

Tracking the NPPF: What happened to policy in the original NPPF

This table shows what became of policy in the 2012 NPPF in the revised NPPF, including:

- policy carried forward and whether it has been revised;
- policy omitted; and
- new policy

It is ordered by paragraph numbers in the 2012 NPPF

Some key changes are brought out in red

October 2018

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

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	1 Building a strong, competitive economy	Now Section 6. Title unchanged	
18	Government commitment	Omitted	
19	Planning's role	Largely new. References to planning as a barrier removed.	80
20	Plan proactively	Omitted	
21	What policies should do	Largely revised, removes references to barriers	81
22	Action where no prospect of current use	Revised and moved to Section 11	120
	2 Ensuring the viability of town centres	Now Section 7. Title unchanged	
23	Town centres	Revised. Removes definition of primary and secondary frontages	85
24	Sequential test	Revised	86
25	Does not apply to small scale rural devt	No change	88
26	Edge of centre and out of centre proposals	Revised	87
26	Retail impact assessment	Largely unchanged	89
27	Fail test, refusal	No change	90
	3 Supporting a prosperous rural economy	Now included in Section 6	
28	Rural economy	Revised	83
	Meeting local business needs	New	84
	4 Promoting sustainable transport	Now Section 9. Title unchanged	
	Addressing transport in plans	New	102
29	Managing patterns of growth	Some carried on, some new, re-cast	103
30	Reducing greenhouse gas	Omitted	
31	Planning policies	Largely new, but refers to cooperation	104
32	Considering proposals	Revised	108
32	Refusal only where impacts severe	Separate paragraph	109
33	Ports and airports	Omitted	
34	Large scale development	Omitted	
35	What applications should do	Largely unchanged	110
36	Travel plans	Revised	111
37	Minimise journey lengths	Omitted	
38	Mixed use	Omitted	
39	Parking standards	No change	105
	Maximum standards	New	106

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
40	Improve car parking	Omitted	
41	Protect routes	Omitted	
	Overnight lorry parking	New	107
	5 Supporting high quality communications	Now Section 10. "Infrastructure" removed	
42	Importance of telecommunications	Expanded	112
43	Masts	Expanded	113
44	No bans	No change	114
45	Dealing with applications	No change	115
46	Don't fetter competition	No change	116
	6 Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes	Now Section 5: "Delivering a sufficient supply of homes"	
47	Overall intention	Parts of original but condensed	59
47	Setting housing need	Much changed from first bullet - the new methodology	60
		Plus further from Plan making section	
47	Identify housing sites - deliverable and developable	Revised	67
47	Housing trajectory and 5-year supply	Revised, requires 10% buffer where rely on annual position statement	73
48	Windfalls	Revised	70
49	Out-of-date plan triggers presumption	Omitted - thereby removes reference to "relevant policies"	
50	Sizes and types of homes	Revised and condensed	61
50	Affordable housing	Revised bullet	62
	No affordable housing on small sites	New	63
	10% affordable home ownership	New	64
	Targets for NDP areas	New	65
	Where NDP target not possible	New	66
	Small sites	New	68
	NDPs allocate small sites too	New	69
51	Empty housing	Omitted, now a footnote	
	Exception sites for entry level housing	New - says sites should adjacent to existing settlements	71
52	New settlements and urban extensions	Revised	72
53	Residential gardens	Now dealt with under windfalls	70
	Demonstrating 5-year supply	New. Introduces annual position statement	74
	Housing delivery test and action plan	New	75

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
	Possible shorter start to development	New	76
54	Rural areas	Revised	77
55	Support viability of communities	Revised	78
55	Avoid isolated homes	Revised	79
	7 Requiring good design	Now Section 12 "Achieving well-designed places"	
56	Government importance	Omitted	
57	Plan positively	Omitted	
58	Principles	Expanded and strengthened	124
	Engaging communities	New	125
58	Policies and decisions	Revised and re-ordered	127
59	Providing clarity	Expanded	126
60	Don't impose styles	Omitted	
61	Appearance not the only factor	Omitted	
	Developing proposals	New	128
62	Assessment tools	Revised	129
63	Innovative designs	Revised somewhat	131
64	Refuse poor design	Expanded to cover approving compliant design	130
65	Don't refuse where high level of sustainability	Omitted	
66	Developing proposals	Substantially revised and expanded	128
67	Advertisements	Revised	132
68	Areas of special control	Omitted	
	8 Promoting healthy communities	Now Section 8, "and safe" added	
69	What policies should do	Introduction omitted and revised	91
70	Community facilities	Largely unchanged	92
71	Community Right To Build Orders	Omitted	
	Estate regeneration	Added	93
72	Planning for schools	Revised	94
	Promoting public safety	New	95
73	Open space and recreation	No change	96
74	Existing facilities	Essentially unchanged	97
75	Public rights of way	No change	98
76	Local green space	Amended intro	99
77	Sparing use of designation	Largely unchanged	100
78	Relation to GB policy	No change	101

