

Harrogate District Local Plan Publication Draft 2018

January 2018



Harrogate
BOROUGH COUNCIL

i Information

Tell us what you think about the Local Plan Publication Draft

- i.1** Harrogate Borough Council is holding a six week consultation from 26 January to 9 March 2018 on the publication draft of the Local Plan.
- i.2** During previous consultations we have asked for your views on:
- The growth strategy, policies and allocations of specific sites for development.
 - Options for the location of a new settlement and, more recently a preferred location.
 - Areas of open space that hold particular local significance and, as such, should gain additional protection from development through designation as Local Green Space.
- i.3** We have used this information to update/amend the plan. **The purpose of this consultation is for you to tell us whether you think the updated plan is legally compliant and ‘sound’.** These are the key questions that the planning inspector will have to consider at the public examination.

What makes a Local Plan sound?

Positively prepared: The plan should be prepared in a way that meets the need for housing and other development, including infrastructure and business development.

Justified: The plan should be based on evidence, and be the most appropriate strategy for the district when considered against other reasonable alternatives.

Effective: The plan should be deliverable; the housing and other development should be capable of being carried out.

Consistent with national policy: the plan should enable sustainable development and be consistent with the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Where to find the information

- i.4** The plan is available to view online via the council's consultation portal at <https://consult.harrogate.gov.uk/portal>. Printed versions of the main consultation documents are available to view at the following locations during normal office hours:
- Civic Centre, St Luke's Mount, Harrogate, HG1 2AE
 - Knaresborough House, High Street, Knaresborough, HG5 0HW
 - Ripon Town Hall, Market Place South, Ripon, HG4 1DD
 - Libraries across the district and Poppleton library
- i.5** Documents setting out the sustainability appraisal, habitats regulation assessment and equalities analysis of the publication draft plan are also being consulted on. You can read and comment on these documents via the council's portal or at the locations set out above. Evidence base documents, which provide information to support the policies and allocations within the plan, are also available via the portal and the council's [Local Plan evidence base web page](#).⁽¹⁾

Submitting your comments

- i.6** The consultation starts on 26 January and finishes at 4.30pm on 9 March 2018. You can submit your comments at any point during this period, but we would recommend that you don't leave it until the last day.

- i.7** To help you present your comments in the best way for the inspector to consider them, the Planning Inspectorate has issued a standard comment form that is available to complete on-line using the Planning Policy Consultation Portal at: <http://consult.harrogate.gov.uk/portal>
- i.8** Alternatively you can download the comment form from the council's website www.harrogate.gov.uk/localplan or collect a comment form from the locations set out above and return to us at:
- Planning Policy
Planning and Development
P.O. Box 787
Harrogate
HG1 9RW
- i.9** **We ask that you use the comment form because it structures your comments in the way in which the inspector will consider comments at the public examination. Using the form to submit your comments also means that you can register your interest in speaking at the public examination.**
- i.10** Please make sure you include your full name and address with any comments you submit, we cannot accept comments submitted anonymously, or with only a name and email address.
- i.11** Please only use one method of reply to avoid duplication of representations. All comments must be received by 4.30pm on Friday 9 March 2018. Comments received after this date will not be considered to be duly made and may not be taken into account in finalising the Local Plan.

Registering with the consultation portal

- i.12** To submit your views using the consultation portal you must first login into the system; you will not be able to view the questions or enter your comments until you have logged in. If you are not currently on our Local Plan database you will need to register with our consultation system first. You can register at: <http://consult.harrogate.gov.uk/common/register.jsp>
- i.13** Registering with the system is a two step process; please make sure that you have completed both parts or you may find that you cannot login. You must complete all name and address fields in order for your comments to be validated.
- i.14** If you have already set up an account please **DO NOT** register again, (if you are already registered with our consultation database you will probably have received an email notifying you about the consultation). If you are already registered and have forgotten your username and/or password click on the 'Login/Register' button and follow the instructions.
- i.15** You only need to register as an 'Agent' if you are a planning agent i.e. a professional submitting comments on behalf of landowners and/or stakeholders.

Format of the document

- i.16** The Local Plan sets out planning policies for the district. Throughout the Local Plan the wording of these policies is provided within purple policy boxes like the example below.

