

Kinver Neighbourhood Development Plan

Basic Conditions Statement

December 2022

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1. Introduction

This is a 'Basic Conditions Statement', prepared to accompany the submission of the Kinver Neighbourhood Plan. The plan is being submitted by Kinver Parish Council, the qualifying body.

The Neighbourhood Plan proposal contains policies relating to the use and development of land and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011 and other legislation) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended).

The Neighbourhood Plan proposal states the period for which it is to have effect. This is a period until the end of 2038.

The Neighbourhood Plan proposal does not deal with excluded development (mineral extraction, waste development, nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990).

The Neighbourhood Plan proposal relates to the Kinver Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. There are no other Neighbourhood Plans relating to that Neighbourhood Area.

The Neighbourhood Plan proposal meets the basic conditions set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This is covered in more detail in the next part of this statement.

2. Meeting the Basic Conditions

2.1 The Basic Conditions

The Basic Conditions that Neighbourhood Plans must meet are as follows:

- have appropriate regard to national policy;
- contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
- be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the local area; and
- be compatible with EU obligations.

The Neighbourhood Plan (General) Regulations 2012 set out additional basic conditions, one of which relates to neighbourhood plans, as follows:

The making of the neighbourhood development plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010(2)) or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007(3)) (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects).

It should be noted that there are no European sites in the neighbourhood area.

In addition, Neighbourhood Plans must be compatible with human rights law.

The outcome of the referendum on membership of the EU makes no immediate difference to the requirement on EU obligations, until such a time as Parliament passes relevant legislation.

3. Regard to National Policy

3.1 National Policy and Guidance

The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared against the context of national policy and guidance, in particular the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

3.2 Overarching Objectives of the NPPF

The central theme of the NPPF is the presumption in favour of sustainable development. Three overarching objectives are stated for achieving sustainable development in Paragraph 8:

- a) an economic objective ...*
- b) a social objective ...*
- c) an environmental objective ...*

Paragraph 9 states:

“these objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in this Framework...”

The Kinver Neighbourhood Plan includes a range of aims and policies to achieve growth to meet local need, ensuring that such growth takes account of the local community and environment. This includes the six aims listed below, which are delivered by policies which address the economic, social and environmental objectives of the NPPF. The policies, and how they relate to the aims, are given below.

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The Aims of the Neighbourhood Plan are:

- 1. Climate Change:** To ensure our buildings, places and infrastructure are future-ready, minimising carbon emissions and other environmental impacts, adapted to the changing climate, promoting biodiversity and protecting our planet for future generations.
- 2. Community:** To promote the wellbeing and safety of all in Kinver parish by protecting and enhancing community infrastructure and amenities.
- 3. Nature:** To protect and enhance the local rural landscape, ecology and wildlife habitats, for local people and the wider community.
- 4. Heritage:** To protect and enhance the built heritage in the parish, for all to enjoy and to help make sure it remains in sustainable productive use.
- 5. Economy:** To support a thriving village centre and promote local business activity, including the visitor economy, and facilitating increased home/local working.
- 6. Housing:** To provide a positive planning framework to guide the development of the right mix of new homes, appropriately located, which work well within and enhance the village and community.

These aims are served by the following policies:

- | | |
|-------|--|
| KN01. | Economy |
| KN02. | Housing |
| KN03. | Community Facilities |
| KN04. | Sustainable Design |
| KN05. | Climate Change and Building for the Future |
| KN06. | Infill |
| KN07. | Natural Environment |
| KN08. | Historic Environment |
| KN09. | Kinver Conservation Areas |
| KN10. | Flooding |
| KN11. | Local Green Spaces |
| KN12. | Movement and Transport |

The policies which serve each aim are listed below (the most relevant policies relating to each aim are in bold)

Aim	Policies
1. Climate Change:	KN02 KN04 KN05 KN07 KN08 KN10 KN12
2. Community:	KN01 KN02 KN03 KN04 KN11 KN12
3. Natural Environment:	KN04 KN05 KN06 KN07 KN11 KN12
4. Heritage:	KN02 KN04 KN08 KN09 KN11
5. Economy:	KN01 KN09 KN05 KN09 KN12
6. Housing:	KN02 KN04 KN05 KN06 KN08 KN10 KN11 KN12

