Town & Country Planning Association (TCPA)

Culture and Sport Planning Toolkit
and
Improving culture, arts and sporting opportunities through planning: a good practice guide

May 2013

Examples of planning policies for culture, arts, sport and leisure, and historic environment
This scoping note identifies a snapshot of examples of recent adopted and emerging Local Plans. The aim is to illustrate the range of Local Plan policies which enable and provide opportunities for culture, arts and sport.

Examples are from (in chronological order):
  1. Hertsmere
  2. South Oxfordshire
  3. South Staffordshire
  4. Bournemouth
  5. St Helens
  7. Central Lancashire authorities Joint Core Strategy
  8. Doncaster
  9. London Borough of Ealing
 10. London Plan 2011
 11. City of London
 12. Wiltshire District Council
 13. West Northants Authorities
Hertsmere Local Plan DPD Core Strategy, Adopted January 2013

**Policy CS14 Protection or enhancement of heritage assets**
All development proposals must conserve or enhance the historic environment of the Borough in order to maintain and where possible improve local environmental quality. Development proposals should be sensitively designed to a high quality and not cause harm to identified, protected sites, buildings or locations of heritage or archaeological value including Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Ancient Monuments or their setting, and identified and as yet unidentified Archaeological Remains. The Council will take account of available historic environment characterisation work, including Conservation Area appraisals and archaeological assessments, when making decisions affecting heritage assets and their settings.

**Policy CS15 Promoting recreational access to open spaces and the countryside**
The Council will work with its partners and relevant agencies to safeguard enhance and facilitate access to parks, open spaces, rural visitor attractions and to the wider local countryside. i)
specifically enhances access for the local population
ii) does not harm the character, appearance and openness of the Green Belt, landscape and wider countryside;

...

**Policy CS19 Key community facilities**
Proposals for the provision or dual use of key community facilities, including educational, healthcare and recreational facilities, will be supported, subject to any environmental constraints and other relevant policies. The loss, reduction or displacement of facilities and sites will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that they are surplus to the needs of the local community or are no longer fit for purpose. It should also be demonstrated that there is no reasonable scope for alternative community uses to be provided and that any required, replacement accommodation elsewhere is satisfactory for all of its users, having regard to the provisions of Policy CS21.

South Oxfordshire, Adopted December 2012

**LOCAL DISTINCTIVENESS**

**Policy CST1 Town centres and shopping**
The district’s town and village centres will be supported and strengthened to ensure that they continue to be the focus of communities. Initiatives which safeguard and enhance their role and function will be supported.
To achieve the long term success of our centres development proposals will be permitted which:
• Provide further retail and leisure uses within the town and larger village centres through infill development and small scale redevelopment;
• Diversify the town centres to provide uses which are complementary to retail, while not undermining the town’s retail role, including where appropriate mixed-use developments, uses which contribute to the evening economy, community facilities and upper floor residential and office uses;
• Reinforce the local distinctiveness of our market towns, improve their vitality and viability and encourage more visits.

**Policy CSEN3 Historic Environment**
The district’s designated historic heritage assets, both above and below ground such as:
• nationally designated assets including listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, historic battlefields and Scheduled Ancient Monuments;
• conservation areas; and
• their settings will be conserved and enhanced for their historic significance and their important contribution to local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.
This will be carried out through:
• conservation area appraisals/reviews;
• management plans;
• designating new conservation areas where appropriate;
• the determination of planning, listed building consent and other relevant applications.
Proposals for development that affect non-designated historic assets will be considered taking account of the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

Policy CSQ4 Design briefs for greenfield neighbourhoods and major development sites
Proposals for housing allocations and major development sites must be accompanied by a design brief that includes the following:
(i) A Vision – a clear vision for the type of place that could be created building on the overall vision for the district and town;
...
(iii) A Design Brief which must demonstrate:
• integration with the surrounding area both built and natural, in particular maximising existing and potential movement connections with the existing environment to encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport;
• quality of development and positive sense of place and identity;
• high level of accessibility and good connections to public transport, community facilities and local services;
• community facilities, suitable infrastructure and other amenities to meet the needs of all the community, including the provision of education and training facilities, health care, community, leisure and recreation facilities;
• a clear structure of open spaces and landscape network to ensure that open space standards are met and that the new spaces relate well to each other and to existing areas;
South Staffordshire Core Strategy DPD, Adopted December 2012

