Planning validation requirements

Guidance note on the validation requirements for planning and other types of applications

1st August 2019
INTRODUCTION

In order to assess a planning application we need appropriate supporting information. Certain national requirements are mandatory (see 1-6 below) but we have discretion to adopt a local list of validation requirements (see 7-30 below). Local validation criteria must comply with the following statutory tests:

i. must be reasonable having regard, in particular, to the nature and scale of the proposed development; and,

ii. may require particulars of, or evidence about, a matter only if it is reasonable to think that the matter will be a material consideration in the determination of the application.

For your application to be accepted as valid, you must provide all of the required information (or a reasoned justification for not providing it). This guidance notes sets out the information that must be submitted with certain types of application and further information on thresholds when the information will be required.

Where an Environmental Statement is required, that will encompass most, if not all, of the supplementary information. In other cases, the Design and Access Statement or Planning Statement may be a useful covering document. If you do incorporate requirements in this way, please make sure that you use the appropriate sub-headings so that each requirement can be readily identified.

If you are in any doubt as to the level and type of information required speak to a planning officer before submitting the application. For all but the most straightforward developments you are strongly encouraged to enter into pre-application discussions prior to submission of an application.

Where you disagree with a decision to invalidate a planning application you should follow this up in writing setting out why you do not consider the information is necessary. The requirement will then be reviewed by the Council. If there remains a dispute, there is a procedure to resolve such issues. If necessary you can, after the statutory time period for determining the application has expired, appeal against non-determination. In considering such an appeal the inspector will consider both the dispute regarding invalidity and the merits of the application itself.

Submitting applications online

Applicants are encouraged to submit applications online by registering with either the Planning Portal or the iApply website. Choose which provider you wish to use - it makes no difference to the way we deal with your application.

Apply for planning permission via Planning Portal

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1 Section 62 (4A) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Article 34(6) c of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, Para 44 of the NPPF.

For further information, please contact: planning@durham.gov.uk or 03000 262 830

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<tr>
<td>1 Application Form</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>The Standard Application Form can be accessed via the <a href="#">Planning Portal</a>. Mineral applications should be made on a form provided by the local planning authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Location Plan</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Based on an up-to-date map at 1:1250/1:2500. Must identify sufficient roads and/or buildings on adjoining land to ensure the exact site location is clear. The site must be edged in red and include all land necessary to carry out the development. Any other land owned by the applicant, close to or adjoining the site must be edged blue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Ownership Certificates &amp; Agricultural Declaration</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>A certificate must be completed stating the land ownership of the site. For this purpose an ‘owner’ is anyone with a freehold interest, or leasehold interest the unexpired term of which is not less than seven years. Where relevant a notice to all owners of the application site must be completed and served in accordance with Article 13 of the DMPO. Agricultural Holdings Certificate is required for all but the following applications: approval of reserved matters, discharge or variation of conditions, tree preservation orders, listed building consent, lawful development certificate, prior notification of proposed agricultural or forestry development, a non-material amendment or advertisement consent.</td>
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<td>The Appropriate Fee</td>
<td>All</td>
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</table>
| 5 | Design and Access Statement | • Provision of 10 or more dwellings or site area exceeds 0.5ha  
• Erection of buildings/extensions over 1000sqm  
• Where site area is 1ha or greater (excluding minerals & waste development)  
• Applications for listed building consent  
In World Heritage Site or Conservation Area:  
• Provision of 1 or more dwelling  
• Building/extension over 100sqm | Statement to explain the design principles and concepts that have been applied to the following aspects: amount, layout, scale, landscaping and appearance.  
The access component should explain how the design ensures all users have equal and convenient access.  
The statement may take a proportionate approach based on the scale/sensitivity of the proposals. | Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 |
| 6 | Additional Plans and Drawings | All | Depending on nature of development the following may be required:  
• Block plan/roof plan (1:500 or 1:200)  
• Existing and proposed elevations (1:50 or 1:100)  
• Existing and proposed floor plans (1:50 or 1:100)  
• Existing and proposed site sections, site levels and finished floor levels | Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 |
<p>| 7 | Agricultural Land Classification Report | Any development on land of 1ha or more that is currently or last in use for agriculture | Statement setting out the agricultural land classification and whether the proposals would involve the loss of any Best and Most Versatile NPPF Para 170-171 Teesdale ENV12 Easington 1 | |</p>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Air Quality Assessment</th>
<th>(BMV) agricultural land (Class 1, 2 or 3a). See: PPG Reference ID8</th>
<th>Derwentside AG1 Minerals LP M34 Waste LP W25</th>
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</table>
| 8 | - Where the proposal may potentially have a significant impact on air quality either by emitting air quality pollutants or by introducing receptors to areas where there are existing sources of air quality pollutants.  
- Where the grant of permission would conflict with, or render unworkable, measures contained within an air quality action plan.  
If any of the following Stage 1 Screening Criteria apply then further consideration will be required against the Stage 2 indicative criteria below:  
**Stage 1 Screening Criteria:**  
- 10+ residential units or a site area of more than 0.5ha  
- > 1,000 m² of floor space for all other uses or a site area greater than 1ha  
Coupled with any of the following:  
  - > 10 parking spaces  
  - a centralised energy facility or other centralised combustion process  
Consideration should still be given to the potential impacts of neighbouring sources on the site, even if an assessment of impacts of the development on the surrounding area is screened out | Applications should be supported by such information as is necessary to allow a full consideration of the impact of the proposal on the air quality of the area, including any proposals for mitigation.  
*Further advice is available in:*  
The Durham City Air Quality Action Plan 2016  
Durham County Council: Technical Advice Note-Dust  
The Durham County Council: Planning & Air Quality Guidance Note. (Latest Version: August 2014);  
Land Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality (January 2017)(Guidance from the Institute of Local Air Quality Management/Environmental Protection UK);  
Combined Heat & Power: Air Quality Guidance for Local Authorities(2012) (Environmental Protection UK); and  
Biomass & Air Quality Information for Developers (2009) | NPPF Para’s 180-181 Durham City U5, U6, U7 Teesdale GD1 Wear Valley GD1 Derwentside GDP1, EN26 Easington 1 Minerals M36, M37, M45 Waste W3, W33, W35 |
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<th>Stage 2: Indicative criteria for requiring an air quality assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Cause a significant change in LDV traffic flows on local roads with relevant receptors. A change of LDV flows of:</td>
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<td>&gt; 100 AADT within or adjacent to an AQMA</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 500 AADT elsewhere.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Cause a significant change in HDV flows on local roads with relevant receptors. A change of HDV flows of:</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 25 AADT within or adjacent to an AQMA</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 100 AADT elsewhere.</td>
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<td>3. Realign roads, i.e. changing the proximity of receptors to traffic lanes. Where the change is 5m or more and the road is within an AQMA.</td>
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<td>4. Introduce a new junction or remove an existing junction near to relevant receptors. Applies to junctions that cause traffic to significantly change vehicle accelerate/decelerate, e.g. traffic lights, or roundabouts.</td>
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<td>5. Introduce or change a bus station. Where bus flows will change by:</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 25 AADT within or adjacent to an AQMA</td>
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<td>&gt; 100 AADT elsewhere.</td>
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<td>6. Have an underground car park with extraction system which is within 20 m of a relevant receptor. Coupled with the car</td>
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| 7. | Have one or more substantial combustion processes, where there is a risk of impacts at relevant receptors.  
   **NB. this includes combustion plant associated with standby emergency generators (typically associated with centralised energy centres) and shipping. Typically, any combustion plant where the single or combined NOx emission rate is less than 5 mg/sec is unlikely to give rise to impacts, provided that the emissions are released from a vent or stack in a location and at a height that provides adequate dispersion.** |
| 8. | Minerals Extraction and Waste Recycling schemes |
| 9. | Biomass schemes |
| 10. | Developments with significant dust potential during demolition or construction, where there are residents within 200m  
*LDV = cars/ small vans <3.5t gross vehicle weight).  
*HDV = goods vehicles/buses >3.5t gross vehicle weight  
*AADT= Annual Average Daily Traffic |

