

The Garforth Neighbourhood Development Plan

BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

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1. Legal Requirements

- 1.1 This Statement has been prepared by the Garforth Neighbourhood Forum to accompany its submission to the Local Planning Authority, Leeds City Council, of the Garforth Neighbourhood Development Plan (“the Neighbourhood Plan”) under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”).
- 1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan is a Neighbourhood Development Plan as defined by the Localism Act 2011. It has been prepared by the Garforth Neighbourhood Forum, a Qualifying Body, for the Neighbourhood Area covering the Garforth area, as designated by Leeds City Council on the 7th November 2014.
- 1.3 The Garforth Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group (a group formed in 2013 to promote neighbourhood planning in the local area) submitted an application to designate the Garforth Neighbourhood Area and the Garforth Neighbourhood Forum, in accordance with Regulations 5 and 8 on 28th July 2014. Under Regulations 6 and 9 (Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012) the Council publicised the application to those who live or work in the area to which the application referred for a period of 6 weeks from 31st July 2014. The consultation was also advertised locally during this period and the application was available to inspect at Garforth Library and One Stop Centre.
- 1.4 The Leeds City Council decision confirming the designation of the Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Area is available to view: <https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=41782>
- 1.5 In November 2019, the original neighbourhood forum designation expired. In order to continue preparing the neighbourhood plan ready for submission and examination, the forum applied to be re-designated as a neighbourhood forum. The application was prepared and submitted and the neighbourhood forum re-designation was publicised for 8 weeks between Monday 15th June and Monday 10th August 2020. The forum was subsequently re-designated 10th September 2020, Leeds City Council’s decision which confirms the re-designation of the Forum is available to view: <https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=52285>
- 1.6 The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to the development and use of land in the designated Neighbourhood Area only, it does not include policies related to excluded development. The plan period of the Neighbourhood Plan extends from 2020 until the end of 2033 to align with the most up-to-date Local Plan Period.
- 1.7 This Statement, a requirement of the Regulations addresses each of the five ‘Basic Conditions’ as set out by Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990) and explains how the Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirements of the Basic Conditions.
- 1.8 A Neighbourhood Plan will be considered to have met the Basic Conditions if:
 - Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan;
 - The making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
 - The making of the 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 making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations; and
- 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

¹ On 28 December 2018, the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018 came into force. Amongst other things, these Regulations amended the Basic Conditions prescribed in Regulation 32 and Schedule 2 (Habitats) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) which stated:

- The making of the neighbourhood plan is not 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.

The amended Basic Condition is provided in paragraph 1.5, above.

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 Garforth lies approximately 8 miles to the east of the Leeds city centre. The Neighbourhood Area was designated by Leeds City Council on 7th November 2014, and the Neighbourhood Forum designated at the same time. The Neighbourhood Area comprises the large settlement of Garforth and surrounding green belt agricultural land. The town comprises a community of over 15000 residents and has a thriving Main Street with a variety of retail, service and leisure opportunities, well-regarded schools, two railway stations and easy motorway access. There is employment locally but many residents commute to work in Leeds, York and Wakefield.
- 2.2 After consultation with the community a vision for the future of the town has been developed:
- 2.3 A draft Neighbourhood Plan was produced in 2020 containing the following key themes:

The Vision outlined below is a snapshot of the Garforth of 2033. Clearly, a lot of the statements made describe aspects of life in Garforth which already exist.

In 2033 Garforth will continue to be a great place in which to live, work and play. There will be, as now, a strong sense of community. It will be a place with a distinctive small-town identity.

The town will be surrounded by protected and accessible countryside.

The town centre will be vibrant and re-invigorated, encouraging people to become actively involved in a flourishing community. There will continue to be a broad range of retail, leisure and offices; in addition there will be arts and culture as well as residential opportunities. A variety of outdoor events and pop-ups will also add to the stimulating mix.

Away from the centre, the town's commercial and industrial areas will be thriving and offering a wide range of jobs.

There will be access to a range of well-designed, sustainable homes that meet the needs of all its people at all stages of life.

At the centre of making decisions about the town will be a concern with the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in Garforth. Given the on-going climate emergency, all decisions on development will take into account the need to achieve carbon neutrality in Leeds by the 2030s.

A draft Neighbourhood Plan was produced in 2020 containing the following key themes:

Housing and the Built Environment

Green Space and the Rural Environment

Business, Employment and the Town Centre

Community and Leisure

Transport

Education and Health

Regulation 14 (Pre-Submission) Consultation took place between Monday 11th January and Monday 8th March 2021, and responses from this consultation have been considered. Changes have been made to the policies in the plan as a result (see Garforth Consultation Statement for further information). It is now ready to be submitted to Leeds City Council, the Local Planning Authority, for independent examination to determine whether the plan meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements.

3. Regard to National Planning Policy and Guidance

- 3.1 The Garforth Neighbourhood Plan must have regard to national policy and guidance issued by the secretary of state (notably Planning Practice Guidance). The following section describes how the submission draft Garforth NP has regard to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021).
- 3.2 The NP acknowledges that having regard to the NPPF and guidance issued by the Secretary of State is not the same as “compliance”, nor is it the same as part of the test of soundness provided for in respect of Local Plan examinations which requires plans to be “consistent with national policy”. Planning Practice Guidance also clarifies that having regard to national policy means that “a neighbourhood plan must not constrain the delivery of important national policy objectives”.²
- 3.3 In addition, Paragraph 13 of the NPPF is clear that neighbourhood plans should support the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans and spatial development strategies. NPs should plan positively to support local development, shaping and directing development in their area that is outside these strategic policies. Paragraph 29 of the NPPF also states that neighbourhood plans should not promote less development than set out in the strategic policies for the area, or undermine those strategic policies.³
- 3.4 The NP has been prepared in conformity with the policies set out in the NPPF, alongside Planning Practice Guidance (published in 2014, and as amended most recently in 2020).
- 3.5 Set out in Table 1 below, is a summary of how each of the draft Neighbourhood Plan policies have regard to the provisions of the NPPF. The particular paragraphs referred to in the table are those considered the most relevant to each policy but are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible relevant paragraphs. Paragraphs 28 – 30 of the NPPF establish how neighbourhood plans should be developed, specifically that they should shape, direct or deliver sustainable development through the development of a shared vision for the area. The NP sets a clear vision, established through extensive consultation, for how the community would like to see Garforth develop during the plan period.

² Planning Practice Guidance, Paragraph 069, Reference ID: 41-069-20140306.

³ Planning Practice Guidance, Paragraph 070, Reference ID: 41-070-20190509.

Table 1: Assessment of draft NDP policies and ‘appropriate regard’ to National Policy (The National Planning Policy Framework, February 2019)

Garforth NP Policy	National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraphs)	Commentary
HBE1: Housing Mix (bedrooms)	62	The policy supports the delivery of a sufficient supply of homes by using locally supplied evidence to direct development to meet the needs of the community in the Garforth Neighbourhood Area in line with paragraph 62, supporting the development of mixed and balanced communities.
HBE2: Housing Type	62	The policy supports the delivery of a sufficient supply of homes which help to meet locally-identified needs in terms of housing type, in line with paragraph 62.
HBE3: Affordable Housing	34, 62-63	This policy supports the provision of affordable housing on-site and specifies more one to two-bedroom affordable housing to meet local need in line with paragraphs 62-63.
HBE4: Homes for Older People	60-62	The policy supports the delivery of a sufficient supply of homes which help to meet locally-identified needs of the community in the Garforth Neighbourhood Area, with particular focus on the type and tenure of provision for older residents, supporting the development of mixed and balanced communities in line with paragraphs 60-52.
HBE5: Use of Water	152-154	This policy encourages the reuse of existing resources and takes a proactive approach to ensuring new development does not add to existing climate change impacts in line with paragraphs 152-154, particularly with regards to flooding, which has already had a negative impact in the Garforth Neighbourhood Area.
HBE6: Drainage systems	152-154, 166	This policy helps ensure that new development does not increase flooding elsewhere in line with paragraph 166 and provides appropriate measures to minimise the impacts of excessive surface water runoff and ensure the resilience of development in the future in line with paragraphs 152-154.
HBE7: Lin Dyke Catchment	152-154, 160	This policy has taken into account the cumulative impacts of rainfall and surface water on the capacity of the local water catchment system to ensure that new development does not overburden the existing system of waterways and cause flooding elsewhere