Core Policy 14: Open Space, Sport and Recreation
The Council will work with its partners to promote and provide an appropriate network of high quality accessible open space, sport and recreation facilities that meet the needs of South Staffordshire’s current and future population and encourage active participation in sport and recreation by all members of the community including adults and older people. This will be achieved by:

a) safeguarding all existing open space, sport and recreation facilities, including playing pitches from loss or displacement where there is a proven and existing need in accordance with Policy HWB1;
b) supporting and securing additional provision and the enhancement of the existing quantity, quality and accessibility of open space, sport and recreation facilities as informed by the Council’s evidence base including the Sports Facilities Statement, Open Space Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy. The following priorities will be supported:
   • improving access to school sports facilities through secured community use agreements •
   • encouraging a broader range of sports opportunities on school sites • to maintain and replace/refurbish swimming pools and sports halls in the District to ensure the facilities are fit for purpose
   • delivery of projects targeting adult and older people; and
c) allocating sites for new open space, sport and recreation facilities to meet local needs;
d) supporting the use of community and village halls for indoor sport and recreation;
e) supporting proposals that improve access to facilities, particularly by sustainable means of transport;
g) giving a commitment to the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document on Open Space, Sport and Recreation and to produce a comprehensive strategy for indoor and outdoor sports.

The standards for quantity, quality and accessibility for open space, sport and recreation provision will be set out in the Supplementary Planning Document.

New development will be expected to make provision, or a contribution towards the provision and/or improvement, of open space, sport and recreation facilities in accordance with Policy EQ13.

Policies supporting Core Policy 14:
Policy HWB1: Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities
The Council will not permit the loss or displacement of existing indoor and outdoor open space, sport and recreation facilities to other uses unless it can be demonstrated through up-to-date and robust evidence that:

a) there is a proven surplus of provision and the site is no longer needed, or is unlikely to be required in the future; or
b) an alternative facility of an equal quantity and quality or higher standard will be provided in at least an equally convenient and accessible location to serve the same local community.

Where such spaces and/or facilities are lost, any replacement must be provided and made available for use before existing facilities are lost.

Policy HWB2: Green Infrastructure
The Council will support the protection, maintenance and enhancement of a network of open space, natural and semi-natural green space in South Staffordshire and cross boundary links. The network of green infrastructure should provide safe, accessible, high quality links between recreational areas and facilities, residential, leisure and commercial areas and also provide cross boundary links as well as access to the wider countryside. Such links should provide for walking, cycling and horse riding.
Bournemouth Borough Council Core Strategy, Adopted October 2012

Policy CS29 Protecting Tourism and Cultural Facilities
Development resulting in the loss of sites or premises used or last used, as a tourist or cultural facility will be resisted.
In allowing a change of use from a tourist or cultural facility the planning authority will have regard to maintaining:
• the function of the area in relation to the tourism industry and the local community; and
• the character and appearance of the area.

Policy CS31 Recreation, Play and Sports
The Local Planning Authority will refuse planning permission for development that results in the loss of public and private open spaces, including sports grounds and play grounds, which contribute to the recreational, visual, ecological or environmental value of an area or contribute to a network of green infrastructure, except where it is demonstrated to be underused and surplus to requirements and the benefits arising from development outweigh the loss of the space.
The Council, through its own strategies and work programmes, and working with developers and other partners will seek to ensure that the quality, quantity, type and location of open space, sports grounds and play grounds meet demand for recreation and sporting activities.
New residential development will be required to assist in the delivery of open space and recreational facilities.

Policy CS39 Designated Heritage Assets
The Local Planning Authority will seek to protect designated heritage assets from demolition, inappropriate alterations, extensions or other proposals that would adversely affect their significance.

Policy CS40 Local Heritage Assets
The Local Planning Authority will seek to protect local heritage assets by only supporting development that sustains or enhances the significance of the heritage assets.
Where a proposal for alteration, extension or demolition is likely to affect a local heritage asset or its setting, the developer will be required to submit an assessment of that asset and indicate the impact of the proposal on the asset.

Policy CS41 Quality Design
The Council will seek to ensure that all development and spaces are well designed and of a high quality. Development should, through its scale, density, layout, siting, character and appearance be designed to respect the site and its surroundings, provide a high standard of amenity to meet the day to day requirements of future occupants, and contribute positively to the appearance and safety of the public realm.
The Council will seek to ensure that new developments, including changes of use, enhance the character, local distinctiveness, cultural identity, amenities of future occupants and neighbouring residents. New developments should also aim to conserve and improve landscape and townscape, biodiversity and habitats.
The Council will encourage all new residential developments to meet Building for Life standards. Development which by virtue of its design would be detrimental to the built environment, amenity or character of any part of the Borough will not be permitted.
St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council Core Strategy, Adopted October 2012

Policy CQL 1 Green Infrastructure
The Council will protect, manage, enhance and where appropriate expand the Green Infrastructure network in the following ways:
1. Identify the network and prepare detailed policies, in the Sustainable Development and Allocations DPDs, for its protection taking account of the standards for open space provision derived from the Open Space Study;
2. Reinforce the protection of greenways and linkages between sites;
3. Support the delivery of programmes and strategies to enhance allotment provision, sports provision and youth and children’s play facilities;
4. Promote and improve the accessibility of open space within walking distance of housing, health, employment and education facilities;
5. Require new development to contribute to the expansion and/or improvement of Green Infrastructure in accordance with local circumstances; and
6. Support open space improvements through a programme of Green Flag designation.

