row of Table 1). This was primarily to incorporate a Policy Options stage which was added to the scheme. As a result, the remainder of the scheme was pushed back in order to account for the Policy Options stage.
- 1.3 In March 2018, a new LDS was prepared (third row of Table 1). Due to the forthcoming National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) update in July 2018 and the volume of work required to produce the Local Plan, more time was deemed necessary for completion and the LDS was extended by 9 months.
- 1.4 In September 2019 the LDS was updated (fourth row of Table 1) to reflect the actual timescales of the final stage. The submission of the Local Plan was pushed back one month from August 2019 to September 2019, this was due to:
- The Publication Draft consultation starting late (May 2019 instead of March 2019);
 - The Head of Forward Planning leaving their position;
 - The Interim Head of Forward Planning getting up to speed on procedures;
 - Late receipt of parts of the evidence base;
 - Need for a further sustainability appraisal.
- 1.5 The Local Plan and the evidence library was submitted to the Secretary of State on the 30th September 2019. Examination is now expected in January 2020 with adoption later that year.

2. Duty to Co-operate

- 2.1 The Localism Act 2011 brought into effect a 'Duty to Co-operate' as a method of ensuring engagement and cooperation between neighbouring Local Planning Authorities to maximise the effectiveness of strategic matters and policies.
- 2.2 The NPPF stipulates that Local Planning Authorities should maintain effective and ongoing joint working, documented through a statement of common ground. The statement should include details of the common area, statements of need, governance arrangements and a record of these agreements.
- 2.3 In August 2019, a [Duty to Co-operate Statement](#) was produced as part of the Local Plan evidence library.
- 2.4 The Duty to Co-operate Statement includes Statements of Common Ground with all of the neighbouring authorities:
- Northumberland County Council
 - Cumbria County Council
 - Carlisle City Council
 - Scottish Borders Council
- 2.5 NNPA has also co-operated with prescribed statutory bodies, in the form of consultation at the various stages of Local Plan development. Those organisations include:
- The Environment Agency
 - Historic England
 - Natural England
 - Highways England
- A comprehensive list can be found in the full Duty to Co-operate Statement (use link above).
- 2.6 The unique designation of National Park Authorities with responsibility for planning policy and development management means that many other statutory functions, including housing, transport and education, are the responsibility of Northumberland County Council. The Environment Agency are responsible for the quality of waterways, Historic England and Natural England monitor the historic and natural environment. Partnership working and cooperation is therefore fundamental to the successful operation of the National Park. Further information on these partnerships can be found in the [Management Plan 2016-2021](#).

3. Policy Usage

3.1 The current adopted Development Plan Document (DPD) is the Core Strategy (2009). The Core Strategy contains a series of development management policies used to determine planning application decisions.

Planning Applications

3.2 The number of planning applications and the decisions for the past four years are shown in Table 2 below:

Table 2 – Planning Applications

Decision Type	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total Applications	68	-	86	-	78	-	99	-
Approved	53	78%	71	83%	63	81%	84	85%
Prior Approval not required	4	6%	5	6%	8	10%	8	8%
Refused	1	1%	6	7%	2	3%	2	2%
Withdrawn / Notifications	10	15%	4	5%	5	6%	5	5%

3.3 The number of planning applications has been inconsistent with the most recent year 2018-19 receiving the most with 99, which is a 45.58% increase on 2015-16. The approval rate has remained fairly consistent averaging just shy of 82% each year.

3.4 There has been a consistent number of applications for agricultural and forestry prior notifications (not requiring approval) received each year, averaging 7.5% of the total. A small number of applications are refused each year, but the current rate of 2 per annum remains low compared to a peak of 6 refusals in 2016-17. In 2015-16 there was a peak of 10 withdrawn applications, but this has remained lower at 4 or 5 for the past three years.

Development Sector

3.5 The following table (Table 3) shows in what sector these applications were for:

Table 3 – Development Sectors

Application Type	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
Advertisement	0	0%	2	2.3%	1	1.3%	1	1.0%
Agriculture	4	5.9%	7	8.2%	5	6.4%	16	16.2%
Business	1	1.5%	2	2.3%	4	5.1%	3	3.0%
Community	2	2.9%	0	0%	2	2.6%	2	2.0%
Forestry	3	4.4%	5	5.8%	7	9.0%	5	5.1%
Householder	7	10.3%	15	17.4%	19	2.4%	13	13.1%