		in line with paragraphs 152-154 and 160, and contributing to climate change resilience for the Garforth Neighbourhood Area.
HBE8: Healthy Planning Principles	106-108, 112, 120, 124, 126-127, 130	The policy seeks to support developments that achieve a high quality of sustainability and design within the neighbourhood area. Principles have been applied to make the most of available land in the most sustainable locations.
HBE9: Character Areas	112, 124-127, 130	This policy is in line with paragraphs 124-127, by identifying a number of development principles that proposals should take account of to form a positive strategy for the preservation of local character and distinctiveness. This is in line with the Government's ambition to improve design quality in new development and the focus on supporting beauty and well-designed places.
HBE10: SAP Site HG3-18 –Selby Road	28, 120, 127, 130, 153-154	This site-based policy help to shape, direct and deliver sustainable development and influence local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan. The policy seeks to shape this identified housing site that has been allocated through the development plan to fit with the Vision for Garforth which has been developed through the neighbourhood planning process.
HBE11: General Heritage Assets	189-190, 194-197, 199-201	This policy seeks to protect and enhance existing heritage assets in the neighbourhood area through the support of regeneration schemes and encouraging their continued use in line with paragraphs 189-190.
HBE12: Non-Designated Heritage Assets	203	This policy seeks to ensure that that the heritage significance of any non-designated heritage asset is taken account of in any development affecting it in line with paragraph 203.
HBE13: Development Sites	16, 29, 119	This policy seeks to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in Garforth, supporting the aims of the Leeds development plan, whilst requiring extra consideration of environmental impact for development proposals on greenfield sites.
HBE14: Energy Efficiency	152, 155-156	The policy supports the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, encouraging proposals to consider opportunities for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the energy efficiency of new development and sources of renewable/low carbon energy in line with paragraphs 152 and 155-156.
HBE15: Cycle Storage	106, 112	This policy seeks to highlight the requirement for cycle parking and storage within new residential development in line with Transport SPD guidelines and paragraphs 106 and 112 on supporting sustainable transport.

HBE16: Residential Parking	130	This policy seeks integration of residential parking within the streetscene, providing space for play, active travel and green space in line with paragraph 130.
BETC1: Employment Land	81-82	The policy supports the development of the local economy in the neighbourhood area by protecting existing employment land for the employment use, unless it can be evidenced that it is no further viable and taking into account local business needs in line with paragraphs 81-82.
BETC2: Employment Opportunities	81-82, 85	The policy supports the development of the local economy in the neighbourhood area by encouraging new employment opportunities to diversify the local economy, help to promote the area and improve local sustainability, whilst also minimising burden on local infrastructure and harm to amenity within the Neighbourhood Area in line with paragraphs 81-82 and 85.
BETC3: Connectivity to Employment	85, 104, 106	This policy seeks to ensure that transport issues are considered early in new employment site proposals, where sites are located in sustainable locations, and accessible via active travel where possible in line with paragraphs 85, 106 and 106.
BETC4: Town Centre Mix	86-87, 92	This policy encourages a mix of uses in the town centre that enhances local sustainability and meets the mix of needs in the community and is in line with paragraphs 86-87 of the NPPF which encourages plans to promote vitality of town centres.
BETC5: Residential Development in The Town Centre	86, 92	This policy supports the change of use of accommodation above retail units for residential development in the town centre in order to support the vitality of the centre.
BETC6: Town Centre Accessibility	92, 104-106, 112	This policy seeks to support measures to make the town centre more accessible, improving pedestrian and cycle routes to encourage sustainable travel in line with paragraphs 92, 104-106 and 112.
BETC7: Appearance and Public Realm	92-93, 112, 126-127	The policy seeks to achieve increased/greater co-ordination of the town centre by taking a positive approach to its growth, management and adaptation, protecting and enhancing the character of the existing features as well as supporting an enhanced sense of place and functionality in line with paragraphs 92-93, 112 and 126-127.
BETC8: Town End	92, 104, 126-127	This policy encourages the regeneration of an under-used part of Garforth town centre so it fulfils an identified need as an attractive gateway function to the town.

BETC9: Town Centre Car Parking	92, 104, 107	This policy seeks to encourage development of a new car park in the town centre to alleviate current traffic management issues, along with some guiding principles to be considered for new development proposals including integral landscaping and SuDS, electric vehicle charging and cycle infrastructure in line with paragraphs 92, 104 and 107.
T1: Active Travel	92, 104-106, 112	This policy seeks to integrate the consideration of active travel, including cycling and walking, and improved connections within the neighbourhood area, early on in the design of new developments in line with paragraphs 92, 104-106 and 112.
GSRE1: Local Green Spaces	101-103	The policy seeks to designate sites as Local Green Spaces, in accordance with the NPPF. The policy is supported by a Local Green Space assessment which is provided as Appendix 7 to the neighbourhood plan. The Local Green Space assessment sets out, in detail, how the proposed sites meet the NPPF criteria.
GSRE2: Provision of New Green Space	98	This policy highlights those typologies of green space that are currently in deficit within the neighbourhood area, so development proposals which include a green space provision can seek to accommodate those typologies according to local need in line with paragraph 98.
GSRE3: Children's play	98	This policy supports the provision of new children's play areas and provides some potential sites in sustainable locations within the neighbourhood area in line with paragraph 98.
GSRE4: Improvements to Green Spaces	98-99	This policy identifies those existing green spaces which are under-performing in terms of quality and facilities and seeks to improve and enhance them in line with their designated typology.
GSRE5: Protecting Local Green Corridors	174, 179	The policy seeks to improve, enhance and extend local green corridors to support increased opportunities for connectivity with the neighbourhood area, increased wildlife habitats and wider environmental and amenity benefits in line with paragraphs 174 and 179.
GSRE6: Green Infrastructure Opportunities	174, 179	This policy identifies green infrastructure opportunity corridors and requires that new development within these corridors includes measures to link to the green infrastructure through the provision of green space, planting street trees and landscaping.

GSRE7: Accessibility and Connectivity (Including PROW)	112, 127, 179	The policy seeks to protect and enhance the existing public rights of way network and supports improvements to pedestrian accessibility within the neighbourhood area in line with paragraphs 112, 127 and 179.
GSRE8: The Lines Way	179-180	This policy is seeking to maintain and enhance the green corridor function of the Lines Way and improve it through connection to existing green spaces.
GSRE9: The Rural Environment	84, 174	This policy seeks to protect the wider landscape setting within the neighbourhood area by ensuring that development proposals consider screening for visual intrusion within the landscape as well as opportunities for enhanced accessibility to the rural landscape and improvements to natural habitats and biodiversity in line with paragraphs 84 and 174.
GSRE10: Biodiversity and the Leeds Habitat network	174, 179	The policy seeks to improve and enhance the Leeds Habitat Network within the neighbourhood area, supporting increased opportunities for connectivity, wildlife habitats, biodiversity gain and wider environmental and amenity benefits in line with paragraphs 174 and 179.
GSRE11: Preservation of the Grade 2 and 3 Agricultural Land	174	This policy requires development to contribute to and enhance the natural environment through the preservation of valuable land use and biodiversity and the minimisation of negative impacts in line with paragraph 174.
GSRE12: Wildlife features	174	This policy requires the addition of wildlife features in new development in order to contribute to and enhance the natural environment in line with paragraph 174.
GSRE13: Landscape character	127, 174	This policy seeks to protect the wider landscape setting within the neighbourhood area by identifying key views that should be maintained and respected within development proposals in line with paragraph 124, and ensuring that development proposals consider screening for visual intrusion within the landscape as well as opportunities for improvements to natural habitats and biodiversity in line with paragraph 174.
GSRE14: Planting opportunities	130-131	This policy seeks to increase tree and hedgerow planting opportunities for the contribution that they make to local character and identity as well as biodiversity gain and helping to address the Leeds City Council-declared climate emergency in line with paragraphs 130-131.

