

## Burton Overy Review Neighbourhood Plan

### Summary of representations submitted by Harborough District Council to the independent examiner pursuant to Regulation 17 of Part 5 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

	Name	Policy /Page	Full Representation
1	Anglian Water Services Limited Lancaster House, Lancaster Way, Ermine Business Park, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. PE29 6XU		<p>Thank you for contacting Anglian Water on the draft Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan. I have checked our records and Severn Trent Water provides the water and sewerage services for the area. Therefore, we offer no comments on the draft document.</p> <p>Please note we are now using a team email address for neighbourhood plan correspondence and I should be grateful if you could please update your records – <a href="mailto:strategicgrowth@anglian.water.co.uk">strategicgrowth@anglian.water.co.uk</a>. Thank you.</p>
2	Environment Agency, Scarrington Road, Nottingham, NG25 2FA		<b>The Environment Agency has no adverse comments to make on the Plan as submitted.</b>
3	Harborough District Council, Council Offices, Adam and Eve Street,	ENV7	<p>We have looked at this and were pleased to see the outlining of the views, non designated heritage assets and the design code which we felt were all positive. We have the following comments which we feel would strengthen the document:</p> <p><b>P. 7 – Policy ENV 7</b> – suggest checking the para numbers of the NPPF to ensure they are correct as they do not match to those used on P.38.</p>

	<b>Market Harborough LE16 7AG</b>	<p>P38</p> <p>Appendix 5</p> <p>Appendix 6</p> <p>HD3</p> <p>Page 49</p>	<p>- Developers are required to submit a historic impact assessment with any development affecting the outlined non designated heritage assets.</p> <p><b>P.38 - Figure 10</b> - It would be useful to show the Grade II* asset (1061587) in a different color (as has been done for the Scheduled Monument) to ensure that the different levels of asset significance are clearly identified.</p> <p><b>Appendix 5</b> – the map (see comments for map on P.38) the appendix lists the designated heritage assets including the list entry number and level of designation which is good to see. It may be helpful to include a hyperlink for each entry which can take the reader directly to the full listing entry on the Historic England website.</p> <p><b>Appendix 6</b> - this has been produced in line with best practice and provides the reader with a good understanding of the reasons for inclusion and the local significance of the identified assets. Ther Old School and the Old School House are assets with group value and it is recommended that this group value is noted in Appendix 6.</p> <p><b>Policy HD3: Design.</b> To strengthen this policy suggest adding the following: - Developers are required to respond to the design code and outline how they respond to the checklist at the end of the code. Any new development of any scale should provide a character assessment and statement to show the design code has been taken into consideration and has positively influenced design decisions.</p> <p>Reference to Core Strategy to be removed <b>Page 49 Manor Farm Egg Shop</b> From: Both the NPPF and the Harborough Core Strategy indicate that valued community facilities should be retained. To: Both the NPPF and the Harborough Local Plan 2011 to 2031 policy HC2 indicate that valued community facilities should be retained.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Historic England, Historic Places Advisor,</b>		<p>I am writing in relation to the following:</p> <p>NDP: Neighbourhood Development Plan Burton Overy NDP [Case Ref. PL00797793; HE File Ref. N/A; Your Reference. N/A]</p> <p>Thank you for consulting us - we have no further comments to make.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Leicestershir e County Council, Policy, Economy &amp;</b>		<p>Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan Comments Requested – 2-7-2025</p> <p>Leicestershire County Council is supportive of the Neighbourhood plan process and welcome being included in this consultation.</p> <p>Highways Specific Comments</p>

	<p><b>Community, Chief Executive's Department, Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire LE3 8RA</b></p>	<p>ENV11</p>	<p>Flooding No specific Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) requirements for the Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan area. There are some local surface water issues that are being addressed outside of the planning process.</p> <p>LCC note the policy below is almost identical to the Quorn Neighbourhood Plan Policy Env 9. We are not keen on repeating points already well established in national policy (these could be referenced instead). We provided a similar response to your previous NP consultation but no change has been made.</p> <p><b>POLICY ENV 11: FLOOD RISK RESILIENCE</b> <i>Development proposals within the areas indicated (Zones 3 and 2 and surface water) in Figure 15 will be required, where appropriate, to demonstrate that the benefit of development outweighs the harm in relation to its adverse impact on climate change targets, and on the likelihood of it conflicting with locally applicable flood mitigation strategies and infrastructure.</i></p> <p>OK.</p> <p>Proposals to construct new (or modify existing) floodwater management infrastructure (ditches, roadside gullies, retention pools, etc.), including within or close to the built-up area, will be supported, provided they do not adversely affect important open spaces, or sites and features of natural or historical environment significance.</p> <p>Unclear on the purpose of this policy requirement. Small drainage ditches and roadside gullies modifications are regulated under the Land Drainage Act and/or Highways Act. It potentially creates a barrier to improving flood risk infrastructure which may have an adverse effect on green and open spaces.</p> <p><i>c) Development proposals of one or more dwellings and/or for employment or agricultural development should demonstrate that: if in a location susceptible to flooding from rivers or surface water (figure 15), no alternative site is available;</i></p> <p>Already covered by Paragraphs 173-176 of NPPF (Sequential Test).</p> <p><i>it's location and design respect the geology, flood risk and natural drainage characteristics of the immediate area and is accompanied by a hydrological study whose findings must be complied with in respect of design, groundworks and construction;</i></p> <p>No Comment</p> <p><i>it includes a Surface Water Drainage Strategy which demonstrates that the proposed drainage scheme, and site layout and design, will prevent properties from flooding from surface water, including allowing for climate change effects, and that flood</i></p>
