



**HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON  
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
2024 – 2031**

**Basic Conditions Statement**

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Planning Practice Guidance (Paragraph: 065 Reference ID: 41-065-20140306)<sup>1</sup> sets out that only a draft Neighbourhood Plan or Order that meets each of a set of basic conditions can be put to a referendum and be made. The basic conditions are set out in [paragraph 8\(2\) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#) as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The basic conditions are:
- a. having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the order (or neighbourhood plan). *See 3.1*
  - b. having special regard to the desirability of preserving any listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest that it possesses, it is appropriate to make the order. This applies only to Orders. *See 3.2*
  - c. having special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of any conservation area, it is appropriate to make the order. This applies only to Orders. *See 3.3*
  - d. the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. *See 3.4*
  - e. the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area). *See 3.5*
  - f. the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations. *See 3.6*
  - g. prescribed conditions are met in relation to the Order (or plan) and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the order (or neighbourhood plan). *See 3.7*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2#basic-conditions-for-neighbourhood-plan-to-referendum>

- 1.2. Regulations 32 and 33 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) prescribe 2 basic conditions in addition to those set out in the primary legislation. These are:
  - a. the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which set out the habitat regulation assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitats sites. (See [Schedule 2 to the Neighbourhood Planning \(General\) Regulations 2012 \(as amended\)](#) in relation to the examination of neighbourhood development plans.)
  - b. having regard to all material considerations, it is appropriate that the Neighbourhood Development Order is made (see [Schedule 3 to the Neighbourhood Planning \(General\) Regulations 2012 \(as amended\)](#), where the development described in an order proposal is Environmental Impact Assessment development.
- 1.3. A further Basic Condition was added by legislation on 28th December 2018. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 para 1 states:
  - a. In relation to the examination of neighbourhood development plans the following basic condition is prescribed for the purpose of paragraph 8(2)(g) of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Act - The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
- 1.4. This Basic Conditions Statement sets out how the Halton-with-Aughton NDP has been prepared to meet the basic conditions. It has been prepared as a supporting document for consideration by the NDP Independent Examiner.

## 2. Legal Requirements

- 2.1. **The Submission Plan is being submitted by a qualifying body**  
The Submission Plan is being submitted by a qualifying body, namely Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council.
- 2.2. **What is being proposed is a neighbourhood development plan**  
The plan being proposed relates to planning matters (the use and development of land) and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.
- 2.3. **The proposed Neighbourhood Plan states the period for which it is to have effect**  
The proposed Neighbourhood Plan states the period for which it is to have effect. That period is from 2024 to 2031 (from the current year and referring to the same period as the adopted Local Plan for Lancaster District 2011-2031 Part One: Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD Adoption Version July 2020).
- 2.4. **The policies do not relate to excluded development**  
The Neighbourhood Plan proposal does not deal with county matters (mineral extraction and waste development), nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 2.5. **The proposed Neighbourhood Plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area and there are no other neighbourhood development plans in place within the neighbourhood area**  
The Neighbourhood Plan proposal relates to the designated Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. There are no other Neighbourhood Plans relating to that neighbourhood area. The Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area has the same boundary as that of the Parish at the time of the designation and is shown on Map 1 in the NDP.

### 3. Basic Conditions

- 3.1. a) **having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the plan**

The Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has been prepared having appropriate regard to the policies set out in the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, updated 19th December 2023)<sup>2</sup>.

Note - only those policies and sections in the NPPF that are relevant to the NDP are addressed below.

#### **2. Achieving Sustainable Development**

Paragraph 1 of the NPPF explains that *'The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied.'* Paragraph 7 sets out that *'The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, including the provision of homes, commercial development, and supporting infrastructure in a sustainable manner. At a very high level, the objective of sustainable development can be summarised as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. At a similarly high level, members of the United Nations – including the United Kingdom – have agreed to pursue the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development in the period to 2030. These address social progress, economic well-being and environmental protection.'*

The planning system has three overarching objectives to achieve sustainable development (paragraph 8): an economic objective, a social objective and an environmental objective. These objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans (paragraph 9). The NDP includes various policies which, together, should deliver sustainable development.

Table 1 sets out how the NDP delivers the 3 overarching objectives.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

**Table 1 - Achieving Sustainable Development**

<b>NPPF Overarching Objectives</b>	<b>Halton-with-Aughton NDP</b>
<p><i>a) an economic objective – ‘to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;’</i></p>	<p>Halton-with-Aughton NDP area includes the village of Halton which is largely residential, and an extensive rural area. It is located close to the City of Lancaster and extends into the Forest of Bowland National Landscape area. The NDP does not have a strong focus on economic development as these matters are adequately addressed in the Local Plan. However, the NDP recognises that there is a need to improve accessibility and linkages from the villages to Lancaster so that local people can access jobs and services without having to rely on the private car. Improved infrastructure will also help to attract visitors and support the local visitor economy including pubs and cafes.</p> <p><b>Objective 6 is to promote sustainable transport alternatives and to support measures which increase walking, cycling and use of public transport and which reduce reliance on private cars</b>, and this will be delivered through <b>NDP Policy HA10 Active Travel</b> and various Parish Council Actions and Community Aspirations.</p>
<p><i>b) a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural well-being; and</i></p>	<p>The NDP area has seen significant residential development in recent years as allocated sites in the Local Plan and other sites have come forward for housing development. The NDP responds to this by supporting future development which meets local housing needs, based on the findings of an up-to-date local housing needs survey.</p> <p><b>Objective 4: is to ensure new housing meets the local needs of the Parish</b> and this will be delivered through <b>NDP Policy HA7 Meeting Local Housing Needs</b>.</p> <p>The NDP also notes the many local community facilities in the 2 villages and their importance to local quality of life, health and wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Objective 5 is to recognise the importance of community facilities in the Parish by ensuring existing facilities are protected and proposals for new and improved facilities are supported</b> and this will be delivered through <b>NDP Policy HA11 Community Facilities</b> and the community aspirations.</p> <p>Health and wellbeing should be improved by the focus on active travel and access to green spaces and the protection of important green spaces (see <b>Objective 6 and Policy HA11 Community Facilities</b>, and <b>Objective 8: To protect green spaces and Policy HA4 Local Green Spaces</b>).</p>