**9. Biodiversity and Geology Survey and Report**  
A—**Protected Species Survey and Report**  
All applications which include conversion, demolition, removal, or modification of A—**Protected Species Survey and Report**  
The survey should be undertaken and prepared by competent persons with suitable qualifications and experience and must be carried

NPPF paras 174-177  
Chester le Street NE8  
Derwentside EN21, EN22, EN23
existing buildings or removal or pruning of trees as follows:

Where protected species are known to be present (confirmed by a data search or local knowledge)

**Barn Owl Survey** - Agricultural buildings including barns and outbuildings except for single skin livestock barns.

**Bat Survey (Structures)** - A risk assessment will be required for all buildings and structures which have features which may support roosts (e.g. hanging tiles, cracks and crevices within roof coverings or stonework), lie within 200m of woodland or water or have clear connectivity to bat foraging habitats. Structures traditionally known to support roosting bats will require bat risk assessments (e.g. bridges, aqueducts and viaduct tunnels, mines, kilns, ice houses, adits, military fortifications, air raid shelters, cellars and similar underground ducts and structures).

**Bat Survey (Trees)**. A risk assessment will be required for all trees that exhibit potential to support roosting bats. Surveys will be required for any proposals that involve floodlighting within 50 metres of woodland, water or hedgerows / lines of trees.

In the case of householder applications, a bat survey will not be required to validate the application if:

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| Durham City | E16, E17, E18, E19 |
| Easington | 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 |
| Sedgefield | E11 |
| Teesdale | ENV5, ENV6, ENV7, ENV8 |
| Wear Valley | ENV10, ENV11 |
| Waste | W13, W14, W16, W17 |
| Minerals | M27, M28, M29 |
a) the proposal is for extensions or modifications at ground floor level only; and
b) there will not be any disturbance to the roof structure of the dwelling and/or any domestic outbuildings (e.g. garages)

Great Crested Newt Surveys. A risk assessment will be required for all applications within 250m of ponds and other standing water habitats.

B – Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA) & any further Specialist Ecological Surveys

A PEA will be required for all minor and major applications (excluding householder)

A survey assessment and mitigation report may be waived if following consultation at the pre-application stage, it is confirmed in writing by the Council that a survey/report is not required

PEAs establish baseline conditions and evaluate the importance of any ecological features present (or those that could be present) within the specified site and the locality.