Draft Policy purple boxes

Used to provide the wording of draft planning policies.

- i.17** Some policies make allocations, these are sites that the council thinks are suitable for allocation for development, or for protection as Local Green Spaces. The allocations are shown within orange site boxes like the example below.

Site orange site boxes

Used to identify draft site allocations and basic information associated with them.

- i.18** The publication draft Local Plan is accompanied by a series of maps called the Policies Maps. These maps identify the spatial proposals of the plan including the identification of site allocations, development limits and designations such as the Green Belt and the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
- i.19** At the back of document you will find a glossary and bibliography. The glossary provides brief explanatory notes for the technical terms used in the plan. The bibliography provides information on the evidence base i.e. the documents that have helped inform the content of the plan, and where possible a link to where the document can be found online.

How will we use the information you give us?

- i.20** Once your comments have been submitted they will be checked and added to the on-line consultation system where you will be able to see your comments and those that have been made by others, (please be aware that comments not submitted via the portal may take longer to appear on the system). Your name, organisation if applicable, and comments will be displayed publicly, but no other personal information will be published.

Data Protection Statement

- i.21** The consultation process requires you to supply personal information about yourself. The purpose of collecting these details is to help us understand who is contributing to our consultation process and so the council can keep you informed of the next steps in the process. Information will be stored on the Local Plan consultation portal and used solely in connection with the Local Plan and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1988. Representations will be available to view on the council's website, although address and contact details will not be included. However, as copies of representations must be made available for public inspection, they cannot be treated as confidential and will be available for inspection in full.

Next steps

- i.22** We will submit all the comments we receive, together with the plan, to the government in Summer 2018 who will pass them to the Planning Inspectorate. The Planning Inspectorate will then appoint an inspector and set a date for a public examination of the plan. We expect that the examination will take place in Winter 2018.

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Chapter Summaries

1 Chapter Summaries

Introduction

- 1.1** The introduction chapter explains the purpose of a Local Plan and how the plan has been prepared. It identifies the existing documents that the plan will replace and the wider policy context at local, sub-regional and national levels that has influenced the development of the plan.

Vision and Objectives

- 1.2** The vision and objectives chapter presents a vision for what the district will be like at the end of the plan period as a result of implementing the plan. It also sets out a series of objectives to achieve the vision, which has influenced the development of the policies in the plan.

Harrogate District Growth Strategy

- 1.3** The growth strategy chapter sets out the scale of new employment and housing development (including provision for Gypsies and Travellers) that is being planned for. It outlines a strategy for accommodating growth across the district that has been guided by a hierarchy of settlements and the main public transport corridors, and sets out an approach to managing the growth of individual settlements. The chapter includes policies to support the council's economic aspirations and the health and wellbeing of residents, as well as overarching policies for the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the areas of the district designated as Green Belt.

Economy

- 1.4** The economy chapter sets out a range of policies to support business, enterprise and job creation in order to achieve a sustainable and diverse local economy across the district. Policies deal with existing employment areas, expansion and new employment development, the tourism economy, and farm diversification. The chapter also includes policy to ensure the longer-term vitality and viability of the district's town, city and local centres.

Housing

- 1.5** The housing chapter sets out policies to help ensure that the new housing being planned for will meet locally identified needs, including in terms of house size, type and tenure, and have adequate internal space. It includes policies that set out the required proportion of affordable housing on development sites and the provision of land for self and custom build housing. Policies also identify requirements for older people's specialist housing and new Gypsy and Traveller sites, as well as allocating land for five new Gypsy or Traveller pitches. Finally, the chapter includes policies to manage new and replacement dwellings in open countryside and extensions to existing dwellings.

Transport and Infrastructure

- 1.6** The transport and infrastructure chapter sets out policies to help ensure there is adequate infrastructure to support development proposed in the plan. Policy sets out the requirement for developers to provide new infrastructure (such as schools, health and community facilities, and open space) on-site or contribute to improvements off-site. Strategic priorities for investment in transport infrastructure are set out, along with criteria for protecting routes that could accommodate new transport infrastructure. Policies also set out considerations for the

level of parking on new developments and support for investment in mobile telephony and broadband, as well as allocating land for school expansion at sites that would otherwise be unable to accommodate growth.