CL1: Safeguarding Existing Community Facilities	92-93	The policy supports the achievement of healthy, inclusive and safe places by giving a degree of protection to identified community facilities in Garforth which provide an opportunity for increased social interaction, support healthy lifestyles and enhance the social sustainability of the neighbourhood area in line with paragraphs 92-93.
CL2: Improvements to Existing Facilities	92-93	The policy supports the achievement of healthy, inclusive and safe places by giving encouragement for the improvement of community facilities within Garforth, whilst ensuring that any subsequent negative impacts in terms of parking, residential amenity and the character of the area in line with paragraphs 92-93.
CL3: New Community Facilities	92-93	This policy encourages the provision of new community facilities to enhances local sustainability and meet the mix of needs in the community and is in line with paragraphs 92-93 of the NPPF.
EH1: Support for Existing Schools	95, 152	The policy supports the achievement of healthy, inclusive and sustainable places by lending support to development proposals to improve or enhance existing schools, including their environmental impact, in line with paragraphs 95 and 152.
EH2: New School Provision	93, 95	This policy encourages the provision of new schools and seeks to shape and direct sustainable development to ensure that local people get the right type of development for their community in line with paragraphs 93 and 95.
EH3: Support for Pre-School Facilities	93, 95	This policy identifies a local need and lends support to development proposals that would address this, along with a series of guiding principles to ensure sustainability.
EH4: Community Healthcare Facilities	92-93	This policy identifies existing healthcare provision within the neighbourhood area and seeks to protect it from development outside of the healthcare use in line with NPPF guidance on providing services that local communities need.
EH5: New Healthcare Provision	92-93	This policy identifies a local healthcare need and lends support to development proposals that would address this, along with a series of guiding principles to ensure sustainability in line with paragraphs 92-93.

4. General conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan

5.

4.1 Neighbourhood Plans must demonstrate that they are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan. In considering a now repealed provision that “a local plan shall be in general conformity with the structure plan” the Court of Appeal stated “the adjective ‘general’ is there to introduce a degree of flexibility.”⁴ The use of ‘general’ allows for the possibility of conflict. Obviously, there must at least be broad consistency, but this gives considerable room for manoeuvre. Flexibility is however not unlimited. The test for neighbourhood plans refers to the strategic policies of the development plan rather than the development plan as a whole. Planning Practice Guidance states:

When considering whether a policy is in general conformity a qualifying body, independent examiner, or local planning authority, should consider the following:

- *Whether the neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal supports and upholds the general principle that the strategic policy is concerned with;*
- *The degree, if any, of conflict between the draft neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal and the strategic policy;*
- *Whether the draft neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal provides an additional level of detail and/or a distinct local approach to that set out in the strategic policy without undermining that policy;*
- *The rationale for the approach taken in the draft neighbourhood plan or Order and the evidence to justify that approach.*⁵

4.2 The development plan for Leeds is a suite of documents being prepared in accordance with the Council’s Local Development Scheme. At the time of submission, the development plan for Leeds contains the following key development plan documents:

- Leeds Core Strategy (2014) including as amended by the Core Strategy Selective Review (2019)
- Saved Policies of the Unitary Development Plan Review (UDPR) (2006)
- The National Resources and Waste Local Plan (2013)
- The Leeds Site Allocations Plan (2019)
- The Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan (2017)

⁴ Persimmon Homes v. Stevenage BC the Court of Appeal [2006] 1 P &CR 31

⁵ Planning Practice Guidance, Paragraph: 074 Reference ID: 41-074-20140306

- The Policies Map

4.3 Throughout the preparation of the neighbourhood plan, the Leeds Core Strategy (2014) has been used to guide and inform the development of neighbourhood plan policies and proposals. The Core Strategy sets the strategic vision for the city to support the growth and enhancement of communities in Leeds and establishes the strategic policies of the development plan which apply within the district.

4.4 Table 2 below sets out how each policy is in general conformity with Leeds City Council’s Core Strategy.

Table 2: Conformity of the Neighbourhood Plan (NDP) policies to Strategic Policies of the Development Plan and other Local Plan Policies (where appropriate)

Garforth NP Policy	Leeds Core Strategy Policies	Commentary on conformity
HBE1: Housing Mix (bedrooms)	Core Strategy policy H4	This policy conforms with policy H4 in promoting a good mix of housing for new residential development, highlighting an identified local need for 1/2 bed properties.
HBE2: Housing Type	Core Strategy policies H4 and H10.	This policy conforms with policy H4 in promoting a good mix of housing for new residential development, highlighting an identified local need for flats and bungalows, which also supports the accessibility requirements of policy H10.
HBE3: Affordable Housing	Core Strategy policies H5 and H4	This policy conforms with policy H5 in ensuring that the affordable housing requirement is met on-site, or that any off-site contribution is directed elsewhere within the Neighbourhood Area, and that the affordable housing meets the identified local need in terms of mix.
HBE4: Homes for Older People	Core Strategy policies H8, H10, P10	This policy conforms with H8 and H10 which seek to increase provision for elderly people and people with disabilities, and P10 which requires accessible design.

HBE5: Use of Water	Core Strategy policy EN2	This policy seeks to improve water use and surface water run-off, conforming with policy EN2 on the requirement for sustainable design and construction.
HBE6: Drainage systems	Core Strategy policies EN2 and EN5	This policy seeks to improve surface water run-off and encourage sustainable drainage systems for new development, conforming with policy EN2 on the requirement for sustainable design and construction and managing flood risk in line with policy EN5.
HBE7: Lin Dyke Catchment	Core Strategy policy EN5	This policy seeks to prevent the over-burden of surface water run-off from new development to the local catchment area in line with policy EN5 on managing flood risk.
HBE8: Healthy Planning Principles	Core Strategy policies H3, P10 and T2	This policy provides a list of key principles to encourage the sustainable design of major housing developments, including considerations such as density, connectivity, active travel and high-quality public realm, conforming with policies H3, P10 and T2 of the Core Strategy.
HBE9: Character Areas	Core Strategy policies P10, P11 and P12	HBE10 adds Garforth-specific detail to the generic provisions of the development plan policies in respect of design, character, landscape and public realm, while remaining clearly in conformity with those policies.
HBE10: SAP Site HG3-18 –Selby Road	Core Strategy policies H5, P10, P12 and EN5.	The NDP supports development of this site with the policy identifying a number of considerations that development of the site should take account of, including local housing needs, flood management and on-site landscape issues.
HBE11: General Heritage Assets	Core Strategy policy P11	This policy is consistent with Core Strategy Policy P11 as it seeks to protect valued heritage assets, and encourage regeneration where required.
HBE12: Non-Designated Heritage Assets	Core Strategy policies P10 and P11	HBE13 adds Garforth-specific detail to the generic provisions of the development plan policies, by identifying the non-designated assets to which those policies should apply.
HBE13: Development Sites	Core Strategy policy SP1, SP6, H2	This policy supports the spatial development strategy for Leeds on concentrating sustainable development within a major settlement, and where possible, on previously developed land and other suitable infill sites.