3.3 NPPF Policy Areas

The NPPF was revised in July 2021 and contains a number of policy areas. The following table details the policy areas that are most relevant to the Kinver Neighbourhood Plan, against the aims and policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

NPPF Policy Area	Kinver Neighbourhood Plan	
	Aims	Policies
<p>Delivering a sufficient supply of homes</p> <p>...to support the Government’s objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes, it is important that a sufficient amount and variety of land can come forward where it is needed...</p> <p>...that the needs of groups with specific housing requirements are addressed...</p>	<p>Aim 6</p>	<p>Policy KN02 seeks to ensure that identified local housing needs are addressed.</p> <p>Policy KN06 seeks to ensure that development on infill sites provides good design.</p> <p>Policy KN04 seeks to ensure that new homes and their surroundings are built and set out to high standards of design.</p> <p>Policy KN12 seeks to ensure adequate transport-related provision for all including those with specific needs.</p>
<p>Building a strong, competitive economy</p> <p>...planning policies should...</p> <p>...set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth...</p>	<p>Aim 5</p>	<p>Policy KN01 encourages and supports a diverse range of commercial, visitor and local worker services to support a resilient local economy.</p> <p>Policies KN07, KN08 and KN09 support protection and enhancement of the features which attract visitors to the area.</p> <p>Policies KN03 and KN12 address local community infrastructure and services.</p> <p>Policy KN12 seeks to accommodate growth through good connectivity, and provision of transport-related facilities.</p>
<p>Ensuring the vitality of town centres</p> <p>...planning policies and decisions should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local</p>	<p>Aim 5</p>	<p>Policy KN01 supports the vitality of Kinver town centre, including support for diversification of businesses and for tourism services.</p> <p>Policies KN08 and KN09 deals with</p>

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<p>communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation.</p>		<p>ensuring that the special character of Kinver’s centre, which is an important attraction for visitors, is preserved and enhanced, while adapting to future needs.</p>
<p>Promoting healthy and safe communities</p> <p>...planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which...</p> <p>...promote social interaction...</p> <p>...are safe and accessible...</p> <p>...enable and support healthy lifestyles...</p>	<p>Aims 2, 3 and 6</p>	<p>Policy KN04 specifically supports developments which create healthy, inclusive and safe places, provide opportunities for recreation, and include green spaces and features to promote wellbeing.</p> <p>Policies KN02, KN03 and KN12 also deal with provision of relevant services and infrastructure to support communities.</p> <p>Policy KN02 supports provision of inclusive places which provide for a range of needs.</p> <p>The Plan seeks to improve community and green infrastructure and create safe and accessible places. (policies KN07, KN11, KN03)</p>
<p>Promoting sustainable Transport</p> <p>...transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, so that...</p> <p>...the potential impacts of development on transport can be assessed...</p> <p>...opportunities from existing and proposed transport infrastructure, and changing transport technology and usage are realised...</p> <p>...opportunities to promote walking, cycling, and public transport use are identified and pursued...</p> <p>...the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and</p>	<p>Aims 1, 5 and 6</p>	<p>The Plan seeks to promote sustainable means of movement through policy KN12, which encourages design to prioritise pedestrians and cyclists and encourage low speeds. Facilities for cyclists and mobility vehicles as well as cars are required. The policy protects nonvehicular routes and integrates sustainable transport methods into new developments.</p> <p>Policy KN12 identifies a road junction whose safety could be improved or addressed as part of larger scale future development.</p> <p>Policy KN12 also requires that developments include provision for active travel and sustainable transport, and links to transport services; and that footpaths, cycle routes etc are protected.</p>

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<p>taken into account...</p> <p>...patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes...</p>		<p>Policy KN04 requires that development layouts have an emphasis on pedestrian activity and safety, thereby promoting active travel.</p>
<p>Making effective use of land</p> <p>... Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions...</p> <p>... encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains – such as developments that would enable new habitat creation or improve public access to the countryside;...</p> <p>... recognise that some undeveloped land can perform many functions, such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production;...</p> <p>... give substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within Settlements...</p> <p>... promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings,...</p>	<p>Aims 3 and 6</p>	<p>Policies KN02 and KN06 encourage effective use of infill and refurbishment opportunities and of brownfield sites to provide well-designed homes.</p> <p>Policy KN01 supports the re-purposing and development of under-used rural buildings.</p> <p>Policy KN02 seeks to ensure that land is used appropriately to meet the range of local needs for homes.</p> <p>Policies KN04 and KN07 seek to ensure that developments also provide environmental gains, and healthy living conditions.</p> <p>Policy KN10 requires sustainable drainage features in new build developments, which may also provide other natural environment benefits, as well as flood risk mitigation.</p> <p>Policy KN11 seeks to protect important local green spaces which perform a variety of functions.</p>
<p>Achieving well-designed Places</p> <p>...plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable...</p>	<p>Aims 1 and 6</p>	<p>The Plan seeks to ensure high standards of design such that developments will enhance Kinver’s character (Policy KN04). Kinver Design Codes have been commissioned to support the policy by identifying local character and local aspirations. Policies KN08 and KN09 set out requirements</p>