Climate Change

- 1.7** The climate change chapter sets out policy to help mitigate the extent of climate change by reducing carbon dioxide emissions, as well as helping to ensure that development and key infrastructure is more resilient to the effects of climate change. Policies also deal with rivers, flood risk and drainage, as well as renewable and low carbon energy generation.

Heritage and Placemaking

- 1.8** The heritage and placemaking chapter aims to help create successful places that provide quality environments and enable an excellent quality of life. Policies to safeguard the historic environment (including conservation areas and listed buildings), the existing character and sense of place of settlements, residential amenity and public rights of way are included. There are also policies to protect community facilities, as well as open space, recreation and sports facilities, along with policies to manage new provision. Finally, the chapter includes a policy setting out the priorities for improvements to Harrogate town centre.

Natural Environment

- 1.9** The natural environment chapter includes policies to safeguard the natural environment and manage natural resources. Policies to protect air and water quality, landscape character, trees and woodland, and the best and most versatile agricultural land are included. There are also policies to enhance biodiversity and give particular protection to sites designated for their value to nature conservation, as well as to protect green infrastructure and enhance its benefits. The chapter includes a policy setting out criteria to manage the safe development of land that may be suspected of being unstable or contaminated. Finally, policy designates areas that hold particular significance to local communities as Local Green Space.

Delivery and Monitoring

- 1.10** The delivery and monitoring chapter includes policies that allocate land for future housing, employment or mixed use development, as well as setting out the broad location for a new settlement. The chapter also includes a framework for monitoring the delivery of the plan.

Introduction

2 Introduction

What is the new Local Plan?

- 2.1** The council has started work on preparing a new Local Plan for the district, which will cover the period 2014-2035. This will set out how much and where land should be provided to accommodate the new homes and jobs that are needed in our district. The new Local Plan is not just about homes and jobs; it will also look to facilitate new infrastructure provision to ensure that development is sustainable. This might include new transport measures, new sport, open space and recreation facilities as well as schools, shops and community facilities. Finally the new Local Plan will also look to protect and enhance our high quality natural and built environment.
- 2.2** Once the plan is finalised and adopted, it will be used to manage development through the determination of planning applications; making clear where development is acceptable and providing certainty for local communities that new development will happen in a planned and co-ordinated way.

Why and how has it been prepared?

- 2.3** National planning policy, set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), requires council's to prepare long-term development plans for their area. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 prescribe processes that the council must follow when preparing the Local Plan. Work on the Local Plan is at Regulation 19 stage, which is the formal publication consultation. To date, the council has consulted on issues and options that the plan might need to address (July/August 2015), a further consultation (November 2015) on the wording of development management policies, consultation on the draft local plan (November 2016) and consultation on additional housing, employment and Gypsy and Traveller sites (July 2017). The responses to those consultations have been considered by the Council and this formal publication draft local plan takes account of the comments made during the previous stages of consultation.
- 2.4** A range of evidence has been commissioned or undertaken by the council to underpin the Local Plan and this can be viewed on the council's website. The preparation of the draft plan has also been informed by the following:
- Sustainability Appraisal
 - Habitat Regulations Assessment
 - Equality Analysis

What will the Local Plan replace?

- 2.5** The Harrogate District Local Plan (2001) and Selective Alteration (2004), and the Harrogate District Core Strategy (2009) form the current development plan for Harrogate district. Core Strategy and 'saved' Local Plan and Selective Alteration policies that accord with the NPPF will continue to form the basis for planning decisions until the adoption of the new Local Plan. When adopted the new Local Plan will replace the Local Plan (2001), Selective Alteration (2004) and the Core Strategy (2009).

The wider context

- 2.6** The Local Plan has been prepared within the context of other relevant plans and strategies at both national and local levels.

National Planning Policy Framework

- 2.7** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the government's planning policies and how these are expected to be applied. It provides a framework for the preparation of locally distinctive planning policies in the form of a Local Plan. It makes clear that local plans should be aspirational but realistic and are the key to delivering sustainable development. Local Plans should be consistent with the principles and policies set out in the NPPF. The NPPF does not change the statutory status of the development plan; planning decisions must be taken in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

North Yorkshire Plan for Economic Growth 2017

- 2.8** The North Yorkshire Plan for Economic Growth outlines the role of North Yorkshire County Council in supporting economic growth over the next five years and beyond. The aim of the plan is to support innovation and growth through a number of key enablers, including the provision of an efficient transport system, enhanced communications technology and a high-quality environment. The county council also recognises its role in helping people to secure high-quality housing and attractive places to live.