A PEA comprises two distinct parts, one desk based, and one field based. These are:

- A desk study to search for records of any protected species or designated habitats within the area
- A walkover of the site to evaluate and map the habitats present and to assess any suitability for protected species such as great crested newts or bats or notable species (e.g. UK Priority Species or BAP species)

A PEA will help indicate the likely significance of ecological impacts from a proposed development or activity and inform the requirement for any further specialist ecological
C – Biodiversity Mitigation Plan

A biodiversity mitigation plan will be required for all major and minor applications (excluding householder applications) except where following consultation at the pre-application stage, it is confirmed in writing by the Council that a survey/report is not required.

Surveys which are required to adequately assess the ecological impacts.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the application site should be completed in a format consistent with the ‘Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal’ published by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM).

The PEA should be prepared by a competent and qualified Ecologist. The PEA must include a description of any recent works, such as vegetation clearance, that have been undertaken at the application site prior to the ecological appraisal that may affect its findings.

Any further specialist surveys required to adequately assess the ecological impacts of development must be completed and provided alongside the PEA.

C – Biodiversity Mitigation Plan

A biodiversity mitigation plan will follow the PEA, this document provides for each biodiversity feature that will be adversely affected a mitigation plan detailing:

a. How adverse impacts will be avoided, reduced and/or mitigated.
b. How any residual impacts that cannot be avoided and/or mitigated will be compensated for off-site. This can be via a financial contribution to the LPA.
D - Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) & Special Protection Areas (SPA) Habitats Regulations Assessment

All Development which has the potential to increase recreational pressure (e.g. residential development, visitor accommodation/attractions) falling within 6km of the coastal European Protected Sites, and within 3km of upland European Protected Sites

c. Where appropriate, how mitigation or compensation measures will be managed, resourced and monitored post-permission.
d. Explanation of how the development delivers net gains for biodiversity through either onsite or off-site biodiversity delivery or a combination of both.

The biodiversity mitigation plan can be incorporated into the PEA.

The use of a Biodiversity Impact Assessment Calculator is recommended as a mechanism to determine the impact of development and, if required, the extent of any off-site compensation. The LPA is currently using the Warwickshire BIAC and the County Ecologist should be contacted to discuss the use of the calculator.

D - Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) & Special Protection Areas (SPA) Habitats Regulations Assessment

There are nine European Protected Sites (and one pSPA) in County Durham which are predominantly located in the western uplands and along the coastline.

The Council has a duty to ensure that all the activities it controls, including landuse planning does not harm any of the sites or the natural processes that support them. In order to determine whether planning proposals are likely to harm a European Protected Site(s) or not, an assessment of their effects is required.
This is known as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). Whilst it is the responsibility of the Council, as the competent authority, to undertake the HRA, those proposing or submitting planning applications will need to provide the Council with sufficient information and evidence to enable the assessment to be undertaken.

Applicants are advised to agree the extent of the level of information that will be required to support this process during preapplication discussions with the LPA.

See: PPG Reference ID8

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Building for Life Assessment</th>
<th>All residential developments of 50+ units or 1.5ha+ if outline.</th>
<th>An assessment of the proposal against Building for Life 12 questions, aimed to guide discussions towards good urban design.</th>
<th>See: PPG Reference ID26</th>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Coal Mining Risk Assessment</td>
<td>Development within Coal Mining High Risk Areas. Exempt developments include Reserved Matters, householder development, changes of use, variation of condition, prior notifications, advertisement consents etc.</td>
<td>An assessment of existing recorded risks to ground stability and how proposals will mitigate such risks in the interests of public safety. Relevant information can be obtained online.</td>
<td>See: PPG Reference ID45</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>All detailed major proposals with existing</td>
<td>Details of the following should be provided for</td>
<td>NPPF Para 180</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>NPPF para 124-131 Teesdale GD1, H1a, H3, H4 Durham City Q1-Q6, Q8 Chester le Street HP9 Derwentside GDP1 Wear Valley GD1, H24 Sedgefield D1-D3, D5 Easington 1, 66</td>
<td>Durham City U13 Minerals M36 Waste W33</td>
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<td><strong>Management Plan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Construction phases of the development:</strong></td>
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| sensitive receptors (for example, housing, care homes, or student accommodation) within 100m of site boundary. | 1. The hours during which construction & demolition activities would take place;  
2. Measures to control emission of dust & dirt;  
3. Measures to control the emission of noise & vibration;  
4. Where construction involves penetrative piling, details of methods for piling of foundations including measures to suppress any associated noise and vibration;  
5. Measures to prevent mud & other material migrating onto the highway;  
6. Designation, layout & design of construction access & egress points;  
7. Details for the provision of directional signage (on & off site);  
8. Details of contractors’ compounds, materials storage and other storage arrangements, including cranes and plant, equipment and related temporary infrastructure;  
9. Details for the loading and unloading of plant, machinery and materials  
10. Details of provision for all site operatives, parking and turning within the site;  
11. Routing agreements for construction traffic  
12. Details of security hoarding including decorative displays and facilities for public viewing, where appropriate;  
13. Waste audit and scheme for waste minimisation and recycling/disposing of |