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			<p>General Comments</p> <p>With regard to the environment and in line with Government advice, Leicestershire County Council (LCC) would like to see Neighbourhood Plans cover all aspects of archaeology and the historic and natural environment including heritage assets, archaeological sites, listed and unlisted historic buildings, historic landscapes, climate impacts, the landscape, biodiversity, ecosystems, green infrastructure as well as soils, brownfield sites and agricultural land.</p> <p>Climate Change</p> <p>The UK Met Office predicts that Britain could experience summers as much as 5°C hotter by 2070. Winters could be up to 4.2°C warmer, and sea levels could rise by up to 1.15 metres by 2100. Average summer rainfall could decrease by up to 47% by 2070, while there could be up to 35% more precipitation in winter.</p> <p>In June 2019 the Climate Change Act (2008) was amended committing the UK to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.</p> <p>The County Council has a target to achieve net zero for its own operations by 2035 and working with Leicestershire people and organisations to become a net zero county by 2050. Leicestershire's Net Zero Strategy and Action Plan is available <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Planning is one of the key levers for enabling these commitments to be met. Neighbourhood Plans should, as far as possible, align to Leicestershire County Council's Net Zero Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>Furthermore, Neighbourhood Plans should, as far as possible, seek to include measures which increase the neighbourhood's resilience to climate change such as avoiding building on flood plains, using sustainable urban drainage systems, using nature based solutions to reduce flood risk, reducing the amount of non-permeable hard surfaces and encouraging tree planting, green walls and roofs to provide natural shading and cooling.</p> <p>These recommendations not only protect local communities but also enhance well-being, lower energy bills and create prosperous future proof neighbourhoods.</p> <p>The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change – paragraphs 157 to 179.</p> <p><i>Para 157 - The planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.</i></p> <p>Landscape</p>
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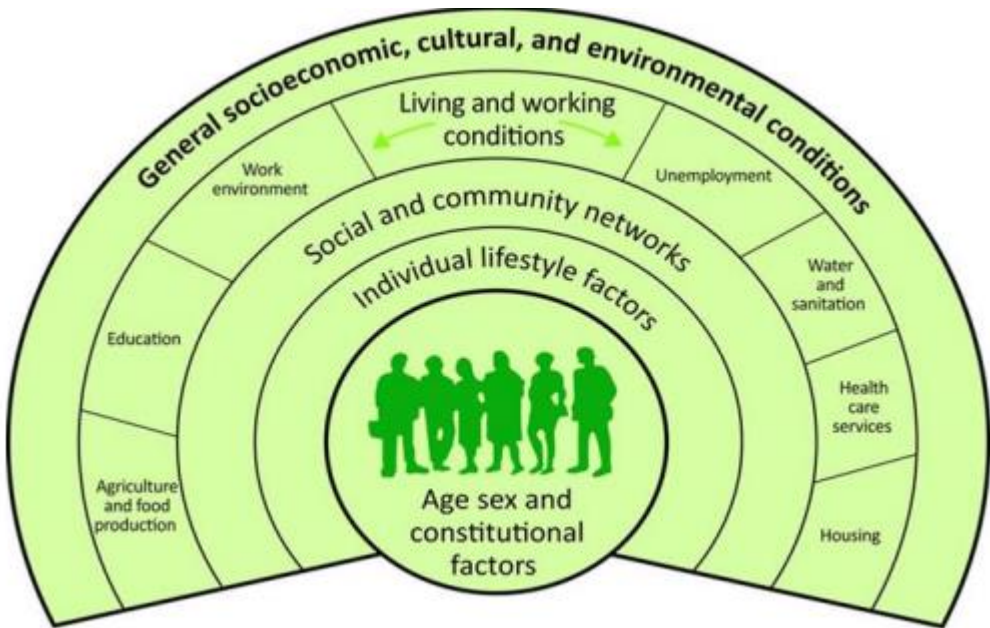
		<p>enhancing biodiversity and habitat connectivity, such as hedgerows and greenways. Habitat permeability for species which addresses encouragement of movement from one location to another such as the design of street lighting, roads, noise, exposure to chemicals, obstructions in water, exposure of species to predation, Invasive and Non-Native Species, and arrangement of landuses should be considered.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan can be used to plan actions for the parish council on its' own land (community actions) and guide the actions of others (policy actions).</p> <p>In July 2025 the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland was launched. The LNRS sets out the landscape scale priorities for nature recovery across the area, identifying priority areas and measures. Details on the LNRS and supporting resources can be found here: <a href="https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/local-nature-recovery-strategy/leicestershire-leicester-and-rutland-local-naturerecovery-strategy">https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/local-nature-recovery-strategy/leicestershire-leicester-and-rutland-local-naturerecovery-strategy</a></p> <p>Local Nature Recovery Strategies are not intended to provide red line boundaries preventing or placing new restrictions on land use which may be changed either through development or in taking advantage of new opportunities identified through the strategy. This has been established by national guidance. LNRS's are an additional evidence base to inform Local Plans, and other elements of the formal Development Plan which include Neighbourhood Plans and the proposed new Spatial Development Strategies. Local Plans remain the primary tool used by local planning authorities to determine which land should be developed and how.</p> <p>For specific advice on species and habitats of importance in the County and actions that can make a difference to their conservation and ways to increase the quality and quantity of these, please refer to the Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan <a href="https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/biodiversity-strategy">https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/biodiversity-strategy</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-andbiodiversity">https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-andbiodiversity</a></p> <p>The Leicestershire and Rutland Environmental Records Centre (LRERC) can provide a summary of wildlife information for your Neighbourhood Plan area. This will include a map showing nationally important sites (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest); locally designated Wildlife Sites; locations of badger setts, great crested newt breeding ponds and ponds with high potential to support great crested newts' and bat roosts; and a list of records of protected and priority Biodiversity Action Plan species. These are all a material consideration in the planning process. If there has been a recent Habitat Survey of your plan area, this will also be included. LRERC is unable to carry out habitat surveys on request from a Parish Council, although it may be possible to add it into a future survey programme.</p> <p>Contact: LRERC@leics.gov.uk., or phone 0116 305 1087  <a href="https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/leicestershire-andrutland-environmental-records-centre-lrerc">https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/leicestershire-andrutland-environmental-records-centre-lrerc</a>.</p>