Leeds City Region Strategic Economic Plan (2016-2036)

- 2.9** A refreshed Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) was approved in May 2016 and sets out the priorities to deliver the growth agenda across the Leeds City Region. Harrogate is identified as having a strong and diverse economy; vibrant sectors include financial and professional services (with strengths in financial payments technology) and digital, creative and life sciences. It is also home to a renowned visitor economy offer. It is an area enjoying high employment and strong levels of enterprise with resident earnings and skills above average but facing a significant challenge in that the average workplace earnings are lower than regional and national rates and for those residents who commute elsewhere. This is compounded by high house prices and a costly private rental market: Harrogate is one of three areas in the City Region with worsening housing affordability. There are also challenges around the availability of suitable business premises, peak hour congestion and transport connectivity.
- 2.10** A key priority of the SEP is to increase housebuilding across the City Region not only to deliver homes but also support economic growth and employment opportunities. Harrogate is not identified in the SEP as one of the housing growth areas but actions identified in the SEP to accelerate the pace and rate of house building across the region are relevant for the preparation of the Local Plan.

Harrogate Borough Council Corporate Plan 2014-2017 and The 2017-2019 Corporate Delivery Plan

- 2.11** A strong local economy is identified as one of the council's key priorities; success will mean having a resilient, diverse and expanding economy with a vibrant tourism offer and a world class conference centre supported by excellent transport and broadband connectivity. The council's Corporate Plan also identifies affordable housing as one of the key challenges facing the district. Under the 'Supporting Communities' priority, addressing people's housing needs is identified as one of the outcomes to be achieved. The Corporate Delivery plan prioritises the delivery of the Harrogate Town Centre Masterplan and also the need to work with partners to address traffic congestion and air quality in the district. The delivery plan also sets out the need to maintain a proactive approach to housing provision in the district.

Harrogate Borough Council Housing Strategy 2015-2020

- 2.12** The council's Housing Strategy sets out the key drivers and issues affecting the district and what the council intends to do to help overcome these challenges and create the right conditions for growth and improve the local housing offer. It recognises that the supply of housing, both affordable and market has fallen behind household growth. As a result, demand for housing outweighs supply with a significant shortage in the affordable housing available and affordability being a significant issue.
- 2.13** The Strategy identifies that creating more balance in the local housing market by increasing the supply of new homes will give local people more choice and the ability to move up or down the housing ladder as their needs or circumstances change. This will also help to promote flexibility by making it easier for local people to pursue employment opportunities and supporting economic growth, which in turn will help to support development and encourage new employers to come to the district.
- 2.14** The strategy sets out a series of aims, including the need to improve access to housing, maximise the supply of decent environmentally sustainable homes that people can afford and create attractive and sustainable neighbourhoods.

Harrogate Economic Growth Strategy 2017-2035

- 2.15** The council has published an Economic Growth Strategy for the Harrogate district 2017–2035 which identifies its pro-active, prioritised approach to securing high-value growth and a sustainable local economy. Through a corporate commitment and partnership working the council is seeking to develop economic strengths and address economic weaknesses, by growing and attracting priority sector companies and generating new jobs that will result in an increase in average workplace wages.

Duty to Co-operate

- 2.16** Harrogate Borough Council has a Duty to Co-operate with other local planning authorities and prescribed public bodies on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries in so far as it relates to a strategic matter. A separate paper will be prepared that sets out the council's engagement with other local authorities and prescribed bodies across both North Yorkshire and the Leeds City Region.