Infrastructure	16	23.5%	8	9.3%	7	9.0%	18	18.2%
Listed Building	4	5.9%	9	10.5%	8	10.2%	10	10.1%
Leisure/ access	2	2.9%	2	2.3%	0	0%	3	3.0%
Major Develop.	1	1.5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Min. of Defence	1	1.5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Residential	13	19.1%	6	7%	3	3.8%	1	1.0%
Temp Dwelling	0	0%	1	1.2%	0	0%	0	0%
Tourism	14	20.6%	29	33.7%	22	28.2%	27	27.3%
TOTAL	68	100.0%	86	100.0%	78	100.0%	99	100.0%

- 3.6 Overall, the total number of applications is erratic year to year, with a peak most recently in 2018-19 with 99. Applications in the tourism sector tend to receive the highest number consistently. Householder and Infrastructure developments follow in terms of popularity. Advertisements, Major Developments, Ministry of Defence and Temporary Dwellings have the least number of applications, receiving 7 across these sectors in the last four years.

Development Type

- 3.7 The following table (Table 4) shows what type of development these applications were for:

Table 4 – Development Type

Code	Description	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
N00	DoE Code not recorded	0	0	0	0
N01	DWELLINGS - Large-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N02	OFFICES, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT & LIGHT INDUSTRY - Large-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N03	GENERAL INDUSTRY, STORAGE, WAREHOUSING - Large-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N04	RETAIL, DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICING - Large-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N05	GYPSY AND TRAVELLER PITCHES - Large-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N06	ALL OTHER LARGE-SCALE MAJOR DEVELOPMENT	1	1	0	0
N07	DWELLINGS - Small-Scale Major	1	0	0	0
N08	OFFICES, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT & LIGHT INDUSTRY - Small-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N09	GENERAL INDUSTRY, STORAGE, WAREHOUSING - Small-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N10	RETAIL, DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICING - Small-Scale Major	2	1	0	0
N11	GYPSY AND TRAVELLER PITCHES - Small-Scale Major	0	0	0	0
N12	ALL OTHER SMALL-SCALE MAJOR DEVELOPMENT	1	2	0	2
N13	DWELLINGS - Minor	9	16	14	15
N14	OFFICES, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT & LIGHT INDUSTRY - Minor	0	1	0	0
N15	GENERAL INDUSTRY, STORAGE,	0	1	0	0

	WAREHOUSING - Minor				
N16	RETAIL, DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICING - Minor	0	0	0	0
N17	GYPSY AND TRAVELLER PITCHES - Minor	0	0	0	0
N18	ALL OTHER MINOR DEVELOPMENT	18	26	25	42
N19	MINERALS PROCESSING (Not County Matters)	0	0	0	0
N20	CHANGE OF USE	1	4	3	0
N21	HOUSEHOLDER APPLICATIONS	9	13	15	13
N22	ADVERTISEMENT APPLICATIONS	0	2	1	1
N23	LISTED BUILDING CONSENT – Alter/ Extend	4	9	7	10
N24	LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - Demolish	0	0	1	0
N25	CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT	0	0	0	0
N26	CERTIFICATES OF LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT	1	0	0	0
N27	NOTIFICATIONS	5	4	8	15
N99	No Specific DoE Code	16	6	4	1
	TOTAL	68	86	78	99

- 3.8 Minor development (N18) clearly makes up the highest proportion of development type. Minor development on a dwelling (N13) and householder applications (N21) follow, indicating that a large proportion of applications are for small holiday accommodation or residential proposals. Only eleven applications were received for all types of major development (N02-N12) in the past four years, which is positive as it should only be approved in exceptional circumstances. An average of 7.5 applications are received each year to alter or extend listed buildings, but only 1 was received in the last 4 years to demolish part of a listed building.

Policy Usage

- 3.9 The table below (Table 5) shows how frequently the Core Strategy policies have been referenced in those planning application decisions. This table reads as: the percentage of applications that refer to the named policy in their decision text.