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
	9 Protecting Green Belt Land	Now Section 13. Title unchanged	
79	Importance	No change	133
80	The five purposes	No change	134
81	Enhancement	Minor change	141
82	New Green Belts	Minor change	135
83	Change boundaries only in exceptional circumstances	Revised to say need for change must be identified by strategic plans, and minor changes can be made by NDPs	136
	Must consider fully all options	New	137
84	Reviewing boundaries	Expanded - does not express as a sequential test Is there a conflict with para 135?	138
85	Defining boundaries	Minor change	139
86	Villages	No change	140
87	Inappropriate development harmful	Minor revision	143
88	Very special circumstances	No change	144
89	New buildings	Minor change plus addition for meeting need on brownfield land	145
90	Other forms of development	Expanded to cover change of use	146
91	Renewable energy	No change	147
92	National Forest etc	Minor changes	142
	10 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change	Now Section 14. Title unchanged	
	Introduction climate change	New	148
93	Original introduction	Omitted	
94	Climate change	Revised and expanded	149
95	Role of plans	Substantial revision	150
96	Decentralised energy	No change	153
97	Renewable energy	Revised	150
97	Community led initiatives	Bullet point expanded	152
98	Renewables	Minor change	154
99	Flood risk	Split paragraph, minor change	155
99	Strategic flood risk assessment	Split paragraph amended	156
100	The sequential test	Changes but essentially the same	157
101	Aim of the sequential test	No change	158
102	Exception test	Revised but essentially the same	159
	When it should apply	New	160
102	Both elements must be satisfied	No change	161

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
103	Avoiding flood risk elsewhere	Revised	163
104	The test and planning applications	Expanded	162
104	Minor development	Split off	164
	SUDS	New	165
105	Marine Policy Statement	No change	166
106	Coastal Change Management Areas	Minor change	167
107	Development in CCMA's	No material change	168
108	Limited lifetime of planning permission	Minor change	169
	11 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment	Now Section 15. Title unchanged	
109	Planning policies for the environment	Revision and additions, including beauty of the countryside	170
110	Allocate land of least value	Expanded	171
111	Encourage use of brownfield land	Moved to Section 11 "Making effective use of land"	118
112	Agricultural land	Revised and reduced	170
113	Role of plans	Expanded	171
114	Heritage Coast	Mainly new	173
115	National Parks and AoNBs	Merged paras and minor changes	172
116	National Parks and AoNBs	Merged paragraph	
117	Biodiversity	Revised and expanded	174
118	Planning applications	Revised and split paras	175
118		Split paragraph re special sites	176
119	Presumption in favour of development does not apply to special sites	No change	177
120	Pollution impacts	Revised and merged	180
120	Responsibility rests with landowner	Separated out	179
121	Policies for ground conditions	Minor changes	178
122	Not stray onto other regimes	Minor changes	183
123	Noise	Minor changes	180
123	New development and existing uses	Separated and substantially expanded	182
124	Air quality management areas and Clean Air Zones	Revised and expanded	181
125	Light	Minor changes	180

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
	12 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	Now Section 16. Title unchanged	
126	Importance of historic environment	Expanded and split paragraph	184
126	Role of plans	Split off	185
127	Conservation areas	Expanded	186
	Historic environment record	New	187
	Making information publicly accessible	New	188
128	Requirements of applicants	No change	189
129	Consider the particular significance of the asset	No change	190
130	Neglect	No material change	191
131	Determining applications	No change	192
132	Considering impacts	Split, but no material change	193
132	Need for justification	Split and made into bullets	194
133	Harm or loss	Minor change	195
134	Less than substantial harm	Minor change	196
135	Non-designated assets	No change	197
136	Ensure development involving loss proceeds	No change	198
137	Opportunities for enhancement	No material change	200
138	Loss of buildings or elements	No change	201
139	Significant non-designated assets	Omitted	
140	Enabling development	No change	202
141	Record the significance of assets	Revised and condensed	199
	13 Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals	Now Section 17. Title unchanged	
142	Introduction to Minerals	Condensed	203
143	Role of policies	Condensed plus minor changes	204
144	Determining applications	Revised but largely unchanged	205
	Minerals safeguarding areas	New	206
145	Maintaining supply of aggregates	No change	207
146	Industrial minerals	Timescales for particular types removed	208
147	Oil and gas	Expanded and revised	209
148	Planning applications	No change	210
149	Coal	No change	211

