

Tracking the NPPF: where revised policy comes from

This table shows where policy in the revised NPPF is carried forward from the 2012 version and whether it:

- has been revised, or is new;
- and where policy in the 2012 NPPF is omitted

It is ordered by paragraph numbers in the revised NPPF.

Some key changes are brought out in red

October 2018

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	1 Introduction	Title unchanged	
1	Purpose	Condensed	1
2	Decisions to follow devt plan	Removes EU references	2
3	Policy application to reflect plan type	New	
4	Read with G&T policy and waste	Waste merged	3
5	Does not cover NSIPs	Minor changes	4
		Waste	5
6	Ministerial statements	Added to give status	
	2 Achieving sustainable development	Title unchanged	
	Box referring to international bodies	Omitted	
7	Purpose of planning to contribute to sustainable development	Revised	6
8	The three aspects of sustainability	Refers to objectives rather than roles, plus adjustments	7
9	They are objectives, not criteria for DMT decisions	Replaces reference to promoting these simultaneously	8
10	Introduces the presumption in favour of sustainable development	Removes examples	9
		Removes reference to different circumstances	10
	Decisions to follow plan	Omitted	11
11	The presumption box	Brought forward, revisions, and NPPF before adverse impacts Removes "Golden thread" throughout	14
12	Presumption doesn't change statutory status of development plan	Makes clear that the presumption does not apply to up-to-date plans	12
	the NPPF is guidance for plans and decisions	Omitted	13
	Plans should reflect the presumption	Omitted	15
13	NDPs should support delivery of LPs	Condensed	16
14	Gives weight to up to date NDPs	New	
	Core planning principles	Omitted, elements appear elsewhere	17

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	3 Plan making	Title unchanged	
	Importance	Omitted	150
	Object of sustainable development	Omitted	151
	Seek gains across all sustainability objectives	Omitted	152
	Each LPA to prepare LP	Omitted	153
	Should be aspirational but realistic	Omitted	154
	Early engagement	Omitted	155
15	System should be genuinely plan led	New	
16	Approach to plans	New - very condensed version of 150 to 154, plus no duplication with NPPF and other plans	
17	Must include strategic policies	New a) LPAs working together or independently, in the form of a joint or single plan and/or b) a spatial development strategy	
18	Non-strategic matters - in local plans or neighbourhood plans	New	
19	Combination makes up development plan	New	
	Scope of plans	Omitted	157
20	Matters to be covered by strategic policies	Adds reference to overall strategy Refers to strategic policies rather than plans throughout	156
21	Make explicit which are strategic policies	New	
22	Strategic policies to look ahead 15 years	Very concise	157
23	Clear strategy to address needs	New	
24	Duty to cooperate	Revised	178
25	Cooperation with relevant bodies	Revised	180
26	Joint working	Revised, says integral to plan making	179
27	Statements of common ground	New, but carries forward need to demonstrate cooperative working	181
28	Use of non-strategic policies	New	
29	Neighbourhood plans introduction	Condensed	183
29	Must conform with strategic policies	Revised	184
30	NDP takes precedence over non-strategic policies until LP revised	Revised	185
31	Evidence	One short paragraph replaces whole sub-section	158

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	Housing	Omitted	159
	Business	Omitted	169
	Ditto	Omitted	161
	Infrastructure	Omitted	162
	Minerals	Omitted	163
	Defence	Omitted	164
	Environment	Omitted	165
	Environment	Omitted	166
	Environment	Omitted	167
	Environment	Omitted	168
	Historic environment	Omitted	169
	Historic environment	Omitted	170
	Health and well-being	Omitted	171
	Major incidents	Omitted	172
	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	173
	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	174
	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	175
	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	176
	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	177
32	Sustainability appraisal	Revised and expanded	165
33	Review every 5 years	New	
34	Developer contributions	New. To be set out in plans, including when further viability evidence will be needed	
35	Examination	Reference to duty to cooperate omitted "Positively prepared" refers to meeting as much need as possible "Effective" revise	182
36	Tests of soundness to be proportionate for non-strategic policies	New	
37	Neighbourhood plan examination	New	

