



# **Fressingfield Neighbourhood Plan Review**

**Steering Group Meeting  
7<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**National Planning Policy Framework  
December 2024**



## National Planning Context:

### National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024

- Provides national policy on all planning issues e.g. Housing, employment, historic environment, natural environment, community infrastructure, floodrisk, climate change, retail, town centres, energy
- Changes to national policy subject to recent consultation



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

### National Planning Policy Framework

December 2024



NPPF has been revised regularly.



First published in 2012, it has since been revised in 2018, 2019, 2021, twice in 2023 and once in 2024.



The existing FNDP was drafted to be consistent with the 2019 version.



There have been several revisions since the FNDP was 'made' in 2020



The live version is from December 2024.

# **Main changes to NPPF 2024 affecting Neighbourhood Plans**

## **2: Achieving Sustainable Development**

**Para 6:** References to 'First Homes' removed

**Para 11:** Presumption in favour of sustainable development. Policies directing development to sustainable locations, making effective use of land, securing well-designed places and providing affordable homes, individually or in combination given greater prominence in decision making.

**Not new in 2024, but worth noting:**

**Para 14:**

“... the adverse impact of allowing development that conflicts with the neighbourhood plan is likely to significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, provided the following apply:

A) the neighbourhood plan became part of the development plan five years or less before the date on which the decision is made; and

B) the neighbourhood plan contains policies and allocations to meet its identified housing requirement...”

## **5: Delivering a sufficient supply of homes**

**Para 62:** The standard methodology for calculating housing requirement is no longer 'advisory' – more of an issue for Local Plans but will have an impact on housing requirement for NPs. *(figures for MSDC expected to rise from 535 dwellings per annum to 734)*

**Para 63:** Greater prominence for 'social rented' housing. And references to 'looked after children'.

**Para 70: Not new for 2024 but worth noting:**

“ Where it is not possible to provide a requirement figure for a neighbourhood area, the local planning authority should provide an indicative figure, if requested to do so by the neighbourhood planning body. This figure should take into account factors such as the latest evidence of local housing need, the population of the neighbourhood area and the most recently available planning strategy of the local planning authority.”

## **Not new for 2024 but worth noting:**

**Para 74:** Neighbourhood planning groups should also give particular consideration to the opportunities for allocating small and medium-sized sites (*of a size consistent with paragraph 73a – sites no larger than 1 hectare*) suitable for housing in their area.

**Para 88** (also elsewhere in the framework) removal of the word 'beautiful' in relation to design.

## **8: Promoting healthy and safe communities**

**Para 96:** greater emphasis on promoting good health and preventing ill health: and reducing health inequalities in deprived areas.



**Para 102:** The safety of children and other vulnerable users in proximity to open water, railways and other potential hazards should be considered in planning and assessing proposals for development;

## **9: Promoting Sustainable Transport**

**Para 109:** greater emphasis on designing in transport considerations; identifying and pursuing opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use.

## **11: Making effective use of land**

**Para 125:** greater weight to use of brownfield land – approve unless substantial harm is caused.



## **Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change**

**Para 161:** Net Zero 2050 target included

**Para 164:** Greater emphasis on sustainable drainage systems

**Para 167:** Greater weight given to support low carbon heating and energy efficiency measures.

**Para 168:** Recognition that small-scale and community-led projects provide a valuable contribution to cutting greenhouse gas emissions

## **15. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment**

**Para 187 d)** inclusion of specific new reference to incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs

### **Annex 1: Implementation:**

**Para 239:** The policies in this Framework will apply for the purpose of preparing neighbourhood plans from 12 March 2025 unless a neighbourhood plan proposal has been submitted to the local planning authority under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) on or before the 12 March 2025.