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			<p>For informal advice on actions for nature that can be taken forward on parish land please contact <a href="mailto:EnvironmentTeam@Leics.gov.uk">EnvironmentTeam@Leics.gov.uk</a></p> <p>There are many protected species of plants and animals in England and often their supporting features and habitats are also protected. What you can and cannot do by law varies from species to species and may require a preliminary ecological appraisal. For information on protected species and the law please visit: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/protected-specieshow-to-review-planning-applications">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/protected-specieshow-to-review-planning-applications</a></p> <p>Examples of policy statements that can be added to the plan to support biodiversity:</p> <p><b>POLICY X: BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION IN NEW DEVELOPMENT</b> – Consideration should be made in the design and construction of new development in the Plan Area to protect and enhance biodiversity, where appropriate, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roof and wall construction should incorporate integral bee bricks, bird nest boxes and bat breeding and roosting boxes. Target species and locations to be based on advice sought from the Local Authority's Biodiversity Officer (or equivalent).</li> <li>• Hedges (or fences with ground-level gaps) should be used for property boundaries to maintain connectivity of habitat for hedgehogs and other terrestrial animals.</li> <li>• Work with landowners to ensure good maintenance of existing hedgerows, gap up and plant new hedgerows where appropriate and introduce a programme of replenishing hedgerow trees.</li> <li>• Avoidance of all unnecessary exterior artificial lighting: there is no legal duty requiring any place to be lit.</li> <li>• Security lighting, if essential, should be operated by intruder sensors and illuminated for no longer than 1 minute. Sports and commercial facility lighting should be switched off during agreed 'curfew' hours between March and October, following best practice guidelines in Bats and Lighting Leicestershire Environmental Records Centre, 2014.</li> <li>• Lighting design, location, type, lux levels and times of use should follow current bestpractice, e.g. by applying the guidelines in Guidance note 08/18 Bats and artificial lighting in the UK: Bat Conservation Trust / Institution of Lighting Professionals, 2018.</li> <li>• Natural/semi natural grassland margins adjacent to hedges of up to 5m buffer.</li> <li>• Retain natural features wherever possible.</li> <li>• In creating habitats, consider the underlying geology and allow natural colonisation near local high-quality habitats.</li> <li>• Avoid use of topsoil to promote plant diversity, especially in areas of limestone or areas near to heathland - consider exposing sandy soils to encourage acid grassland and heath.</li> <li>• Allow for structural diversity of habitats – for example long and tall grass, to maintain a suitable grassland habitat for wildlife. A management plan should accompany all planning applications.</li> <li>• Avoid development and hard landscaping next to watercourses.</li> <li>• Restore naturalness to existing watercourses for example by retaining some steeper earth banks suitable for Kingfisher and Water Vole breeding.</li> <li>• Retain areas of deadwood within the site to maintain biodiversity.</li> <li>• Plant 30% of trees with a selection of larger native species and create lines of trees (this could support the feeding zone of bats for instance and well managed hedges can do the same).</li> </ul>
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			<p><b>Green Infrastructure</b></p> <p>Green infrastructure (GI) is a network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities (NPPF definition). GI includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, street trees, cemeteries/churchyards, allotments and private gardens as well as streams, rivers, canals and other water bodies and features such as rain gardens, pocket parks and swales.</p> <p>The NPPF places the duty on local authorities to plan positively for a strategic network of GI which can deliver a range of planning policies including: building a strong, competitive economy; creating a sense of place and promoting good design; promoting healthier communities by providing greater opportunities for recreation and mental and physical health benefits; meeting the challenges of climate change and flood risk; increasing biodiversity and conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment. Looking at the existing provision of GI networks within a community can influence the plan for creating &amp; enhancing new networks.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan groups have the opportunity to plan GI networks at a local scale to maximise benefits for their community and in doing so they should ensure that their Neighbourhood Plan is reflective of the relevant Local Authority Green Infrastructure strategy. Through the Neighbourhood Plan and discussions with the Local Authority Planning teams and potential Developers communities are well placed to influence the delivery of local scale GI networks.</p> <p>Sites that are designated as Local Green Spaces can form an important strategic part of local Green Infrastructure and can be conserved and enhanced to make an important contribution to the district green infrastructure. Delivery of the conservation and enhancement can be dealt with in Policy and Community Actions.