Table 5 – Policy Usage

Policy No.	Policy Name	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Policy 1	Sustainable Development	100%	99%	100%	95%
Policy 2	Climate Change	24%	40%	39%	6%
Policy 3	General Development Principles	100%	99%	100%	98%
Policy 4	Major Development	14%	10%	3%	8%
Policy 5	Location of Development	100%	99%	100%	98%
Policy 6	Sequential Approach	16%	9%	8%	7%
Policy 7	Conversion of buildings outside settlements	8%	12%	15%	5%
Policy 8	Community Facilities	16%	7%	7%	4%
Policy 9	Managing Housing Supply	19%	25%	30%	24%
Policy 10	New Housing Development	19%	25%	30%	24%
Policy 11	Affordable Housing	8%	9%	5%	2%
Policy 12	Transport and Accessibility	54%	48%	34%	8%
Policy 13	Provision for Gypsies and Travellers	0%	0%	0%	0%
Policy 14	Sustainable Local Economy	32%	40%	56%	51%
Policy 15	Sustainable Tourism and Recreation Dev.	22%	33%	49%	40%

Policy 16	Advertisements	0%	1%	2%	1%
Policy 17	Biodiversity & Geodiversity	65%	52%	79%	88%
Policy 18	Cultural Heritage	78%	82%	87%	92%
Policy 19	Tranquillity	86%	84%	85%	84%
Policy 20	Landscape Quality & Character	95%	85%	87%	86%
Policy 21	Farming	8%	13%	11%	24%
Policy 22	Trees, Woodlands & Forests	14%	24%	23%	18%
Policy 23	Minerals	0%	0%	0%	0%
Policy 24	Military Training on Otterburn Training Area	3%	1%	0%	1%
Policy 25	Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency	41%	58%	59%	48%
Policy 26	Waste Management	3%	0%	2%	0%
Policy 27	Water and Flood Risk	16%	22%	20%	7%
Policy 28	Utilities & Infrastructure	11%	21%	30%	22%
SPD1	Design Guide SPD	100%	99%	100%	98%
SPD2	Landscape SPD	95%	85%	87%	86%

Table 6 – Policies used per Application

Average Number of Policies Used per Application	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	9.8	9.8	10.4	9.9

Narrative on Policy Usage

- 3.10 The data in Table 5 helps inform how practical those policies are when preparing the new Local Plan. Further narrative on each policy has been provided with input from Development Management Officers are set out below:

Policy 1 – Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is a core principle underpinning the Core Strategy (2009). The fundamental aim of the Core Strategy is to ensure that all development within the National Park is sustainable. Publication of the NPPF has strengthened the concept of sustainable development; the most recent version (February 2019) says '*the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development*'.

On this basis, the Sustainable Development policy is key, and its use in almost every decision is important to meet national and local aims. Sustainable Development has been referenced in 98.5% of approved decisions in the last four years. The reason why this policy is not 100% is due to the applications for Prior Notifications, where the principle of development is already established in the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015.

Policy 2 – Climate Change

Climate change is an important cross-policy theme. The Development Management Officers advised in 2016 and in 2018 that Policy 2 does not work as a stand-alone policy for assessing development. It is a very difficult policy to apply to the typical small-scale

development applications that the Authority deals with. Therefore the decrease in usage reflects the officers agreed decision to use other more appropriate policies including Policy 1: Delivering Sustainable Development, Policy 25: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Policy 27: Water and Flood Risk providing the same function. Policy 2 has been used in all Major development applications.

Policy 3 – General Development Principles

This policy contains broad requirements which all development should meet to be acceptable in the National Park. As such, its use in over 99% of planning application decisions shows the policy is relevant in fulfilling this purpose.

Policy 4 – Major Development

Major Development is defined as development whose characteristics and specific impacts are likely to have a significant impact on the special qualities of the National Park.

The Major Development policy has only been used on a small number of occasions, a high of 14% of applications in 2015-16 primarily related to the development of The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre and reduced to a low of 3% in 2017-18. The low usage of this policy can be seen as a positive as major development should only take place in the National Park in exceptional circumstances proven to be in the public interest.

Policy 5 – Location of Development

This data has been based on the location of all types of development including residential dwellings, general industry and office. This policy forms the determination of the principle of development and is therefore used in the determination of the majority of applications. This is a useful policy which directs appropriate scale of development to the more sustainable locations.

Policy 6 – Sequential Approach

Where Policy 5 sets out the preferred settlements for development; Policy 6 considers the order in which different types of land in those settlements should be prioritised. This policy has been used a small number of times, gradually decreasing from 16% in 2015-16 to 7% in 2018-19. The low usage of this policy is likely linked to the low number of new residential developments. Also, the policy does not state how sites can be prioritised, which limits its function.

Policy 7 – Conversion of Buildings outside Settlements

This policy has been used for an average of 10% of decisions over each of the last four years. The policy evidently has a relevant remit for that type of application. This policy is seen as restrictive as it requires the building to contribute to the special qualities of the National Park.