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	4 Decision making	Previously "Decision taking"	
38	Approach to decisions	Revised, and combines two paras	186
38		Combined	187
39	Early engagement	No change	188
40	Encourage other parties to engage	Minor changes	189
41	Benefits	Minor changes	190
42	Other consenting bodies	Unchanged	191
43	Right information	No change	192
44	Publish information requirements	Minor change	193
45	Hazardous substances	Minor changes	194
46	Planning Performance Agreements	No change	195
47	Decisions to be made in accordance with development plan	Revised	196
	Apply presumption in favour of sustainable development	Omitted	197
48	Weight of emerging plans	Unchanged	216
49	Prematurity	Imported from NPPG	
50	Prematurity continued	Imported from NPPG	
	Status of Neighbourhood Development Orders	Omitted	198
51	Use of Local Development Orders	Minor changes	199
52	Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders	Revised	201
	LPAs to assist with NDOs	Omitted	202
53	Article 4 Directions	No change	200
54	Planning conditions and S106	No change	203
55	Keep conditions to the necessary minimum	Revised	206
56	Limit to use of S106	No change	204
	S106 should take account of market conditions	Omitted	205
57	Viability assessment	New	
58	Enforcement	Unchanged	207

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	5 Delivering a sufficient supply of homes	Brought forward. Previously "Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes"	
59	Overall intention	Parts of original but condensed and split - see below	47
60	Setting housing need	Much changed from first bullet - the new methodology	47
		Plus further from Plan making section	159
61	Sizes and types of homes	Revised and condensed	50
62	Affordable housing	Revised bullet	50
63	No affordable housing on small sites	New	
64	10% affordable home ownership	New	
65	Targets for NDP areas	New	
66	Where NDP target not possible	New	
67	Identify housing sites - deliverable and developable sites	Revised	47
68	Small and medium sized sites	New. At least 10% of supply	
69	NDPs should allocate small sites too	New	
70	Windfalls	Revised	48
		Residential gardens added	53
71	Exception sites for entry level housing	New. Says sites should be adjacent to existing settlements	
	Empty housing	Omitted, now a footnote	51
72	New settlements and urban extensions	Revised. More on deliverability	52
73	Housing trajectory and 5-year supply	Revised, requires 10% buffer where rely on annual position statement	47
74	Demonstrating 5--year supply	New. Introduces annual position statement	
	Out-of-date plan triggers presumption in favour of sustainable development	Omitted, thereby removing reference to "relevant policies"	49
75	Housing delivery test and action plan	New	
76	Possible shorter start to development	New	
77	Rural areas	Revised	54
78	Support viability of communities	Revised	55
79	Avoid isolated homes	Revised	55

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	6 Building a strong, competitive economy	Title unchanged. Merged with original Section 3 on rural economy	
	Government commitment	Omitted	18
80	Planning's role	Largely new. References to planning as a barrier removed.	19
	Plan proactively	Omitted	20
81	What policies should do	Largely revised, removes references to barriers	21
	Avoid long term protection of sites	See Section 11	22
82	Recognise requirements of different sectors	New	
83	Rural economy	Revised	28
84	Local business needs in rural areas	New	
	7 Ensuring the viability of town centres	Title unchanged	
85	Town centres	Revised. Removes definition of primary and secondary frontages	23
86	Sequential test	Revised	24
87	Edge of centre and out of centre proposals	Revised	26
88	Does not apply to small scale rural devt	No change	25
89	Impact assessment	Largely unchanged but threshold increased	26
90	Fail test, refusal	No change	27
	8 Promoting healthy and safe communities	Brought forward, "safe" added	
91	What policies should do	Introduction omitted and revised	69
92	Community facilities	Largely unchanged	70
	Community Right To Build Orders	Omitted here	71
93	Estate regeneration	Added	
94	Planning for schools	Revised	72
95	Promoting public safety	New	
96	Open space and recreation	No change	73
97	Existing facilities	Essentially unchanged	74
98	Public rights of way	No change	75
99	Local green space	Amended intro	76
100	Sparing use of designation	Largely unchanged	77
101	Relation to GB policy	No change	78