<p><i>c) an environmental objective – to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.</i></p>	<p>Halton-with-Aughton has a strong focus on the protection and enhancement of the natural and built environment. The NDP recognises the area’s many built heritage assets including listed buildings and conservation area and identifies Non-designated Heritage Assets. The area’s many natural heritage assets are noted, and policies should help to protect and enhance landscape character and wildlife. A large part of the Parish lies within a National Landscape and the River Lune flows through the Parish. The NDP recognises that Halton-with-Aughton has many beautiful areas which require protecting and enhancing for the benefit of people in the future.</p> <p><b>Objective 1 is to ensure new development is integrated into its setting, whether it is in the heart of the villages, or in the more rural areas.</b> This will be delivered through <b>NDP Policies HA1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character, HA6 Protecting Historic Character and HA8 Halton Urban Development.</b></p> <p><b>Objective 2 is to conserve and enhance the distinctive rural character of both villages and the countryside.</b> This will be delivered through <b>NDP Policies HA1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character, HA3 Area of Separation, HA4 Local Green Spaces, HA6 Protecting Historic Character, HA8 Halton Urban Development and HA9 High Quality Design.</b></p> <p><b>Objective 3 is to protect and enhance sites of biological importance, including the remnants of ancient woodlands, to improve the wildlife value of other green spaces within the Parish, and to ensure opportunities are taken to link and extend green corridors through the villages and along the river, so that connectivity between areas of wildlife importance is maximised.</b> This will be delivered through <b>NDP Policies HA1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character, HA2 Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity and HA4 Local Green Spaces</b> and Parish Council Actions and Community Aspirations.</p> <p>Halton is not immune from the effects of climate change and parts of the area have been impacted by severe flood events, which have become more frequent in recent years.</p> <p><b>Objective 7 is to reduce surface water flooding at key risk areas.</b> This will be delivered through <b>NDP Policy HA5 Flooding</b> and Parish Council Actions and Community Aspirations.</p>
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The presumption in favour of sustainable development is explained in relation to plan making in NPPF paragraph 11:

*'11 Plans and decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development.*

*For plan-making this means that:*

*a) all plans should promote a sustainable pattern of development that seeks to: meet the development needs of their area; align growth and infrastructure; improve the environment; mitigate climate change (including by making effective use of land in urban areas) and adapt to its effects;*

*b) strategic policies should, as a minimum, provide for objectively assessed needs for housing and other uses, as well as any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas, unless:*

*i. the application of policies in this Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a strong reason for restricting the overall scale, type or distribution of development in the plan area; or*

*ii. any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole '*

The NDP takes a positive and balanced approach to development, recognising the village of Halton's identification as Sustainable Rural Settlement Outside of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Aughton as a rural village, in the settlement hierarchy set out in Local Plan Part One Policy SP2: Lancaster District Settlement Hierarchy.

Sustainable Rural Settlements will provide the focus of growth for Lancaster district outside the main urban areas in the AONBs subject to the constraints of the protected landscapes where a landscape-capacity approach will be taken. Rural villages will accommodate development that meets evidenced local needs only.

The allocated sites identified in the Local Plan in Halton have been developed and Halton has seen significant housing growth since work on the NDP began. The Parish Council made the decision that the NDP would not identify further site allocations for new housing. Instead, the Plan sets out a positive framework to help ensure future housing development is more closely tailored to local needs and respects the area's built and natural heritage and constraints related to flooding and landscape.

Paragraph 13 explains that *'The application of the presumption has implications for the way communities engage in neighbourhood planning. Neighbourhood plans should support the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans or spatial development strategies; and should shape and direct development that is outside of these strategic policies.'*

### **3. Plan-making**

In Section 3 - Plan Making, the NPPF paragraph 16 sets out 6 principles that plans should address.

Table 2 sets out how the NDP addresses each of these in turn.