Durham City U5  
Teesdale GD1  
Wear Valley GD1  
Derwentside GDP1, EN26  
Easington 1, Sedgefield D1
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Environmental Statement</th>
<th>Heritage Statement</th>
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| **13** | The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 set out the circumstances in which an Environmental Statement is required. Developers are encouraged to request a ‘screening opinion’ (to determine whether ES is required) before submitting a planning application. Where an ES is required a ‘Scoping opinion’ as to the information required should be sought. See: PPG Reference ID4 | • All applications for Listed Building Consent. • Applications that fall within or immediately adjacent to a scheduled Ancient Monument or a site on the Register of Parks and Gardens • All development within or adjoining a Conservation Area (except changes of use) • All applications affecting any known or suspected archaeological sites. • Major applications whose scale or nature could impact on heritage assets The level of detail should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and be sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on the assets significance. Heritage Statements should include: • A Statement of Significance – including a description of the significance of the affected assets and the contribution of their setting to that significance • Archaeological Assessment —will be required for applications in areas of archaeological interest or ones that may be adjacent to and could affect them. In some cases a Written Scheme of Investigation or investigative works | The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

See: PPG reference ID32 PPG Reference ID31 & PPG Reference ID30

NPPF section 16

Chester le Street BE4, BE5, BE9, BE10

Derwentside EN7, EN14, EN17, EN19

Durham City E21, E22, E23, E24, E25, E26

Easington 22, 24

Sedgefield E2, E3, E18

Teesdale ENV4, ENV5, BENV2, BENV3, BENV4, BENV11

Wear Valley ENV2, ENV3, ENV4, BE1, BE4, BE5, BE8, BE15, BE16, BE17
prior to submission may be required. Applicants are advised to discuss this requirement at an early stage of developing the scheme.

- Schedule of works affecting the asset, its site and setting.
- Assessment of the impact on the special interest and character of the asset, its site and setting and that of any adjacent heritage assets;
- Justification for the proposals, in terms of the principles applied, and any mitigation measures.
- Detail the sources that have been considered and the expertise that has been consulted.

See: [PPG Reference ID18a](#)

| 15 | Hydrogeological Risk Assessment | Mineral planning applications and landfill and landraise planning applications. | The assessment should consider and address the risks posed to all ground and surface water resources (quality and flow) within the vicinity of the site. | Minerals M29-M33 Waste W18-W23 |
| 16 | Land Contamination Assessment | • All development on brownfield land  
• New development within 250 metres of current or former landfill sites  
• Where the end use would be particularly sensitive (for example residential development, schools, day nurseries, care homes or hospitals) | In considering individual planning applications, the potential for contamination and any risks arising must be properly assessed and where necessary remediation measures incorporated to deal with unacceptable risks. Particular attention should be paid to sites where there is a reason to suspect contamination and also those proposals for particularly sensitive uses such as housing, allotments, schools, day nurseries, care homes or playing fields. In such cases, a minimum of a Phase 1 Land Contamination Assessment (often referred to as a Phase 1 | NPPF Para 170 Minerals LP M36 Waste LP W3, W33 |
|   |   |   |   | Durham City U11, U12 Easington 45 Minerals LP M36 Waste LP W3, W33 |
Preliminary Risk Assessment or Desk Top Study should be carried out.

All investigations of land potentially affected by contamination should be carried out by a suitably qualified competent person. Sufficient information should be provided to determine the existence or otherwise of contamination, its nature and the risks it may pose and whether these can be satisfactorily reduced to an acceptable level.

As a minimum a Phase 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment should identify all past uses of the site. As contaminants have the potential to migrate from the source, adjacent and nearby sites, will also need to be risk assessed. The assessment should identify whether a Phase 2 Contamination Assessment is required. Where contamination is known or is likely to be present it may be necessary to undertake a Phase 2 assessment of contamination.

Further information is available in the following guidance:

YALPAG ‘Development on land affected by contamination’ including Appendix 2 – Screening Assessment Form
YALPAG ‘Verification requirements for cover systems’
YALPAG ‘Verification requirement for gas protection systems’

See: PPG Reference ID33

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels</th>
<th>All developments where the proposal involves a change in ground levels or where ground</th>
<th>Plans will usually be at a scale of 1:50 or 1:100 and show existing and proposed site levels and</th>
<th>NPPF para 124-131 and 180</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
levels outside of the application site are noticeably different.

finished floor levels including cross sections where relevant (with levels related to a fixed datum point off site). Plans shall also show the proposals in relation to adjoining buildings that may be affected by the development

Section drawings should identify existing and proposed ground levels and be accompanied by a plan showing the points between which the cross sections have been taken.

The plans should also show existing and proposed buildings within and adjacent to the site and identify finished floor and ridge levels of existing and proposed buildings.

Where householder development is being proposed, the levels may be evident from floor plans and elevations. On sloping sites, particularly where detached buildings are proposed, it will be necessary to show how a proposal relates to existing ground levels.

| 18 | Lighting Assessment | Applications for developments which would involve the provision of significant external lighting (e.g. floodlights or security lighting) that may have an adverse impact on residential amenity, the character of the open countryside or a heritage asset | Schemes involving floodlighting need to provide an assessment covering: light spillage, hours of illumination, light levels, column heights, specification and colour, treatment for lamps and luminaries, the need for full horizontal cut-off; no distraction to the highway; levels of impact on nearby dwellings; use of demountable columns; retention of screening vegetation; use of planting and bunding to contain lighting effects.