HBE14: Energy Efficiency	Core Strategy policy EN1 and EN2	This policy seeks to minimise the environment impact of new housing and employment development, and support retrofitting of existing where possible, with the integration of sustainable construction and energy efficiency measures in line with policies EN1 and EN2.
HBE15: Cycle Storage	Core Strategy policies P10 and T2	Core Strategy policy T2 encourages sustainable transport solutions and P10 supports the integrated design of solutions within developments. Policy HBE17 adds to and complements the Core Strategy's strategic approach by specifically addressing Garforth's local needs and aspirations.
HBE16: Residential Parking	Core Strategy policies P10 and T2	The Core Strategy encourages development to be sympathetic to the prevailing character within neighbourhoods and communities. Policy HBE19 seeks to ensure that residential parking is designed positively and supportive of the function of the wider public realm for a variety of active uses.
BETC1: Employment Land	Core Strategy policy EC3	This policy seeks to safeguard existing identified employment land within the neighbourhood area in clear conformity with the aims of Policy EC3.
BETC2: Employment Opportunities	Core Strategy policy SP8	The neighbourhood plan policy supports new local employment opportunities which are appropriate for the neighbourhood area, helping to support strategic economic development priorities as set out in SP8.
BETC3: Connectivity to Employment	Core Strategy policies T1 and T2	Policy BETC3 conforms to development plan policies in seeking to advance sustainable travel proposals and alleviate traffic congestion by requiring major new employment development to demonstrate how the scheme will promote sustainable and active travel options.
BETC4: Town Centre Mix	Core Strategy policies SP2 and P2	Policy BETC4 supports the aims of the development plan policies SP2 and P2 by setting out local considerations regarding the mix within the Garforth Town Centre in order to support viability and vitality while supporting local character, including extending criteria to be taken into account of for hot food takeaway proposals
BETC5: Residential Development in The Town Centre	Core Strategy policy P2	Policy BETC5 supports that aims of development plan policy P2 in encouraging more residential uses above retail units whilst protecting vitality and amenity.

BETC6: Town Centre Accessibility	Core Strategy policies T2 and P9	Policy BETC6 conforms to development plan policies in seeking to ensure that the town centre and its facilities and services are accessible, through active travel methods improvements.
BETC7: Appearance and Public Realm	Core Strategy policies P10 and P11	This policy adds Garforth-specific detail to the generic provisions of the development plan policies, by providing guidance and some specific design principles that should be considered to ensure new shop fronts and alterations to existing complement the character of the area, as well as encouraging public realm improvements to address local needs and aspirations.
BETC8: Town End	Core Strategy policies P10 and T2	This policy identifies an opportunity within the neighbourhood area and provides support for development of this site, which provides an opportunity to strengthen the main gateway to the Garforth Town Centre. The policy identifies a number of key considerations for the design and connectivity of any proposed development.
BETC9: Town Centre Car Parking	Core Strategy policies P10 and T2	This policy adds Garforth-specific detail to the generic provisions of the development plan policies, by providing guidance and some specific design principles that should be considered to ensure any new parking area complements the character of the Town Centre and addresses local aspirations.
T1: Active Travel	Core Strategy policy T2	Core Strategy Policy T2 encourages sustainable and active transport solutions. Policy TC2 adds to and complements the Core Strategy's strategic approach by specifically addressing Garforth's local needs and aspirations.
GSRE1: Local Green Spaces	Core Strategy policy G6	The identification and protection of additional green spaces in Leeds supports the Core Strategy ambitions within Policy G6 to improve and protect green space (formal or informal) from redevelopment and to enhance green infrastructure.
GSRE2: Provision of New Green Space	Core Strategy policies G3, G4 and G6	This policy identifies the needs of the locality in terms of green space deficiencies in order to ensure that the typology of new green space provision meets Garforth's local needs and aspirations.
GSRE3: Children's play	Core Strategy policies P9 and G3	This policy identifies potential new sites for children's play, to ensure that facilities are sustainably located and in those neighbourhoods that need them, in conformity with policies P9 and G3.
GSRE4: Improvements to Green Spaces	Core Strategy policies G3, G4 and G6	Policy GSRE4, seeking to improve identified green spaces, is in conformity with the aims of these CS Policies which seek to protect green spaces from development and improve their accessibility and quality.

GSRE5: Protecting Local Green Corridors	Core Strategy policies P12, G1, G8 and G9	Throughout the Core Strategy the Council places great emphasis on the importance, management and protection of Green Corridors, as well as the enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity. The NDP Policy GSRE5 identifies local green corridors which make an important contribution to the wider green infrastructure network in Leeds and is consistent with Core Strategy's policies.
GSRE6: Green Infrastructure Opportunities	Core Strategy policies P12, G1, G8 and G9.	Throughout the Core Strategy the Council places great emphasis on the importance, management and protection of green infrastructure. The Forum affords great significance to these policies and aspirations by identifying local areas of green infrastructure which make an important contribution to wider green infrastructure networks in Leeds and supporting their enhanced connectivity and biodiversity improvements.
GSRE7: Accessibility and Connectivity (Including PROW)	Core Strategy policy G1	The neighbourhood plan policy amplifies Core Strategy Policy G1 by specifying how new development should provide links to the existing Public Rights of Way Network and improve pedestrian connectivity in the neighbourhood area.
GSRE8: The Lines Way	Core Strategy policy G1	The neighbourhood plan policy amplifies Core Strategy Policy G1 by specifying how new development should provide links to the Lines Way, improving connectivity in the neighbourhood area.
GSRE9: The Rural Environment	Core Strategy policies G1, G2, G8 and G9	Policy GSRE9 seeks to protect and enhance the rural landscape within the neighbourhood area, integrating new development within in, improving accessibility to it and securing biodiversity enhancements in line with the aims of the Core Strategy policies.
GSRE10: Biodiversity and the Leeds Habitat network	Core Strategy policy G9	This neighbourhood plan policy amplifies Core Strategy policy G9 in protecting and extending the Leeds Habitat network and securing biodiversity net gain within the Garforth neighbourhood area.
GSRE11: Preservation of the Grade 2 and 3 Agricultural Land	Core Strategy policy P12	This policy seeks to protect and enhance valued landscapes, in conformity with Core Strategy policy P12.
GSRE12: Wildlife features	Core Strategy policies G8 and G9	This policy amplifies Core Strategy policies G8 and G9 by ensuring that opportunities for wildlife are considered in new residential development.
GSRE13: Landscape character	Core Strategy policy P12	This policy seeks to protect and enhance valued landscapes, in conformity with Core Strategy policy P12.

GSRE14: Planting opportunities	Core Strategy Policies P12 and G2 and NRWLP policy LAND2	Policy GSRE14 seeks to promote the softening of the built environment in Garforth and enhancing biodiversity by providing guidance on what measures will be supported, adding locally-specific detail to existing development plan policies.
CL1: Safeguarding Existing Community Facilities	Core Strategy policy P9	The neighbourhood plan policy seeks to safeguard the identified community facilities in line with Core Strategy Policy P9.
CL2: Improvements to Existing Facilities	Core Strategy policy P9	The neighbourhood plan policy seeks to improve existing community facilities whilst ensuring that any potential adverse impacts are considered, in line with Core Strategy Policy P9.
CL3: New Community Facilities	Core Strategy policy P9	Policy CL3 supports the development of new community facilities in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which highlights the importance of access to local services to support community health and wellbeing.
EH1: Support for Existing Schools	Core Strategy policy P9	Policy EH1 supports the development of existing schools in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which highlights the importance of access to local services to support community health and wellbeing, whilst not adversely impacting residential amenity.
EH2: New School Provision	Core strategy policies P9 and P10	The neighbourhood plan policy seeks to encourage new educational facilities within the neighbourhood area in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which supports access to local community facilities including education and training.
EH3: Support for Pre-School Facilities	Core strategy policies P9 and P10	The neighbourhood plan policy seeks to encourage new pre-school facilities within the neighbourhood area in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which supports access to local community facilities including education and training.
EH4: Community Healthcare Facilities	Core Strategy policy P9	Policy EH5 supports the protection of existing healthcare facilities in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which highlights the importance of access to local services to support community health and wellbeing.
EH5: New Healthcare Provision	Core Strategy policy P9	Policy EH6 supports the development of new healthcare facilities in line with Core Strategy Policy P9 which highlights the importance of access to local services to support community health and wellbeing.

4.5 Table 2 above clearly identifies and sets out the relationship between the policies of the neighbourhood plan and the strategic policies of the

development plan. There is a strong relationship between existing development plan policies and proposed neighbourhood plan policies as they seek to add a level of locally-specific detail to the policies set out in the Core Strategy.