Policy CQL 4 Heritage and Landscape
The Council will protect, conserve, preserve and enhance St.Helens historic built environment and landscape character including designated and undesignated heritage assets such as Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, archaeological sites and buildings and structures of local interest by:
1. Protecting landscape character as well as important urban open space from development which would harm these assets;
2. Enhancing the value of St.Helens' historic built environment and landscape character by implementing Conservation Area Management Plans, education, interpretation and public access measures;
3. Ensuring all new development respects the significance and distinctive quality of the built and historic environment and landscape character and is of a high standard of design, reinforcing St.Helens' local distinctiveness; and
4. Ensuring that all development is located and designed in a way that is sensitive to its historic landscape and setting and retains or enhances the character and context.

Policy CQL 5 Social Infrastructure
Social Infrastructure including health, education, neighbourhood retail or leisure, built sports, cultural, emergency service and community facilities and institutions will be protected, provided and enhanced to support sustainable communities by:
1. Protecting existing facilities from their loss where there is an identified need;
2. Supporting improvements to provision where there is an identified need;
3. Safeguarding and allocating sites where there is an identified, planned provision;
4. Where appropriate, secure developer contributions to enhance provision of social infrastructure;
5. Requiring new Social Infrastructure to be located in sustainable locations, and where possible be clustered with other facilities
London Borough of Barnet Core Strategy, Adopted September 2012

Policy CS 5 - Protecting and enhancing Barnet’s character to create high quality places
We will ensure that development in Barnet respects local context and distinctive local character creating places and buildings of high quality design. Developments should:
• address the principles, aims and objectives set out in the following national design guidance:
  ...
  • provide vibrant, attractive and accessible public spaces
  • respect and enhance the distinctive natural landscapes of Barnet
  ...

Heritage and Character
We will work with partners to proactively protect and enhance Barnet’s heritage including conservation areas, listed buildings, locally listed buildings, registered parks and gardens; scheduled monuments, areas of archaeological significance and London’s only battlefield site.
  ...
We will ensure through our programme of Conservation Area Character Appraisals that these areas are protected and enhanced.
We will ensure through our Green Infrastructure SPD that the key characteristics of Barnet’s landscape (Barnet Plateau and Finchley Ridge) are protected and enhanced
We will encourage community involvement in the review of the Local List of important local buildings
The Barnet Characterisation Study forms the baseline for the identification of places with a consistent and coherent architectural character. Within the typologies identified in the Characterisation Study we will through our Development Management Policies DPD and Residential Design Guidance SPD develop a framework to protect and enhance those high quality suburbs in Barnet not protected by Conservation Area designations.

Policy CS 7 - Enhancing and Protecting Barnet’s Open Spaces
In order to maximise the benefits that open spaces can deliver and create a greener Barnet we will work with our partners to improve Barnet’s Green Infrastructure. We will create a greener Barnet by:
  ...
  • ensuring that the character of green spaces of historic significance is protected
  • meeting increased demand for access to open space and opportunities for physical activity, by tackling deficiencies and under provision through:
    ...
    • securing improvements to open spaces including provision for children’s play, sports facilities and better access arrangements, where opportunities arise, from all developments that create an additional demand for open space. Standards for new provision are set out in DM 15 – Green Belt and Open Spaces

Policy CS 10 – Enabling Inclusive and Integrated Community Facilities and Uses
The council will work with our partners to ensure that community facilities including schools, libraries, leisure centres and pools, places of worship, arts and cultural facilities, community meeting places and facilities for younger and older people, are provided for Barnet’s communities.
We will:
• promote the role of schools as ‘community hubs’, providing a wide range of educational, advice, leisure and support services to children, families and the wider community
• support the enhancement and inclusive design of community facilities ensuring their efficient use, and the provision of multi-purpose community hubs that can provide a range of services to the community at a single accessible location
• expect development that increases the demand for community facilities and services to make appropriate contributions towards new and accessible facilities, particularly within the regeneration and development areas of the borough or improving existing provision, particularly within town centres
...
Central Lancashire Joint Core Strategy, Adopted July 2012

Policy 12: Culture and Entertainment Facilities Plan for culture and entertainment by:
(b) Protecting existing cultural assets with a view to helping them to adapt to new challenges;
(c) Promoting public art and public realm works in town centres and gateways and seeking developer contribution funding where appropriate;
(d) Encouraging cultural and heritage based tourism and leisure facilities, such as restaurants, cinemas, theatres and museums, particularly in Preston City Centre.

