

**Mid Sussex
District Council**



Policy Review Status of 2018 Mid Sussex District Plan 2014 – 2031

Background Paper

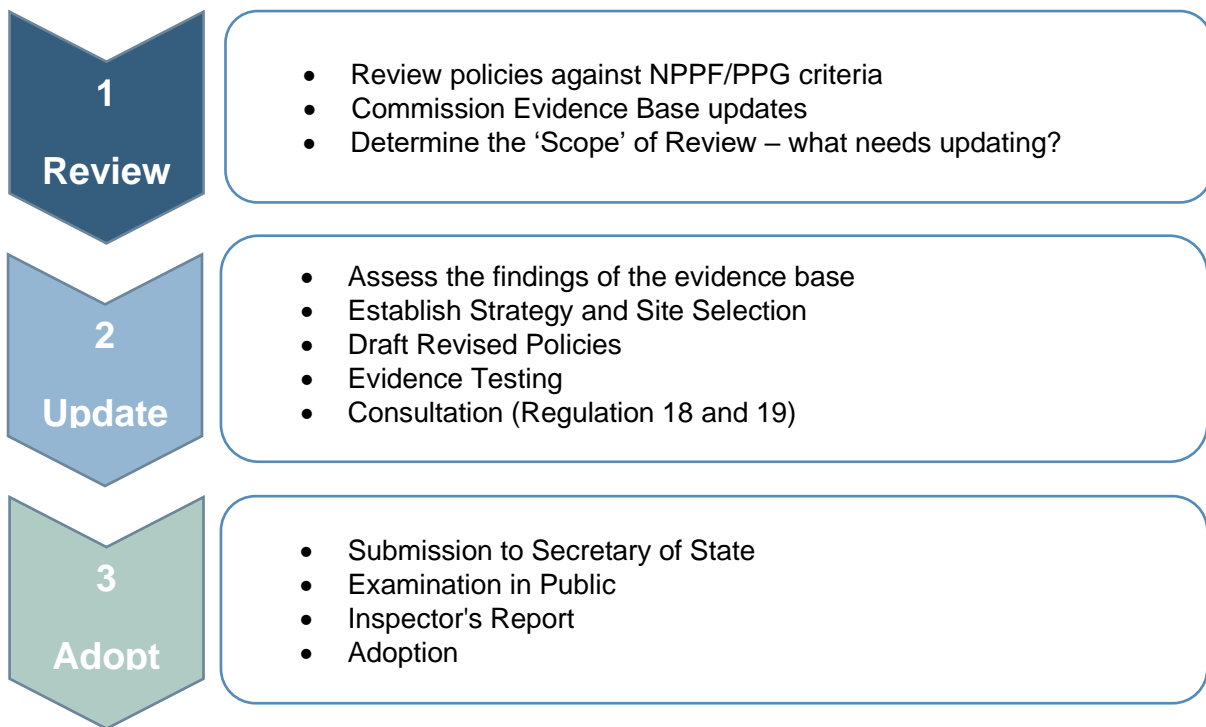
November 2023

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Mid Sussex District Plan 2021-2039 reflects the outcome of the review process of the 2018 District Plan. The District Plan 2021 – 2039 contains an updated vision, strategy, site allocations and polices that will supersede the 2018 District Plan upon its adoption.
- 1.2 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) requires local planning authorities to review local plans at least once every 5 years from their adoption date to ensure that policies remain relevant and effectively address the needs of the local community.
- 1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF September 2023) mirrors the legislation by requiring Local Planning Authorities to review Local Plans at least once every five years and update them as necessary (paragraph 33).
- 1.4 In reviewing plans, the NPPF states that the following needs to be considered:
 - Any changing circumstances affecting the area
 - Any relevant changes in national policy
- 1.5 It is a requirement to monitor the impact of policies to measure progress against need-based requirements and to assess the effectiveness of adopted policies. The review process also provides an opportunity to make amendments to policies as a result of this monitoring information.
- 1.6 It is also an opportunity to address other matters, such as issues that have arisen during the current plan period, the impact of other plans (such as Plans adopted by neighbouring authorities) and significant economic changes (such as impacts of Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic).