5. Contribution to Achieving Sustainable Development

- 5.1 The Garforth Neighbourhood Plan must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Government's vision for achieving this is by providing the planning system with 'three overarching objectives, which are independent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways' (NPPF Para 8).
- 5.2 These are:
- **An economic role** - 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;
 - **A social role** – 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 a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and
 - **An environmental role** – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.
- 5.3 The Basic Conditions require that the making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. There is no requirement as to the nature or extent of that contribution, nor a need to assess whether the plan makes a particular contribution. The requirement is simply that there should be a contribution. A sustainability appraisal of the neighbourhood plan has not been undertaken as this is not a legal requirement within neighbourhood planning. However, the neighbourhood plan has taken account of the need to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- 5.4 The planning policies of the NP have been considered against the three dimensions of sustainability stated above to provide a summary of the likely impact on the dimensions of sustainability, and potential contribution to the achievement of sustainable development. Table 3 provides an

analysis of how the policies in the Garforth Neighbourhood Plan will help contribute to economic, social and environmental sustainability objectives. It demonstrates that the policies will for the most part have a positive impact on at least one of the elements or at least have a neutral effect. The assessment above does not provide an exhaustive analysis as would be required by a sustainability appraisal however does provide a high-level commentary on how the individual policies will help to improve and enhance the sustainability of Garforth.

Table 3: Assessment of sustainability of Neighbourhood Plan policies

Garforth NP Policy	Economic Sustainability	Social Sustainability	Environmental Sustainability
HBE1: Housing Mix (bedrooms)	This policy encourages varying house sizes to encourage the maximum number of potential purchasers and entice people to move into the area.	This policy ensures social sustainability through encouraging a mix of housing suitable for the varying needs of the population of Garforth.	The policy encourages the efficient use of housing sites.
HBE2: Housing Type	This policy encourages varying house types to encourage the maximum number of potential purchasers and entice people to move into the area.	This policy ensures social sustainability through encouraging a mix of housing suitable for the varying needs of the population of Garforth.	The policy encourages the efficient use of housing sites.
HBE3: Affordable Housing	This policy encourages maximum number of potential purchasers and entices people to move into the area.	This policy ensures social sustainability through encouraging a mix of housing suitable for the varying needs of the population of Garforth.	
HBE4: Homes for Older People	This policy supports inclusive housing, which should encourage the maximum number of potential purchasers, and ensure that people can remain in the area for longer.	By supporting lifelong housing for the elderly and encouraging accessibility more generally, this policy ensures inclusive housing so people can remain in the area for longer and have their needs met.	

HBE5: Use of Water	The policy supports the delivery of new housing and employment development which will stimulate the economy through local population growth, employment opportunities and S106 contributions, whilst protecting the new development from the environmental and financial cost of flooding.	Whilst enabling new sustainable housing development to be delivered, the policy encourages the environmental enhancement of the housing stock in the area and encourages the provision of additional benefits for the residents, including increased water efficiency and reduced risk of flooding.	This policy ensures environmental sustainability through setting out guidelines to ensure that new development considers impact on the environment and seeks to reduce it.
HBE6: Drainage systems	The policy seeks to protect new development from the environmental and financial cost of flooding.	Whilst enabling new sustainable development to be delivered, the policy encourages the environmental enhancement of the area and encourages the provision of additional benefits for the residents, including increased water efficiency and reduced risk of flooding.	This policy ensures environmental sustainability through setting out guidelines to ensure that new development considers impact on the environment and seeks to reduce it.
HBE7: Lin Dyke Catchment	The policy seeks to protect new development from the environmental and financial cost of flooding.	Whilst enabling new sustainable development to be delivered, the policy encourages the environmental enhancement of the area and encourages the provision of additional benefits for the residents, including increased water efficiency and reduced risk of flooding.	This policy ensures environmental sustainability through setting out guidelines to ensure that new development considers impact on the environment and seeks to reduce it.
HBE8: Healthy Planning Principles	This policy encourages quality developments which will encourage the maximum	This policy ensures social sustainability through encouraging quality	This policy ensures environmental sustainability through setting out guidelines

	number of potential purchasers and entice people to move into the area.	developments, an attractive public realm and active travel opportunities that should support the health and wellbeing needs of the population of Garforth.	to ensure that new residential development considers impact on the environment and seeks to reduce it, as well as encouraging the efficient use of housing sites, supports sustainable neighbourhoods and ensures active travel methods are considered for new developments.
HBE9: Character Areas	The policy provides a set of design principles to support development which preserves and enhances the character of the neighbourhood area. New development could support the economic sustainability of Garforth as it will help to maintain a high-quality local environment, however this policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding a constraint on new development.	The policy ensures that the character of Garforth is preserved for current and future residents to continue to enjoy. This provides health, wellbeing and cultural benefits to the residents and visitors of Garforth, and ensures that beautiful well-designed development is encouraged in the area.	The policy ensures that the local character of the area enjoys protection against development that would not preserve or enhance its character for the enjoyment of future generations. It also ensures that development considers opportunities such as biodiversity improvements and sustainable drainage from the start.
HBE10: SAP Site HG3-18 –Selby Road	The policy provides a set of design principles to support the development of this site. New development and an increase in housing stock could support the economic sustainability of Garforth as it will help to maintain a high-quality local environment and entices people into the area, however this policy may have	The policy ensures that beautiful well-designed development is encouraged in the area, preserving the character of Garforth is for current and future residents to continue to enjoy and providing health and wellbeing benefits.	The policy ensures that development considers opportunities such as biodiversity improvements, tree planting and sustainable drainage from the start, as well as mitigating against flood risk.

	a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding a constraint on new development.		
HBE11: General Heritage Assets	Through the protecting those valued assets within Garforth, the heritage and identity is preserved and has potential to attract tourism and visitor footfall thus contributing to economic sustainability.	Through the protection and enhancement of existing heritage assets, the policy ensures that the residents of Garforth will be able to continue to enjoy the amenity and cultural benefits that these assets provide.	The policy ensures that the character and heritage of the area is preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of future generations.
HBE12: Non-Designated Heritage Assets	Through the protecting the valued assets within Garforth, the heritage and identity is preserved and has potential to attract tourism and visitor footfall thus contributing to economic sustainability.	Through identifying Non-Designated Heritage Assets for protection and enhancement, the policy ensures that the residents of Garforth will be able to continue to enjoy the amenity and cultural benefits that these assets provide.	The policy ensures that the character and heritage of the area is preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of future generations.
HBE13: Development Sites	The policy supports the delivery of new housing development which will stimulate the economy through local population growth and S106 contributions.	By enabling new sustainable housing development to be delivered, the policy encourages the enhancement of the housing stock in the area which should benefit new and existing Garforth residents.	This policy seeks to ensure that development proposals in infill sites contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, and that new development proposals on greenfield sites consider impact on the environment and seeks to reduce it.
HBE14: Energy Efficiency	The policy supports the delivery of new housing and employment development which will stimulate the economy through local	Whilst enabling new sustainable development to be delivered, the policy encourages the environmental enhancement of the area and	This policy ensures environmental sustainability through setting out guidelines to ensure that new development considers impact on

	population growth, employment opportunities and S106 contributions. This policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding a constraint on new development.	encourages the provision of additional benefits for the residents, including increased water efficiency and reduced heating costs.	the environment and seeks to reduce it.
HBE15: Cycle Storage	This policy encourages quality developments which will encourage the maximum number of potential purchasers.	Improved cycling infrastructure provides the opportunity for increased health and wellbeing benefits for the residents of Garforth through improving choices for active travel.	Improved cycling infrastructure provides increased options for sustainable transport and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
HBE16: Residential Parking	This policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding a constraint on new development.	This policy commits to improving public realm amenity and opportunities for active travel, children's play and green space to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	This policy commits to improving public realm amenity and opportunities for active travel, children's play and green space.
BETC1: Employment Land	The protection of existing employment sites within the neighbourhood area will ensure future economic and population growth.	The protection of local employment opportunities within Garforth will reduce vehicle movement and promote active travel opportunities to and from the workplace.	The protection of local employment opportunities within Garforth will reduce vehicle movement and promote active travel opportunities to and from the workplace.
BETC2: Employment Opportunities	The development of new employment opportunities within the neighbourhood area will stimulate the local economy and population growth.	The development of new employment opportunities within Garforth will reduce vehicle movement and promote active travel opportunities to and from the workplace.	The development of new employment opportunities within Garforth will reduce vehicle movement and promote active travel opportunities to and from the workplace.
BETC3: Connectivity to Employment	Support for new employment opportunities within the	The promotion of active travel opportunities to and from the	The promotion of active travel opportunities to and from the