Policy 16: Heritage Assets
Protect and seek opportunities to enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings by:
a) Safeguarding heritage assets from inappropriate development that would cause harm to their significances.
b) Supporting development or other initiatives where they protect and enhance the local character, setting, management and historic significance of heritage assets, with particular support for initiatives that will improve any assets that are recognised as being in poor condition, or at risk.
c) Identifying and adopting a local list of heritage assets for each Authority.

Policy 24: Sport and Recreation
Ensure that everyone has the opportunity to access good sport, physical activity and recreation facilities (including children’s play) by:
(a) Devising robust minimum local standards based on quantified needs, accessibility and qualitative factors, through seeking developer contributions (either in the form of new provision or financial payment in lieu) where new development would result in a shortfall in provision.
(b) Protecting existing sport and recreation facilities, unless they are proven to be surplus to requirements or unless improved alternative provision is to be made.
(c) Developing minimum local sport and recreation standards in a Supplementary Planning Document.
(d) Identifying sites for major new facilities where providers have evidence of need.
Doncaster Council Core Strategy 2011-2028, Adopted May 2012

Policy CS1: Quality of Life
As a means to securing and improving economic prosperity, enhancing the quality of place, and the quality of life in Doncaster, proposals will be supported which contribute to the Core Strategy objectives, and in particular:
A) Provide opportunity for people to get jobs, learn new skills, and have access to good quality housing, local services, sport, leisure, religious and cultural facilities.
B) Strengthen communities and enhance their well-being by providing a benefit to the area in which they are located, and ensuring healthy, safe places where existing amenities are protected. [...]  

Policy CS8: Doncaster Town Centre
Doncaster town centre will continue to be developed as a thriving and accessible retail, office and leisure destination of regional importance with a range of high quality services and businesses, homes and excellent cultural and further education facilities. [...]  

Policy CS15: Valuing Our Historic Environment
Doncaster’s historic environment will be preserved, protected or enhanced in accordance with the principles set out below.
A) Proposals and initiatives will be supported which preserve and, where appropriate, enhance the heritage significance and setting of the borough’s heritage assets, especially those elements which contribute to the distinct identity of the borough.
B) Proposals will be supported which protect or enhance the heritage significance and setting of locally identified heritage assets such as buildings of local architectural or historic interest, locally important archaeological sites and parks and gardens of local interest.
C) Proposals will be supported which respect and enhance key views and vistas, especially of the spires and towers of Doncaster’s historic churches, particularly St George’s Minster and Christ Church in Doncaster town centre.

Policy CS17: Providing Green Infrastructure
Doncaster’s green infrastructure network (including key green wedges) will be protected, maintained, enhanced and, where possible, extended, based on the principles set out below.
A) Proposals will be supported which make an overall contribution to the green infrastructure network by:
1. including measures, either on or off site, that are of an appropriate size, shape, scale and type and that have regard to the nature of the proposal and its potential impact;
2. contributing to the delivery of identified opportunities and priorities;
3. providing for appropriate long term maintenance and management; and:
4. avoiding damage to or loss of green infrastructure assets or, where loss is unavoidable and the benefits of the development outweigh the loss, including appropriate compensation measures.
B) Proposals will be supported which reduce, and help people and wildlife adapt to, the impacts of climate change; for example by promoting more naturalised forms of flood storage along the regionally important rivers Don and Dearne and locally important watercourses; or incorporating tree planting within developments.
C) Proposals will be supported which contribute to an attractive and connected environment by:
1. creating and/or enhancing green corridors (potentially including footpaths) that link urban areas to the wider countryside and the public footpath and bridleway network;
2. creating and/or enhancing links from areas of growth (as identified under the Growth and Regeneration Strategy - Policy CS2) to green spaces and assets within existing urban areas;
3. incorporating assets that define and soften the edges of settlements to provide a high quality transition between urban and rural areas particularly at urban green field extensions; and;
4. preventing fragmentation of habitats, creating linkages and enabling wildlife to move around the ecological network.
D) Proposals will be supported which have regard to local standards and opportunities, and help to address deficiencies, by making an appropriate contribution to sport, recreation and related community uses, including:
1. providing well designed and accessible, sport, recreation and open space facilities (including children’s play space and parks) that meet the needs of the proposal and the wider community; and;
2. providing suitable and appropriate, on-site open space (or an equivalent contribution towards off-site provision).
London Borough of Ealing, Development (or Core) Strategy, Approved April 2012