2.0 Review Process

- 2.1 There are three distinct phases in the preparation of this District Plan:



- 2.2 The Stage 1 Review process identified that current policies fall within three categories:
- **No Update Required:** Policy as written in the District Plan does not require any amendment
 - **Minor Factual/Clarity:** Policy as written in the District Plan is still in date however factual corrections, updates (e.g., cross-references or references to changes in updated policy/SPDs/guidance) or points of clarification are required. Does not change the overall meaning or requirements of the existing policy.
 - **Full Update:** Existing policy requires an update as a result of changing targets, strategy, updated evidence base, local circumstances or national policy

2.3 The tables below provide an overview of the outcome of the first stage review and set out changes made since the publication of the Regulation 18 Draft Plan in November 2022. The tables also explain how the policies in the 2018 District Plan will be replaced by policies in the District Plan 2021 – 2039.

Table 1 Scope of the District Plan review

2018 District Plan Policy	Review Status	Reason
DP1: Sustainable Economic Development	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update Employment Need figures and economic forecasting, further allocations if required • To reflect the additional requirements set out in the revised NPPF (July 2021)
DP2: Town Centre Development	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To update Shopping Frontage and any re-definition of town centre boundaries • To reflect evidence base updates, particularly retail needs • To reflect amendments set out in the revised NPPF (July 2021) • To reflect Covid-19 impacts and potential options to facilitate recovery
DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre Development	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reflect any amendments to be made to the Retail settlement hierarchy • To review change of use restrictions given Covid-19 impacts and to facilitate recovery • To review whether neighbourhood centres should be a requirement for new developments over a certain threshold
DP4: Housing	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To account for revised Housing Requirement in light of Standard Method and unmet need • To establish the latest position in terms of current supply (completions/commitments) • To set out a strategy/sites to meet the housing need
DP5: Planning to Meet Future Housing Need	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objectives of this policy are to be addressed through the preparation of the District Plan Review and set out as part of the Plan Strategy
DP6: Settlement Hierarchy	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review appropriateness of the 'contiguous' policy and to clarify the wording in relation to built-up areas • To review the Settlement Hierarchy and approach to distributing need in accordance with a potentially revised strategy
DP7 – DP11: Site Allocations	N/A	To be saved (i.e. will remain as 'Commitments' until development complete)
DP12: Protection and Enhancement of Countryside	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. • Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP13: Preventing Coalescence	No Update Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy.

DP14: Sustainable Rural Development and the Rural Economy	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reflect the additional requirements set out in the revised NPPF (July 2021) • To reflect Covid-19 impacts and facilitate recovery
DP15: New Homes in the Countryside	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reflect the additional requirements set out in the revised NPPF (July 2021) • Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP16: High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. • Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP17: Ashdown Forest SPA and SAC	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy currently. • Review may be required should the SANG/SAMM strategy require amendment – monitor.
DP18: Setting of the South Downs National Park	No Update Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy.
DP19: Sustainable Tourism	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. • Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP20: Securing Infrastructure	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To remove reference to pooling restrictions • Update will be required should national policy or legislation introduce additional mechanisms for collecting developer contributions (e.g. National Infrastructure Levy)
DP21: Transport	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reflect updated West Sussex Transport Plan • To reflect the additional requirements set out in the revised NPPF (July 2021) • To assess potential for additional parking/EV standards
DP22: Rights of Way and Other Recreational Routes	No Update Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy.
DP23: Communication Infrastructure	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. • Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP24: Leisure and Cultural Facilities and Activities	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the need to update this policy in light of emerging evidence e.g. Leisure studies
DP25: Community Facilities and Local Services	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the need to update this policy in light of emerging evidence e.g. Leisure studies