</p> <p>NPs should be aware of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and consider how the sites and the management of can contribute to the strategy and action for delivery:  <a href="https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/local-nature-recoverystrategy/what-a-local-nature-recovery-strategy-is">https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/local-nature-recoverystrategy/what-a-local-nature-recovery-strategy-is</a></p> <p><b>Brownfield, Soils and Agricultural Land</b></p> <p>The NPPF encourages the effective use of brownfield land for development, except where this would conflict with other policies in the NPPF Framework, including causing harm to designated sites of importance for biodiversity. Neighbourhood planning groups should check with Defra and the District or Borough council who keep a register of brownfield sites to see if their neighbourhood planning area includes brownfield sites. Where information is lacking as to the ecological or heritage value of these sites then the Neighbourhood Plan could include policies that ensure such survey work should be carried out to assess the ecological and heritage value of a brownfield site before development decisions are taken.</p> <p>Soils are an essential finite resource on which important ecosystem services, such as food production depend.. and should be enhanced in value and protected from adverse effects.. Within the government's "Safeguarding our Soils" strategy, Defra</p>
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		<p>have produced a code of practice for the sustainable use of soils on construction sites which could be helpful to neighbourhood planning groups in preparing environmental policies.</p> <p>High quality agricultural soils should, where possible, be protected from development and where a large area of agricultural land is identified for development poorer quality areas should be used in preference to the higher quality areas. Neighbourhood planning groups should consider mapping agricultural land classification within their plan to enable informed decisions to be made in the future. Natural England can provide further information and Agricultural Land classification and have produced the following guide.  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agricultural-land-assess-proposals-fordevelopment/guide-to-assessing-development-proposals-on-agricultural-land">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agricultural-land-assess-proposals-fordevelopment/guide-to-assessing-development-proposals-on-agricultural-land</a></p> <p>The British Society for Soil Science provide advice on what should be expected of developers in assessing land for development suitability.  <a href="https://soils.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Assessing-Agricultural-Land-Jan-2022.pdf">https://soils.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Assessing-Agricultural-Land-Jan-2022.pdf</a></p> <p>Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs)</p> <p>Information for Neighbourhood Planning groups regarding Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) can be found on the Neighbourhood Planning website <a href="https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/understand-planrequires-strategic-environmental-assessment-sea/">https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/understand-planrequires-strategic-environmental-assessment-sea/</a> and should be referred to. A Neighbourhood Plan must meet certain basic conditions in order to be 'made'. It must not breach and be otherwise compatible with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations SI 2004/1633 (available online). These regulations deal with the assessment of environmental plans and programmes and implement Retained Reference Directive 2001/42 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'.</p> <p>Not every Neighbourhood Plan needs a SEA; however, it is compulsory to provide when submitting a plan proposal to the local planning authority either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A statement of reasons as to why SEA was not required</li> <li>• An environmental report (a key output of the SEA process).</li> </ul> <p>As a rule of thumb, SEA is more likely to be necessary if both of the following two elements apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Neighbourhood Plan allocates sites for development (for housing, employment etc.); and</li> <li>• the neighbourhood area contains sensitive environmental assets (e.g. a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)) that may be affected by the policies and proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan.</li> </ul> <p>In light of these two considerations, it is very unlikely that a Neighbourhood Plan would require SEA if the plan is not allocating land for development. This is because allocating land for development is more likely to generate physical changes which lead to significant effects. As the UK has now left the EU, Neighbourhood Planning groups should remain mindful of any future changes which may occur to the above guidance. Changes may be forthcoming as a result of the Government's Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA). This proposes 'Environmental Outcome Reports' to replace the current system of</p>