Policy 8 – Community Facilities

The proportion of occasions this policy has been used has gradually decreased from 16% in 2015-16 to 4% in 2018-19. However, this policy is only relevant to Community Facility

applications or to ensure the safeguarding of existing facilities which has not been an issue in the National Park in recent years.

Policy 9 – Managing Housing Supply

This policy is very short comprising of only one sentence and reflects the policy direction of Policy 5: General Location of New Development and supports Policy 10. It is used on the same occasions that Policy 10 is used.

Policy 10 – New Housing Development

Policy 10 has relatively high usage ranging between 19% in 2015-16 and 30% in 2017-18. The key aspect of this policy is that all new residential development will be restricted in perpetuity to people meeting the local need criteria. Although this policy is clearly well used, it could be perceived to limiting housing development as only 4 houses have been delivered during the past four years, with none in the last two.

Policy 11 – Affordable Housing

The policy has been used a small amount decreasing from 9% in 2016-17 to 2% in 2018-19. The main reason behind this is the Policy was made in 2009, setting out a quota of 2 or more units for the inclusion of affordable housing. A Ministerial Statement in November 2014, changed this quota nationally to 10 houses, but 5 houses in National Parks. The first part of this policy effectively became redundant and no affordable homes have been delivered in the National Park during this four-year monitoring period.

Policy 12 – Transport and Accessibility

This policy had been used a relatively high amount, in around half of all applications in 2015-16 and 2016-17. This was in relation to specific major development and access applications. The usage decreased to 34% in 2017-18 and down to 8% in 2018-19 due to much duplication with Policy 3(c) which is generally used instead and is more relevant to the small-scale development applications received by this Authority.

Policy 13 – Provision for Gypsies and Travellers

This policy has not been used at all in the last four years. This mirrors the lack of demand for gypsy and traveller accommodation within the National Park. The SHMA confirms there are no travellers or gypsy sites or demand in the National Park.

Policy 14 – Sustainable Local Economy

This policy is used frequently, increasing from 32% in 2015-16 to over half of applications in the last two years. The regular use of this policy is likely down to the broad range of categories it promotes including new businesses, expanding businesses, tourism, recreation, farming and home-based employment.

Policy 15 – Sustainable Tourism and Recreation Development

The policy on tourism and recreation has seen a steady increase of use from 22% in 2015-16 to 49% in 2017-18, before dropping slightly to 40% last year. This policy importantly enables the fulfilment of the National Park's second statutory purpose to

promote opportunity for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities whilst not adversely impacting them.

Policy 16 – Advertisements

This policy has been used very few times, at most for 2% of applications in a year. However, this closely matches the number of applications for advertisements (as shown in Table 3), showing the policy is relevant when an appropriate application comes forward, although these are rare.

- 3.11 The next four policies (17-20) each address one of the Special Qualities of the National Park as defined in the Management Plan. These policies align with the first statutory purpose ‘to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park’.

Policy 17 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity

A large number of applications are considered against the biodiversity and geodiversity policy. As the policy covers a Special Quality, it is appropriate to use it on the majority of applications. The most recent year 2018-19 saw the policy applied to 88% of decisions.

Policy 18 – Cultural Heritage

For similar reasons Policy 18 is considered on the majority of applications, 92% in 2018-19. The Cultural Heritage policy also encompasses World Heritage Sites, Listed Buildings, Monuments and education/ tourism based around cultural heritage. This broad approach makes the policy relevant to a greater number of applications, which is a likely reason for the high usage rate.

Policy 19 – Tranquillity

As a policy covering a Special Quality, protected by the statutory purposes, Policy 19 equally has a high usage. It has been applied very consistently averaging just below 85% over the last four years.

Policy 20 – Landscape Quality and Character

The final policy to cover one of the Special Qualities, Policy 20 was used on 95% of applications in 2015-16, but has averaged usage on 86% of applications over the last three years, more in line with Policies 17-20.

Policy 21 – Farming

This policy supports agricultural development and diversification. The policy usage varies between 8% in 2015-16 and 24% in 2018-19, but closely correlates with the number of applications for agricultural development (see Table 4).

Policy 22 – Trees, Woodland and Forests

Policy 22 aims to maximise the social, economic and environmental opportunities that trees, woodlands and forests present. Generally the level of usage correlates with the

number of forestry applications received (see Table 4). However, the level of usage much exceeds the number of applications as the policy also deals with development, native trees, ancient woodland and landscaping.