**Table 2 - Plan Making**

<b>NPPF Principle</b>	<b>Halton-with-Aughton NDP</b>
<i>a) be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development</i>	<p>The NDP has been prepared to contribute to sustainable development; NDP policies support appropriate housing development which respects the high-quality natural environment and built heritage of the neighbourhood area. Halton’s recent history of major flood events mean that the Parish Council is mindful of climate change and the need for development to be sited and designed to avoid any increased risk of flooding.</p> <p>Table 1 above sets out how the Plan's objectives, policies and proposals address economic, social and environmental objectives.</p>
<i>b) be prepared positively, in a way that is aspirational but deliverable;</i>	<p>The NDP has been prepared positively, with policies that are aspirational and deliverable. Policies promote high quality, sensitive design and should help to protect important local heritage assets and the high-quality natural environment of the Parish.</p> <p>All NDP policies have been informed by community engagement together with the advice and comments from officers at Lancaster City Council and independent planning consultants who were engaged by the Parish Council.</p>
<i>c) be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between plan-makers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees;</i>	<p>The work on the NDP has been led by a steering group of local residents and Parish Councillors.</p> <p>The accompanying Consultation Statement sets out the details of the various community consultation and engagement activities which have been undertaken at all stages of the Plan’s preparation. Briefly these have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2019 – local housing needs assessment and informal consultation on first draft plan</li> <li>- Spring 2024 – further informal consultation on second emerging draft plan along with informal consultation with landowners on proposed local green spaces.</li> <li>- Summer 2024 - Regulation 14 public consultation.</li> </ul> <p>The NDP page of the Parish Council website and updates in the Parish magazine have kept local stakeholders and residents up to date with the plan’s progress.</p>
<i>d) contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals;</i>	<p>The NDP policies and proposals have been prepared by the steering group, with support from a planning consultant and advice from officers at Lancaster City Council.</p> <p>Amendments have been made through the process in response to suggestions provided during the public consultation processes. It is understood that the Examiner is likely to recommend further changes to wording following the examination process.</p>

<p><i>e) be accessible through the use of digital tools to assist public involvement and policy presentation; and</i></p>	<p>All relevant documents have been provided on the NDP page of the Parish Council website throughout the Plan’s preparation. The website has been kept up to date to include all documents from each stage prior to submission.</p> <p>QR codes were used to facilitate easy digital access to online response forms and responses were invited by email at informal and formal consultation stages.</p> <p>Steering group meetings were publicised on the website with agendas and minutes and people could attend in person, or online upon request.</p>
<p><i>f) serve a clear purpose, avoiding unnecessary duplication of policies that apply to a particular area (including policies in this Framework, where relevant).</i></p>	<p>The NDP has been amended and updated throughout its preparation to reduce duplication with Lancaster City Council’s policies and national policies, whilst retaining a focus on local priorities identified through the various consultations.</p>

### The Plan Making Framework

Paragraph 18 sets out that *'Policies to address non-strategic matters should be included in local plans that contain both strategic and non-strategic policies, and/or in local or neighbourhood plans that contain just non-strategic policies.'*

The NDP contains non-strategic planning policies and proposals that add local detail and value to strategic policies.

### Non-strategic policies

Paragraph 29 advises that *'Neighbourhood planning gives communities the power to develop a shared vision for their area. Neighbourhood plans can shape, direct and help to deliver sustainable development, by influencing local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan. Neighbourhood plans should not promote less development than set out in the strategic policies for the area, or undermine those strategic policies.'*

The NDP refers to the relevant Lancaster City Council policies in the supporting text.

Paragraph 30 goes on to say that *'Once a neighbourhood plan has been brought into force, the policies it contains take precedence over existing non-strategic policies in a local plan covering the neighbourhood area, where they are in conflict; unless they are superseded by strategic or non-strategic policies that are adopted subsequently.'*

## **5. Delivering a sufficient supply of homes**

Paragraph 60 advises *'The overall aim should be to meet as much of an area's identified housing need as possible, including with an appropriate mix of housing types for the local community'. Paragraph 63 goes on to say, 'Within this context of establishing need, the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies.'*

The NDP housing policy is informed by a local housing needs survey of the Parishes of Halton with Aughton, and Caton, Slyne, Quernmore and Skerton in 2019. The village of Halton has seen significant housing development in recent years, and it is likely that development pressure will continue and that the village will continue to be a focus for development in the new Local Plan.

## **6. Building a strong, competitive economy**

### Supporting a prosperous rural economy

Paragraph 88 advises that *'Planning policies and decisions should enable:*  
*a) the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed, beautiful new buildings;*  
*b) the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses;*  
*c) sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside; and*  
*d) the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.'*

The NDP recognises the Parish's location close to the City of Lancaster and the opportunities for employment on the doorstep. It aims to increase sustainable transport options to allow more residents to cycle or take public transport. The Plan also identifies local community facilities in the Parish for protection.

### **8. Promoting healthy and safe communities**

Paragraph 96 sets out that *'Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places and beautiful buildings which: ... c) enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling'* Paragraph 102 goes on to say *'Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities, and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change.'*

The NDP supports healthy lifestyles by promoting active travel and supporting improved pedestrian, cycle and horse-riding linkages and routes across the area and linking to Lancaster. Complementary Parish Council actions encourage safer accessibility for all and aim to reduce adverse impacts of traffic on rural roads. The importance of various community facilities is noted and local facilities are identified for protection.

### **9. Promoting sustainable transport**

Paragraph 108 c) advises that *'opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use should be identified and pursued'*.

The NDP supports proposals which encourage walking and cycling as part of Active Travel.