Policy 5.5 Promoting Parks, Local Green Space and Addressing Deficiency
The council will seek:
(a) To protect open space of local value required for informal recreation, including for walking, jogging, gardening and food growing.
[...] (d) To make provision for a network of green ways through parks and open spaces as a means of encouraging walking and cycling and running for recreation and to get to and from local destinations.
(e) To promote the use of parks for events and other activities, providing this is managed in a sensitive and compatible manner

Policy 5.6 Outdoor Sports and Active Recreation
The council will:
(a) Protect and promote a network of sports grounds and other active recreation areas in the borough. Sites identified as being of strategic and local importance for outdoor sports will be protected and promoted primarily for this function.
(b) Seek to develop a sports hub as part of this network, with a range of sports provision in the Gurnell area, and the development of several strategic ‘satellite sites’ located strategically to serve communities across the borough.
(c) Seek to secure developer contributions to provide a key funding source for the delivery of various priority projects.

Policy 6.2 Social Infrastructure
Social infrastructure includes affordable housing, education, children’s services, provision for older people and independent living, health care, employment, community safety, culture, leisure and community services (including libraries, community centres, places of worship, police, fire, ambulance facilities, and cemeteries) The following requirements have been identified to date:
[...]
• Culture, Sports and Leisure - Enhance buildings and spaces through developments that enable cultural activity to take place for the benefit of its community. Retain Ealing as the green heart of West London and improve access to open and built leisure uses e.g. through co-location with other services. The targets for housing and employment development provide an opportunity to modernise and improve facilities, but they also place pressure on the environment. Links between future leisure provision and the health/PCT agenda are vital in improving the health and well-being of the existing and new population.
The council’s own assets and land can be used to stimulate development and provide much of the land for local infrastructure. These assets can have added value if they also provide accommodation for other local service providers, e.g. health, sports and leisure facilities etc
London Plan 2011

Policy 2.18 Green Infrastructure: the network of open and green spaces
Strategic
A The Mayor will work with all relevant strategic partners to protect, promote, expand and manage the extent and quality of, and access to, London’s network of green infrastructure. This multifunctional network will secure benefits including, but not limited to: biodiversity; natural and historic landscapes; culture; building a sense of place; the economy; sport; recreation; local food production; mitigating and adapting to climate change; water management; and the social benefits that promote individual and community health and well-being. […]

Policy 3.16 Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure
Strategic
A London requires additional and enhanced social infrastructure provision to meet the needs of its growing and diverse population […]

Policy 3.19 Sports facilities
Strategic
A The Mayor’s Sports Legacy Plan aims to increase participation in, and tackle inequality of access to, sport and physical activity in London particularly amongst groups/areas with low levels of participation.
Planning decisions
B Development proposals that increase or enhance the provision of sports and recreation facilities will be supported. Proposals that result in a net loss of sports and recreation facilities, including playing fields should be resisted. Temporary facilities may provide the means of mitigating any loss as part of proposals for permanent re-provision. Wherever possible, multi-use public facilities for sport and recreational activity should be encouraged. The provision of floodlighting should be supported in areas where there is an identified need for sports facilities to increase sports participation opportunities, unless the floodlighting gives rise to demonstrable harm to local community or biodiversity.
C Where sports facility developments are proposed on existing open space, they will need to be considered carefully in light of policies on Green Belt and protecting open space (Chapter 7) as well as the borough’s own assessment of needs and opportunities for both sports facilities and for green multifunctional open space. […]

Policy 4.6 Support for and enhancement of arts, culture, sport and entertainment provision
Strategic
A The Mayor will, and boroughs and other stakeholders should, support the continued success of London’s diverse range of arts, cultural, professional sporting and entertainment enterprises and the cultural, social and economic benefits that they offer to its residents, workers and visitors. […]
Planning decisions
B Developments should:
a fulfil the sequential approach and where necessary, complete an impact assessment (see Policy 4.7)
b be located on sites where there is good existing or planned access by public transport
c be accessible to all sections of the community, including disabled and older people
d address deficiencies in facilities and provide a cultural focus to foster more sustainable local communities.
LDF preparation
C In preparing LDFs, boroughs should:
a enhance and protect creative work and performance spaces and related facilities in particular in areas of defined need
b support the temporary use of vacant buildings for performance and creative work
c designate and develop cultural quarters to accommodate new arts, cultural and leisure activities, enabling them to contribute more effectively to regeneration
d promote and develop existing and new cultural and visitor attractions especially in outer London and where they can contribute to regeneration and town centre renewal
e develop innovative approaches to managing pressures on high volume visitor areas and their environments
f identify, manage and co-ordinate strategic and more local clusters of evening and night time entertainment activities to
– address need,
– provide public transport, policing and environmental services; and
– minimise impact on other land uses taking account of the cumulative effects of night time uses and saturation levels beyond which they have unacceptable impacts on the environmental standards befitting a world city and quality of life for local residents
g provide arts and cultural facilities in major mixed use developments
h seek to enhance the economic contribution and community role of arts, cultural, professional sporting and entertainment facilities.