Policy 23 – Minerals

This policy was not used at all in the last four years. It can be considered that this is because new applications for quarrying are unlikely to come forward in light of this and other policies. Secondly, the policy says proposals for extensions to existing workings will be considered against the Policy 4: Major Development Policy.

Policy 24 – Military Training on Otterburn Training Area

The Otterburn Training Area has been in existence since 1912 and occupies 23% of the National Park. However, the usage of Policy 24 has been below 3% in each of the last four years largely because only one application from the Ministry of Defence was received. As such it is considered that a bespoke MoD policy is no longer required and existing policies could assess such applications.

Policy 25 – Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

This policy sets several criteria for the reduction of energy used and increase of energy efficiency for all development. The policy has been applied to between 41% and 59% of applications over the past four years. Although this covers all development, the scale of development received by the Authority is such that it is difficult to apply to anything other than proposed residential dwellings or holiday accommodation.

Policy 26 – Waste Management

The proportion of applications for which Policy 26 was used is below 3% in each of the past four years. One reason for this is waste is also a criteria in Policy 1 (j), Policy 2 (f) and Policy 3 (c). Secondly, Northumberland County Council is the waste authority for the whole of Northumberland (including the National Park) and all the waste facilities are currently located outside of the park boundary.

Policy 27 – Water and Flood Risk

This policy deals with water standards, drainage, directs development away from flood risk areas and flood mitigation. The usage rose to 22% in 2016-17 until gradually decreasing to 7% in the last year 2018-19.

Policy 28 – Utilities and Infrastructure

The final policy of the Core Strategy covers utilities and infrastructure including telecommunications. The policy has been used for between 11% and 30% of policies in the past four years. The policy does not correlate with the number of applications for Infrastructure (see Table 4); however, utilities and infrastructure are a consideration for many types of development. Policy 3 is often used for ensuring appropriate services and infrastructure for small scale developments instead of this Policy.

Design Guide SPD

This adopted SPD is used each time Policy 3: General Principles of Development is considered, which is in virtually all applications.

Landscape SPD

This adopted SPD issued each time Landscape Quality and Character (Policy 20) is used and is helpful in providing more context to that policy.

4. Monitoring and Implementation Framework

- 4.1 This Monitoring Update uses an abridged version of the Monitoring and Implementation Framework published in the Core Strategy (2009).
- 4.2 This is because only policies which specify an annual number (or a target) are required in line with Regulation 34, Clause 3, of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Some of the indicators outlined in the Monitoring and Implementation Framework (2009) were also deemed out of the scope of NNPA to reasonably collect data for.

Table 7 – Targets/data for Monitoring and Implementation Framework

Monitoring and Implementation Framework from Core Strategy (March 2009)			Annual Data			
Core Strategy Policy	Indicator	Target	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Policy 1: Delivering Sustainable Development	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 1.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 2: Climate Change	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 2.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 3: General Development Principles	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 3.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 4: Major Development within the National Park	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 4.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 5: General Location of New Development	Over 50% of new developments located in the settlements identified in Policy 5.	50%	45%	39%	29%	32%
	Over 50% of planning permissions within the most sustainable settlements identified in Policy 5.	50%	27%	36%	19%	28%
Policy 6: The Sequential Approach	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 6.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 7: Conversion of Buildings outside Settlements	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 7.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 8: Community	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Facilities	against Policy 8.					
Policy 9: Managing Housing Supply	75% of new housing development within Local Centres.		75%	0%	0%	N/A
	25% of new housing development within Smaller Villages.		0%	17%	100%	N/A
	30% of new and converted dwellings to be on previously developed (brownfield) land, by 2016.		This has not been monitored.			
	Number of housing completions		3	1	0	0
Policy 10: New Housing Development	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 10.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 11: Affordable Housing	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 11.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	2 affordable housing completions per annum, as identified in HNS/ SHMA.	2 pa	0	0	0	0
	Proportion of these affordable housing completions in the settlements identified in Policy 5.		0	0	0	0
	Amount of housing provided on exception sites		0	0	0	0
Policy 12: Transport and Accessibility	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 12.		100%	100%	100%	100%
	100% of completed non-residential development with Use Class A, B or D complying with car parking standards.		This has not been monitored.			
Policy 13: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers	Number of authorised and unauthorised encampments per year.		0	0	0	0
Policy 14: Sustainable Local Economy	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 14.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 15: Tourism and Recreation	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 15.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 16: Advertisements	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 16.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 17: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 17.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	% of SSSIs and NNRs improving in condition.		99%	99%	98%	98%