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<p>...design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area’s defining characteristics...</p>		<p>for developments in the conservation areas.</p>
<p>Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</p> <p>support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change...</p> <p>...it should help to shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience...</p> <p>...encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings, and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure...</p>	<p>Aims 1 and 6.</p>	<p>Policy KN05 requires incorporation of specific design features appropriate for a low-carbon future, including design for reduced energy use, and increased water efficiency.</p> <p>Policy KN05 also promotes renewable energy, the use of low-embodied energy or recycled materials, and design to increase resilience to the changing climate.</p> <p>Policy KN10 requires that new builds have no significant adverse impact through runoff on the risk of flooding or on surrounding properties. Building in areas at risk of flooding must incorporate features to minimise damage. Building in areas at high risk of flooding is not supported.</p> <p>The reduction in energy use by reducing car journeys e.g through facilitating cycling, encouraging home working, and ensuring that new builds are close to public transport links is addressed in policies KN01, KN02, KN04, and KN12.</p>
<p>Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</p> <p>...planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment...</p>	<p>Aim 3</p>	<p>Policy KN07 sets out that development must have no harmful effect on Kinver’s landscapes, habitats and ecology, and should seek opportunities for enhancement. The policy describes how and where this can most effectively be achieved.</p> <p>By policy KN11 the Plan designates a number of Local Green Spaces.</p>

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<p>Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</p> <p>...heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites...</p> <p>...plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets at risk through neglect, decay or other threats...</p>	<p>Aim 4</p>	<p>The Plan seeks to conserve and enhance Kinver’s historic character, (Policies KN08 and KN09; and also KN01 which deal with development on the historic High Street).</p> <p>Policy KN11 designates Local Green Spaces, some specifically to enhance the protection or enjoyment of heritage assets.</p>
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4. Achieving Sustainable Development

4.1 NPPF Policy on Sustainable Development

The National Planning Policy Framework incorporates a presumption in favour of sustainable development.

Para. 7 states that

“the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development”, and “at a very high level, the objective of sustainable development can be summarised as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

Para. 8 states:

“achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways”. These three objectives are:

- An economic objective;
- A social objective; and
- An environmental objective.

Para. 9 states:

“these objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in this Framework”, and that “planning policies and decisions should play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions”.

Para. 10 states that

“so that sustainable development is pursued in a positive way, at the heart of the Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development”. The meaning of this presumption is described in paragraph 11.

Para. 13 states:

“the application of the presumption has implications for the way communities engage in neighbourhood planning”, and that “neighbourhood plans should support the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans or spatial development strategies; and should shape and direct development that is outside of these strategic policies”.

4.2 Achieving Growth

The Kinver Neighbourhood Plan delivers growth by:

- Encouraging new economic development (Policies KN01)
- Addressing identified local housing needs and encouraging sustainable locations for development (Policy);
- Ensuring a high-quality, well designed environment, which is essential to attracting investment and population (Policies); and
- Protecting and enhancing the local environment (Policies)

4.3 Addressing Sustainability

The Kinver Neighbourhood Plan delivers sustainability by:

- Encouraging housing growth to cater for an ageing population, whilst addressing local housing needs including affordability (PolicyKN02);
- Delivering high quality green infrastructure and preserving and enhancing key local community and environmental assets (Policies KN03, KN07, KN11)
- Encouraging infrastructure improvements (Policies KN01, KN10, KN12); and
- Creating well designed new developments that are sustainable (Policies KN02, KN04)

5. General Conformity with Strategic Local Policy

5.1 Strategic Policies

Neighbourhood Plans should be tested against adopted strategic local policies. The adopted South Staffordshire Local Plan Core Strategy (2012) contains policies for the Local Plan which are not classified as strategic or non-strategic. Accordingly, we have tested the Neighbourhood Plan against all relevant policies in the Core Strategy of the adopted Local Plan.