DP26: Character and Design	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. Add reference to Design Guide
DP27: Dwelling Space Standards	No Update Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy.
DP28: Accessibility	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reflect updated evidence within the SHMA The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy and current building regulations
DP29: Noise, Air and Light Pollution	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. An update to the 'air' element was included in the Sites DPD
DP30: Housing Mix	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of housing mix and whether the policy should be more specific C2 Need – to be addressed in this policy or standalone G&T Need – to be reviewed alongside DP33
DP31: Affordable Housing	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing need to be assessed in a revised SHMA, policy to be updated to reflect this evidence.
DP32: Rural Exception Sites	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP33: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An update will be required to account for updated G&T needs evidence
DP34: Listed Buildings and Other Heritage Assets	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP35: Conservation Areas	No Update Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy.
DP36: Historic Parks and Gardens	No Update Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy.
DP37: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy. Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP38: Biodiversity	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To account for forthcoming Government guidance on Biodiversity Net Gain
DP39: Sustainable Design and Construction	Full Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reflect the outcomes of the Water Cycle Study and changes to Building Regulations (Future Homes Standard) To reflect the additional requirements set out in the revised NPPF (July 2021)

DP40: Renewable Energy Schemes	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy provides sufficient support and therefore is in accordance with the revised NPPF (July 2021) • Minor updates to references / for clarity
DP41: Flood Risk and Drainage	No Update Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims and objectives of this policy remain in date and consistent with national policy.
DP42: Water Infrastructure and the Water Environment	Minor Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reflect the outcomes of the Water Cycle Study and changes to Building Regulations (Future Homes Standard) • To reflect the additional requirements set out in the revised NPPF (July 2021)

Table 2 Regulation 18 District Plan

Policy at Regulation 18	Regulation 18 Review Status	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPS1: Climate Change	New Policy	
DPS2: Sustainable Design and Construction	Full Update	DP39: Sustainable Design and Construction
DPS3: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Schemes	Minor Update	DP40: Renewable Energy Schemes
DPS4: Flood Risk and Drainage	No Update	DP41: Flood Risk and Drainage
DPS5: Water Infrastructure and Water Environment	Minor Update	DP42: Water Infrastructure and the Water Environment
DPS6: Health and Wellbeing	New Policy	
DPN1: Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Nature Recovery	Full Update	DP38: Biodiversity
DPN2: Biodiversity Net Gain	New Policy	
DPN3: Green Infrastructure	New Policy	
DPN4: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows	Minor Update	DP37: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows
DPN5: Historic Parks and Gardens	No Update	DP36: Historic Parks and Gardens
DPN6: Pollution	New Policy	
DPN7: Noise Impacts	Minor Update	DP29: Noise, Air and Light Pollution
DPN8: Light Impacts and Dark Skies	Minor Update	DP29: Noise, Air and Light Pollution
DPN9: Air Quality	Minor Update	SA38: Air Quality

Policy at Regulation 18	Regulation 18 Review Status	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPN10: Land Stability and Contaminated Land	New Policy	
DPC1: Protection and Enhancement of the Countryside	Minor Update	DP12: Protection and Enhancement of the Countryside
DPC2: Preventing Coalescence	No Update	DP13: Preventing Coalescence
DPC3: New Homes in the Countryside	Minor Update	DP15: New Homes in the Countryside
DPC4: High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	Minor Update	DP16: High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
DPC5: Setting of the South Downs National Park	No Update	DP18: Setting of the South Downs National Park
DPC6: Ashdown Forest SPA and SAC	Minor Update	DP17: Ashdown Forest SPA and SAC
DPB1: Character and Design	Minor Update	DP26: Character and Design
DPB2: Listed Buildings and Other Heritage Assets	Minor Update	DP34: Listed Buildings and Other Heritage Assets
DPB3: Conservation Areas	No Update	DP35: Conservation Areas
DPT1: Placemaking and Connectivity	Full Update	DP21: Transport
DPT2: Rights of Way and Other Recreational Routes	No Update	DP22: Rights of Way and Other Recreational Routes
DPT3: Active Travel	New Policy	
DPT4: Parking and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	New Policy	
DPT5: Off-Airport Car Parking	New Policy	
DPE1: Sustainable Economic Development	Full Update	DP1: Sustainable Economic Development
DPE2: Existing Employment Sites	Minor Update	SA34: Existing Employment Sites
DPE3: Employment Allocations	New Policy	
DPE4: Town and Village Centre Development	Full Update	DP2: Town centre development DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development
DPE5: Within Town and Village Centre Boundaries	Full Update	DP2: Town centre development DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development
DPE6: Development within Primary Shopping Areas	Full Update	DP2: Town centre development DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development
DPE7: Smaller Village and Neighbourhood Centres	Full Update	DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development

Policy at Regulation 18	Regulation 18 Review Status	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPE8: Sustainable Rural Development and the Rural Economy	Minor Update	DP14: Sustainable Rural Development and the Rural Economy
DPE9: Sustainable Tourism and the Visitor Economy	Minor Update	DP19: Sustainable Tourism
DPH1: Housing	Full Update	DPH4: Housing SA10: Housing
DPH2: Sustainable Development - Outside the Built-up Area	New Policy	DP6: Settlement Hierarchy
DPH3: Sustainable Development - Inside the Built-up Area	New Policy	DP6: Settlement Hierarchy
DPH4: General Principles for Housing Allocations	New Policy	
DPH26: Older Persons' Housing and Specialist Accommodation	New Policy	
DPH29: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	Full Update	DP33: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
DPH30: Self and Custom Build Housing	New Policy	
DPH31: Housing Mix	Full Update	DP30: Housing Mix
DPH32: Affordable Housing	Minor Update	DP31: Affordable Housing
DPH33: First Homes	New Policy	
DPH34: Rural Exception Sites	Minor Update	DP32: Rural Exception Sites
DPH35: Dwelling Space Standards	No Update	DP27: Dwelling Space Standards
DPH36: Accessibility	Minor Update	DP28: Accessibility
DPI1: Securing Infrastructure	Full Update	DP20: Securing Infrastructure
DPI2: Planning Obligations	New Policy	Developer infrastructure and Contributions Supplementary Planning Document
DPI3: Major Infrastructure Projects	New Policy	
DPI4: Communications Infrastructure	Minor Update	DP23: Communication Infrastructure
DPI5: Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities	Minor Update	DP24: Leisure and Cultural Facilities and Activities

Policy at Regulation 18	Regulation 18 Review Status	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPI6: Community and Cultural Facilities and Local Services	Minor Update	DP25: Community Facilities and Local Services
DPI7: Viability	Minor Update	Development Viability Supplementary Planning Document

Table 3 Regulation 19 District Plan

Policy at Regulation 19	Regulation 19 Review Status*	Reason for change	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPS1: Climate Change	New Policy		
DPS2: Sustainable Design and Construction	Full Update		DP39: Sustainable Design and Construction
DPS3: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Schemes	Minor Update		DP40: Renewable Energy Schemes
DPS4: Flood Risk and Sustainable Drainage	Full Update	Consultation comments Major PPG Update	DP41: Flood Risk and Drainage
DPS5: Water Infrastructure and Water Environment	Deleted	Policy has been split between other policies	
DPS5: Water Neutrality	New Policy	Joint work with neighbouring authorities	
DPS6: Health and Wellbeing	New Policy		
DPN1: Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Nature Recovery	Full Update		DP38: Biodiversity
DPN2: Biodiversity Net Gain	New Policy		
DPN3: Green and Blue Infrastructure	New Policy		
DPN4: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows	Minor Update		DP37: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows
DPN5: Historic Parks and Gardens	Minor Update	Consultation comments	DP36: Historic Parks and Gardens

Policy at Regulation 19	Regulation 19 Review Status*	Reason for change	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPN6: Pollution	New Policy		DP42: Water Infrastructure and the Water Environment (in parts)
DPN7: Noise Impacts	Minor Update		DP29: Noise, Air and Light Pollution
DPN8: Light Impacts and Dark Skies	Minor Update		DP29: Noise, Air and Light Pollution
DPN9: Air Quality	Minor Update		SA38: Air Quality
DPN10: Land Stability and Contaminated Land	New Policy		
DPC1: Protection and Enhancement of the Countryside	Minor Update		DP12: Protection and Enhancement of the Countryside
DPC2: Preventing Coalescence	Minor Update	Consultation comments As a result of deletion of DPH4	DP13: Preventing Coalescence
DPC3: New Homes in the Countryside	Minor Update		DP15: New Homes in the Countryside
DPC4: High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	Minor Update		DP16: High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
DPC5: Setting of the South Downs National Park	Minor Update	Consultation comments Engagement with stakeholders	DP18: Setting of the South Downs National Park
DPC6: Ashdown Forest SPA and SAC	Minor update		DP17: Ashdown Forest SPA and SAC
DPB1: Character and Design	Minor update		DP26: Character and Design
DPB2: Listed Buildings and Other Heritage Assets	Minor update		DP34: Listed Buildings and Other Heritage Assets
DPB3: Conservation Areas	Minor Update	Consultation comments	DP35: Conservation Areas
DPB4: Aerodrome Safeguarding Requirements (Air Safety)	New Policy	For clarity, a standalone policy with the criteria previously included within DPH4 and DPB1 was added	
DPT1: Placemaking and Connectivity	Full Update		DP21: Transport
DPT2: Rights of Way and Other Recreational Routes	No Update		DP22: Rights of Way and Other Recreational Routes

Policy at Regulation 19	Regulation 19 Review Status*	Reason for change	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPT3: Active and Sustainable Travel	New Policy		
DPT4: Parking and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	New Policy		
DPT5: Off-Airport Car Parking	New Policy		
DPE1: Sustainable Economic Development	Full Update		DP1: Sustainable Economic Development
DPE2: Existing Employment Sites	Minor Update		SA34: Existing Employment Sites
DPE3: Employment Allocations	New Policy		
DPE4: Town and Village Centre Development	Full Update		DP2: Town centre development DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development
DPE5: Within Town and Village Centre Boundaries	Full Update		DP2: Town centre development DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development
DPE6: Development within Primary Shopping Areas	Full Update		DP2: Town centre development DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development
DPE7: Smaller Village and Neighbourhood Centres	Full Update		DP3: Village and Neighbourhood Centre development
DPE8: Sustainable Rural Development and the Rural Economy	Minor Update		DP14: Sustainable Rural Development and the Rural Economy
DPE9: Sustainable Tourism and the Visitor Economy	Minor Update		DP19: Sustainable Tourism
DPSC GEN: Significant Sites Requirements	New Policy	To address the specificity of significant sites	
DPH1: Housing	Full Update		DPH4: Housing SA10: Housing
DPH2: Sustainable Development - Outside the Built-up Area	New Policy		DP6: Settlement Hierarchy
DPH3: Sustainable Development - Inside the Built-up Area	New Policy		DP6: Settlement Hierarchy

Policy at Regulation 19	Regulation 19 Review Status*	Reason for change	2018 District Plan Policy Replaced
DPH4: General Principles for Housing Allocations	Deleted	Criteria split into existing policies	
DPH4: Older Persons' Housing and Specialist Accommodation	New Policy		
DPH5: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	Full Update		DP33: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
DPH6: Self and Custom Build Housing	New Policy		
DPH7: Housing Mix	Full Update		DP30: Housing Mix
DPH8: Affordable Housing	Minor Update		DP31: Affordable Housing
DPH9: First Homes	New Policy		
DPH10: Rural Exception Sites	Minor Update		DP32: Rural Exception Sites
DPH11: Dwelling Space Standards	No Update		DP27: Dwelling Space Standards
DPH12: Accessibility	Minor Update		DP28: Accessibility
DPI1: Infrastructure Provision	Full Update		DP20: Securing Infrastructure
DPI2: Planning Obligations	New Policy		Developer infrastructure and Contributions Supplementary Planning Document
DPI3: Major Infrastructure Projects	New Policy		
DPI4: Communications Infrastructure	Minor Update		DP23: Communication Infrastructure
DPI5: Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities	Minor Update		DP24: Leisure and Cultural Facilities and Activities
DPI6: Community and Cultural Facilities and Local Services	Minor Update		DP25: Community Facilities and Local Services
DPI7: Water and Wastewater infrastructure	New Policy	Result from the deletion of policy DPS5	
DPI8: Viability	Minor Update		Development Viability Supplementary Planning Document

*Change since the Regulation 18 consultation are shown in **red and bold text**.