	Number of applications with conditions relating to Policy 17.		65%	52%	79%	88%
Policy 18: Cultural Heritage	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 18.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Reduction in number of listed buildings/ monuments on the At Risk Register.		7	3	9	-12
	100% of conservation areas to have an up to date character appraisal.		Kirknewton has a draft Conservation Area appraisal, completed in 2018/19, but not yet adopted.			
Policy 19: Tranquillity	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 19.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Number of applications with conditions relating to Policy 19.		This has not been monitored, but external lighting conditions are placed on all relevant new development.			
Policy 20: Landscape Quality and Character	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 20.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Development and adoption of Landscape SPD, then 100% of newly permitted development acceptable against it.	100%	The Landscape SPD was adopted in 2011, from which time all applications are considered to have complied (100%).			
Policy 21: Farming	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 21.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Number of planning applications for farm diversification.		1	1	4	8
Policy 22: Trees, Woodlands and Forests	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 22.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 23: Minerals	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 23.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Production of aggregates		150k t. est. Harden only	150k t. est. Harden only	150k t. est. Harden only	150k t. est. Harden only
Policy 24: Military Training on the Otterburn Training Area	100% of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 24.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 25: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	100% of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 25.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Policy 26: Waste	100% of newly permitted development acceptable	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Management	against Policy 26.					
	Number of waste management or recycling facilities in the National Park.	No target	0	0	0	0
Policy 27: Water and Flood Risk	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 27.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	0% of planning permissions against the advice of Environment Agency.	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy 28: Utilities and Infrastructure	Proportion of newly permitted development acceptable against Policy 28.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Narrative on Policy targets

- 4.3 Many of the targets aim for where any development is granted permission, that the proposal is acceptable against that policy. In order for a proposal to be given permission, it should not contradict any policies. For this reason, almost every policy meets this target at 100% for the last four years. The only exceptions are Policies 5, 9 and 13 which did not specify this target in the framework as they deal with a relatively specific issue. Two applications were approved (in 2016 and 2019) which did not comply with Policy 5: General Location of New Development. These were both found acceptable and approved by the Development Management Committee as they caused no harm.
- 4.4 Further narrative is supplied below in relation to targets other than the aforementioned 100% acceptable target:

Policy 5 – Location of Development

The settlements as defined in Policy 5 are as follows:

Local Centres: Alwinton, Elsdon, Falstone, Greenhaugh, Harbottle, Holystone, Lanehead and Stannersburn.

Smaller Villages: Charlton, Ingram, Kirknewton, Rochester and Stonehaugh.

This number of new developments to be located in the settlements identified in Policy 5 has not met the 50% target. In 2015-16 this was 45% of developments, but this has lowered to 32% in the most recent year 2018-19.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure the provision and protection of village services and reduce development in the open countryside. This policy applies to all types of development, even those which are not relevant. Therefore the target does not completely accurately determine the success of the policy. It is also skewed because the type of applications received often relate to agricultural or householder development which is often located within the open countryside and would not be suitable to be located in the settlements.

Policy 9 – Managing Housing Supply

75% of new housing development was within the Local Centres in 2015-16, this dropped to 0% for the last three years as minimal housing completions were made in this time.

For the proportion of housing built in the Smaller Villages, this was 0% in 2015-16, 17% in 2016-17 and 100% of housing in 2017-18. Overall, these targets are to ensure housing is concentrated on the settlements rather than the open countryside. Although the targets have not been met, this is due to a low number of completions rather than excess building outside of the settlements.

There has been no new housing within the open countryside.

Policy 11 – Affordable Housing

No affordable housing completions were made in the past four years. In 2014, a Ministerial Statement raised nationally the minimum quota for National Parks to 5 dwellings. This resulted in the loss of 4 potential affordable housing units in pre-application. No further affordable housing completions have been made since this government policy change.

Policy 12 – Transport and Accessibility

Due to the low number of development for Use Classes A, B or D no monitoring on this policy has been carried out.

Policy 13 – Provision for Gypsies and Travellers

There have been no applications for gypsy or traveller accommodation. Equally, there have been no reports of unauthorised encampments.

Policy 17 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity

This policy deals with one of the National Park's special qualities. Almost all of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest and National Nature Reserves have improved in condition in each of the last four years.

An increasing number of planning conditions relating to Policy 17 have also been implemented, rising from 52% of applications in 2016-17 to 88% in 2018-19. This shows the policy is being used effectively to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Park.