The late-stage Regulation 19 version of the emerging Local Plan is currently (December 2022) undergoing consultation. We have sought to avoid disparities with the Strategic Policies of the emerging Plan.

5.2 General Conformity with the Adopted Local Plan policies

The relationship of the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan with the over-arching themes in the south Staffordshire adopted local plan's Core Strategy are considered below.

POLICY: Presumption in favour of sustainable development.

The Spatial Strategy of the Local Plan identifies Kinver as a Main Service Village, and therefore one of the settlements which will be the main focus for housing growth, employment and service provision.

Outside service villages the objective is to protect the attractive rural character of the countryside and to protect the green belt from inappropriate development. The Neighbourhood Plan works within this spatial strategy and supports protection of the countryside. The whole of the plan area outside settlements is overwashed by green belt.

Theme : ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

These policies in the adopted local plan seek to protect and enhance the natural and historic environment, and the character of the landscape. They seek to ensure sustainable development which does not damage the needs of future generations; mitigate and adapt to climate change, reduce carbon emissions, and promote renewable energy; and ensure high quality design. The Neighbourhood Plan contributes positively to the environmental protection and improvement of the neighbourhood area through a range of policies, covering the historic environment

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(Policies KN08, KN09) and the natural environment (KN07, KN11), sustainable development and climate change, design and infrastructure.

Theme: HOUSING

These policies in the adopted local plan seek to achieve a balanced housing market, and ensure provision of affordable housing and specialist housing as required locally. The Neighbourhood Plan addresses provision of affordable housing and specialist housing accommodation through policy HN02.

Theme: ECONOMIC VIBRANCY

These policies in the adopted local plan support employment sites including in service villages, sustainable tourism, and rural diversification; community facilities; and sustainable transport. These policies align well with the Neighbourhood Plan which addresses them through policies KN01, KN03, KN09 and KN12.

Theme: COMMUNITY SAFETY

The adopted local plan supports design which discourages crime. Such design features are included in the neighbourhood plan policies and the Kinver Design Code.

Theme: HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Local Plan protects open spaces, sports and recreation facilities; and green infrastructure. These principles are enshrined in the neighbourhood plan, through policies on community facilities and green spaces.

Theme: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

This theme supports provision of and access to facilities for children and young people. The neighbourhood plan fully supports such provision and enhancement of facilities.

A table of all relevant policies in the adopted Local Plan Core Strategy 2012, and how they relate to the Kinver neighbourhood plan, is given below.

Adopted Local Plan Core Strategy Policy	Kinver Neighbourhood Plan Policy
Core Policy 1: The Spatial Strategy	The Plan works within the spatial strategy
Policy GB1: Development in the Green Belt	KN01, KN02, KN07
Core Policy 2: Protecting and Enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment	KN07, KN08, KN09, KN10, KN11
Policy EQ1: Protecting, Expanding and Enhancing Natural Assets	KN07, KN11
Policy EQ3: Conservation, Preservation and Protection of Heritage Assets	KN01, KN08, KN09
Policy EQ4: Protecting and Enhancing the Character and Appearance of the Landscape	KN07, KN11