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		<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment (including Sustainability Appraisals) and Environmental Impact Assessment and introduce a clearer and simpler process where relevant plans and projects (including Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects) are assessed against tangible environmental outcomes. Prior to the new Labour government taking office, the provisions in the Act to enable the EORs to be brought forward had not been enacted and this remains the situation as of summer 2024.</p> <p>Impact of Development on Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)</p> <p>Neighbourhood planning groups should remain mindful of the interaction between new development applications in a district and borough area and the existing HWRC services delivered by Leicestershire County Council.</p> <p>The County Council's Waste Management team considers the impact of increased waste arisings from proposed developments on a case by case basis and when it is identified that a proposed development will have a detrimental effect on the local HWRC infrastructure then appropriate projects to maintain the capacity of the HWRC (most likely impacted) have to be initiated.</p> <p>Planning obligations to fund these projects are requested in accordance with the Leicestershire County Council's Planning Obligations Policy and the three CIL tests (as per Regulation 122 under the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 (as amended)) as described below;</p> <p>A planning obligation is a legally enforceable commitment (secured within a Section 106 agreement or S106 unilateral undertaking (as per s106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)) entered into to mitigate the impacts of development. Planning obligations can only be sought (and considered to be CIL compliant) where they meet the following 3 tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;</li> <li>• directly related to the development;</li> <li>• fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development;</li> </ul> <p>Public Health</p> <p>Health is shaped by many different factors throughout our lives. Health is affected by the settings in which we live, work, learn and play. These influences start to determine health and opportunities for better health from birth and throughout the whole life course, for example the environment, community, transport, education and income. This complex range of interacting social, economic and environmental factors are known as the wider determinants of health or the social determinants of health.</p> <p>When there is a difference in these conditions it contributes to health inequalities- "Health inequalities are the preventable, unfair and unjust differences in health status between groups, populations or individuals that arise from the unequal distribution of social, environmental and economic conditions within societies" (NHS England)</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol use 5%</li> <li>• Poor sexual health 5%</li> </ul> <p>Socioeconomic Factors contribute to 40% of health outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education 10%</li> <li>• Employment 10%</li> <li>• Income 10%</li> <li>• Family/Social Support 5%</li> <li>• Community Safety 5%</li> </ul> <p>Clinical Care contributes to 20% of health outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to care 10%</li> <li>• Quality of care 10%</li> </ul> <p>Built Environment contributes to 10% of health outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Quality 5%</li> <li>• Built Environment 5%</li> </ul> <p>Source:</p> <p>Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, Used in US to rank Counties by health Status</p> <p>Therefore, due to the complex way in which the built environment and communities we live in impact on our health any opportunity to mitigate negative impacts and enhance positive outcomes should be taken. Completing a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a good practice to ensure neighbourhood concerns and recommendations are considered.</p> <p>Undertaking a HIA as part of your neighbourhood plans has the potential to influence all these areas, alongside influencing decisions made about access to care through transport and infrastructure.</p> <p>To aid you in undertaking a HIA please visit: Health Impact Assessments   Leicestershire County Council Professional Services Portal At the bottom of this page there are also links to a number of local data sheets at a district level. You can also familiarise yourself with the health profile for your area by visiting: <a href="https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles">https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles</a></p> <p>Leicestershire Inequalities JSNA   Tableau Public and Health Inequalities and Wider Determinants of Health   LSR Online</p> <p>Dahlgren G, Whitehead M. (1991). Policies and Strategies to Promote Social Equity in Health. Stockholm, Sweden: Institute for Futures Studies.</p> <p>NHS England, "Reducing health inequalities resources," [Online]. Available: <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/about/equality/equality-hub/resources/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/about/equality/equality-hub/resources/</a> [Accessed February 2021].</p> <p>Active Together</p> <p>An ever-increasing body of research indicates that the environment in which we live is inextricably linked to our health across the life course. For example, the design of our neighbourhoods can influence physical activity levels, travel patterns, social connectivity, mental and physical health and wellbeing outcomes." (Spatial Planning for Health- An evidence resource for planning and designing healthier places; Public Health England, 2017)</p>
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			<p>10. Maintaining high-quality flexible spaces</p> <p>The places we inhabit can have a considerable effect on our health, behaviour and quality of life. Places that provide opportunities for people to lead physically active lives can positively impact people's physical and mental wellbeing. But the opposite can also be true, where the design of a place creates barriers making it difficult, unpleasant or inconvenient for people to be physically active</p> <p>Embedding principles of developing Active Environments at a strategic level could result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing developments which make walking and cycling the preferred method of individual transport and reduced reliance on the car and motorised transport.</li> <li>• Neighbourhoods where people live closer to where they work, and sustainable transport becomes a realistic option.</li> <li>• Safe mixed-use developments and neighbourhoods where residents feel safe and encouraged to maximise outdoor space for travel and recreation.