

New Forest District Council Local Development Framework

Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Development Management

New Forest District outside the National Park



Foreword by Councillor Paul Vickers

This important document sets out detailed planning policies and proposals for New Forest District outside the National Park (for which the New Forest National Park Authority is the relevant local planning authority).

The Core Strategy, which sets out the broad planning framework for the area, was adopted in October 2009. This second development plan document now sets out detailed proposals and policies by which the Council sees the aims and objectives of the Core Strategy being best achieved.

Preparation of this document involved extensive public consultation and a lengthy Examination conducted by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. I would like to thank all of those who have been involved in the process which has resulted in the Council having in place this statutory development plan that best helps the District's population meet their needs while protecting and enhancing the local environment.

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Section 1: Introduction

What is the 'Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Development Management'?

1.1 This document sets out detailed planning policies and proposals for New Forest District (outside of the National Park) as shown on Figure 1 below. It has been prepared within the planning framework already set out in the adopted Core Strategy for New Forest District outside the National Park (adopted October 2009).

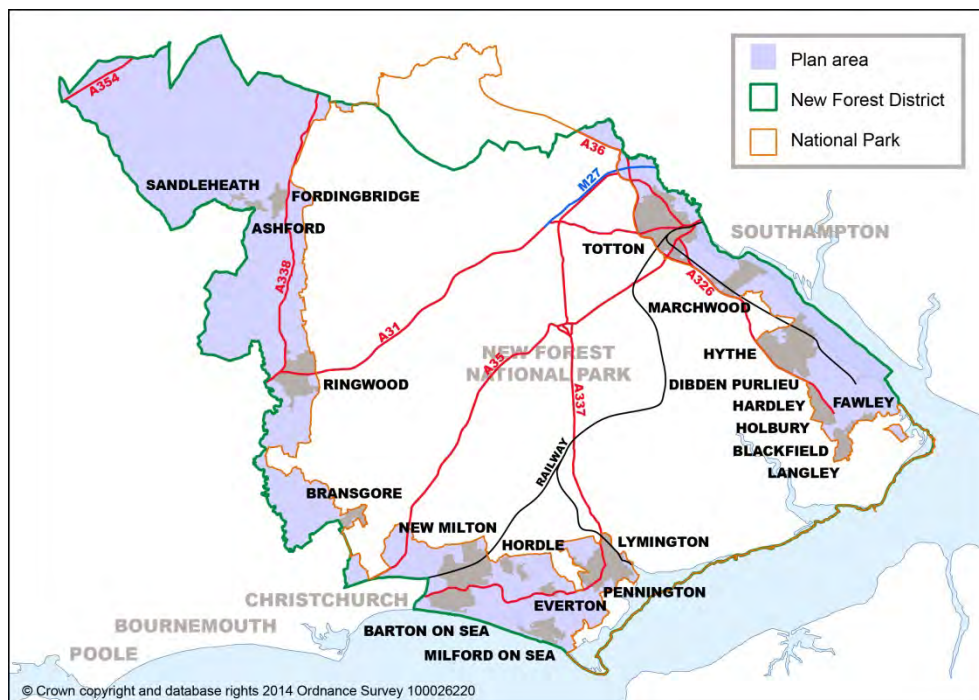


Figure 1: The Plan area – New Forest District outside the National Park

1.2 On the adoption of this document, all of the Council's statutory development plan policies will be set out in two main documents:

- The Core Strategy
- The Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Development Management

together with Policy DW-E12 'Protection of landscape features' from the New Forest District Local Plan First Alteration (adopted August 2005) and the areas protected by that policy shown on the Local Plan Policies Map (formerly known as the Proposals Map), which continues to be a 'saved' part of the Development Plan, pending a future review of the policy.

[Note: the Development Plan for Minerals and Waste is prepared separately – jointly by Hampshire County Council, Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils, and the New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities.]

1.3 These statutory development plan policies are backed up by a range of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) to give detailed guidance on implementation.

The background to this document – the adopted Core Strategy

1.4 The proposals in this document have been prepared within the framework of the adopted “Core Strategy” for New Forest District outside the National Park (the New Forest National Park Authority is a separate planning authority). The Core Strategy was adopted in October 2009 and forms the key part of the statutory development plan. It sets out the planning objectives and strategy for the area. The Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Development Management sets out detailed policies and proposals to help achieve the Core Strategy’s objectives.