Neighbourhood Planning and the Local Plan

- 2.17** Since 2012 local communities have been able to produce Neighbourhood Plans for their area, putting in place a vision and policies for the use and development of land. These plans must focus on guiding rather than stopping development and need to be in conformity with both national planning policies and the strategic planning context provided by the Local Plan.
- 2.18** These plans have a statutory status and must be prepared following a formal process which ultimately leads to their adoption as part of the development plan for the area alongside the Local Plan. If adopted they will be used in making decisions on planning applications.
- 2.19** Neighbourhood Plans are being prepared for Knaresborough, Ripon, Roecliffe, Dishforth and Pannal. Early consultation on preliminary draft policies has been undertaken for both the Knaresborough and Ripon plans. The Ripon City Plan was published for consultation between 19 September and 30 October 2016. Further information on the plans are available on the Ripon City Plan website, the Knaresborough Town Council website and the Roecliffe and Dishforth Parish Council websites.

- 2.20** Detailed planning policies for the areas covered by these plans will therefore be developed through these Neighbourhood Plans and not the Local Plan. However, the Local Plan will set out the strategic planning policy context and identify any strategic development sites. In relation to housing growth for example, the Local Plan has a role to play in the identification of new housing sites to meet objectively assessed housing need.
- 2.21** A neighbourhood plan is also currently being prepared for the Otley neighbourhood area, which includes a small part of the Harrogate district. Leeds City Council is taking the lead on work towards the plan for the Otley neighbourhood area.
- 2.22** Further information relating to neighbourhood planning is available on the council's website.

Vision and Objectives

2 Vision and Objectives

- 2.1** The Local Plan contains policies and proposals which will shape the future direction of change in Harrogate District up to 2035. The planning decisions that will be made in accordance with the Local Plan will affect the future wellbeing of people living and working in the district as well as others who visit and invest here. The Local Plan vision is drawn from the Council's Corporate Plan and Economic Strategy.

Vision

Harrogate district will be a progressive, vibrant place to live, work and visit. The district will have a sustainable and resilient economy that features new, higher value jobs. The district's high quality built and natural environment continues to be a defining feature.

- 2.2** Imagine yourself in the year 2035. The following narrative explains what the vision is seeking to achieve through the implementation of this Local Plan and joint working with key stakeholders.
- 2.3** In 2035 Harrogate district continues to be an area with a fully justified reputation for its high-quality environments, and it remains one of the most sought after and desirable locations in Yorkshire, a place where people want to live, work, do business, shop, and spend their leisure time.
- 2.4** Harrogate district has consolidated its position as a key driver of the North Yorkshire economy, whilst the south-east of the district has exploited opportunities arising from its position between the West Yorkshire conurbation and York, in part through improvements to the Leeds-Harrogate-York rail line, to ensure that the district has also remained an important part of the Leeds City Region economy.
- 2.5** The district has enjoyed continued economic growth and, as a result of supporting a wider range of business sectors, now has a more diverse and resilient economy that offers a wider range of jobs, including more jobs requiring higher-level skills. Tourism remains important to local economies across the district and the numbers of visitors to all parts has grown. In particular, increased international recognition, in part due to successfully building on the legacy of the Tour de France Grand Depart in 2014, has led to more overseas visitors enjoying what the district has to offer.
- 2.6** The variety of house types and sizes available in the district has been brought more in line with local needs through increased and sustained delivery of much needed new homes in sustainable locations across the district. The building of housing has achieved the timely re-use of vacant previously developed land (sometimes called brownfield land), while the increased supply of market housing has enabled a significant proportion of the new homes to be available as affordable homes for local people.
- 2.7** A better balance between homes and jobs has been achieved and this has meant that less people regularly commute long distances to locations outside of the district. At the same time, more people who work within the district are able to choose to also make the area their home. New housing and employment development has enabled significant investment in the district's transport system, providing benefits to the whole population. In addition to improvements on the Harrogate rail line, the quality, frequency and reach of bus services has been protected, and there are now greater opportunities to make journeys safely on foot or by bike. While these improvements have reduced the need to travel by car, investment has also been made in the road network that has achieved reduced levels of congestion and improved air quality.