</li> <li>• A contribution to increasing local population physical activity levels and a factor in reducing air pollution and maximising green infrastructure</li> <li>• Supporting Local Authority corporate challenges to improve health outcomes, develop community cohesion, and impact on community safety and neighbourhood resilience.</li> </ul> <p>The benefits of places that encourage activity go beyond just public health. Compact, walkable, linked communities that are centred around people being active rather than using cars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are more environmentally friendly,</li> <li>• Have lower carbon emissions,</li> <li>• Have better air quality,</li> <li>• Are more socially inclusive,</li> <li>• Are more economically productive.</li> </ul> <p>Active Environments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More environmentally friendly</li> <li>2. Better air quality</li> <li>3. More economically productive</li> <li>4. More socially inclusive</li> <li>5. Lower carbon emissions</li> </ol> <p>Sport England have produced a useful Active Design check list for Local Authorities to use in the planning of places and new environments: <a href="https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2023-05/Document%203%20-%20Active%20Design%20Checklist%20-%20May%202023.pdf?VersionId=fc45irvlfyWPhgC396_2BFsas4y4d7gN">https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2023-05/Document%203%20-%20Active%20Design%20Checklist%20-%20May%202023.pdf?VersionId=fc45irvlfyWPhgC396_2BFsas4y4d7gN</a></p> <p>There is further published planning support guidance that encourages the design of local and neighbourhood plans to adopt principles that encourage provision for physical activity and sport: <a href="https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2023-05/Document%203%20-%20Active%20Design%20Checklist%20-%20May%202023.pdf?VersionId=fc45irvlfyWPhgC396_2BFsas4y4d7gN">https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2023-05/Document%203%20-%20Active%20Design%20Checklist%20-%20May%202023.pdf?VersionId=fc45irvlfyWPhgC396_2BFsas4y4d7gN</a></p>
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			<p>moving into a new build property without lightning-fast internet speeds will become a thing of the past for the vast majority of people across England.</p> <p>Where a developer is unable to secure a gigabit-capable connection within the cost cap, developers must install the next fastest connection available.</p> <p>And even where a gigabit-capable connection is not available within the cost cap, gigabitready infrastructure, such as ducts, chambers and termination point, still needs to be installed. This will ensure that homes are fit for the digital age but may not be connected straight away.</p> <p>The Council supports a 'dig once' approach for the deployment of communications infrastructure and a build which is sympathetic to the character and appearance of the surrounding area. The Council encourages telecommunications build which does not significantly impact on the appearance of any building or space on which equipment is located and which minimises street clutter.</p> <p>Groups working on emerging neighbourhood plans are encouraged to visit the Digital Leicestershire web site to learn more about current and forthcoming full fibre broadband provision for their local area <a href="https://www.thinkbroadband.com/">https://www.thinkbroadband.com/</a> and also BDUK (Building Digital UK)</p> <p>Further Information <a href="https://digital-leicestershire.org.uk/">https://digital-leicestershire.org.uk/</a> Email: <a href="mailto:broadband@leics.gov.uk">broadband@leics.gov.uk</a> Building Regulations: Infrastructure for Electronic Communications (R)</p> <p>Equalities</p> <p>While we cannot comment in detail on plans, you may wish to ask stakeholders to bear the Council's Equality Strategy 2020-2024 in mind when taking your Neighbourhood Plan forward through the relevant procedures, particularly for engagement and consultation work. A copy of the strategy can be view at:  <a href="https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/10/Equality-strategy2020-2024.pdf">https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/10/Equality-strategy2020-2024.pdf</a></p> <p>The Neighbourhood plan should comply with the main requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty. This requires public bodies to have due regard of the need to:</p> <p>Eliminate discrimination Advance equality of opportunity Foster good relations between different people</p> <p>Accessible Documents</p> <p>In today's working environment more and more information is being produced digitally. When producing information which is aimed at or to be viewed by the public, it is important to make that information as accessible as possible. At least 1 in 5 people in the UK have a long-term illness, impairment or disability. Many more have a temporary disability.</p>
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			<p>Accessibility means more than putting things online. It means making your content and design clear and simple enough so that most people can use it without needing to adapt it, while supporting those who do need to adapt things.</p> <p>For example, someone with impaired vision might use a screen reader (software that lets a user navigate a website and 'read out' the content), braille display or screen magnifier. Or someone with motor difficulties might use a special mouse, speech recognition software or on-screen keyboard emulator. Public sector organisations have a legal requirement to make sure that all information which appears on their websites is accessible. As Neighbourhood Plans have to be published on Local Planning Authority websites, they too have to comply with government regulations for accessibility. Guidance for creating accessible Word and PDF documents can be found on the Leicestershire Communities website:  <a href="#">Creating Accessible Word Documents</a>  <a href="#">Creating Accessible PDFs</a></p> <p>To enable Development Officers to implement your policies, it is important to make sure that they are clear, concise and worded in such a way that they are not open to interpretation. This Policy Writing Guide has been designed to provide you with a few key points to look out for: <a href="https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/uploads/policy-writing-guide17.pdf?v=1667547963">https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/uploads/policy-writing-guide17.pdf?v=1667547963</a></p> <p>NIK GREEN (MRS) Policy Officer   E: neighbourhoodplanning@leics.gov.uk Policy, Economy &amp; Community, Chief Executive's Department, Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire LE3 8RA For further information visit: <a href="https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/neighbourhoodplanning/what-is-neighbourhood-planning">https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/neighbourhoodplanning/what-is-neighbourhood-planning</a></p>
