

YDF Neighbourhood Plan - Analysis of Resident's survey

Neighbourhood plans

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied by local government.

Neighbourhood Plans form the third tier of the NPPF of which the second tier is the Local Plan which has now been adopted by Hart District Council. Such plans will enable the local residents to decide how they would wish their settlement to evolve over the next 13 years until 2032 by formulating a set of policy guidelines. Neighbourhood plans will have legal status alongside the Local Plan once adopted by the residents of the Parish like Yateley, Darby Green and Frogmore (YDF) in a referendum.

Sustainable development and climate change

The NPPF (paragraph 2) summarises the objective of sustainable development as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" and states "the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development"

The NPPF in para 149 (and footnote 48): "Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures, in line with the objectives and provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008 as amended in 2019."

The importance of limiting climate change is that impacts directly on nine of the Sustainable Development Goals and so undertaking actions to limit climate change will help to implement sustainable development with the Plan and any Annex.

Planning policies and non planning activities

A neighbourhood plan can include both planning policies, used to assess planning applications, and non planning activities or priorities that a community would like to address . It provides an opportunity to express what is important to a community and how its neighbourhood should evolve – the non-planning components will just not be examined when that time comes. If non-planning community initiatives are included in a plan, these can be differentiated from planning policies by putting in an Annex to the plan. These guidelines can cover all policy areas that concern a community.

Resident's survey (2020)

This survey was based on issues that were identified in the first survey undertaken in 2018. For each of the potential policy areas there was both a yes/no question and space for comments and suggestions. Analysis of the 543 completed questionnaires shows that there is a 90 - 95% approval for all the major policy proposals with the exception of imposing a 20mph speed limit through Yateley's town centre.

The proposals can be divided into those which can form the basis of planning policies within the YDF neighbourhood plan and a set of community actions within an Annex. Both will serve as a check list for both developers and planners.

This evidence base will also serve as the basis for requesting funding for community initiatives such as enabling buses to serve more destinations and creating/widening pavements and installing cycle lanes.

Yateley Neighbourhood Plan – evidence base 25/06/2020
P = suggested planning policy; A = suggested community initiative

| | policy | | comment |
|--|---|-----------------------|--|
| CC1 CC2 | Limiting climate change Changes in climate Limit climate change | A P | Zero carbon by 2050 (UK Climate Change Act) 75% have observed changes in climate 92% agree local actions required to limit climate change |
| BI1 BI2 BI3 | Biodiversity Decline in species Increase bio-diversity Green action group | A P A A | 72% have observed decline in species Green planting – new developments Existing areas 52% willing to join/support green action group |
| FL1 FL2 | Risk of flooding Prohibit development high risk Local flooding | P A | 96% agree no build within 1 in 100 year flood plain 39% aware of areas subject to local flooding |
| SG1 SG2 SG3 SG4 | Strategic gaps No infilling How gaps can benefit environment and biodiversity Preserve Yateley common Blackbushe to common land | P A P P | 95% agree to preventing coalescence between settlements See below 85% agree to preserve Yateley Common as common land. 14.5% did not reply. 88% agree that it should revert to common land |
| ET1 ET2 | Digital infrastructure Good broadband coverage Good mobile phone | P A P A | Necessary provision 85% have good coverage Necessary provision 78% have good coverage |
| UE1 UE2 UE3 | Upgrading infrastructure Local generation of electricity and heat Install solar electric or solar thermal Electric vehicle provision | P P A P A | 93% approve local generation of heat and electricity Mandatory new build 10% have solar panels; 25% more information Mandatory new build 5% have electric vehicles; 37% consider investing in next 5 years |
| LD1 LD2 | Sustainable buildings Good local design What constitutes such design | P A | 94% agree that environmental emissions should be reduced from all buildings See below |
| ED1 ED2 | Enhance environmental design of buildings Introduce guidelines to reduce emissions Information about measures which increase energy efficiency | P A A | Mandatory requirements for new build Formulate guidelines for existing buildings 70% would like more information how to increase energy efficiency of existing buildings |