	neighbourhood area will stimulate the local economy and population growth.	workplace will provide health and wellbeing benefits as well as potentially reducing congestion.	workplace will provide health will potentially reduce congestion and improve air quality.
BETC4: Town Centre Mix	This policy supports an enhanced mix of commercial, retail and residential uses within the town centre, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased centre vitality and viability and broadening its attractiveness to shoppers and visitors.	By encouraging uses which diversify and improve the vitality of the town centre and limiting certain uses which have negative impacts on amenity this policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable, attractive and user-friendly town centre to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that there is a wide range of uses and services within the town centre this policy will encourage local residents to shop, use services and meet locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
BETC5: Residential Development in The Town Centre	This policy supports an enhanced mix of commercial, retail and residential uses within the town centre, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased centre vitality and viability and broadening its attractiveness to shoppers and visitors.	By encouraging uses which diversify and improve the vitality of the town centre and limiting certain uses which have negative impacts on amenity this policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable, attractive and user-friendly town centre to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that there is a wide range of uses and services within the town centre this policy will encourage local residents to shop, use services and meet locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
BETC6: Town Centre Accessibility	By increasing the accessibility of the town centre, and potentially reducing congestion, economic sustainability is promoted by	By improving accessibility to the town centre via active travel methods this policy should have positive benefits for health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that town centre is attractive and accessible this policy will encourage local residents to shop, use services and meet locally, contributing

	broadening its attractiveness to shoppers and visitors.		to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and reducing reliance on the private car.
BETC7: Appearance and Public Realm	This policy supports an enhanced public realm within the town centre, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased centre vitality and viability and broadening its attractiveness to shoppers and visitors. This policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding a constraint on new development.	This policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable, attractive and user-friendly town centre to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that town centre is attractive and accessible this policy will encourage local residents to shop, use services and meet locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
BETC8: Town End	This policy supports an enhanced public realm within the town centre, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased centre vitality and viability and broadening its attractiveness to shoppers and visitors.	This policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable, attractive and user-friendly town centre to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that town centre is attractive and accessible this policy will encourage local residents to shop, use services and meet locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
BETC9: Town Centre Car Parking	This policy supports an enhanced public realm within the town centre, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased centre vitality and	This policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable, attractive and user-friendly town centre to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that town centre parking is sustainable this policy will encourage local residents to shop, use services and meet locally, contributing to long-term environmental

	viability and broadening its attractiveness to shoppers and visitors.		sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood.
T1: Active Travel	By increasing the accessibility within the neighbourhood area, and potentially reducing congestion, economic sustainability is promoted by broadening its attractiveness to shoppers and visitors.	By improving accessibility around the neighbourhood area via active travel methods this policy should have positive benefits for health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that the neighbourhood area and accessible and connected via active travel this policy will encourage local residents to shop, use services and meet locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and reducing reliance on the private car.
GSRE1: Local Green Spaces	This policy will ensure that Local Green Spaces enjoy a high level of protection against inappropriate development. It is not considered that the policy will have a substantive impact on economic sustainability beyond protecting local green spaces within Garforth.	This policy helps to ensure that residents and visitors in Garforth continue to have opportunities to use accessible and valued Local Green Spaces which provide intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	The policy ensures that Local Green Space in Garforth will be preserved as valued amenity spaces, as well as maintained for wildlife richness, biodiversity, history and beauty.
GSRE2: Provision of New Green Space	This policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding a constraint on new development.	This policy helps to ensure that residents and visitors in Garforth have improved opportunities to access green spaces which provide intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	The policy ensures that new green space is provided within Garforth, for the enjoyment of residents, as well as maintained for wildlife richness, biodiversity, history and beauty.
GSRE3: Children's play	This policy encourages the provision of new children's play facilities within	This policy helps to ensure that families and visitors to Garforth continue to have opportunities	By ensuring that the neighbourhood area has sufficient local amenities, this

	sustainable locations. This supports a high-quality local environment which should entice families to stay/move into the area.	to use quality and valued green spaces which provide intrinsic health, recreation and wellbeing benefits.	policy will encourage local families to play locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and reducing reliance on the private car.
GSRE4: Improvements to Green Spaces	This policy encourages the improvement of existing green spaces. It is not considered that the policy will have a substantive impact on economic sustainability beyond protecting local green spaces within Garforth.	This policy helps to ensure that residents and visitors in Garforth continue to have opportunities to use quality and valued green spaces which provide intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	The policy ensures that where possible existing green spaces are improved for wildlife richness, biodiversity, history, beauty and function.
GSRE5: Protecting Local Green Corridors	This policy will ensure that green corridors enjoy a high level of protection against inappropriate development. This ensures a high-quality local environment which should entice people to stay in/move into the area.	Protecting local green corridors and supporting additional planting ensures that Garforth retains a high quality and green local environment which provides intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	This policy seeks to protect important green corridors in Garforth, for the contribution that they make to local character and identity as well as biodiversity opportunities and carbon sequestration.
GSRE6: Green Infrastructure Opportunities	This policy will ensure development considers opportunities to link to green infrastructure. This ensures a high-quality local environment which should entice people to stay in/move into the area, but may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding a constraint on new development.	Enhancing green infrastructure ensures that Garforth retains a high quality and green local environment which provides intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	This policy seeks to enhance green infrastructure in Garforth, for the contribution that it makes to local character and identity, opportunities for active travel as well as biodiversity opportunities and carbon sequestration.

GSRE7: Accessibility and Connectivity (Including PROW)	This policy seeks to maintain, restore and enhance and improve the safety of the footpath network throughout the neighbourhood area which has the potential to contribute to economic sustainability through increasing footfall through Garforth from both residents and visitors.	Improved walking provision provides the opportunity for increased health and wellbeing benefits for the residents of Garforth through improving options and choices for exercise, safety and general accessibility.	Through encouraging improvements to the existing walking options within the area, this will enhance Green Infrastructure and networks, and increase biodiversity and options for sustainable travel.
GSRE8: The Lines Way	This policy seeks to maintain, restore and enhance the Lines Way in the neighbourhood area which has the potential to contribute to economic sustainability through increasing footfall through Garforth from both residents and visitors.	Improved walking provision provides the opportunity for increased health and wellbeing benefits for the residents of Garforth through improving options and choices for exercise and general accessibility.	Through encouraging improvements to the existing walking options within the area, this will enhance Green Infrastructure and networks, and increase biodiversity and options for sustainable travel.
GSRE9: The Rural Environment	The policy provides a set of key considerations to support development in the rural environment in order to provide quality landscaping and biodiversity gain. This could support the economic sustainability of Garforth as it will help to maintain a high-quality local environment, however this policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding constraints on new development.	Encouraging robust landscaping schemes ensures that Garforth retains a high quality and green local environment which provides intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	This policy seeks to support enhanced landscaping consideration, which should be positive for local character and identity as well as biodiversity and carbon sequestration opportunities.
GSRE10: Biodiversity and the	The policy provides a set of	Encouraging robust landscaping	This policy seeks to support