### **11. Making effective use of land**

Paragraph 123 advises that *'Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions'*. Paragraph 124 goes on to say, *'Planning policies and decisions should: a) encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains – such as developments that would enable new habitat creation or improve public access to the countryside; b) recognise that some undeveloped land can perform many functions, such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production.'*

The NDP makes effective use of land by identifying opportunities for wildlife enhancement, noting the multiple benefits of proposed Local Green Spaces (Policy HA4), safeguarding sites identified for future flood prevention projects (Policy HA5) and identifying areas of constraint which are considered unsuitable for development for various reasons (Policy HA8). Policy HA8 also supports development of previously developed land and buildings.

### **12. Achieving well-designed and beautiful places**

Paragraph 131 explains that *'The creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve.'* Paragraph 132 goes on to say that *'Design policies should be developed with local communities, so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area's defining characteristics. Neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and by engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers.'*

The NDP promotes high quality design which respects the area's heritage assets (Policies HA6 and HA9).

### **14. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change**

Paragraph 157 advises that *'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.'*

Paragraph 159 advises that *'New development should be planned for in ways that: b) can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as through its location, orientation and design. Any local requirements for the sustainability of buildings should reflect the Government's policy for national technical standards.'*

The NDP notes the area's history of flooding from the River Lune which flows through the Parish with riverbanks close to housing and other development as well as flooding from other water courses and problems with drainage. The Plan steers development away from areas which may be used in flood schemes in the future and promotes designs which are flood resilient and which would not lead to increased flood risks.

### **15. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment**

Paragraph 180 advises that *'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*

*a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);*

*b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland.'*

The NDP includes policies to protect landscape character and wildlife. The Plan recognises that a significant part of the Parish lies within the Forest of Bowland National Landscape.

**16. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment**

Paragraph 195 advises that heritage assets are *'an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.'*

Paragraph 196 goes on to say that plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.

The NDP notes the many built heritage assets in the Parish.

**3.2. b) having Special Regard to the Desirability of Preserving any Listed Building or its Setting or any Features of Special Architectural or Historic Interest**

The NDP notes the listed buildings in the Parish.

[Note: this Basic Condition only applies to Neighbourhood Development Orders but has been included for the sake of completeness].

**3.3. c) having Special Regard to the Desirability of Preserving or Enhancing Character or Appearance of any Conservation Area**

The NDP notes the Conservation Area.

[Note: this Basic Condition only applies to Neighbourhood Development Orders but has been included for the sake of completeness].

**3.4. d) the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) contributes to the Achievement of Sustainable Development**

The NDP contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.

This is set out in more detail in Table 1 above in relation to the economic, social and environmental objectives of the NPPF.

**3.5. e) the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area)**

The NDP is in general conformity with strategic policies set out in A Local Plan for Lancaster District 2011-2031 Part One: Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD Adoption Version July 2020.

Table 3 sets out the way that the Neighbourhood Plan conforms to the relevant strategic planning policies in the development plan. The NDP policies and supporting text also refer to the relevant policies in A Local Plan for Lancaster District 2011-2031 Part Two: Review of the Development Management DPD Adoption Version July 2020.

**Table 3 - General Conformity with Lancaster City Council's Strategic Planning Policies**

<b>Halton-with-Aughton NDP Policy</b>	<b>A Local Plan for Lancaster District 2011-2031 Part One: Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD Adoption Version July 2020</b>	<b>Halton-with-Aughton NDP General Conformity</b>
Policy HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character	<p>POLICY SP8: PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT Lancaster district contains important landscapes, species and habitats that are valued features of the natural environment.</p> <p>POLICY EN2: AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY Lancaster district contains two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) that are designated for their national landscape importance. They are: ARNSIDE AND SILVERDALE AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY FOREST OF BOWLAND AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY. The landscape character and visual amenity of both AONBs and their settings will be conserved and enhanced. All development in the AONBs should be sustainable, consistent with the primary purpose of AONB designation and guided by the relevant AONB Management Plan. Proposals will be expected to have due regard to all relevant policies contained within the Local Plan, including the Development Management DPD and, where appropriate, the Arnside &amp; Silverdale AONB DPD.</p>	<p>NDP Policy HA1 identifies important local landscape features in the neighbourhood plan area which are characteristic of local landscape character areas and which should be protected.</p> <p>This is in general conformity with Local Plan Policy SP8 which noted that the district contains important landscapes that are valued features.</p> <p>Dark skies in Aughton will be protected. Aughton is within the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where landscape character and visual amenity of the AONB and its setting will be conserved and enhanced.</p>
Policy HA-2 Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	<p>POLICY SP8: PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT Lancaster district contains important landscapes, species and habitats that are valued features of the natural environment. The Council recognises the importance of biodiversity and geodiversity, and has prepared a Local Plan that will seek to protect sites of recognised importance; it will also seek to protect areas of land that are functionally linked to areas which are of International and / or National importance.</p> <p>Development proposals will be expected to protect, maintain and enhance the district's biodiversity and geodiversity through the appropriate location of uses, sympathetic design, sustainable construction techniques and appropriate mitigation measures. The Council will also support opportunities to maximise energy efficiency.</p> <p>POLICY EN7: ENVIRONMENTALLY IMPORTANT AREAS</p>	<p>The NDP area contains important wildlife and habitats, including areas of geodiversity importance.</p> <p>Policy HA2 sets out how such biodiversity net gains may be achieved on development sites, or if this is not possible within the Halton-with-Aughton neighbourhood plan area by connecting to and strengthening local wildlife corridors and areas of wildlife importance.</p>