Policy 7.1 Building London’s neighbourhoods and communities

Strategic
A In their neighbourhoods, people should have a good quality environment in an active and supportive local community with the best possible access to services, infrastructure and public transport to wider London. Their neighbourhoods should also provide a character that is easy to understand and relate to.

Planning decisions
B Development should be designed so that the layout, tenure, and mix of uses interface with surrounding land and improve people’s access to social and community infrastructure (including green spaces), the Blue Ribbon Network, local shops, employment opportunities, commercial services and public transport.
C Development should enable people to live healthy, active lives; should maximize the opportunity for community diversity, inclusion and cohesion; and should contribute to people’s sense of place, safety and security. Places of work and leisure, streets, neighbourhoods, parks and open spaces should be designed to meet the needs of the community at all stages of people’s lives, and should meet the principles of lifetime neighbourhoods.
D The design of new buildings and the spaces they create should help reinforce or enhance the character, legibility, permeability and accessibility of the neighbourhood.
E The policies in this chapter provide the context within which the targets set out in other chapters of this Plan should be met.

LDF preparation
F Boroughs should prepare plans to ensure infrastructure and services will be delivered to meet the needs of existing and new development. Cross-borough and/or subregional working is encouraged, where appropriate.
G Boroughs should work with their local communities to set goals for their neighbourhoods and strategies for achieving them.

Policy 7.8 Heritage assets and archaeology

Strategic
A London’s heritage assets and historic environment, including listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens and other natural and historic landscapes, conservation areas, World Heritage
Sites, registered battlefields, scheduled monuments, archaeological remains and memorials should be identified, so that the desirability of sustaining and enhancing their significance and of utilising their positive role in place shaping can be taken into account.

B Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present the site’s archaeology.

Planning decisions

C Development should identify, value, conserve, restore, re-use and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.

D Development affecting heritage assets and their settings should conserve their significance, by being sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.

E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources, landscapes and significant memorials. The physical assets should, where possible, be made available to the public on-site. Where the archaeological asset or memorial cannot be preserved or managed on-site, provision must be made for the investigation, understanding, recording, dissemination and archiving of that asset.

LDF preparation

F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and enhance the contribution of built, landscaped and buried heritage to London’s environmental quality, cultural identity and economy as part of managing London’s ability to accommodate change and regeneration.

G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying, protecting, enhancing and improving access to the historic environment and heritage assets and their settings where appropriate, and to archaeological assets, memorials and historic and natural landscape character within their area.

Policy 7.9 Heritage-led regeneration

Strategic

A Regeneration schemes should identify and make use of heritage assets and reinforce the qualities that make them significant so they can help stimulate environmental, economic and community regeneration. This includes buildings, landscape features, views, Blue Ribbon Network and public realm.

Planning decisions

B The significance of heritage assets should be assessed when development is proposed and schemes designed so that the heritage significance is recognised both in their own right and as catalysts for regeneration. Wherever possible heritage assets (including buildings at risk) should be repaired, restored and put to a suitable and viable use that is consistent with their conservation and the establishment and maintenance of sustainable communities and economic vitality.

LDF Preparation

C Boroughs should support the principles of heritage-led regeneration in LDF policies.

Policy 7.18 Protecting local open space and addressing local deficiency

Strategic

A The Mayor supports the creation of new open space in London to ensure satisfactory levels of local provision to address areas of deficiency.

Planning decisions

B The loss of local protected open spaces must be resisted unless equivalent or better quality provision is made within the local catchment area. Replacement of one type of open space with another is unacceptable unless an up to date needs assessment shows that this would be appropriate.

LDF preparation

C When assessing local open space needs LDFs should:
a include appropriate designations and policies for the protection of local open space
b identify areas of public open space deficiency, using the open space categorisation set out in Table 7.2 as a benchmark for all the different types of open space identified therein

c ensure that future open space needs are planned for in areas with the potential for substantial change such as opportunity areas, regeneration areas, intensification areas and other local areas

d ensure that open space needs are planned in accordance with green infrastructure strategies to deliver multiple benefits.