The assessment should assess the effects on:
  • Visual amenity, |

Teesdale GD1, H1a, H3, H4 Durham City Q1-Q6, Q8 Chester le Street HP9 Derwentside GDP1 Wear Valley GD1, H24 Sedgefield D1-D3, D5 Easington 1, 66

NPPF para 180 Derwentside GDP1 Durham City U5 Teesdale GD1 Wear Valley GD1 Minerals LP M36, M37 Waste LP W3, W33
- Local character and distinctiveness,
- Neighbouring amenity,
- Heritage assets if present,
- nature conservation
And how those effects will be mitigated.

*Further advice is available in:*
DCC Technical Advice Note – Lighting
Institute of Lighting Engineers ‘Guidance Note for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light 2011’
Lighting in the Countryside: *Towards Good Practice*
Durham City Light and Darkness *Strategy*
See: [PPG Reference ID31](#)

| 19 | Meeting Housing Needs Statement | All major housing applications, and applications for 5 units or more in West Durham. | Statement should include the following:

- Number of dwellings (to include market, affordable and other specialist housing types e.g. self build/custom build)
- percentage proposed as affordable
- Tenure of affordable dwellings (rented stated as social rent or affordable rent and intermediate stated as shared ownership),
- Type of property proposed and size (no. of bedrooms) by both market and affordable
- Gross internal area (sqm) by tenure and property type,
- Compliance of any standards (e.g. HCA DQS),
- Location of affordable on site layout
- Evidence that affordable housing meets the requirements of local RSLs |

|  |  | All major housing applications, and applications for 5 units or more in West Durham. | Statement should include the following:

- Number of dwellings (to include market, affordable and other specialist housing types e.g. self build/custom build)
- percentage proposed as affordable
- Tenure of affordable dwellings (rented stated as social rent or affordable rent and intermediate stated as shared ownership),
- Type of property proposed and size (no. of bedrooms) by both market and affordable
- Gross internal area (sqm) by tenure and property type,
- Compliance of any standards (e.g. HCA DQS),
- Location of affordable on site layout
- Evidence that affordable housing meets the requirements of local RSLs |

NPPF – Section 5
Chester le Street HP13
Derwentside H08, H010
Durham City H12, H12a, H16
Sedgefield H19, H20, H22
Teesdale H13, H14
Wear Valley H15, H16, H17
Easington 71
<p>| | | |</p>
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| Where it is not intended to provide the required level of affordable housing the statement shall include reference to viability (see 30 below).

*Further information is available in:*

 County Durham Strategic Housing Market Assessment *(SHMA)*

| Minerals and Waste Safeguarding Assessment | Waste - all applications adjacent to existing waste management facilities, extant permissions and within 250 metres of landfill and landraise sites.
Minerals - all land within and adjoining Mineral Consultation Areas. | Waste - assessment of the compatibility of the development with existing/proposed waste management facilities (including sewage and water treatment sites) and within 250 metres of a landfill site.
Minerals - assessment to consider the sterilisation potential of the proposed development. | NPPF Section 17 Minerals LP M14 Waste LP W5 |
| Noise Assessment | Proposals that raise issues of potential noise disturbance or for new noise sensitive development in existing noisy areas. | Assessment should be undertaken by a suitably qualified acoustician, in accordance with relevant guidance and include details of noise impact and mitigation measures proposed.

Further advice and guidance can be obtained by contacting the Councils Nuisance Action Team and Technical Advice Note –Noise.

See: [PPG Reference ID30](#) |

| Open Space, Sport, Play and Leisure Assessment | Applications relating to the creation of or loss of open space (for example public open space, amenity open space and playing fields). All major housing proposals. | Development proposals will be required to provide for and maintain appropriate open space, sports and recreational facilities as an integral part of new development. See: OSNA

All major housing applications shall include a detailed breakdown of how the identified | NPPF paras 83, 92, 96-97 Chester le Street RL1, RL3, RL4, RL5 Derwentside HO22 Durham City R1-R5 Sedgefield L1, L2, L5 Teesdale H1A, TR6 |
Applications involving loss of open space should include evidence that:
- It can be demonstrated that open space is surplus to requirements,
- The needs/benefits of the development clearly outweigh the loss,
- Mitigation and/or compensation proposals.

For applications regarding playing fields and playing pitches, refer to Sport England Guidance.

See: PPG Reference ID37

| 23 | Planning Statement | All major planning applications  
Developments requiring a detailed understanding of relevant policy and context  
Applications for Gypsies and Travellers sites. | Assessment of how development accords with relevant national and local planning policies.  
Applications where regeneration benefits are of material significance should detail jobs that might be created or supported, community benefits; and, reference to any relevant regeneration strategies.  
A Planning Statement would be particularly useful where a detailed understanding of specific relevant policy and context is required, such as proposals which may not accord with Local Plan Policies.  
Where development is in an area where large numbers of people are likely to congregate (transport hubs, night time economy venues, cinemas, theatres, sports stadia and arenas, shopping centres, health and education establishments, places of worship, hotels and restaurants, visitor attractions and commercial centres) the statement should identify how the | Wear Valley RL1, RL2  
Easington 90-92  
Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2015 |
The proposal anticipates and addresses potential malicious threats and natural hazards. The assessment should identify the extent of community engagement and consultation undertaken.