Halton-with-Aughton NDP Policy	A Local Plan for Lancaster District 2011-2031 Part One: Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD Adoption Version July 2020	Halton-with-Aughton NDP General Conformity
	<p>There are a number of sites within the district that have been designated at International, National and Regional level for their environmental importance. These have been identified on the Local Plan Policies Map and will be protected from development proposals that have a detrimental impact on their designation.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Nationally Designated Sites</b> The following sites have been designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to their environmental importance: EN7.7 Burton Wood</p> <p><b>Regionally Designated Sites</b> There are a range of sites that have been designated by Lancashire County Council for environmental and geological importance. These include areas that have been identified as Biological Heritage Sites (BHS) and Geological Heritage Sites (RIGS). These are identified under Policy EN7 of the Local Plan Policies Maps. Development proposals which may impact on species and habitats will be expected to have due regard to Policy DM44 of the Development Management DPD.</p> <p>In the NDP area these are: Halton Gorge and Quernmore Valley Geological Heritage Site; Lambclose Wood and Gutterflat Wood Biological Heritage Site; Applehouse Wood, Walks Wood Biological Heritage Site; River Lune Biological Heritage Site; Great Close Wood Biological Heritage Site; and Dale Wood Biological Heritage Site.</p>	<p>This is in general conformity with Local Plan Policies SP8 which seeks to protect sites of recognised importance and EN7 which identifies sites of national and regional importance in the NDP area.</p>
Policy HA-3 Area of Separation	<p><b>POLICY EN6: AREAS OF SEPARATION</b> The Council have identified an Area of Separation between Lancaster and Halton to ensure that the strategic growth proposed to the North of the City via Policy SG9 of this DPD does not result in two distinctly separate settlements merging together. The Area of Separation has been defined using clear and robust boundaries (i.e. Kellet Road, Halton Road and the Bay Gateway) which provides a highly open area to remain undeveloped. The Area of Separation also provides protection to the setting of Carus Lodge, which is a Listed Building. ... Development proposals within Areas of Separation will be considered against how such proposals affect the openness and visual amenity of this area. Proposals will not be</p>	<p>NDP Policy HA3 reinforces Local Plan Policy EN6 which identifies an Area of Separation between Lancaster and Halton to ensure that the strategic growth proposed to the North of the City via Policy SG9 of the DPD does not result in two distinctly separate settlements merging together.</p> <p>The NDP Policy is in general conformity with this and provides more detail by highlighting that the setting of the heritage assets, as well as the woodland and the open,</p>

Halton-with-Aughton NDP Policy	A Local Plan for Lancaster District 2011-2031 Part One: Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD Adoption Version July 2020	Halton-with-Aughton NDP General Conformity
	supported where they have impacts on wider openness within the areas and result in the coalescence between settlements and affect overall distinctiveness.	parkland character of the landscape around these assets should be protected.
Policy HA-4 Local Green Spaces	<p>POLICY SP9: MAINTAINING STRONG AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES It is important that local communities have the opportunity to contribute to plan-making through the neighbourhood plan process, where communities take up the option to prepare a neighbourhood plan for their locality, the Council will seek to provide assistance and support in their preparation.</p> <p>POLICY SC2: LOCAL GREEN SPACES Development will not be permitted within a Local Green Space except for very special circumstances. Development that will enhance, support and facilitate the sustainability of the community needs, services and purposes provided by the Local Green Space, as evidenced and identified in the Table below, will be considered appropriate. The design, scale and size of development will be required to be proportionate and reflective of/in keeping with each Local Green Space, the purposes of the designation and the community it serves. Development will also only be considered not inappropriate if it is in accordance with paragraph 89 and 90 of the Framework.</p>	<p>This is in general conformity with Local Plan Policy SP9 which sets out that it is important that local communities have the opportunity to contribute to plan-making through the neighbourhood plan process. In Halton-with-Aughton an important aspect of preparing the NDP has been consulting with communities about important open spaces and recognising their significance by identifying several as Local Green Spaces.</p> <p>The Lancaster District Local Plan identifies a number of Local Green Spaces in the district in Policy SC2. NDP adds several more proposed Local Green Spaces which the steering group have assessed and consider meet the criteria in the NPPF.</p>
Policy HA-5 Flooding	<p>POLICY SP8: PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Lancaster district is not immune to the effects of Climate Change, in particular the associated risks from extreme weather events and increasing levels of rainfall. The Local Plan has been prepared in consultation with the Environment Agency, Lancashire County Council (the Lead Local Flood Authority for Lancaster district) and United Utilities to ensure that flood risk issues are clearly considered and flood resilience is addressed. The impacts of future growth will not create new flooding issues or exacerbate existing problems and seeks to reduce flood risk overall.</p> <p>The Council will continue to work with all relevant partners to address issues of flood risk, whether from river, sea or other sources, to implement schemes that will reduce overall flood risk or better manage the continuing effects of Climate Change. Development proposals in areas of known flood risk will be expected to consider their direct and in-</p>	<p>Flooding is a major issue on Halton-with-Aughton, in particular in relation to the River Lune and surface-water issues including smaller water courses and drainage.</p> <p>NDP Policy HA5 is supported by a flood risk management study which identifies several 'do something' options to reduce the risk of flooding by minimising peak run-off into the village system from upstream sources. The NDP Policy provides more local detail and information to add value to the higher-level policies in the Local Plan and is therefore in general conformity. Policy SP8 aims to ensure that flood risk issues are clearly considered and flood resilience is addressed and sets out that the impacts of future growth</p>