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	9 Promoting sustainable transport	Title unchanged, but moved back	
	Reducing greenhouse gas	Omitted	30
	Ports and airports	Omitted	33
	Large scale development	Omitted	34
	Minimise journey lengths	Omitted	37
	Mixed use	Omitted	38
	Improve car parking	Omitted	40
	Protect routes	Omitted	41
102	Addressing transport in plans	New	
103	Managing patterns of growth	Some carried on, some new, re-cast	29
104	Planning policies	Largely new, refers to cooperation	31
105	Parking standards	No change	39
106	Maximum standards	New	
107	Overnight lorry parking	New	
108	Considering proposals	Revised	32
109	Refusal only where impacts severe	Separate paragraph	32
110	What applications should do	Largely unchanged	35
111	Travel plans	Revised	36
	10 Supporting high quality communications	"Infrastructure" removed	
112	Importance	Expanded	42
113	Masts	Expanded	43
114	No bans	No change	44
115	Dealing with applications	No change	45
116	Don't fetter competition	No change	46
	11 Making effective use of land	New section	
117	Promote effective use of land	New	
118	Role of plans	Mainly new, some original text Includes under-utilised land and buildings and building upwards	
118	Encourage use of brownfield land	Merged in	111
119	Be proactive	New. Refers to use of CPO powers	
120	Action where no prospect of current use	Revised	22
121	Applications for alternative uses	New	
122	Appropriate densities	New	
123	Optimise use of sites	New	

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	12 Achieving well-designed places	Previously "Requiring good design"	
124	Principles	Expanded and strengthened	58
125	Engaging communities	New	
126	Providing clarity	Expanded	59
127	Policies and decisions	Revised and re-ordered	58
128	Developing proposals	Substantially revised and expanded	66
129	Assessment tools	Revised	62
130	Refuse poor design	Expanded and addresses changes following initial grant of permission	64
131	Innovative designs	Revised somewhat	63
132	Advertisements	Revised	67
	Government importance	Omitted	56
	Plan positively	Omitted	57
	Don't impose styles	Omitted	60
	Appearance not the only factor	Omitted	61
	Don't refuse where high level of sustainability	Omitted	65
	Areas of special control	Omitted	68
	13 Protecting Green Belt Land	Title unchanged	
133	Importance	No change	79
134	The five purposes	No change	80
135	New Green Belts	Minor change	82
136	Change boundaries only in exceptional circumstances	Revised to say need for change must be identified by strategic policies, and detailed changes can be made by NDPs	83
137	Must consider fully all options	New	
138	Reviewing boundaries	Expanded	84
139	Defining boundaries	Minor change	85
140	Villages	No change	86
141	Enhancement	Minor change	81
142	National Forest and community forests	Minor changes	92
143	Inappropriate development harmful	Minor revision	87
144	Very special circumstances	No change	88
145	New buildings	Minor change plus addition for meeting need on brownfield land	89
146	Other forms of development	Expanded to cover change of use	90
147	Renewable energy	No change	91