The assessment should set out how the proposal accord with the principles of sustainable development.

Where development proposals relate to the creation of pitches (a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site) or plots (a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”)) the application will need to be supported by information and evidence as to the status of the applicants and intended occupiers of the site, falling into the definition of “gypsies and travellers” or “travelling showpeople”.

See: PPG Reference ID 20

### NPPF para 86-90

Chester le Street R1-R3, R6, R7, R15, R16, R19, R21, TM3

Durham City S1A-S13, V6, V7, EMP 13, EMP14

Easington 101, 102, 104, 105

Sedgefield S1, S2, S3, S6, S8, S9, L20

Teesdale SC1-SC6, ECON5, TR1

Wear Valley S1, S2, S6, S7, S8, S12, S16

Derwentside CO5, TO6

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| 24 | Sequential Test and Impact Assessment for Town Centre Uses | Sequential Test: All ‘Main Town Centre Uses’ outside of town centres excluding small scale rural development. Impact Assessment: All ‘Main Town Centre Uses’ outside of town centres with floor areas of more than 2,500sqm. See Annex 2 Glossary in NPPF for definition of ‘Main Town Centre Uses’. | Sequential Test should address the following:
- Has the suitability of more central sites been considered?
- Where the site is an edge of centre or out of centre location, provide justification.
- Is there scope for flexibility in the format and/or scale of the proposal?
- If not in a town centre location, provide evidence that there are no suitable sequentially preferable locations.

Impact Assessment must assess the impact on existing, committed and planned public and private investment in a centre or centres in the NPPF para 86-90 Chester le Street R1-R3, R6, R7, R15, R16, R19, R21, TM3 Durham City S1A-S13, V6, V7, EMP 13, EMP14 Easington 101, 102, 104, 105 Sedgefield S1, S2, S3, S6, S8, S9, L20 Teesdale SC1-SC6, ECON5, TR1 Wear Valley S1, S2, S6, S7, S8, S12, S16 Derwentside CO5, TO6 |
catchment of the proposal and the impact of the proposal on town centre vitality and viability, including local consumer choice and trade in the town centre and wider area, up to 5 years from application submission or 10 years for major schemes.

See: PPG Reference ID2b

| 25 | Structural Survey | Proposals involving the rebuilding or re-use of buildings, such as barn conversions, or listed buildings and other historic buildings. Proposals involving substantial or total demolition of heritage assets where justification is sought on physical condition. | The report must demonstrate that the building is structurally sound, fit for purpose and capable of conversion without extensive re-building. The report should include scaled drawings highlighting areas that require replacement, repair or renewal and identify the extent to which works or repairs are necessary and the amount of new structural work needed to facilitate the conversion. The plans should make clear the retained and new parts of the building, along with a construction methodology setting out how the existing structure will be protected. Where demolition of a heritage asset is proposed the survey should demonstrate why the building cannot be retained, and justification for its loss. | NPPF 195 Teesdale BENV1, BENV13, BENV14, Durham City E8, E22, E23 Wear Valley BE20, BE1 Derwentside EN4, EN14 Sedgefield E18, E22 Easington 24 Chester le Street BE5 |
| 26 | Surface & Foul Water Management including Flood Risk Assessment | Flood Risk Assessment required for: • All development on sites of 1 hectare or more • Operational development of less than 1 hectare in Flood Zone 2 and 3 | Flood Risk Assessments: The FRA should identify and assess the risks of all forms of flooding to and from the development and demonstrate how these flood risks will be managed, taking climate change into account. The FRA should identify opportunities to reduce the probability and consequences of flooding, | NPPF Section 14 Derwentside GDP1 Durham City U8A - U10 Teesdale ENV14-16 & GD1 Wear Valley GD1 Minerals LP M38 Waste LP W26, W27, W28 |
| Change of use resulting in ‘highly vulnerable’ or ‘more vulnerable’ development in Flood Zone 2 and 3 |
| Change of use from water compatible to less vulnerable development in Flood Zone 3 |
| Non-residential extensions with a footprint of less than 250sqm where the development includes culverting or control of any river or stream or any development within 20 metres of the top of a bank of a main river |

Surface and foul water drainage details including Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs) details will be required for:

- Residential developments of 10 or more dwellings or a site of 0.5 hectares or greater
- Non-residential developments of 1,000sqm or more a site of 1 hectare or more.

and address the requirement for safe access to and from the development in areas at risk of flooding. Where the relevant threshold applies, the FRA should include Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs) details.

In addition applications should include specific criteria relating to sequential and exceptions test as detailed below:

**Sequential Test** - applicable to all development in flood zones 2 and 3, and should be undertaken **prior** to a flood risk assessment being completed.

