



MEETING PAPER

Subject: Updates to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Meeting: Planning Committee

Date: 13th February 2025

CONFIDENTIAL/NON-CONFIDENTIAL

The Government has issued an update on the proposed reforms to the NPPF following a consultation.

A [document](#) has been provided to set out the changes the Government has made in response to the main points raised in the consultation (and where the Government has not made changes, the reasons are provided) these areas include:

- Planning for the homes we need
- A new Standard Method for assessing housing needs
- Brownfield, grey belt and green belt
- Delivering affordable, well-designed homes and places
- Building infrastructure to grow the economy
- Delivering community needs
- Supporting green energy and the environment
- Changes to local plan intervention criteria
- Changes to planning application fees and costs recovery for local authorities related to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
- The future of planning policy and plan making
- Public Sector Equality Duty

Each section sets out the questions posed in the consultation and summarises the responses received and the Government's own response in turn.

Information on the New Standard Method to calculate Indicative Local Housing Need has been found on the Government website and uploaded separately as an excel spreadsheet. This was also included on the consultation and the Government provided the following introductory paragraph in their response to the consultation:

Having carefully considered the responses received, we intend to introduce a new standard method that uses housing stock to set a baseline figure. The method will use 0.8% of existing stock as the baseline, in line with the proposals as consulted on. As noted in the consultation, over the last 10 years housing stock has grown nationally by around 0.89%. Setting a baseline of 0.8% provides a consistent base for growth, which is then increased to reflect housing affordability pressures, setting ambitious expectations across the country while directing housing to where it is most needed.