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	14 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change	Title unchanged	
148	Introduction	New	
	Original introduction	Omitted	93
149	Climate change	Revised and expanded	94
150	Role of plans	Substantial revision	95
151	Renewable energy	Revised	97
152	Community led initiatives	Bullet point expanded	97
153	Decentralised energy	No change	96
154	Renewables	Minor change	98
155	Flood risk	Split paragraph, minor change	99
156	Strategic flood risk assessment	Split paragraph amended	99
157	The sequential test	Changes but essentially the same	100
158	Aim of the sequential test	No change	101
159	Exception test	Revised but essentially the same	102
160	When its should apply	New	
161	Both elements must be satisfied	No change	102
162	The test and planning applications	Expanded	104
163	Avoiding flood risk elsewhere	Revised	103
164	Minor development	Split off	104
165	SUDS	New	
166	Marine Policy Statement	No change	105
167	Coastal Change Management Areas	Minor change	106
168	Development in CCMA's	No material change	107
169	Limited lifetime of planning permission	Minor change	108
	15 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment	Title unchanged	
170	Planning policies	Revision and additions, including beauty of the countryside	109
170	Agricultural land	Revised and reduced	112
	Allocate land of least value	Omitted	110
	Use of brownfield land	Moved to Section	
171	Role of plans	Substantially revised	113
172	National Parks and AoNBs	Merged paras and minor changes	115
	National Parks and AoNBs	Merged paragraph	116
173	Heritage Coast	Mainly new	114
174	Biodiversity	Revised and expanded	117

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
175	Planning applications	Revised and split paras	118
176		Split paragraph re special sites	118
177	Presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply to special sites	No change	119
178	Policies for ground conditions	Minor changes	121
179	Responsibility rests with landowner	Separated out	120
180	Pollution impacts	Revised and merged	120
	Noise	Minor changes	123
	Light	Minor changes	125
181	Air quality management areas and Clean Air Zones	Revised and expanded	124
182	New development and existing uses	Separated and substantially expanded	123
183	Not stray onto other regimes	Minor changes	122
	16 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	Title unchanged	
184	Importance	Expanded and split paragraph	126
185	Role of plans	Split off	126
186	Conservation areas	Expanded	127
187	Historic environment record	New	
188	Making information publicly accessible	New	
189	Requirements on applicants	No change	128
190	Consider the particular significance of the asset	No change	129
191	Neglect	No material change	130
192	Determining applications	No change	131
193	Considering impacts	Split, but no material change	132
194	Need for justification	Split and made into bullets	132
195	Harm or loss	Minor change	133
196	Less than substantial harm	Minor change	134
197	Non-designated assets	No change	135
198	Ensure development involving loss proceeds	No change	136
199	Record the significance of assets	Revised and condensed	141
200	Opportunities for enhancement	No material change	137
201	Loss of buildings or elements	No change	138
	Significant non-designated assets	Omitted	139
202	Enabling development	No change	140

New NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	Old NPPF
	17 Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals	Title unchanged	
203	Introduction	Condensed	142
204	Role of policies	Condensed plus minor changes	143
205	Determining applications	Revised but largely unchanged	144
206	Minerals safeguarding areas	New	
207	Maintaining supply of aggregates	No change	145
208	Industrial minerals	Timescales for particular types removed	146
209	Oil and gas	Expanded and revised	147
210	Planning applications	No change	148
211	Coal	No change	149
	Annex 1: Implementation		
212	Policies apply from day of publication	Expanded	208
	Consider framework from day of publication	Omitted	212
	Plans may need to be revised	Omitted	213
	Aim to strengthen local decision making	Omitted	209
	Primacy of devt plan	Omitted - already covered in para 2	210
213	Existing policies not automatically out of date	Expanded	211
214	Current NPPF applies to examining plan for 6 months	Revised from one year	214
215	Housing delivery test	New	
216	Neighbourhood plans and 3 year supply	New	
217	Planning freedoms	New	
	Advice from PAS	Omitted	217
	Regional strategy policies	Omitted	218
	Framework reflects Localism Act	Omitted	219
	Annex 2:Glossary		
	Minor changes are not noted here		
	Deliverable	Revised to say that sites with outline planning permission, allocated or with PiP should only be included where there is clear evidence development will begin on site within 5 years	