

Stonesfield Parish Council



Basic Conditions Statement: Addendum

22 April 2026

Stonesfield Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement

Addendum 22 April 2026

The draft Stonesfield Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to West Oxfordshire District Council on 27 November 2025. The accompanying Basic Conditions Statement assessed the policies of the draft Neighbourhood Plan against the Basic Conditions as set out in the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

On 25 March 2026, Sections 98 and 99 of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023 came into force. In relation to neighbourhood plans, sections 98 and 99 amend the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in respect of the legal compliance and the Basic Conditions requirements.

This addendum to the Stonesfield Basic Conditions Statement identifies how the policies in the draft Neighbourhood Plan satisfy Sections 98 and 99 of the LURA.

In summary, the further legal measures require, so far as the qualifying body considers appropriate, and having regard to the subject matter of the plan:

- that the plan must be designed to secure that the development and use of land in the neighbourhood area contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change; and
- that the plan must be designed to take account of any local nature recovery strategy under section 104 of the Environment Act 2021 that relates to all or part of the neighbourhood plan area.

In addition, there is a new Basic Condition requirement that:

- the making of the neighbourhood development plan would not result in the development plan for the area of the authority proposing that less housing is provided by means of development taking place in that area than if the neighbourhood development plan were not to be made.

This replaces the former Basic Condition that the neighbourhood plan be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area.

Fig BC-Add1: Compliance with the provisions of Sections 98 and 99 of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Policy title	Does the policy contribute to ensuring that the use of land in the neighbourhood area contributes to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change?	Does the policy take account of any local nature recovery strategy* under the Environment Act 2021 that relates to all or part of the neighbourhood area?	Would the policy result in the local development plan proposing that less housing is provided by development in that area than if the Neighbourhood plan were not to be made?
SH1	Meeting the housing needs of the parish of Stonesfield	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it requires that as it is within the CNL, the landscape and scenic beauty have the highest level of protection and therefore permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SH2	Size and type of homes	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	It sets out to promote development of smaller homes by specifying the recommended proportion of new homes with 1-2 bedrooms, 3 bedrooms and 4 bedrooms; and does not support more homes with five or more bedrooms.
SH3	Mix of affordable rented housing	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan

SH4	Affordable homes	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SH5	Meeting the needs of older people and those with disabilities	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SH6	Lower-cost housing	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SH7	Location of new affordable homes (Rural exception sites)	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SH8	Infill development	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it requires that developments in infill locations protect wildlife habitats in a residential garden from loss, contributes to a net gain in biodiversity and is compliant with Policy SEL4.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SH9	Sub-division of dwellings to create smaller units	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan

SH10	Development in residential gardens	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it requires developments in residential gardens to protect existing wildlife habitats against loss, and to contribute to a net gain in biodiversity.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SH11	Residential parking	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEA1	Protecting and enhancing retail, employment and services	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEA2	Protecting community facilities	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
ST1	Sustainable transport	Yes – it promotes the use of public transport, access to it and improved bus services	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
ST2	Road safety & easy access for all	Yes – it requires that development proposals do not substantially increase traffic congestion	Yes – it supports development proposals to enhance access to green spaces and pathways for wheelchair users, mobility scooters, buggies and people with limited mobility or disabilities.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan

ST3	Walking and cycling	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it calls for better availability of dedicated walking, wheeling and cycling paths to neighbouring villages and towns, with due regard for the character, aesthetics, flora and fauna of those routes.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
ST4	Non-residential parking	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SHW1	Working towards better health and wellbeing	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it promotes the importance of natural spaces in contributing to physical and mental wellbeing.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SHW2	Protecting and enhancing local sports facilities	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it requires that developments should not result in the loss of open space except under certain conditions, and that where appropriate, developments should contribute to improvements in open spaces (and other recreational facilities).	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEL1	Protecting the Cotswolds National Landscape	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it requires development proposals to preserve and enhance the landscape, natural beauty and existing scenic value of the CNL.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan

SEL2	Protecting important views	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it requires developments to respect the landscape, and to respect and have no unacceptable impact on the views of the landscape.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEL3	Protecting the Evenlode Valley and the adjacent dip-slope lowland	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it requires developments outside the existing housing settlement boundary to respect and enhance the landscape.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEL4	Protecting Stonesfield's Local Green Spaces	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it protects green areas of importance to the village for sport, physical activity and amenity use for the health and wellbeing of the community. It also meets NRP recommendation that Parish Councils designate local green spaces.	The policy will not support housing development on Local Green Spaces except in very exceptional circumstances – but this should not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEL5	Blue/green corridors	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it seeks to protect and enhance these particularly important wildlife corridors (all CTAs) and to provide for biodiversity gain e.g. by tree planting, management of limestone grassland, wildflower meadow, butterfly conservation. Links to the NRP's ambition on community involvement and conservation volunteering.	The policy will not support housing development in the three named blue/green corridors – but this should not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan

SEL6	Biodiversity	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – it provides for net biodiversity gain of at least 20%. It has been taken into account by Stonesfield Parish Council's Biodiversity Plan.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEL7	Protecting footpaths	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Yes – the protection it offers to footpaths provides continuing public access to the natural environment, contributing to health and wellbeing.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEL8	Water quality, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and flood risk management	Yes – it provides measures to mitigate against increase in flood or pollution risk in Stonesfield and along the Evenlode Valley.	Yes – it is concerned with flood management and could provide for strengthened connection with the OCC Flood Management team.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SEL9	Tranquillity and dark skies	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SHE1	Heritage and archaeology	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan. It makes specific requirements for development proposals' potential impact on heritage assets.
SHE2	Protecting non-designated heritage assets	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan. It makes specific

				requirements for development proposals' potential impact on non-heritage assets.
SBD1	Locally appropriate design: Development and new buildings	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan. It makes specific requirements for development proposals to preserve or enhance the character of the area.
SBD2	Locally appropriate design: Listed buildings, non-designated heritage assets and existing buildings	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to climate change	Neutral – it does not contain matters relating to the content of the nature recovery strategy	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan. It makes specific requirements for development proposals to preserve or enhance the character of the area.
SBD3	Locally appropriate design: Natural environment	Yes – it makes requirements on developments not to increase the risk of flooding from surface drainage or pollution, in the village or into the Rver Evenlode	Yes – it requires that development in the countryside beyond the current settlement area is only permitted in exceptional circumstances.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan
SBD4	Environmental design standards: New developments and refurbishments	Yes – it includes requirements for demonstration of excellent environmental performance of new developments and refurbishments	Yes –it requires protection of dry stone walls and other aspects of development that would risk damaging existing biodiversity.	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan

SBD5	Environmental design standards: Listed buildings, non-designated heritage assets and existing buildings	Yes – it includes requirements for consideration of improved environmental performance of buildings, including thermal efficiency related to alterations and extensions to heritage assts and other buildings	Yes – it includes requirements for consideration of improved environmental performance of buildings, including thermal efficiency related to alterations and extensions to heritage assts and other buildings	No – it does not prevent delivery of the housing requirements of the Local Plan

* The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for the area that includes the area of the Stonesfield Neighbourhood Plan is the West Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Plan 2024-2030.