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|------------|--|---|--|
| OH1 | Optimising housing mix | P | 92% agree development to reflect local needs |
| OH2 | New and redevelopment | P | Order ranked as starter homes, bungalows, flats |
| OH3 | Rank order of importance | A | See below |
| SR1 | Define affordable homes | P | 95% agree any development to reflect current needs |
| PH1 | Redevelop business premises | P | 96% agree that such buildings should be protected |
| DS1 | Protect historic buildings | P | See below |
| | Sustainable transport | | To reduce environmental impact of vehicular traffic |
| RT1 | Weight limit through Yateley centre | P | 95% with imposing weight limit |
| RT2 | Speed limit | P | 55% agree with speed limit of 20 mph (32 km/h) |
| RT3 | Community shuttle bus | A | 50% would use community shuttle bus if introduced in Yateley centre |
| RT4 | Increased bus provision | A | 75% would use buses rather than cars if buses served more destinations |
| | Active travel | | |
| SM1 | Fewer car journeys if active travel prioritised | P | 72% would undertake less car journeys if active travel prioritised |
| SM2 | Widen pavements, provide cycle lanes | P | Provision mandatory new developments |
| | | A | See below |
| | Car park provision | | |
| CP1 | Favour more car park space in Yateley centre | A | 45% favour more car parking space city centre |
| | Leisure facilities | | |
| LR1 | Expansion existing facilities | A | 55% would like existing facilities enhanced |
| LR2 | What other provision is required | A | See below |
| | Allotments and community garden | | |
| AL1 | Additional space for allotments? | A | 22% interested in allotments |
| AI2 | Suggest space for allotments and community orchard | A | See below |

Suggestions and comments gleaned during the survey

| | Non planning activities - can you identify/suggest | Number of suggestions/ comments |
|------------|--|--|
| BI2 | <p>areas where native trees, hedgerows or wild flower meadows can be planted</p> <p><i>Suggestions include Yateley Green, Monteagle Green, smaller patches of land alongside residential roads, towards Eversley, others suggest all roundabouts and verges.</i></p> | 243 |
| FL2 | <p>areas where local flooding has taken place</p> <p><i>Suggestions include Reading Road, near Horseshoe Lake, Moulsham Lane, Monteagle Lane, Marsh Lane, at the roundabout near The White Lion pub, Weybridge</i></p> | 214 |

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|------------|--|--|-----|
| | <i>Mead, Mill Lane, and many comments say that Yateley is an area prone to flooding generally.</i> | | |
| SG2 | <p>how strategic gaps can benefit environment & biodiversity</p> <p><i>Suggestions include designated nature reserves, wildflower meadows, stumperies, more planting of native shrubs and trees, allotments, keeping open spaces to allow for 'green lung' areas, hedgerows and common areas.</i></p> | | 255 |
| LD2 | <p>what constitutes good local design</p> <p><i>Suggestions include a mix of affordable, eco-friendly housing, green spaces, schools and doctors surgeries, a town centre with a good mix of useful basic shops, roads and paths in good repair, retaining character of town, sufficient parking, low-rise buildings. Many comments emphasised need to have building 'in keeping' with local design and heritage, with environmental focus.</i></p> | | 282 |
| OH3 | <p>What comprises an affordable home</p> <p><i>Suggestions included homes that an average family could afford to run and purchase on average local income, suitability for young buyers, with the ability to eventually own the property outright in the long term. Some respondents suggested that house prices should not exceed what could be reasonably afforded by local people, including those who are on lower salaries or who are single.</i></p> | | 300 |
| DS1 | <p>possible sites for further housing development</p> <p><i>Suggestions include Blackbushe Airport, the disused car garage opposite The White Lion pub, flats above shops, the vacant Bell Pub, and others suggest that there is no room and that expansion should be discouraged.</i></p> | | 116 |
| RT4 | <p>Reducing impact of transport</p> <p><i>Suggestions included a reliable and affordable bus service (especially to train stations and local hospital), improving conditions and awareness of local footpaths, shuttle bus into Yateley from further afield, better connections with local towns, speed limits, better road conditions, electric vehicle charging points, electric busses.</i></p> | | 209 |
| SM2 | <p>locations for pavement upgrades & cycle lanes</p> <p><i>Suggestions included cycle lanes to main train stations and towns locally, and through Yateley town centre towards Eversley, crossing point on Reading Road,</i></p> | | 218 |

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|------------|---|--|-----|
| | <i>improved pavements on Firgrove Road, Monteagle Lane, Connaught Close, Selwyn Drive, Aylesham Way and School Lane. Suggestion that pavements are needed from Co-Op to other shops near the butchers, and potholes needing improvement.</i> | | |
| CP1 | space for more car park provision <i>Some respondents suggest that car parking is not a priority or that travel by car should be discouraged. Others suggest locations including on green spaces around Yateley Green, at the disused car garage site opposite The White Lion pub, or to access the Health Centre.</i> | | 148 |

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