6	National Highways Operations Directorate The Cube 199 Wharfside Street Birmingham B1 1RN		<p>Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Thank you for providing National Highways the opportunity to comment on the above mentioned Neighbourhood Plan Consultation.</p> <p>National Highways has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). It is our role to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the SRN whilst acting as a delivery partner to national economic growth.</p> <p>In responding to Local Plan consultations, we have regard to DfT Circular 01/2022: The Strategic Road Network and the Delivery of Sustainable Development ('the Circular'). This sets out how interactions with the Strategic Road Network should be considered in the making of local plans. In addition to the Circular, the response set out below is also in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other relevant policies.</p>

		<p>We have noted that the development boundary set out within the Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan is approximately 10.5 miles away from the SRN (M1 J21). The Harborough Local Plan, which was adopted in 2019, identifies Burton Overy as an 'Other Village or Rural Settlement' which is described as 'the least sustainable locations for growth'.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan does not propose any significant development in the neighbourhood area and is consistent with the Local Plan by limiting new housing to small sites to meet locally identified needs.</p> <p>In light of this, and the neighbourhood area's distance to the SRN, it is unlikely that the Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan will have an adverse impact on the SRN. Should any large-scale housing or employment development be proposed in the NDP area, it is advised that Transport Statements and/or Transport Assessments are undertaken to calculate the potential traffic impacts on the SRN at M1.</p>
7	<p><b>Natural England</b>  <b>Hornbeam House</b>  <b>Crewe Business Park</b>  <b>Electra Way</b>  <b>Crewe</b>  <b>Cheshire</b>  <b>CW1 6GJ</b></p>	<p>Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan - Review - Regulation 16 Consultation</p> <p>Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 02 July 2025.</p> <p>Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.</p> <p>Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made.</p> <p>Natural England does not have any specific comments on this draft neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>However, we refer you to the attached annex which covers the issues and opportunities that should be considered when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and to the following information.</p> <p>Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further information on protected species and development is included in Natural England's Standing Advice on protected species .</p> <p>Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission standing advice.</p>



		<p>We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment is necessary.</p> <p>Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If an Strategic Environmental Assessment is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.</p>
8	<p><b>Leicestershire Police Designing out crime Officer Leicestershire Police</b></p>	<p>Reference – Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan Review</p> <p>Site – Burton Overy</p> <p>Thank you for giving Leicestershire Police Designing Out Crime Officers the opportunity to comment on the updated Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Over the past twelve months, reported incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour in Burton Overy have been very low. However, with the continued expansion of towns and villages, the potential risk of crime naturally increases. It is therefore important that this is considered, when developing local plans and policies. At present, the revised plan does not include any reference to crime prevention within its guidance.</p> <p>While it is acknowledged that future planning applications will be subject to the policies set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which includes provisions for preventing crime and ensuring developments are safe for all users, this does not preclude the Neighbourhood Plan from including its own policy on Designing Out Crime. Consideration could be given to introducing a dedicated policy or incorporating relevant wording into an existing policy, such as Policy HD3 – Design.</p> <p>A suggested form of wording might be:</p> <p>“Proposals will be expected to demonstrate how the design has been influenced by the need to plan positively to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and how this will be achieved.”</p> <p>To support this, the following guides, produced as part of the official police security initiative “Secured by Design”, offer valuable advice on crime prevention in residential, commercial, educational, and public space developments. Evidence shows that following this guidance leads to a measurable reduction in crime:</p> <p><a href="#">RESIDENTIAL GUIDE 2025 27325.pdf</a>  <a href="#">NON RESIDENTIAL GUIDE 2025 3425.pdf</a>  <a href="#">New Schools 2014.pdf</a></p>