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	direct impacts on flooding and include appropriate mitigation measures to ensure water is managed correctly.	will not create new flooding issues or exacerbate existing problems and seeks to reduce flood risk overall.
Policy HA-6 Protecting Historic Character	<p>POLICY SP7: MAINTAINING LANCASTER DISTRICT'S UNIQUE HERITAGE</p> <p>Lancaster district has an extraordinarily rich and varied historic environment which is described in more detail through this chapter of the Plan. The heritage assets within the district have all played a major role in helping to shape the district's distinctive identity. The character of the district is shaped by both the local landscape and townscape built heritage. The district has a rich cultural history that dates back to the Roman prehistoric period and contains a large range of historical assets that chronicle the history of the district through the ages. These are important assets that are protected, either via list or other designation, from proposals that would harm their heritage significance. These are set out in the list below. The Local Plan will ensure that these designations are protected or enhanced so that their long-term status can be secured.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motte and Bailey Castles along the Lune Valley, attesting to the Norman Conquest of the area and later medieval fortifications, including those in Lancaster, Halton</li> <li>● Medieval ecclesiastical sites such as Cockersands Abbey and Lancaster Priory and many village churches of a similar date</li> <li>● Remnants of the district's industrial heritage including ... warehouses, mills and other significant buildings</li> </ul> <p>The Council will also explore opportunities to maximise wider public benefits and reinforce Lancaster's unique identity through the promotion, understanding, interpretation and enjoyment of the District's historic environment. As well as fulfilling its statutory duties, the Council will: a) Seek to identify, protect and enhance local heritage assets; b) Promote heritage-led regeneration, including development opportunities in Lancaster City Centre; c) Produce and review conservation area appraisals and management plans; d) Develop a positive strategy to safeguard the future heritage assets at risk; e) Adopt a proactive approach to utilising development opportunities to increase the promotion and understanding of the District's archaeology; and f) Regularly review the District's Heritage Strategy.</p>	<p>The NDP area has significant designated and non-designated heritage assets including Listed Buildings, a Conservation Area and features associates with the area's historic development. Policy HA6 incudes guidelines for development Parish wide and development in the historic core in line with the Conservation Area Appraisal.</p> <p>This Policy is in general conformity with Local Plan Policy SP7 which identifies assets that should be protected from proposals that would harm their heritage significance, including various assets within the Parish.</p>

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Policy HA-7 Meeting Local Housing Needs	<p>POLICY SP2: LANCASTER DISTRICT SETTLEMENT HIERARCHY The Council will support proposals for development in the settlements set out below, provided that they are of a nature and scale that is proportionate to the role and function of that settlement or where they have been specifically identified in this plan to meet the strategic growth needs of the district. The role each settlement category will play in the future growth of the district is explained below:</p> <p>3. SUSTAINABLE RURAL SETTLEMENTS – these settlements will provide the focus of growth for Lancaster district outside the main urban areas subject in the AONBs to the constraints of the protected landscapes where a landscape-capacity approach will be taken.</p> <p>4. RURAL VILLAGES – these settlements will accommodate development that meets evidenced local needs only.</p> <p>Halton is identified under 3. SUSTAINABLE RURAL SETTLEMENTS OUTSIDE OF AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY.</p> <p>Aughton is a Rural Village.</p> <p>POLICY SP3: DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR LANCASTER DISTRICT ... In addition to the main urban areas of the district, development will be supported in sustainable settlements as defined in the settlement hierarchy.</p> <p>POLICY SP6: THE DELIVERY OF NEW HOMES Between 2011/12 and 2030/31 the Council will seek to deliver a 20 year housing requirement of 10,440 new dwellings.</p> <p>The delivery of the housing requirement will be realised through maximising opportunities for the regeneration of brownfield land within the district, the delivery of large strategic greenfield sites adjacent to urban areas and the delivery of smaller greenfield sites across the district. The opportunities for housing delivery are highlighted in the table below:</p> <p>H2 RESIDENTIAL DELIVERY IN RURAL AREAS 409.</p> <p>The Council will continue to monitor and review the requirements for housing need within the district, both in terms of changes to Government policy at a national level and</p>	<p>NDP recognises the 2 villages’ positions in the Local Plan settlement hierarchy and supports new housing development which is appropriate to the roles of the settlements (Policies SP2 and SP3). Future development will continue to be focussed in the village of Halton which has already seen significant growth over the plan period (SP6 and H2).</p> <p>The NDP recognises that recent housing proposals have not always met local housing needs and Policy HA7 refers to the most up to date local housing needs assessment and encourages future proposals to provide house types, tenures and sizes in accordance with the needs identified. This is in line with Local Plan Policy H2 which sets out that the Council expects, via the Neighbourhood Plan process, the respective Parish Councils to proactively and positively plan for housing growth within their communities in the context of the DPD.</p>