- 2.8** The quality of the district's natural environment and its diverse landscapes have been preserved and improved, and remain a defining feature of Harrogate district. In particular, the special qualities of the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty have been successfully protected and enhanced. Better management of Green Infrastructure assets (including the Nidd, Ure and Wharfe river valleys) has improved biodiversity and protected geodiversity across the district, especially within internationally protected areas (including the North Pennine Moors), and helped to secure other vital ecosystems services such as carbon storage and sustainable flood risk management. Locally important Green Infrastructure has been recognised and opportunities to improve its quality, extent, connectivity and biodiversity as well as improving multifunctionality and access arrangements have been realised.
- 2.9** Within the district, natural resources are now used more efficiently and less waste is being produced. At the same time the district's carbon footprint has been reduced substantially, showing that Harrogate district is making significant strides to help the UK to meet the legal requirement to reduce carbon emissions by 80% by 2050.
- 2.10** New developments across the district have been well designed. They respect the local character of places and have added to local distinctiveness, successfully integrating into their surroundings. Development has helped to deliver improved local infrastructure benefiting the whole community. At the same time, on-going conservation and enhancement of heritage assets (both designated and non-designated), including historic buildings, has helped to protect local distinctiveness and has led to an increasing understanding of the past.
- 2.11** The district's three largest settlements, (Harrogate, Knaresborough and Ripon), have retained their different identities, and each has built on its individual strengths and taken full advantage of local opportunities for development. As a result, all three places have benefited from environmental improvements, including enhancements to heritage assets, as well as the provision of a wider range of attractions and activities that have secured their vital roles to local people and seen increasing numbers of visitors.
- 2.12** Harrogate remains the district's primary centre providing the widest range of employment opportunities, services and facilities, as well as the most varied retail and leisure offer. In part this has been achieved because the town has maintained its position as one of the UK's leading conference and exhibition destinations despite stiff competition. Knaresborough has seen considerable town centre improvements. Recent development better reflects the town's character and has made a positive contribution to its appearance while, at the same time, there is less congestion and people are able to enjoy better air quality. Ripon has strengthened its role as the main service and employment centre for an extensive rural hinterland and been successful in regenerating key parts of the city, including the city centre. At the same time, former military land has been transformed into a new 'urban village'.
- 2.13** New development in the district's smaller market towns, (Pateley Bridge, Masham and Boroughbridge), and a wider number of villages has helped to retain essential services in rural areas. Better mobile telephone coverage and improved access to super-fast fibre broadband has supported local residents and businesses, including agricultural businesses, whilst enabling greater diversification of the rural economy. Better promotion of these areas, including the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and an increased variety of visitor attractions that both maximise upon and complement their rural locations, have seen greater numbers of leisure visitors choosing to spend time in these parts of the district.

Objectives

Sustainable development patterns

Objective 1: Contribute to sustainable patterns of development.

Key mechanisms:

- a. Focusing housing and employment development in locations which are, or can be made, sustainable; these are locations that take full advantage of existing opportunities to walk, cycle, or use public transport, or have the potential to increase these opportunities, in order to access jobs, shops, services and facilities.
- b. Protecting and enhancing the roles of Harrogate, Knaresborough and Ripon as places providing a wider range of homes, jobs, shops, services and facilities; and Pateley Bridge, Masham and Boroughbridge as centres providing a good range of homes, jobs, shops, services and facilities.
- c. Facilitating the delivery of a successful and distinctive new settlement that offers a high quality of life and enables the development of a mixed community: with local services and facilities, local employment opportunities, extensive green infrastructure, opportunities for leisure and recreation, and good access to public transport.
- d. Supporting the retention and enhancement of services and facilities in villages and hamlets to protect their existing roles and enable rural communities to thrive.

Relevant policies:

GS2; GS3; GS5; GS7.

EC1; EC3; EC4; EC5; EC7; HS1; HS4; HS10; TI1; TI2; HP1; HP6; HP7; HP8; HP9; DM1; DM2; DM3; DM4.

Economy

Objective 2: Support business, enterprise, and job creation in order to build a strong and sustainable economy throughout the district that provides a range of employment and training opportunities, including a higher proportion of high-value jobs.

Key mechanisms:

- a. Delivery of sufficient land and premises for employment uses to improve choice and help to enable a thriving economy.
- b. Supporting local investment and inward investment aimed at achieving business growth, particularly in key economic sectors, whilst also supporting business start-ups and the growth of existing small and micro businesses.
- c. Supporting a growing tourism sector that attracts greater numbers of domestic and overseas visitors, and provides a vibrant offer for both business and leisure visitors. This includes maintaining the position of Harrogate as one of the UK's leading conference and exhibition destinations.