Policy 18 – Cultural Heritage

The number of listed buildings/ monuments on the At Risk Register has reduced in three of the past four years. Overall, a net reduction of 7 has been attained over this period.

There is only one Conservation Area within the National Park. A draft Conservation Area appraisal has been carried out including a consultation and publication of this appraisal. This has not been finalised and adopted due to other priorities within the Forward Planning team, mainly including prioritising the Local Plan.

Policy 19 – Tranquillity

Northumberland National Park was designated as an International Dark Sky Park in December 2014. For all relevant development, either the Authority requests details of external lighting to be submitted with an application or implements a condition for the submission of details prior to the installation of any external lighting. At present the monitoring procedure does not include a way to monitor conditions attached, however this is being reviewed. It is estimated that 95% of relevant applications include control over external lighting through condition. Policy 20 – Landscape Quality and Character

The Landscape SPD was adopted in September 2011. This SPD has been applied in all cases where consideration of Policy 20 is applied.

Policy 21 – Farming

There has been a recent rapid increase in the number of farm diversification applications, from 1 application in 2016-17 to 8 in the most recent year 2018-19. This is supported by the policy in order for farms to be more competitive and sustainable.

Policy 23 – Minerals

Harden Quarry is estimated to produce 150,000 tonnes each year. This helps support the supply requirement for Northumberland as a whole. However, there has been no expansion or new quarries showing the policy helps to successfully protect the landscape.

Policy 26 – Waste Management

Waste is managed by Northumberland County Council for the whole county area. However, the policy and duty-to-cooperate has helped ensure the number of waste management and recycling facilities in the National Park has remained at zero over the past four years.

Policy 27 – Water and Flood Risk

Environment Agency no longer advises on schemes less than 10 houses, therefore very little advice has been given by EA since 2016. Nevertheless all approved schemes where this policy is relevant are compliant with this policy and there have been no departures.

5. Net additional dwellings

- 5.1 The net additional dwellings are listed under Policy 9 in the Monitoring and Implementation Framework (Table 7) above and have been extracted into Table 8 below.

Table 8 – Housing Completions

Number of housing completions	<u>2015/16</u>	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>
	3	1	0	0

- 5.2 A full narrative on housing can be found in the [Housing Topic Paper](#) (August 2019).

6. Self-build and Custom Housebuilding

Table 9 – Self-build and Custom Housebuilding new entrants

Number of additions to the SB&CH Register	<u>2015/16</u>	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>
	0	6	0	4

- 6.1. There have been 10 additions to the self and custom housebuilding register over the past four years. These details are kept and updated by NNPA in line with the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding (Register) Regulations 2016 and GDPR.

Table 10 – Self-build and Custom Housebuilding register

SB&CH Register	Entries	Eligible	Individuals	Associations	Part 1	Part 2	Permissions
Nov. 2019	10	10	10	0	1	9	1 (5 units)

- 6.2. Part 1 of the Register is for those that meet the local connection criteria. NNPA considers the local connection test to be those currently residing in the National Park (for the past three years). Only one individual who applied for inclusion on the register lives in the National Park. Part 2 are entries from all others who do not meet the local connection criteria.
- 6.3. Only the entries on Part 1 count towards demand as per the Planning Policy Guidance on Self-build and Custom Housebuilding (July 2017). In September 2016, planning permission was granted for five suitable plots in Greenhaugh, with the scheme implemented and being placed on the open market as self-build plots in September 2019. The details were e-mailed to the entrant on the Part 1 register in November 2019.
- 6.4. Permission was also granted for two self-builds in 2015, in Elsdon and Lanehead, and one in Greenhaugh in 2019. As they were intended to be owner-occupied they were not considered relevant permissions in terms of meeting the Part 1 Register demand.

- 6.5. Therefore, NNPA has met its self-build and custom housebuilding requirements in terms of maintaining the register, publication of data and granting of permissions in relation to demand.
- 6.6. In addition to the headline data in Table 10 above, NNPA is able to publish the following relevant information from the register to help increase awareness among landowners, builders and developers of the level, nature and type of demand in the National Park.