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Core Policy 3: Sustainable Development and Climate Change	KN05, KN04
Policy EQ5: Sustainable Resources and Energy Efficiency	KN05, KN04
Policy EQ6: Renewable Energy	KN05, KN04
Policy EQ7: Water Quality	KN04, KN10
Policy EQ8: Waste	KN04
Policy EQ9: Protecting Residential Amenity	KN01, KN04
Core Policy 4: Promoting High Quality Design	KN04, KN05
Policy EQ11: Wider Design Considerations	KN04
Policy EQ12: Landscaping	KN04, KN07
Core Policy 5: Infrastructure Delivery	KN12
Policy EQ13: Development Contributions	KN03, KN12, Chapter 5
Core Policy 6: Housing Delivery	KN02
Policy H1: Achieving a Balanced Housing Market	KN02
Policy H2: Provision of Affordable Housing	KN02
Policy H4: Delivering Affordable Housing	KN02
Policy H5: Specialist Housing Accommodation	KN02
Core Policy 7: Employment and Economic Development	KN01
Policy EV2: Sustainable Tourism	KN01
Policy EV3: Canals and Canalside Development	KN01; KN09
Core Policy 8: Hierarchy of Centres	Kinver is classed as a Main Service Village
Core Policy 9: Rural Diversification	KN01
Policy EV5: Rural Employment	KN01
Policy EV6: Re-Use of Redundant Rural Buildings	KN01; KN02
Policy EV7: Equine Related Development	KN01; KN02
Policy EV8: Agriculture	KN01
Core Policy 10: Sustainable Community Facilities and Services	KN03
Policy EV9: Provision and Retention of Local Community Facilities and Services	KN03
Policy EV10: Telecommunications	KN01
Core Policy 11: Sustainable Transport	KN12
Policy EV11: Sustainable Travel	KN05, KN12
Policy EV12: Parking Provision	KN02
Core Policy 13: Community Safety	KN04
Policy CS1: Designing Out Crime	KN04
Core Policy 14: Open Space, Sport and Recreation	KN03, KN07, KN11
Policy HWB1: Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities	KN03, KN07, KN11
Policy HWB2: Green Infrastructure	KN04, KN07, KN11
Core Policy 15: Children and Young People	KN03

5.3 The Emerging Local Plan Strategic Policies

The Strategic Policies in the Regulation 19 version of the emerging Local Plan are listed below. We have sought to avoid disparities with the Strategic Policies of the emerging Plan. It is noted that Kinver is placed as a Tier 2 settlement.

Development Strategy:	Main Kinver NDP policies
DS1: Green Belt	KN02, KN07
DS2: Green Belt compensatory improvements	KN07
DS3: Open Countryside	KN07
DS5: Spatial Strategy to 2039	
SA5: Housing allocations	KN02, KN04
HC1: Housing Mix	KN02
HC3: Affordable Housing	KN02
HC4: Homes for Older People	KN02
HC10: Design requirements	KN02, KN04
HC17: Open Space	KN07, KN11
HC18: Sports Facilities and Playing Pitches	KN11, KN03
EC1: Sustainable economic growth	KN01, KN05
EC2: Retention of employment sites	KN01
EC8: Retail	KN01
EC9: Protecting community services and facilities	KN03, KN11
EC11: Infrastructure	KN12, KN10
EC12: Sustainable transport	KN12, KN05
NB1: Protecting, enhancing and expanding natural assets	KN07, KN11
NB2: Biodiversity	KN07
NB4: Landscape Character	KN07, KN08
NB5: Renewable and low carbon energy generation	KN05, KN04
NB6: Sustainable construction	KN04
NB7: Managing flood risk, sustainable drainage systems & water quality	KN10
NB8: Protection and enhancement of the historic environment and heritage assets	KN08, KN09

6. Compatible with EU Obligations and Human Rights Law

6.1 Screening Outcomes

The Neighbourhood Plan was screened by South Staffordshire District Council. The council found that Strategic Environmental Assessment would not be required, nor would a Habitat Regulations Assessment. Extracts from the Screening Assessments are included at Appendix 1.

There are no European sites within the Neighbourhood Area.

6.2 Human Rights

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is included at Appendix 2. It has indicated that the impact of the plan on protected characteristics is either neutral or positive.

The Neighbourhood Plan process has included a wide range of community engagement activities, ensuring the scope of the plan and its policies are informed by issues and themes identified by local people. Methods used included community drop-in events and open days, questionnaire, newsletters, social media and other activities. Community engagement has gone considerably beyond the scope of statutory publicity and consultation. Further details can be found in the Consultation Statement.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – SEA and HRA Screening Outcome

Extracts from:

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Statement Kinver Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2038

4. SEA Screening Outcome

- 4.1 A screening assessment has been undertaken by applying the criteria from the SEA Directive and Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations to determine whether the Kinver Neighbourhood Development Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects when assessed against the topics listed in the SEA Regulations.
- 4.2 The Kinver Neighbourhood plan promotes a number of planning policies to shape development in the parish up to 2038. The plan does not allocate any specific development sites, though policy promotes the village centre of Kinver as the prime focus of future economic activity and supports limited residential infill development in existing built up- frontages. The plan also provides local detail on design guidance and contains policies to promote local green spaces, conserve the natural and built environment and supports measures to address climate change.
- 4.3 It is concluded that providing there are no significant changes to the plan proposals, that the emerging Kinver Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have any significant environmental effects and consequently will not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). It is considered that this screening assessment fulfils the requirement that a Neighbourhood Plan be accompanied by a statement in relation to SEA requirements.
- 4.4 The statutory consultees, Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency are to be consulted on this Screening Opinion for the draft Kinver Neighbourhood Plan.