Relevant policies:

GS1; GS2; GS3; GS5; GS7

EC1; EC2; EC3; EC4; EC5; EC6; EC7; HS9; TI1; TI2; TI4; TI5; HP1; NE8; DM2; DM3; DM4

Housing

Objective 3: Increase the supply of new housing to address housing needs for all.

Key mechanisms:

- a. Delivery of additional market and affordable housing in sizes, types and tenures, and at a scale that meets locally identified needs.

Relevant policies:

GS1; GS2; GS3; GS7.

HS1; HS2; HS3; HS4; HS5; HS6; HS7; HS8; HS9; HS10; DM1; DM3; DM4.

Infrastructure and connectivity

Objective 4: Facilitate the delivery of the infrastructure necessary to support a strong local economy, reduce the impacts of transport on the environment and communities, and enable reliable journeys between key centres regionally, nationally and internationally.

Key mechanisms:

- a. Facilitating the delivery of infrastructure to accommodate and support new housing and employment development.
- b. Enabling greater opportunities to travel on foot and by bike; and supporting improvements to the quality, frequency and accessibility of public transport.
- c. Supporting the expansion of, and improvements to, electronic infrastructure including next generation broadband and mobile telephony across the district.

Relevant policies:

GS2; GS7.

EC2; EC3; EC4; HS1; HS4; TI1; TI2; TI3; TI4; TI5; TI6; HP1; HP5; NE1.

Natural resources and climate change

Objective 5: Manage the use of natural resources and respond positively to address climate change.

Key mechanisms:

- a. Encouraging the efficient use of natural resources including through: the re-use of buildings and vacant previously developed land, greater use of sustainable construction techniques, minimising the amount of waste requiring treatment and disposal, avoiding the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral deposits.
- b. Reducing the extent of climate change by encouraging development that minimises greenhouse gas emissions, including through energy efficiency measures and renewable energy generation.
- c. Reducing the impacts of climate change by securing development that is resilient to the consequences of climate change and supports and contributes to the wider resilience of communities and key infrastructure, for example through sustainable flood risk management.

Relevant policies:

GS7.

EC1; EC3; EC7; HS1; HS6; TI1; TI3; CC1; CC3; CC4; NE2; NE3; NE5; NE7; NE8; NE9.

Heritage and placemaking

Objective 6: Create successful places that provide quality environments and enable communities and individuals to enjoy an excellent quality of life.

Key mechanisms:

- a. Promoting the conservation, enhancement and understanding of the historic environment
- b. Encouraging high-quality design that responds positively to local character and contributes positively to local distinctiveness and health and wellbeing, including community safety.
- c. Maximising the contribution of the historic environment to local distinctiveness as well as to achieving wider social and economic objectives.
- d. Facilitating delivery of appropriate sport and recreation facilities, play areas and accessible open space.
- e. Supporting bodies seeking to use neighbourhood planning tools that enable communities as a whole to take greater control of shaping development in their neighbourhoods.

Relevant policies :

GS4; GS7.

EC2; EC3; EC4; EC5; EC7; HS1; HS5; HS6; HS7; HS8; HS10; TI4; TI5; CC3; HP1; HP2; HP3; HP4; HP5; HP6; HP7; HP8; HP9; NE1; NE4; NE5; NE6; NE7.

Natural environment

Objective 7: Safeguard the natural environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

Key mechanisms:

- a. Protecting and enhancing landscape character, in particular the nationally designated Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- b. Protecting the widest range of natural and semi-natural features, green spaces, lakes and rivers that act as the district's Green Infrastructure; and enhancing their quality, biodiversity, extent, connectivity and, where appropriate, access arrangements in order to maximise their wider environmental, social, and economic benefits.
- c. Protecting internationally, nationally, and locally designated nature conservation sites and take opportunities to enhance quality, biodiversity and geodiversity.

Relevant policies :

GS3; GS4; GS7; GS8

EC2; EC3; EC4; HS6; HS7; HS9; HS10; TI5; CC1; CC2; CC3; HP3; HP6; HP7; NE1; NE2; NE3; NE4; NE5; NE6; NE7; NE8 ; NE9

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