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	<p>changes to local circumstances in terms of delivery rates, economic growth and other relevant factors in line with the Monitoring Report out in Chapter 25 of this DPD.</p> <p>POLICY H2: HOUSING DELIVERY IN RURAL AREAS OF THE DISTRICT The Council will support the delivery of housing in rural villages on the allocated sites identified below subject to meeting the relevant policies contained within the Local Plan. These sites are identified on the Policies Map.</p> <p>H2.6 HALTON MILLS, HALTON 20 ALLOCATED  H2.7 LAND SOUTH OF LOW ROAD, HALTON 60 PP GRANTED  H2.8 LAND BETWEEN LOW ROAD AND FORGE LANE, HALTON 90 PP GRANTED  H2.9 LAND TO THE REAR OF POINTER GROVE AND ADJACENT TO HIGH ROAD, HALTON 66 PP GRANTED.  (All now developed)</p> <p>Within the settlements of Arkholme, Cockerham, Caton &amp; Brookhouse, Dolphinholme, Halton, Slyne-with-Hest, Wennington and Wray the Council expects, via the Neighbourhood Plan process, the respective Parish Council's to proactively and positively plan for housing growth within their communities in the context of this DPD.</p>	
Policy HA-8 Halton Urban Development	<p>POLICY SP8: PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Development proposals in areas of known flood risk will be expected to consider their direct and in-direct impacts on flooding and include appropriate mitigation measures to ensure water is managed correctly.</p>	<p>NDP Policy HA8 identifies areas of constraint around the village of Halton where evidence should be provided to demonstrate how those constraints can be overcome and promotes the re-use of previously developed land and buildings. The constraints include areas with known flood risk issues.</p> <p>This is in general conformity with Local Plan Policy SP8 where developments should consider their direct and in-direct impacts on flooding and include appropriate mitigation measures to ensure water is managed correctly.</p>

<p>Policy HA-9 High Quality Design</p>	<p><b>THE SPATIAL VISION FOR LANCASTER DISTRICT 2031</b>                  Through the delivery of the Local Plan, the Council will achieve the following aspirations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● That the district will comprise sustainable, distinctive, healthy and cohesive communities where residents enjoy the advantages of a level of self-containment that supports growth and diversity in distinctive local businesses whilst minimising the need to commute. New development will promote positive urban design to create a distinctive sense of place.</li> <li>● That the district’s unique natural and historic environment will be protected and / or enhanced to maintain a distinct sense of place and conserve designated landscapes, townscapes and important habitats and wildlife.</li> </ul> <p><b>POLICY SP7: MAINTAINING LANCASTER DISTRICT’S UNIQUE HERITAGE</b>                  Lancaster district has an extraordinarily rich and varied historic environment which is described in more detail through this chapter of the Plan. The heritage assets within the district have all played a major role in helping to shape the district’s distinctive identity. The character of the district is shaped by both the local landscape and townscape built heritage. The district has a rich cultural history that dates back to the Roman prehistoric period and contains a large range of historical assets that chronicle the history of the district through the ages. These are important assets that are protected, either via listing</p> <p><b>POLICY SP7: MAINTAINING LANCASTER DISTRICT’S UNIQUE HERITAGE</b>                  Lancaster district has an extraordinarily rich and varied historic environment which is described in more detail through this chapter of the Plan. The heritage assets within the district have all played a major role in helping to shape the district’s distinctive identity. The character of the district is shaped by both the local landscape and townscape built heritage. The district has a rich cultural history that dates back to the Roman prehistoric period and contains a large range of historical assets that chronicle the history of the district through the ages. These are important assets that are protected, either via listing</p> <p>The Local Plan will be used as a vehicle to pro-actively manage the historic environment, protect it from inappropriate development and explore opportunities to improve and enhance the significance, character, appearance and archaeological significance of Lancaster’s heritage assets and their settings.</p>	<p>NDP Policy HA9 promotes high quality designs which respect traditional local character. This is in general conformity with the spatial vision for the Local Plan which sets out that new development will promote positive urban design to create a distinctive sense of place, and the historic environment will be protected and / or enhanced.</p> <p>High quality and traditional designs should also help to protect the settings of heritage assets and the distinctive identity of the Parish, in line with Local Plan Policy SP7.</p>
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Policy HA-10 Active Travel	<p>POLICY SP9: MAINTAINING STRONG AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES</p> <p>New development should deliver safe, cohesive and healthy communities across the social gradient which benefit from quality homes, good accessibility to open spaces and recreational provision, and promote the role of sustainable transport, particularly cycling and walking.</p> <p>POLICY T2: CYCLING AND WALKING NETWORK The Council are committed to supporting and promoting the role of cycling and walking in the district, building on previous successes of Lancaster’s role as a Cycling Demonstration Town providing safe and secure facilities. The Cycling Network has been identified on the Local Plan Policies Maps with a range of further aspirational routes highlighted to improve connectivity and linkages, particularly within the urban areas of the district. The Council will seek to support improvements to the network and delivery of these aspiration routes through the course of the plan period. In order to reflect the levels of anticipated growth in and around Lancaster, improvements will be particularly focussed on supporting strategic routes in Figure 24.1.</p>	<p>NDP promotes active and sustainable travel in Policy HA-10. This is in general conformity with Local Plan Policies SP9 and T2 which encourage walking and cycling and development to be located in accessible locations.</p>
Policy HA-11 Community Facilities	<p>POLICY SP9: MAINTAINING STRONG AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES</p> <p>The Council will seek to protect important facilities that act as hubs of the community, whether they be valuable areas of open space, local services or community buildings and support their improvement and diversification where they retain their long term value to the community they serve.</p> <p>It is important that local communities have the opportunity to contribute to plan-making through the neighbourhood plan process, where communities take up the option to prepare a neighbourhood plan for their locality, the Council will seek to provide assistance and support in their preparation.</p>	<p>NDP Policy HA-11 identifies the many community facilities in the Parish which are highly valued by residents and which support health and wellbeing, and community cohesion.</p> <p>This is in general conformity with Local Plan Policies SP9 which protects important facilities that act as hubs of the community and notes that local communities have the opportunity to contribute to plan-making through the neighbourhood plan process.</p>