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
	Plan making	Now Section 3	
150	Importance of local plans	Omitted	
151	Object sustainable development	Omitted	
152	Gains across all sustainability objectives	Omitted	
153	Each LPA to prepare LP	Omitted	
154	Aspirational but realistic	Omitted	
155	Early engagement	Omitted	
	System should be genuinely plan led	New	15
	Approach to plans	New - very condensed version of 150 to 154, plus must be no duplication with NPPF or other plans	16
	Must include strategic policies	New a) LPAs working together or independently, in form of a joint or single plan and/or b) a spatial development strategy	17
	Non-strategic matters - in local -plans or neighbourhood plans	New	18
	Combination makes up development plan	New	19
156	Matters to be covered by strategic policies	Adds reference to overall strategy. Refers to strategic policies throughout, rather than strategic plans	20
	Make explicit which are strategic policies	New	21
157	Scope of plans	Largely omitted	
157	Plans to look 15 years ahead	Very concise	22
	Clear strategy to address needs	New	23
158	Evidence	One short paragraph replaces whole section	31
159	Setting housing need	Omitted	
160	Business	Omitted	
161	Business	Omitted	
162	Infrastructure	Omitted	
163	Minerals	Omitted	
164	Defence	Omitted	
165	Sustainability appraisal	New	32
166	Habitats	Omitted	
167	Assessment	Omitted	
168	Shoreline management plans	Omitted	
169	Historic environment	Omitted	

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
170	Historic environment	Omitted	
171	Health and well-being	Omitted	
172	Major incidents	Omitted	
173	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	
174	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	
175	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	
176	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	
177	Viability and deliverability	Omitted	
178	Duty to cooperate	Revised	24
179	Joint working	Revised - integral to plan making	26
180	Cooperation with relevant bodies	Revised	25
181	Statements of common ground	New, but carries forward need to demonstrate cooperative working	27
	Use of non-strategic policies	New	28
	Review every 5 years	New	33
	Developer contributions	New. To be set out in plans, including when further viability evidence will be needed	34
182	Examination	Reference to DtC omitted Positively prepared refers to meeting as much need as possible Effective revised, but not sure strong enough on joint planning	35
	Tests of soundness to be proportionate for local policies	New	36
	Neighbourhood plan examination	New	37
183	Neighbourhood plans introduction	Condensed	29
184	Must conform with strategic policies	Revised and merged	29
185	NDP takes precedence over non-strategic policies until LP revised	Revised	30
	Decision taking	Now Section 4. Title now "Decision-making"	
186	Approach to decisions	Revised, and combines two paras	38
187		Combined	
188	Early engagement	No change	39
189	Encourage other parties	Minor changes	40
190	Benefits	Minor changes	41
191	Other consenting bodies	Unchanged	42
192	Right information	No change	43

Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
193	Publish information requirements	Minor change	44
194	Hazardous substances	Minor changes	45
195	Planning performance agreements	No change	46
196	Decisions to be made in accordance with development plan	Revised	47
197	Apply presumption in favour of sustainable development	Omitted	
198	Status of Neighbourhood Development Orders	Omitted	
199	Use of Local Development Orders	Minor changes	51
200	Article 4 Directions	No change	53
201	Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders	Revised	52
202	LPAs to assist with NDOs	Omitted	
203	Planning conditions and S106	No change	54
204	Limits to use of S106	No change	56
205	S106 should take account of market conditions	Omitted	
206	Keep conditions to the necessary minimum	Revised	55
	Viability assessment	New	57
207	Enforcement	Unchanged	58
	Making effective use of land	New Section 14	
	Promote effective use of land	New	117
	Role of plans, including derelict land	Mainly new, bits of old text Includes under-utilised land and buildings and building upwards	118
111	Derelict land	Now a bullet	118
	Be proactive	New	119
	Applications for alternative uses	New	121
	Appropriate densities	New	122
	Optimise use of sites	New	123
	Annex 1: Implementation		
208	Policies apply from day of publication	Expanded	207
209	Aim to strengthen local decision making	Omitted	
210	Primacy of devt plan	Omitted - already covered in para 2	
211	Existing policies not automatically out of date	Expanded	208
212		Consider framework from day of publication	

213		Plans may need to be revised	
Old NPPF	Heading or content	Treatment	New NPPF
214	Current NPPF applies to examining plan for 6 months	Revised from one year	209
	Except where plan withdrawn	New	210
	Housing delivery test	New	211
	Neighbourhood plans and 3 year supply	New	212
216	Weight of emerging plans	Unchanged	48
	Prematurity	Imported from NPPG	49
	Prematurity continued	Imported from NPPG	50
217	Advice from PAS	Omitted	
218	Regional strategy policies	Omitted	
219	Framework reflects Localism act	Omitted	
	Annex 2:Glossary		
	Minor changes not noted here		
	Deliverable	Revised to say that sites with outline planning permission, allocated or with PipP should only be included where there is clear evidence they will begin on site within 5 years	