Table 11 – Self-build and Custom Housebuilding preferences

Entries	Preferred Location	Size of Plot Sought	House Type	House size
PART 1	Falstone	0.75	Bungalow	4-bed
PART 2	No preference	Any	Detached	No preference
PART 2	No preference	Any	Detached	4-bed
PART 2	Ingram	0.1ha	Bungalow	3-bed
PART 2	Charlton	No preference	Bungalow	3-bed
PART 2	No preference	1-2ha	Detached	5+ bed
PART 2	No preference	No preference	Detached	4-bed
PART 2	Charlton	No preference	Detached	4-bed
PART 2	Charlton	1ha	Detached	4-bed
PART 2	Alwinton	0.25ha	Detached	4-bed

7. Neighbourhood Development Plans

Table 12 – Neighbourhood Development Plan progress

Neighbourhood Plan Area	Neighbourhood Planning Body	Neighbourhood Plan Progress	Notes
Tarset and Greystead	Tarset and Greystead Parish Council	Plan withdrawn	An independent examination of the Neighbourhood Plan was completed in January 2016. The plan was subsequently withdrawn in January 2017.
Mid-Coquetdale	Steering Group comprising the Parish Councils of Rothbury (qualifying body), Cartington, Thropton and Whitton and Tosson.	Preparation of plan ceased	The Neighbourhood Area of Mid-Coquetdale was designated in April 2015. In May 2017, the steering group decided to postpone progressing with the Neighbourhood Plan. In February 2018, the steering group informed NNPA of the decision to disband and cease work on the Neighbourhood Plan.
Wooler	Wooler Parish Council	Ongoing	The Neighbourhood Area of Wooler was designated in January 2016. The steering group formally submitted to Northumberland County Council in August 2019. NCC are now managing the independent examination process.
Haydon Bridge	Haydon Parish Council	Ongoing	The Neighbourhood Area of Haydon Bridge was designated by NCC in June 2018 and due to be designated by NNPA in Mid-December 2019. The steering group is currently preparing the Neighbourhood Plan.

- 7.1. Over the past four years, one existing designation (Tarset) was withdrawn following the results of the examination. Three new designations were made (Mid-Coquetdale, Wooler and Haydon Bridge), but Mid-Coquetdale was subsequently withdrawn. Wooler and Haydon Bridge are making progress on preparation of their Neighbourhood Plans as shown in Table 11 above.

Appendix

Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

Authorities' monitoring reports

34.—(1) A local planning authority's monitoring report must contain the following information—

- (a) the title of the local plans or supplementary planning documents specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme;
- (b) in relation to each of those documents—
 - (i) the timetable specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme for the document's preparation;
 - (ii) the stage the document has reached in its preparation; and
 - (iii) if the document's preparation is behind the timetable mentioned in paragraph (i) the reasons for this; and
- (c) where any local plan or supplementary planning document specified in the local planning authority's local development scheme has been adopted or approved within the period in respect of which the report is made, a statement of that fact and of the date of adoption or approval.

(2) Where a local planning authority are not implementing a policy specified in a local plan, the local planning authority's monitoring report must—

- (a) identify that policy; and
- (b) include a statement of—
 - (i) the reasons why the local planning authority are not implementing the policy; and
 - (ii) the steps (if any) that the local planning authority intend to take to secure that the policy is implemented.

(3) Where a policy specified in a local plan specifies an annual number, or a number relating to any other period of net additional dwellings or net additional affordable dwellings in any part of the local planning authority's area, the local planning authority's monitoring report must specify the relevant number for the part of the local planning authority's area concerned—

- (a) in the period in respect of which the report is made, and
- (b) since the policy was first published, adopted or approved.

(4) Where a local planning authority have made a neighbourhood development order or a neighbourhood development plan⁽¹⁾, the local planning authority's monitoring report must contain details of these documents.

(5) Where a local planning authority have prepared a report pursuant to regulation 62 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010⁽²⁾, the local planning authority's monitoring report must contain the information specified in regulation 62(4) of those Regulations.

(6) Where a local planning authority have co-operated with another local planning authority, county council, or a body or person prescribed under section 33A of the Act, the local planning authority's monitoring report must give details of what action they have taken during the period covered by the report.

(7) A local planning authority must make any up-to-date information, which they have collected for monitoring purposes, available in accordance with regulation 35 as soon as possible after the information becomes available.

(8) In this regulation "neighbourhood development order" has the meaning given in section 61E of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990⁽³⁾.

(1) See section 38A of the Act (inserted by paragraph 7 of Schedule 9 to the Localism Act 2011 (c.20)) for the definition of "neighbourhood development plan".

(2) S.I. 2010/948.

(3) 1990 c.8. Section 61E was inserted by paragraph 2 of Schedule 9 to the Localism Act 2011.