1.5 The planning strategy (as set out in the Core Strategy) aims to protect and, where possible, enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the various parts of the Plan area, and to avoid adding to harmful pressures on the sensitive and nationally important areas in and near to the Plan area (including the New Forest National Park). But it also recognises the local need to provide for a limited amount of necessary new development to help maintain the economic vitality of the area, to provide for community needs and to make some impact on the need for housing which is affordable to local people. This is a fine balance.

1.6 The Core Strategy document can be seen at newforest.gov.uk/planningpolicy It looks ahead to the year 2026 and includes:

- a summary description of the key features and issues affecting the area;
- a vision for the future of the area;
- strategic objectives;
- general principles that will be applied to the future planning of the area to ensure a high quality of sustainable development and to protect and enhance the area’s qualities as a place to live, work and visit; to ensure protection and enhancement of nature conservation and biodiversity; to minimise energy and resource use; to achieve safe and healthy communities; and to provide for community needs including open space and recreation; and
- the spatial planning strategy for the area – covering such matters as housing development, employment and business development, town centres, tourism, the rural economy, and transport needs – with future development contributing towards meeting the area’s needs and enhancing the environment.

1.7 In broad terms, the Core Strategy sets out the general level and location for development in the Plan area, but it does not identify specific locations. That is one of the main purposes of this document.

What has been done to prepare this document?

1.8 The diagram in Figure 2 summarises the process for preparing this Development Plan Document (DPD).

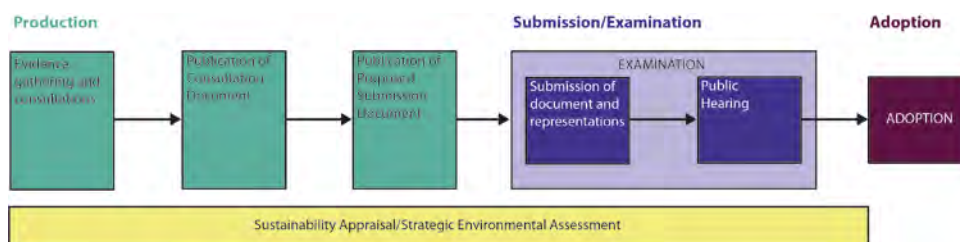


Figure 2: Stages in document preparation

1.9 A great deal of evidence gathering and consultations with other people and organisations has been necessary in order to prepare this document. The evidence used in preparing the Core Strategy has also been drawn on. The evidence is set out in a series of Background Papers which are listed in Appendix 1 to this document. All Background Papers can be seen at newforest.gov.uk/planningpolicy.

1.10 The Council's Consultation Statement summarises the consultation that has been carried out in working up this document and draws out the main issues raised and how these issues have been addressed. The key stage of the consultation was the publication of the Sites and Development Management Development Plan Document (DPD) Consultation Document for extensive public consultation in early 2011, but there has been a substantial amount of informal consultation throughout the period of preparing the document.

Replacement of Local Plan

1.11 On the adoption of the Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Development Management all remaining policies in the Local Plan, except Policy DW-E12, will have been superseded and will no longer be in force.

How is this document set out?

1.12 The structure of this document follows the structure of the Core Strategy.

1.13 Section 2 sets out Development Management policies that would apply to a relevant situation anywhere in the Plan area. Most of the necessary Development Management Policies are already included in the adopted Core Strategy, or are included in National Planning Policy. Section 2 of this document only includes additional policies that are considered to be needed to provide a proper basis for local development management.

1.14 Sections 3 to 5 set out, for each of the towns and larger villages in the Plan area, site specific proposals to meet the requirements of the Core Strategy. These proposals do not only deal with new development. They also include, for example, proposals regarding open space and green infrastructure, and cycle routes and footpaths.

- Section 3 deals with Totton and the Waterside (including Totton and Eling, Marchwood, Hythe and Dibden, Hardley, Holbury, Blackfield, Langley and Fawley).

- Section 4 deals with the coastal towns area and villages (including Lymington, Milford on Sea, Hordle, Everton and New Milton)
- Section 5 deals with Bransgore and Sopley, Ringwood, Fordingbridge, Ashford and Sandeheath, the Avon Valley and Downlands.

1.15 The Core Strategy policies, relevant national policies and the proposed general development management policies set out in Section 2 apply where relevant to all of the proposals in Sections 3, 4 and 5.