6. HRA Screening Outcome

- 6.1 Given that the Neighbourhood Plan is not seeking to allocate any sites for future development, and that it has been determined through HRA assessments of the Local Plan that sites within South Staffordshire do not pose a credible risk to the Fens Pool SAC, it is considered unlikely that any significant environmental effects will arise as a consequence of the implementation of the draft Kinver Neighbourhood Plan. As such it is concluded that the draft Kinver Neighbourhood Plan does not require further HRA work to be undertaken.

7. Overall Screening Conclusion and Consultation

- 7.1 The SEA and HRA screening reports undertaken in relation to the draft Kinver Neighbourhood Plan have concluded that the neighbourhood plan is unlikely to give rise to any significant environmental effects or have significant effects on European sites. Accordingly, it is concluded that an SEA or HRA assessment is not required for the neighbourhood plan.
- 7.2 It is important to note that this screening opinion is based on a draft Regulation 14 version of the Kinver Neighbourhood Plan. Consequently, if the content of the neighbourhood plan should materially change then the SEA/HRA process will need to be re-assessed and updated.
- 7.3 It is a requirement of the screening process to consult Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England when forming a view as to whether SEA and/or HRA is required.

Appendix 2 - Equalities Assessment

Legal Requirements

The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between persons who have a “protected characteristic” and those who do not. Protected characteristics are defined in the Equality Act as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

An Equalities Assessment is a systematic analysis of a policy or policies in order to scrutinise the potential for an adverse impact on a particular group or community, in particularly those with a protected characteristic.

An assessment has been made on whether the Neighbourhood Plan has a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics. If the impact is negative, this is given a high, medium or low assessment. The following table describes these:

Impact	Description
High	A significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.
Medium	Some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence.
Low	Almost no relevancy to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation-led.

Kinver General Population Characteristics

Sourced from the 2011 Census key statistics the following table illustrates the age structure of the Parish residents.

Age structure

	Persons	
	count	Kinver Parish %
All usual residents	7,225	100.0
Age 0 to 4	256	3.5
Age 5 to 7	176	2.4
Age 8 to 9	137	1.9
Age 10 to 14	387	5.4
Age 15	86	1.2
Age 16 to 17	176	2.4
Age 18 to 19	146	2.0
Age 20 to 24	311	4.3
Age 25 to 29	214	3.0
Age 30 to 44	1,142	15.8
Age 45 to 59	1,661	23.0
Age 60 to 64	650	9.0
Age 65 to 74	1,071	14.8
Age 75 to 84	551	7.6
Age 85 to 89	174	2.4
Age 90 and over	87	1.2
Mean Age	46.8	-
Median Age	50	-

- These figures are missing.

Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS102EW)

(Source: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=E04008971> accessed 24 Nov 2022)

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Sourced from the 2011 Census key statistics the following table illustrates the Ethnic Groups who live in the Parish.

Ethnic group	Persons	
	count	Kinver Parish %
All usual residents	7,225	100.0
White	7,042	97.5
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	6,954	96.2
Irish	35	0.5
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	1	0.0
Other White	52	0.7
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	81	1.1
White and Black Caribbean	45	0.6
White and Black African	1	0.0
White and Asian	21	0.3
Other Mixed	14	0.2
Asian/Asian British	72	1.0
Indian	28	0.4
Pakistani	5	0.1
Bangladeshi	0	0.0
Chinese	18	0.2
Other Asian	21	0.3
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	5	0.1
African	0	0.0
Caribbean	2	0.0
Other Black	3	0.0
Other ethnic group	25	0.3
Arab	6	0.1
Any other ethnic group	19	0.3

(Source: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=E04008971>, accessed 24th Nov 2022)

There are no statistics available on other protected characteristics.