**Exception Test** - following the sequential test, an exception test may need to be applied.

**Sustainable Urban Drainage:**

Outline applications must provide:

- Outline Drainage Strategy Statement
- Preliminary layout indicating how SuDS are to be used across the site
- Outline hydraulic calculations (proposed outfall location, final discharge rate and approximation of on-site storage)
- Ground investigation report (infiltration testing)
- Topographical Survey

Full planning applications must provide:

- Surface Water Drainage Strategy Statement
- Ground investigation report (specifically infiltration testing)
- Detailed layout of SuDS and other drainage
- Topographical Survey (existing and proposed levels)
| 27 | Telecommunications Assessment | All applications for telecommunications equipment | Planning applications and prior notifications for mast and antenna development by mobile phone network operators in England should be accompanied by a range of supplementary information including the area of search, details of any consultation undertaken, details of the proposed structure, and technical justification and information about the proposed development.

Applications should also be accompanied by a signed declaration that the equipment and installation has been designed to be in full compliance with the requirements or the radio frequency (RF) public exposure guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). |

- Full hydraulic Model with Computerised model available on request.
- Evidence of third party agreement for final discharge
- Maintenance schedule and ongoing maintenance responsibilities

Details of the means by which foul water will be disposed of should be detailed in the assessment.

*Further advice is available in:*

Technical [Guidance](#) to the NPPF.

See: [PPG Reference ID7](#)

Environment Agency’s Flood Risk [Standing Advice](#)

NPPF para 113-115
Chester le Street  PU6
Derwentside  CF10
Durham City U1, U2, U3, U4
Teesdale  C7
| 28 | Transport Assessment | A1 Food Retail (Supermarket) - >800sqm  
A1 Non Food Retail - >1500sqm  
A2 Financial & Professional Services - >2500sqm  
A3 Restaurants & Cafes - >2500sqm  
A4 Drinking Establishments - >600sqm  
A5 Hot Food Takeaway - >500sqm  
B1 Business - >2500sqm  
B2 General Industrial - >4000sqm  
B8 Storage or Distribution - >5000sqm  
C1 Hotels - >100 beds  
C2 Residential Institutions (Hospitals and nursing homes) - >50 bed  
C2 Residential Institutions (education) - >150 students  
C2 Residential Institutions (hostels) - >400 residents  
C3 Dwellings - >80 units  
D1 Non Residential Institutions - >1000sqm  
D2 Assembly & leisure - >1500sqm  

Development likely to increase accidents or vehicle/pedestrian conflicts | Where development could potentially have an effect on the operation of the Strategic Road Network, applicants and their agents are encouraged to consult with Highways England before submitting a planning application.  
The Transport Assessment should reflect the scale of the development and the extent of the transport implication and illustrate the sites accessibility by all transport modes, and the likely modal split of journeys to and from the site.  
It should also give details of measures to improve access by public transport, walking and cycling, to address the need for parking associated with the proposal, and to mitigate transport impacts.  
Further Advice is Available in:  
Guidance on Transport Assessment (Department for Transport)  
See: PPG Reference ID 42 | NPPF Section 9  
Chester le Street T17  
Derwentside TR2  
Durham City T1-T8  
Easington 74, 77  
Sedgefield T1, D3  
Teesdale TR10, TR10A, TR11  
Wear Valley T1  
Minerals LP M36, M42, M43  
Waste LP W29, W30, W31, W32, W33 |
| 29 | Transport Statement | A1 Food Retail (Supermarket) - 250-800sqm  
A1 Non Food Retail - 800-1500sqm  
A2 Financial & Professional Services -1000-2500sqm  
A3 Restaurants & Cafes - 300-2500sqm | Where development could potentially have an effect on the operation of the Strategic Road Network, applicants and their agents are encouraged to consult with Highways England before submitting a planning application. | NPPF Section 9  
Chester le Street T17  
Derwentside TR2  
Durham City T1-T8  
Easington 74, 77 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Size/Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A4 Drinking Establishments</td>
<td>300-600sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5 Hot Food Takeaway</td>
<td>250-500sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1 Business</td>
<td>1500-2500sqm</td>
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<tr>
<td>B2 General Industrial</td>
<td>2500-4000sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B8 Storage or Distribution</td>
<td>3000-5000sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1 Hotels</td>
<td>- 75-100 beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2 Residential Institutions</td>
<td>(Hospitals and nursing homes) - 30-50 beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2 Residential Institutions</td>
<td>(education) - 50-150 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2 Residential Institutions</td>
<td>(hostels) - 250-400 residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3 Dwellings</td>
<td>- 50-80 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D1 Non Residential Institutions</td>
<td>500-1000sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2 Assembly &amp; leisure</td>
<td>500-1500sqm</td>
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</table>

Development not in conformity with the development plan

Development generating 30+ two way vehicle movements in an hour

Development generating 100+ two way vehicle movements per day

Development proposing 100+ parking spaces

Development generating significant freight/HGV movements per day or significant abnormal loads per year

Development in a location where transport infrastructure is inadequate

Development within or adjacent to an AQMA

To outlines the transport aspects of the application and give details of proposed measures to improve access by public transport, walking and cycling, to address the need for parking associated with the proposal, and to mitigate transport impacts.