D Use the CABE Space/Mayor of London Best Practice Guidance ‘Open Space Strategies’ as guidance for developing policies on the proactive creation, enhancement and management of open space.

Policy 7.27
Blue Ribbon Network: supporting infrastructure and recreational use

Planning decisions

A Development proposals should enhance the use of the Blue Ribbon Network, in particular proposals:

a that result in the loss of existing facilities for waterborne sport and leisure should be refused, unless suitable replacement facilities are provided

b should protect and improve existing access points to (including from land into water such as slipways and steps) or alongside the Blue Ribbon Network (including paths). New access infrastructure into and alongside the Blue Ribbon Network will be sought

c should protect waterway support infrastructure such as boatyards, moorings, jetties and safety equipment etc. New infrastructure to support water dependent uses will be sought. New mooring facilities should normally be off line from main navigation routes, i.e. in basins or docks.

LDF preparation

B Within LDFs boroughs should identify the location of waterway facilities and any opportunities for enhancing or extending facilities, especially within opportunity areas.
City of London, Adopted September 2011

Policy CS10: Design
To promote a high standard and sustainable design of buildings, streets and spaces, having regard to their surroundings and the character of the City and creating an inclusive and attractive environment, by:
(...)
6. Delivering continuous improvement in the environment, amenities and enjoyment of open spaces play areas, streets, lanes and alleys through public realm enhancement strategies incorporating innovative design solutions.
(...)

Policy CS11: Visitors, Arts and Culture
To maintain and enhance the City’s contribution to London’s world-class cultural status and to enable the City’s communities to access a range of arts, heritage and cultural experiences, in accordance with the City Corporation’s Destination Strategy, by:
2. Maintaining the City’s existing collection of public art and culturally significant objects, pursuing opportunities to commission new high quality pieces in appropriate locations.
3. Protecting existing cultural facilities where they are needed, ensuring there is no net loss of cultural facilities in the City.

Policy CS12: Historic Environment
To conserve or enhance the significance of the City’s heritage assets and their settings, and provide an attractive environment for the City’s communities and visitors, by:
1. Safeguarding the City’s listed buildings and their settings, while allowing appropriate adaptation and new uses.
2. Preserving and enhancing the distinctive character and appearance of the City’s conservation areas, while allowing sympathetic development within them.
3. Protecting and promoting the evaluation and assessment of the City’s ancient monuments and archaeological remains and their settings, including the interpretation and publication of results of archaeological investigations.
4. Safeguarding the character and setting of the City’s gardens of special historic interest.
5. Preserving and, where appropriate, seeking to enhance the Outstanding Universal Value, architectural and historic significance, authenticity and integrity of the Tower of London World Heritage Site and its local setting.

Policy CS19: Open Spaces and Recreation
To encourage healthy lifestyles for all the City’s communities through improved access to open space and facilities, increasing the amount and quality of open spaces and green infrastructure, while enhancing biodiversity, by:
1. Seeking to maintain a ratio of at least 0.06 hectares of high quality, publicly accessible open space per 1,000 weekday daytime population:
   (i) protecting existing open space, particularly that of historic interest, or ensuring that it is replaced on redevelopment by space of equal or improved quantity and quality on or near the site;
   (ii) securing public access, where possible, to existing private spaces;
   (iii) securing additional publicly accessible open space and pedestrian routes, where practical, particularly in the eastern part of the City;
   (iv) creating additional civic spaces from underused highways and other land where this would not conflict with other strategic objectives;
(v) encouraging high quality green roofs, particularly those which are publicly accessible.
4. Improving inclusion and access to affordable sport, play and recreation, protecting and enhancing existing facilities and encouraging the provision of further facilities within major developments.

Policy CS22: Social Infrastructure and Opportunities
To maximise opportunities for the City’s residential and working communities to access suitable health, social and educational facilities and opportunities, while fostering cohesive communities and healthy lifestyles, by:
3. Protecting and enhancing existing community facilities and providing new facilities where required, whilst allowing flexibility in the use of underused facilities, including places of worship. There should be no overall loss of community facilities (D1) in the City, where a need exists.
4. Improving the skills and education of all the City’s communities:
(i) providing adequate educational facilities and services to meet the community’s needs;
(ii) protecting and enhancing existing education facilities including schools, adult and higher education premises, and ensuring that new facilities are sited in appropriate locations;
(iii) continuing to provide and improve social and educational services through the City’s libraries;
(iv) ensuring adequate childcare facilities, including nursery provision and crèches. Encouraging nursery providers and businesses to establish additional childcare facilities, where a need exists.
Wiltshire District Council, Submitted July 2012

Core Policy 49
Protection of services and community facilities
Proposals involving the loss of a community service or facility will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that the site/building is no longer viable for an alternative community use. Preference will be given to retaining the existing use in the first instance, then for an alternative community use. Where this is not possible, a mixed use, which still retains a substantial portion of the community facility/service, will be supported. Redevelopment for non-community service/facility use will only be permitted as a last resort and where all other options have been exhausted. Targets: Retention of existing facilities and services.