Aims and Policies of the Kinver Neighbourhood Plan

The aims of the Kinver Neighbourhood Plan are:

1. **Climate Change:** To ensure our buildings, places and infrastructure are future-ready, minimising carbon emissions and other environmental impacts, adapted to the changing climate, promoting biodiversity and protecting our planet for future generations.
2. **Community:** To promote the wellbeing and safety of all in Kinver parish by protecting and enhancing community infrastructure and amenities.
3. **Nature:** To protect and enhance the local rural landscape, ecology and wildlife habitats, for local people and the wider community.
4. **Heritage:** To protect and enhance the built heritage in the parish, for all to enjoy and to help make sure it remains in sustainable productive use.
5. **Economy:** To support a thriving village centre and promote local business activity, including the visitor economy, and facilitating increased home/local working.
6. **Housing:** To provide a positive planning framework to guide the development of the right mix of new homes, appropriately located, which work well within and enhance the village and community.

The policies are:

- KN01. Economy
- KN02. Housing
- KN03. Community Facilities
- KN04. Sustainable Design
- KN05. Climate Change and Building for the Future
- KN06. Infill
- KN07. Natural Environment
- KN08. Historic Environment
- KN09. Kinver Conservation Areas
- KN10. Flooding
- KN11. Local Green Spaces
- KN12. Movement and Transport

Impact on Protected Characteristics

Age

The plan seeks to require that housing proposals address and accommodate identified local needs. (Policy KN02). The plan will help to ensure that housing provision caters for all ages, including younger people seeking housing for the first time, and older people who wish to downsize and who may have a need for specialist accommodation.

The plan (Policy KN01) also seeks to encourage growth of local facilities, enterprise and tourism, and to support a sustainable town centre with a wide range of facilities. This will help to create jobs for people of all ages, and will help to create and maintain choice and opportunity for people of all ages who have restrictions on their mobility; or for younger people may not have their own transport to travel to other centres. The plan also supports provision of community facilities (policy KN03) for local people of all ages.

Policy KN04 requires good design including for people of a range of mobilities.

The impact on all ages will be positive.

Disability

The needs of people with disabilities or with limited mobility are addressed in policy KN04 which seeks to ensure developments provide a well-designed and accessible environment.

Policy KN12 requires design which prioritises pedestrians, and provides parking for personal/mobility vehicles, thereby promoting a safer and more accessible environment for those with limited mobility.

Policy KN02 requires new housing to meet local needs, including supported living.

The provision of local facilities, shops and employment, and access to public transport, is promoted by policies KN01, KN03 and KN12.

The impact on people with disabilities will be positive.

Maternity and Pregnancy

Local community facilities including those for young children are promoted by policy KN03. Appropriate housing to meet the needs of all is addressed by policy KN02. Policy KN04 requires good design to meet local needs, with particular emphasis on supporting the trend towards home working, which may be of benefit to parents of young families. Local and flexible employment is supported by policy KN01.

The impact on pregnant women will be positive.

Race

A very small proportion of the population of Kinver are from non-white ethnic groups.

The plan is likely to have equal impact on the local population regardless of race. A public realm designed with safety in mind will minimise opportunities for crime, including racially motivated crime (although there is no evidence that this is a problem in Kinver). Policy KN02 seeks to meet local housing needs, policy KN04 seeks to create well designed development, which includes safety considerations., and policy KN01 seeks to increase local employment and facilities.

The impact will be positive on people of all races.

Sex (Gender)

The Neighbourhood Plan contains no specific policies or proposals for any particular gender. The policies have been written to provide equal opportunity to any gender in respect of the provision of development and access to facilities.

No gender is disadvantaged by any of the policies and proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan. People will benefit equally from the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The impact will be positive for all genders.

Religion, Gender Re-assignment, Sexual orientation

Key issues for religious groups are discrimination relating to employment, housing and the provision of services.

Key issues for gender re-assigned people, gays and lesbians are personal relationships, discrimination, and hate crime.

The Neighbourhood Plan does not and cannot directly address the social attitudes that underpin hate crimes. However, it does seek to provide a built environment with a safe public realm for all.

The impact will be positive on all people, regardless of religion or LGBTQ+ status.

Conclusion

The Neighbourhood Plan provides a strategy for the development of the neighbourhood area, and a range of policies and proposals, which will result in positive benefits for many parts of the local community with protected characteristics.

The Neighbourhood Plan makes equal provision for housing and seeks to provide community facilities which will benefit the diverse population.

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Kinver Neighbourhood Plan
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