Leeds Habitat network	key considerations to support development in or adjacent to Leeds Habitat Network in order to provide quality landscaping and biodiversity gain. This could support the economic sustainability of Garforth as it will help to maintain a high-quality local environment, however this policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding constraints on new development.	and connectivity ensures that Garforth retains a high quality and green local environment which provides intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	enhanced habitat connectivity, which should be positive for local character and identity as well as biodiversity and carbon sequestration opportunities.
GSRE11: Preservation of the Grade 2 and 3 Agricultural Land	The preservation of higher quality Agricultural Land has the potential to contribute to economic sustainability through the support of agricultural employment in the area as well as local food production.	The provision of land for local food production and food security provides the opportunity for increased health and wellbeing benefits for the residents of Garforth.	This policy contributes to long-term environmental sustainability through more local self-sufficiency in terms of local food production and food security.
GSRE12: Wildlife features	The policy provides a set of requirements to support wildlife in new developments. This policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding constraints on new development.	Encouraging new wildlife habitats ensures that Garforth retains a high quality and green local environment which provides intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	This policy seeks to support enhanced habitat connectivity, which should be positive for local character and identity as well as biodiversity opportunities.
GSRE13: Landscape character	The policy provides a set of key considerations to support development in the rural environment in order to provide quality landscaping	Encouraging robust landscaping schemes ensures that Garforth retains a high quality and green local environment which provides intrinsic health and	This policy seeks to support enhanced landscaping consideration, which should be positive for local character and identity as well as biodiversity and

	and biodiversity gain. This could support the economic sustainability of Garforth as it will help to maintain a high-quality local environment, however this policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding constraints on new development.	wellbeing benefits.	carbon sequestration opportunities.
GSRE14: Planting opportunities	The policy identifies a number of planting opportunities which will provide quality landscaping and biodiversity gain. This could support the economic sustainability of Headingley as it will help to maintain a high quality local environment and help minimise the impact/expense of surface-water runoff and flooding, however this policy may have a minor effect on economic sustainability by adding constraints on new development.	Protecting trees and hedging and supporting additional planting ensures that Garforth retains a high quality and green local environment which provides intrinsic health and wellbeing benefits.	This policy supports additional planting of trees and hedgerows in Garforth, for the contribution that they make to local character and identity as well as biodiversity opportunities and carbon sequestration.
CL1: Safeguarding Existing Community Facilities	This policy safeguards existing community facilities within Garforth, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased vitality and viability and broadening its attractiveness to new and existing residents and visitors.	By encouraging facilities which diversify and improve the vitality Garforth, this policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable and user-friendly neighbourhood area to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that there is a wide range of facilities and services within the neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use services locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the

			20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
CL2: Improvements to Existing Facilities	This policy promotes improvements to existing community facilities within Garforth, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased vitality and viability and broadening its attractiveness to new and existing residents and visitors.	By encouraging facilities which diversify and improve the vitality Garforth, this policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable and user-friendly neighbourhood area to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that there is a wide range of facilities and services within the neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use services locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
CL3: New Community Facilities	This policy promotes new community facilities within Garforth, promoting economic sustainability by providing options for increased vitality and viability and broadening its attractiveness to new and existing residents and visitors.	By encouraging new facilities which diversify and improve the vitality Garforth, this policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable and user-friendly neighbourhood area to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that there is a wide range of facilities and services within the neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use services locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
EH1: Support for Existing Schools	This policy promotes the expansion of existing schools in Garforth which will promote economic sustainability by encouraging residents to stay in the area and enticing families to move into the area.	By ensuring that the expansion of existing schools takes into account amenity considerations the health and wellbeing of residents is supported.	By ensuring that there is sufficient school provision neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use schools locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the

			20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
EH2: New School Provision	This policy promotes the development of new schools in Garforth which will promote economic sustainability by encouraging residents to stay in the area and enticing families to move into the area.	By ensuring that the development of new schools takes into account design and amenity considerations the health and wellbeing of residents is supported.	By ensuring that there is sufficient school provision neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use schools locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
EH3: Support for Pre-School Facilities	This policy promotes the development of new pre-school provision in Garforth which will promote economic sustainability by encouraging residents to stay in the area and enticing families to move into the area.	By ensuring that the development of new pre-schools takes into account design and amenity considerations the health and wellbeing of residents is supported.	By ensuring that there is sufficient pre-school provision neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use education provision locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
EH4: Community Healthcare Facilities	This policy safeguards existing healthcare facilities within Garforth, promoting economic sustainability by broadening its attractiveness to new and existing residents and visitors.	By supporting healthcare services within Garforth, this policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable and user-friendly neighbourhood area to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that there is a wide range of healthcare services within the neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use services locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the

			20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.
EH5: New Healthcare Provision	This policy encourages new healthcare facilities within Garforth, promoting economic sustainability by broadening its attractiveness to new and existing residents and visitors.	By supporting new healthcare services within Garforth, this policy should ensure that local residents will benefit from having a sustainable and user-friendly neighbourhood area to the benefit of health and wellbeing.	By ensuring that there is a wide range of healthcare services within the neighbourhood area this policy will encourage local residents use services locally, contributing to long-term environmental sustainability through the promotion of the 20-minute neighbourhood and potentially reducing reliance on the private car.

6. Compatibility with EU Obligations and legislation

6.1 A neighbourhood plan must not breach, or be otherwise incompatible with, European Union obligations including Human Rights in order to meet the Basic Conditions. The following section provides an analysis and commentary on how the Garforth Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Condition “*Be compatible with EU Obligations, including Human Rights*”. This Basic Condition also includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC) seeking to provide a high level of protection to the environment integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing plans. It is considered below.

6.2 The Vision for the Neighbourhood Plan :

The Vision outlined below is a snapshot of the Garforth of 2033. Clearly a lot of the statements made describe aspects of life in Garforth which already exist.

In 2033 Garforth will continue to be a great place in which to live, work and play. There will be, as now, a strong sense of community. It will be a place with a distinctive small-town identity.

Our town will be surrounded by protected and accessible countryside.

Our town centre will be vibrant and re-invigorated, encouraging people to become actively involved in a flourishing community. There will continue to be a broad range of retail, leisure and offices; in addition there will be arts and culture as well as residential opportunities. A variety of outdoor events and pop-ups will also add to the stimulating mix.

*Away from the centre, the town's commercial and industrial areas will be thriving and offering a wide range of jobs.
 There will be access to a range of well designed, sustainable homes that meet the needs of all its people at all stages of life.
 At the centre of decision making about our town will be a concern with the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in Garforth.
 Given the ongoing global climate emergency, all decisions on development will take into account the need to achieve carbon neutrality in Leeds by the 2030s*

- 6.3 The Vision reflects the community's desire to ensure that Garforth remains an attractive and safe place to live, where the neighbourhood area develops in a way that will see the retention, expansion and enhancement of valued local services, community facilities and green spaces whilst maintaining the character and landscape of the area. It is hoped that new housing development will be successfully integrated with the existing community and infrastructure will be in place to support improved non-motorised accessibility, with an enhanced town centre and new services on offer to meet the needs of the community.
- 6.4 The plan has been prepared through continued, active, and committed consultation with the local community and other key stakeholders. It reflects the views and aspirations of local people. The consultation undertaken to prepare the plan has been inclusive and provide the opportunity to participate in the preparation of the plan through various methods that were used to consult and engage. The plan proposed by the Forum presents opportunities for further involvement, participation and engagement with all groups within the community through the delivery of projects and other local aspirations.
- 6.5 The preparation of the neighbourhood plan has also had regard to the provisions of Section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010 and the Forum is not aware of any discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any other conduct that is prohibited under this Act.
- 6.6 The Forum has considered the potential impacts on persons with protected characteristics (as identified in the Equality Act 2010), in **Error! Reference source not found.** as follows:

Table 4: Potential impact of draft Garforth Neighbourhood Plan on protected characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Potential Impact of Draft Garforth NP
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Age	<p>The draft NP seeks to support a more inclusive environment for people of all ages, as is recognised by the vision. In particular, the NP seeks to safeguard the existing natural environment in the NA including improving access for all residents (regardless of age). The NP also includes policies which support enhanced connectivity and increased accessibility in the town centre which should provide opportunities for increased mobility for residents of all ages. In addition, policies HBE1, HBE2 and HOU4 of the NP specifically encourages development to provide an appropriate mix of housing, including smaller dwellings, bungalows and provision for independent and lifelong housing for the needs of elderly people.</p> <p>It is therefore not considered that the NP will have any specific negative effects on persons due to their age, and instead will increase opportunities for residents of all ages to continue to live in and enjoy the special character of Garforth, including the services and facilities within the area.</p>
Gender reassignment	<p>It is not considered that any of the provisions within the NP will have an effect (either positive or negative) on persons specifically in relation to gender reassignment or gender identity.</p>
Marriage or civil partnership	<p>It is not considered that any of the provisions within the NP will have a specific effect (either positive or negative) on persons in relation to marriage or civil partnership. Notwithstanding that, the draft NP seeks to support a more inclusive environment for all people, as is recognised by the vision. The aims of the NP in general, in terms of encouraging new sustainable housing including a mix of property sizes, safeguarding, promoting and supporting Garforth's economic base and protecting existing and encouraging new facilities and green spaces, which will ensure that the area can support a whole range of residents, from individuals, to couples and families of all sizes.</p>