			The Neighbourhood Plan presents a valuable opportunity to help shape a safe, secure, and resilient environment. By integrating Designing Out Crime principles at the earliest stages of development, the plan can help reduce both crime and the fear of crime for current and future residents of Burton Overy
9	<b>Sport England Sport Park, 3 Oakwood Drive, Loughborough, Leicester, LE11 3QF</b>		<p>Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>Government planning policy, within the <b>National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)</b>, identifies how the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Encouraging communities to become more physically active through walking, cycling, informal recreation and formal sport plays an important part in this process. Providing enough sports facilities of the right quality and type in the right places is vital to achieving this aim. This means that positive planning for sport, protection from the unnecessary loss of sports facilities, along with an integrated approach to providing new housing and employment land with community facilities is important.</p> <p>Therefore, it is essential that the neighbourhood plan reflects and complies with national planning policy for sport as set out in the NPPF with particular reference to Parts 103 and 104. It is also important to be aware of Sport England's statutory consultee role in <b>protecting playing fields</b> and the presumption against the loss of playing field land. Sport England's playing fields policy is set out in our Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document.  <a href="https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy">https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy</a></p> <p>Sport England provides guidance on <b>developing planning policy</b> for sport and further information can be found via the link below. Vital to the development and implementation of planning policy is the evidence base on which it is founded.  <a href="https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#planning_applications">https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#planning_applications</a></p> <p>Sport England works with local authorities to ensure their Local Plan is underpinned by robust and up to date evidence. In line with Part 104 of the NPPF, this takes the form of <b>assessments of need and strategies for indoor and outdoor sports facilities</b>. A neighbourhood planning body should look to see if the relevant local authority has prepared a playing pitch strategy or other indoor/outdoor sports facility strategy. If it has then this could provide useful evidence for the neighbourhood plan and save the neighbourhood planning body time and resources gathering their own evidence. It is important that a neighbourhood plan reflects the recommendations and actions set out in any such strategies, including those which may specifically relate to the neighbourhood area, and that any local investment opportunities, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, are utilised to support their delivery.</p> <p>Where such evidence does not already exist then relevant planning policies in a neighbourhood plan should be based on a proportionate assessment of the need for sporting provision in its area. Developed in consultation with the local sporting and wider community any assessment should be used to provide key recommendations and deliverable actions. These should set out what provision is required to ensure the current and future needs of the community for sport can be met and, in turn, be able to support the development and implementation of planning policies. Sport England's guidance on assessing needs may help with such work.  <a href="http://www.sportengland.org/planningtoolsandguidance">http://www.sportengland.org/planningtoolsandguidance</a></p>

			<p>If <b>new or improved sports facilities</b> are proposed Sport England recommend you ensure they are fit for purpose and designed in accordance with our design guidance notes.  <a href="http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/">http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/</a></p> <p>Any <b>new housing</b> developments will generate additional demand for sport. If existing sports facilities do not have the capacity to absorb the additional demand, then planning policies should look to ensure that new sports facilities, or improvements to existing sports facilities, are secured and delivered. Proposed actions to meet the demand should accord with any approved local plan or neighbourhood plan policy for social infrastructure, along with priorities resulting from any assessment of need, or set out in any playing pitch or other indoor and/or outdoor sports facility strategy that the local authority has in place.</p> <p>In line with the Government's NPPF (including Section 8) and its Planning Practice Guidance (Health and wellbeing section), links below, consideration should also be given to how <b>any new development</b>, especially for new housing, will provide opportunities for people to lead healthy lifestyles and create healthy communities. Sport England's Active Design guidance can be used to help with this when developing planning policies and developing or assessing individual proposals.</p> <p>Active Design, which includes a model planning policy, provides ten principles to help ensure the design and layout of development encourages and promotes participation in sport and physical activity. The guidance, and its accompanying checklist, could also be used at the evidence gathering stage of developing a neighbourhood plan to help undertake an assessment of how the design and layout of the area currently enables people to lead active lifestyles and what could be improved.</p> <p>NPPF Section 8: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/8-promoting-healthy-communities">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/8-promoting-healthy-communities</a></p> <p>PPG Health and wellbeing section: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing</a></p> <p>Sport England's Active Design Guidance: <a href="https://www.sportengland.org/activedesign">https://www.sportengland.org/activedesign</a></p>
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