**3.6. f) the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations**

The NDP is fully compatible with EU Obligations.

The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010(2)) or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007(3)) (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects).

Lancaster City Council prepared a screening report to support Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council in determining whether the content of the NDP is likely to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) or Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA).

**SEA - Screening Outcome**

*3.3 Initial internal screening of the Neighbourhood Plan concludes that it is unlikely that the Neighbourhood Plan would result in a significant environmental effect. The strong focus of the Neighbourhood Plan on the protection of the environment, heritage assets, its AONB focus and lack of allocations make it unlikely to result in significant effects.*

*3.4 In order to ensure compliance with SEA regulations it is recommended that reference to the need to consider the cumulative impacts of potential proposals be included.*

*3.5 Subject to the above amendments the Council is satisfied that the Plan is unlikely to result in significant effects.*

**HRA – Screening Conclusion**

*6.1 The HRA Screening Report of the Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan has considered the potential implications for designated sites near the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary.*

*6.2 The draft document places a strong emphasis on the protection of the area’s natural environment. The inclusion of Policy HA-2 ‘Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity’ is a welcomed inclusion and will ensure, together with policies within the Local Plan, that the Neighbourhood Plan would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the designated sites identified either alone, or in combination with other plans or projects.*

*6.3 The views of the three statutory bodies is required to confirm this conclusion.*

The responses from the three consultation bodies is set out below:

**Natural England**

*It is Natural England’s advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:*

- significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,*
- significant effects on Habitats sites, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.*

### **Historic England**

*In the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 [Annex II of SEA Directive], and on the basis of the information supplied, it is considered that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment, and so Historic England concur with your conclusion that SEA is not required.*

### **Environment Agency**

*We have reviewed the SEA screening report dated February 2024 and agree with your conclusion that no further work will be required for the SEA. The conclusions drawn in the HRA are beyond our remit, and we defer to our colleagues in Natural England regarding the findings of the HRA report.*

### **European Convention on Human Rights**

The Submission Neighbourhood Plan is fully compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. It has been prepared with full regard to national statutory regulation and policy guidance, which are both compatible with the Convention. The Plan has been produced in full consultation with the local community. The Plan does not contain policies or proposals that would infringe the human rights of residents or other stakeholders over and above the existing strategic policies at national and district-levels, as demonstrated below.

The Human Rights Act 1998 incorporated into UK law the European Convention on Human Rights ('The Convention'). The Convention includes provision in the form of Articles, the aim of which is to protect the rights of the individual.

Section 6 of the Act prohibits public bodies from acting in a manner, which is incompatible with the Convention. Various rights outlined in the Convention and its First Protocol are to be considered in the process of making and considering planning decisions, namely:

- Article 1 of the First Protocol protects the right of everyone to the peaceful enjoyment of possessions. No one can be deprived of possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided by law and by the general principles of international law. The Submission Neighbourhood Plan is fully compatible with the rights outlined in this Article. Although the Submission Plan includes policies that would restrict development rights to some extent, this does not have a greater impact than the general restrictions on development rights provided for in national law, namely the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Localism Act 2011. The restriction of development rights inherent in the UK's statutory planning system is demonstrably in the public interest by ensuring that land is used in the most sustainable way, avoiding or mitigating adverse impacts on the environment, community and economy.
- Article 6 protects the right to a fair and public hearing before an independent tribunal in determination of an individual's rights and obligations. The process for Neighbourhood Plan production is fully compatible with this Article, allowing for extensive consultation on its proposals at various stages, and an independent examination process to consider representations received.

- Article 14 provides that 'The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in ... [the] ... European Convention on Human Rights shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.' The Parish Council has developed the policies and proposals within the Plan in full consultation with the community and wider stakeholders to produce as inclusive a document as possible. In general, the policies and proposals will not have a discriminatory impact on any particular group of individuals.

3.7. **g) prescribed conditions are met in relation to the Order (or plan) and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the order (or neighbourhood plan).**

Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018, effective from 28 December 2018, prescribes the following additional Basic Condition for the purpose of paragraph 8(2)(g) of Schedule 4B to the TCPA 1990:

*'The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017'.*

*Regulation 106(1) of Chapter 8 states that: 'a qualifying body which submits a proposal for a neighbourhood development plan must provide such information as the competent authority may reasonably require for the purposes of the assessment under*

*Regulation 105 (that assessment is necessary where the neighbourhood plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) or to enable it to determine whether that assessment is required'.*

The prescribed conditions have been met in relation to the NDP and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the Plan.

Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council with the support of:

