

INFORMATION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
HEAD OF PLANNING	PLANNING COMMITTEE	18 JANUARY 2023	16
CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED REFORMS TO NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY AND APPROACH TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

On 22 December 2022, the Department for Levelling-up, Housing and Communities issued a consultation seeking views on their proposed approach to updating the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), including the approach to preparing National Development Management Policies and how policy might be developed to support the levelling up agenda.

The full documentation issued for consultation, including a 'tracked changes' version of the NPPF and the reasoning behind the proposed changes, can be accessed via the link provided below. The key changes, which appear to be focused on the delivery of new homes, include:

- how housing figures should be derived and applied to address local circumstances;
- addressing issues in the operation of the housing delivery and land supply tests;
- tackling problems of slow build out by developers;
- supporting the role of community-led groups in delivering affordable housing on exception sites;
- setting clearer expectations around planning for older peoples' housing;
- promoting more beautiful homes, including through gentle density;
- factoring food security considerations into planning decisions that affect farm land; and
- enabling new methods for demonstrating local support for onshore wind development.

The consultation also sets out the envisaged role for National Development Management Policies (NDMPs), which are intended to save plan-makers from having to repeat nationally important policies in their own plans, allowing the quicker production of local plans which can focus on locally relevant policies. A further consultation in the detail of NDMPs will be issued later in the year.

The Head of Planning will draft a response to the consultation in line with delegated authority included in the Council's constitution ahead of the consultation closing on 2 March 2023.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Department for Levelling-up, Housing and Communities.

LINK TO INFORMATION

Details of the Government's proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework are available via the following link:

[Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/levelling-up-and-regeneration-bill-reforms-to-national-planning-policy)

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. As it is a key document which must be taken into consideration in the formulation of development plan policies and the determination of planning applications, Members need to be aware of proposed changes and the potential implications for local planning policies and decisions.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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