Pregnancy or maternity leave	It is not considered that any of the provisions within the NP will have a specific effect (either positive or negative) on pregnancy or maternity leave. Notwithstanding that, the draft NP seeks to support a more inclusive environment for people, as is recognised by the vision. The aims of the NP in general, in terms of encouraging new sustainable housing including a mix of property sizes, safeguarding, promoting and supporting Garforth's economic base and protecting existing and encouraging green spaces, play parks and educational facilities, will ensure that the area can support a whole range of residents, including families of all sizes.
Disability	It is not considered that any of the provisions within the NP will have a specific effect (either positive or negative) on disability. Notwithstanding that, the draft NP aims to protect and enhance local facilities and healthcare provision so people can access services within the neighbourhood area rather than travelling further afield, and encourages accessibility improvements on all existing and new networks, ensuring that they are easily accessible and safe for use by people with disabilities.
Race, including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin	It is not considered that the NP will have any specific negative effects on persons due to their race, nationality or ethnicity, and instead will increase opportunities for all residents to continue to enjoy the special character of Garforth, including the economic and retail base within the area, and attract new residents to the area with an increase of sustainable homes.
Religion or belief	It is not considered that the NP will have any specific positive or negative effects on persons due to their religion or belief. The vision of the NP supports a strong sense of community which should aid all residents, regardless of religion or belief, to feel welcome in the area and able to benefit from and enjoy the inclusive environment.
Sex	It is not considered that the NP will have any specific positive or negative effects on persons due to their sex. The vision of the NP

	supports a strong sense of community which should aid all residents, regardless of sex, to feel welcome in the area and able to benefit from and enjoy the inclusive environment.
Sexual orientation	It is not considered that the NP will have any specific positive or negative effects on persons due to their sexual orientation. The vision of the NP supports a strong sense of community which should aid all residents, regardless of sexual orientation, to feel welcome in the area and able to benefit from and enjoy the inclusive environment.

- 6.7 It is not considered that the NP is likely to have any specific or particular impact on any persons with a protected characteristic. Overall the NP is likely to either have neutral benefit, or a general positive benefit for all residents of Garforth with increased inclusivity and accessibility, through support for better traffic management, active travel, sustainable housing and enhanced green space.
- 6.8 The neighbourhood plan has had regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the ECHR and complies with the Human Rights Act. This is evidenced through the vision, objectives and policies in the draft neighbourhood plan which seek to improve quality of life for residents and others in the NA through improving local sustainability.
- 6.9 In addition, the plan as submitted provides further opportunities for involvement in Garforth life, through engaging with the community in order to deliver projects identified in the neighbourhood plan and support its implementation.
- 6.10 The Neighbourhood Plan has regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights. It is not considered that the neighbourhood plan has any adverse or discriminatory impact on any particular group with protected characteristics as set out the Equality Act 2010.

7. Strategic Environmental Assessment and Compatibility with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

- 7.1 The neighbourhood plan falls within the definition of ‘plans and programmes’ as the Local Planning Authority is obliged to ‘make’ (adopt) the plan following a positive referendum result. In order for the neighbourhood plan to meet the Basic Conditions, it must consider the requirements of the SEA Regulations which transpose the European Union’s SEA Directive into law. Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) sets out an additional Basic Condition to those set out in the primary legislation.

7.2 The objective of EU Directive 2001/42 is “to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

7.3 Leeds City Council, as the Local Planning Authority, have undertaken a Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening exercise on the draft neighbourhood plan, published in November 2020. The Screening concludes that:
In conclusion, as a result of the assessment carried out in Table 2 above and the more detailed consideration of the draft policies, it is considered that it is unlikely that any significant environmental effects will arise as a result of the Garforth Neighbourhood Plan. Consequently, the assessment within Table 1 concludes (subject to HRA screening outcome), that an SEA is not required when judged against the application of the SEA Directive criteria.

Notably, the draft neighbourhood plan does not propose any allocations. The neighbourhood plan’s policies seek to guide development within the Neighbourhood Area and shape identified sites within the Site Allocations Plan (SAP) and are required to be in general conformity with those within the Local Plan. It is unlikely that there will be any significant additional environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a SEA/SA of the Local Plan and SAP. Finally, none of the environmental consultation bodies raised any concerns regarding any likely significant environmental effects.

The SEA Screening Report is submitted alongside the neighbourhood plan for independent examination.

7.4 The final Basic Condition states that the neighbourhood plan must not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 7 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. On 28 December 2018, The Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018 came into force. Amongst other things, these regulations amended the Basic Condition prescribed in Regulation 32 and Schedule 2 (Habitats) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) which stated:

- The making of the neighbourhood plan is not 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.

The amended Basic Condition is as follows:

- 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.

7.5 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 include regulations on the assessment of plans (including neighbourhood plans) and projects on European sites or European offshore marine sites. The first stage is to screen the plan to see whether it is likely to have a significant effect

on any European site. If the plan is 'screened in' because significant effects cannot be ruled out, the next stage is for an appropriate assessment to be carried out considering the impact on the European site's conservation objectives. Consent for the plan can only be given if it is 'screened out' at the first stage or the appropriate assessment concludes the integrity of the European site will not be adversely affected. The HRA Screening concluded that:

The Garforth Neighbourhood Plan does not propose any development sites, and the policies proposed will shape new development within the area in a way that will reduce the likelihood of significant environmental effects. There are no likely significant effects on the Kirk Deighton SAC identified as a result of the neighbourhood plan due to distance from Garforth Neighbourhood Area therefore no mitigation measures are required. The 'in combination' effect is properly addressed through the Council's conclusions in the Site Allocations Plan HRA Screening and Harrogate Borough Council's revised Appropriate Assessment (August 2018).

The policies within the plan are required to be in general conformity with those of the Local Plan (inc Biodiversity policies) which has been subject to HRA assessment, and the Council considers that the GNP meets this basic condition. Garforth NP: SEA & HRA Screening Report 19.

Furthermore, Natural England in their consultation response have confirmed that there unlikely to be significant effects from the proposed neighbourhood plan.

The Council has considered the European Court Judgement, the HRA Screenings and Assessments of the Leeds SAP and the Harrogate Local Plan and has not relied on measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan in order to screen out the neighbourhood plan under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2018. An Appropriate Assessment is not required therefore the Court of Justice (Second Chamber) judgement in the case of Grace, Sweetman and the National Planning Appeals Board Ireland (ECLI:EU:C2018:593) is not applicable.

The updated HRA Screening is also submitted alongside the neighbourhood plan for independent examination.

8 Overall conclusions.

- 8.1 The Garforth Neighbourhood Forum has drafted a Neighbourhood Development Plan that conforms with both the National Planning Policy Framework and the Leeds City Council Core Strategy and therefore meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements.
- 8.2 The Garforth NDP plans positively for sustainable development across the designated neighbourhood area, recognising and responding to the need for housing growth and business development while seeking to conserve the best of the area in terms of its environmental quality and heritage assets. Policies are proposed across key themes identified through a substantive process of community engagement and working closely with the City Council's Planning Service. Policies are clear, based on strong evidence and provide a direct link to the sustainable development of the

neighbourhood area, in promoting sustainable growth for residents in relation to new housing, business development, alongside strong conservation measures for the built and 'green' environments and opportunities for the local community to preserve and enhance existing community and recreational assets and to increase provision. It is on this basis that the Neighbourhood Forum considers that the plan meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements and may therefore proceed to referendum.