*Further Advice is Available in:*

Guidance on Transport Assessment (Department for Transport)

See: [PPG Reference ID 42](#)

Sedgefield T1, D3
Teesdale TR10, TR10A, TR11
Wear Valley T1
Minerals LP M36, M42, M43
Waste LP W29, W30, W31, W32, W33
| 30 | Travel Plan | A1 Food Retail (Supermarket) - >800sqm  
A1 Non Food Retail - >1500sqm  
A2 Financial & Professional Services - >2500sqm  
A3 Restaurants & Cafes - > 2500sqm  
A4 Drinking Establishments - >6 00sqm  
A5 Hot Food Takeaway - >500sqm  
B1 Business - >2500sqm  
B2 General Industrial - >4000sqm  
B8 Storage or Distribution - >5000sqm  
C1 Hotels - >100 beds  
C2 Residential Institutions (Hospitals and nursing home) - >50 bed  
C2 Residential Institutions (education) - >150 students  
C3 Dwellings - >100 units (at Travel Planners discretion, see Guidance)  
D1 Non Residential Institutions - >1000sqm  
D2 Assembly & leisure - >1500sqm | A Travel Plan should outline the way in which the transport implications of the development are going to be managed in order to ensure the minimum environmental, social and economic impacts.  
It should give details of measures to improve access by public transport, walking, and cycling, to address the need for parking associated with the proposal, and mitigate transport impact.  
There are 4 different types of Travel Plan which are defined as Outline, Framework, Full and STARS; these are expected at different stages of the planning process.  
*Further Advice is Available in:*  
See: PPG Reference ID 42  
Guidance on Travel Plans (Durham County Council) | NPPF para 111  
Chester le Street T17  
Derwentside TR2  
Durham City T1-T8  
Easington 74, 77  
Sedgefield T1, D3  
Teesdale TR10, TR10A, TR11  
Wear Valley T1  
Minerals LP M36, M42, M43  
Waste LP W29, W30, W31, W32, W33 |
| 31 | Tree Assessment | All development where there are mature or semi-mature trees within the site or on land adjacent that could influence or be affected by the development (including street trees).  
Information will be required on which trees are to be retained and on the means of protecting these trees during construction works. This will include an accurate survey of the location and size of the trees, classification, identification of any root protection areas, and likely impact of development on trees.  
Full guidance on the survey information, protection plan and method statement that should be provided with an application is set out in the current BS5837: 2012 Trees in relation to construction. | NPPF part 15  
Chester le Street NE11  
Derwentside EN9-EN12  
Durham City E14, E15  
Easington 1  
Sedgefield E15  
Teesdale ENV9-ENV11 |
<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ventilation/Extraction Statement</th>
<th>All applications for developments where substantial ventilation or extraction equipment is proposed.</th>
<th>Details of the position and design of ventilation and extraction equipment, including noise and odour abatement techniques, Further advice and guidance can be obtained by contacting the Councils Nuisance Action Team and Technical Advice Note – Odour.</th>
<th>NPPF paras 170 and 180 Durham City U5 Teesdale GD1, SC11 Wear Valley GD1, S11 Derwentside GDP1, EN25, EN26 Easington 1 Sedgefield D1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Viability Assessment</td>
<td>For applications when policy-compliant development is not being proposed for viability reasons (e.g. see Meeting Housing Needs above)</td>
<td>The appraisal should include sufficient information to enable an objective review of the scheme, and have regard to the checklist at Appendix C of the RICS guidance note, Financial Viability in Planning. As a minimum, the Council will require a site specific viability report and appraisal including: • Details of floor areas, types &amp; numbers of units • Estimate of sales values including values for affordable housing • Market evidence in support of the sales values • A calculation of the Gross Development Value, with evidence of how it has been derived • Details of all costs to be incurred, including acquisition costs, site preparation costs, external works and infrastructure costs, construction costs, abnormal costs, level of contingency, finance/interest costs, professional fees, marketing costs, agents fees, legal costs and disposal fees • Details of Section 106 Contributions</td>
<td>NPPF Para 57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 34 | Visual Impact Assessment (Townscape/Landscape) | All major proposals or other developments having potential landscape/townscape/visual impacts affecting the character or setting of the Durham Cathedral and Castle World Heritage Site, the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or the Heritage Coast.

Any applications for solar farms.

All wind turbines | Development programme to show pre-build timescales, construction timescales, marketing and sales period and phasing assumptions,

The level of development profit, expressed as profit on cost and/or profit on value.

See: [PPG Reference ID 10](#) |

|  |  | Assessment should include visual representations of the site before and after development using photomontages or artist's impressions.

The submission should include a list of viewpoints to assess the proposal which should be agreed prior to submission of the application.

A detailed visual impact assessment on any receptors including; distance, compass direction, orientation of the receptor to the proposal and the extent of any vision from the receptor point (oblique/direct views), details of any intervening topography/landscaping and manmade features. | NPPF Paragraphs 127, 149, 170-172
Derwentside GDP1, ENS & CF8
Durham City E3, Q5 & Q6
Easington 1
Minerals M22 M23, M24, M36
Sedgefield D1 & D7
Teesdale GD1, ENV2, ENV3 & C5-6
Waste W7, W8, W9,W20 & W33
Wear Valley GD1, ENV2, ENV3 & MW4 |

Further Advice is Available in:

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Edition