



FUTURE DURSLEY

Our Neighbourhood Plan

Dursley Neighbourhood Development Plan

2018 – 2031

Assessment of Contribution to Sustainable Development

Introduction:

Contributing to the achievement of sustainable development is a basic condition neighbourhood development plans must meet if they are to proceed to a referendum. In order to demonstrate that a draft neighbourhood plan contributes to sustainable development, sufficient and proportionate evidence should be presented on how the draft neighbourhood plan guides development to sustainable solutions.

There is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal. However, one of the key aims of the Dursley Neighbourhood Plan is to contribute to the environmental, social and economic sustainability of Dursley.

The table below demonstrates how the policies in the Dursley Neighbourhood Plan contribute to the sustainability objectives set out by the Sustainability Appraisal of the adopted Stroud District Local Plan. This assessment format uses and follows the template guidance provided by Stroud District Council for Neighbourhood Plans.

Assessment:

| Topic | Objectives | NDP Response | Type of impact Positive/neutral/negative |
|--------------|--|--|---|
| Air | Ensure that air quality continues to improve. | <p>Transport policy T2 seeks to improve connections for cyclists and pedestrians reducing car use.</p> <p>The associated Cam, Dursley and Uley Greenway project, supported by Stroud DC will further support this.</p> <p>By improving and retaining community facilities including local green spaces in the town Policies SF1 1 and SF2 and supporting local employment Policies E1-E4 the need to travel is reduced supporting improvements to air quality.</p> | Positive |
| Biodiversity | Create, protect, enhance, restore and connect habitats, species and/or | Policies ES1, ES2 and ES3 seek to protect biodiversity | Positive |

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|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| | sites of biodiversity or geological interest. | including ancient woodlands, landscape character and facilities well connected green spaces. | |
| Climate change mitigation | <p>Implement energy efficiency through building design to maximise the re-use of land and buildings, recycle building materials and use renewable sources of energy.</p> <p>Implement strategies that help mitigate global warming and adapt to unavoidable climate change within the District.</p> | <p>Energy efficiency is considered to be adequately covered in Stroud DC policy. The effective use of land is encouraged through supporting development on brownfield sites. These are identified as potential areas for enhancement within the plan.</p> | Positive |
| Community & Wellbeing | <p>Meet the challenge of a growing and ageing population.</p> <p>Encourage social inclusion, equity, the promotion of equality and a respect for diversity.</p> <p>Maintain and improve the community's health with accessible healthcare for residents.</p> <p>Increase levels of physical activity especially among the young.</p> <p>Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Provide access to the countryside and appropriate land for leisure and recreation use</p> | <p>Policy SF1 seeks to safeguard existing community facilities and further improve the offer.</p> <p>Policy SF2 seeks to designate local green spaces for the enjoyment by the local community.</p> <p>In addition, projects to further develop community wellbeing and improved access to facilities included in the NDP.</p> | Positive |
| Economy & Employment | Support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth. | <p>Policy E1 seeks to protect existing employment sites.</p> <p>Policy E2 seeks to encourage start-ups and new businesses.</p> | Positive |

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|---------------------------|--|---|---|
| | <p>Develop the local economy within its environmental limits.</p> <p>Maintain and enhance employment opportunities within the District to meet both current and future needs.</p> | <p>Policy E3 seeks to maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of Dursley Town Centre.</p> <p>Policy E4 seeks to encourage the adequate provision of visitor accommodation.</p> | |
| Housing | Provide affordable and decent housing to meet local needs. | Policies H1 and H2 seek to ensure high quality and adaptable housing and supports development on infill sites and the associated development location commentary. | Positive |
| Landscape & Heritage | <p>Reinforce local distinctiveness local environmental quality and amenity through the conservation and enhancement of the built and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Conserve and enhance landscapes and townscapes.</p> | <p>Policies D1 and TC1 seek to ensure high quality design and response to local character.</p> <p>Policies D1 and TC1 refer to existing townscape character and the defined character areas and urban design framework.</p> | Positive |
| Soil | Protect and enhance soil quality | Soil quality is considered to be adequately in Stroud DC policy e.g. protection of high grade agricultural land and designated allotment sites. | Neutral |
| Transport & Accessibility | <p>Promote traffic reduction and encourage more sustainable alternative forms of transport.</p> <p>Restore, manage and promote the canal towpaths as part of the transport infrastructure.</p> | <p>Policies T1 and T2 and associated transport projects seek to prioritise sustainable forms of transport and support walking and cycling modes.</p> <p>N/A</p> | Positive |

| Topic | Objectives | NDP Response | Type of impact Positive/neutral/negative |
|--------------|--|---|---|
| Waste | Minimise the amount of waste produced, maximise the amount that is reused or recycled and seek to recover energy from the largest proportion of the residual material. | Water issues are considered to be adequately covered in Stroud DC policy. The re-use of existing land is encouraged in the four potential areas for enhancement located in the town. | Positive |
| Water | Maintain and enhance the quality and quantity of ground and surface waters. Manage and reduce the risk of flooding in new and existing development. | Sustainable Drainage and Flooding issues are considered to be adequately covered in Stroud DC policy. | Neutral. |