Core Policy 51
Landscape
Development should protect, conserve and where possible enhance landscape character and must not have an unacceptable impact upon landscape character, while any negative impacts must be mitigated as far as possible through sensitive design and landscape measures. Proposals should be informed by and sympathetic to the distinctive character areas identified in the relevant Landscape Character Assessment(s) and any other relevant assessments and studies. In particular, proposals will need to demonstrate that the following aspects of landscape character have been considered:

v. landscape features of cultural, historic and heritage value
vi. important views and visual amenity
viii. landscape functions including places to live, work, relax and recreate.
Targets: Minimise harmful impacts from development on landscape character.

Core Policy 52
Green infrastructure
Development shall make provision for the retention and enhancement of Wiltshire’s Green Infrastructure network, and shall ensure that suitable links to the network are provided and maintained. Where development is permitted developers will be required to:

• retain and enhance existing on site green infrastructure
• make provision for accessible open spaces in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Wiltshire Open Space Standards
• put measures in place to ensure appropriate long-term management of any green infrastructure directly related to the development
• provide appropriate contributions towards the delivery of the Wiltshire Green Infrastructure Strategy and
• identify opportunities to enhance and improve linkages between the natural and historic landscapes of Wiltshire.

If damage or loss of existing green infrastructure is unavoidable, the creation of new or replacement green infrastructure equal to or above its current value and quality, that maintains the integrity and functionality of the green infrastructure network, will be required.

Proposals for major development should be accompanied by an audit of the existing green infrastructure within and around the site and a statement demonstrating how this will be retained and enhanced through the development process.

Development will not adversely affect the integrity and value of the green infrastructure network, prejudice the delivery of the Wiltshire Green Infrastructure Strategy, or provide inadequate green infrastructure mitigation.
Green infrastructure projects and initiatives that contribute to the delivery of a high quality and highly valued multi-functional green infrastructure network in accordance with the Wiltshire Green Infrastructure Strategy will be supported. Contributions (financial or other) to support such projects and initiatives will be required where appropriate from developers.

Targets: Increase quantity and quality of green infrastructure, and deliver key green infrastructure projects.
West Northants Joint Planning Unit Core Strategy, Submitted December 2012

Policy RC2 – Community needs
New residential and commercial development will be required to make provision for community facilities and public open space in accordance with the standards set out in the Planning Policy Guidance 17 studies and identified within the West Northamptonshire sports facility strategy and the cultural investment plan.
The loss of existing built sport facilities and areas of open space will be resisted unless it can be demonstrated that:
• there is evidence that improvements can be made through the provision of a replacement facility of equal or better quality; or
• the proposal will bring about significant community benefits that outweigh the loss of the facility.
Proposals for new facilities will need to be supported by a long term maintenance and management plan.
Financial contributions towards the provision or enhancement of, existing community facilities will need to be provided by new development. The exact nature of the provision and timing will be set out within the development management and site allocations DPDs and supported by the developer contributions SPD.

Policy E7 – Tourism, visitor and cultural industries
Tourism, visitor and cultural development proposals will be supported where:
• they contribute to the achievement of regeneration aims and objectives;
• they strengthen the overall tourism offer;
• they benefit local communities and businesses; and
• development is of a use, form and scale which does not harm the quality of the natural or built environment.
Attractions and facilities of a significant scale should be located firstly within town centres, then on the edge of town centres, and then at other accessible locations.

Policy BN1 - Green Infrastructure connections
Green infrastructure corridors of sub-regional and local importance as set out in figure 6 of the joint core strategy will be recognised for their important contribution to sense of place and conserved, managed and enhanced by:
• incorporating existing and identified future networks into new development proposals;
• securing contributions from development or other sources for the future management of the green infrastructure networks;
• delivering long term management strategies for the sub-regional and local network.
New green infrastructure provision will:
1. Be designed and delivered sustainably with prudent use of natural resources;
2. Mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change including through improved flood risk management and as a carbon store;
3. Be designed to the highest quality in terms of appearance, access provision and wildlife provision;
4. Reflect local character through the planting of native species and consideration of natural and cultural heritage features;
5. Be supported by a long-term management strategy