



From the Clerk's Desk - Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan

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What's in the Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan (NP)? The NP contains 19 policies and a raft of intentions/aspirations. Due to a limited word count for this article, I have kept this summary to the bare bones of the policies. Please view the document at

<https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/2085015/Referendum-Version-Eynsham-Neighbourhood-Plan.pdf>

ENP1 Housing – Larger residential developments should include a mix of housing types and tenures to make balanced communities. The ideal community will include a wide range of ages, incomes, education and skills so that the community could be largely self-sustaining. A key part of this policy is the 'consideration of a reasonable walking distance' to the village facilities.

ENP2 Design – All new development in the Parish, including streets and public areas should be of high quality in keeping with its immediate setting and character. '[Building for Life](#)' principles are supported along with protecting the Conservation Area, sustainable drainage systems, the inclusion of green infrastructure and master-planning for larger developments.

ENP3 Community Facilities – Larger developments are to ensure that new residents have convenient access to appropriate community facilities (ie education, health, recreation and leisure). When larger development proposals have an impact on the capacity of existing facilities and/or their abilities to serve the local population, this situation is to be addressed either through direct provision or alternative mechanisms.

ENP3 (a) Health Care Facilities – Support will be given to proposals that help to improve the quality and range of health care services. Where a new development is likely to have an effect on existing provision, appropriate mitigation will be required and sought through a planning obligation or alternative mechanism.

ENP3(b) Infrastructure and Utilities – Utility networks shall demonstrate adequate capacity for the needs of new residential developments without causing problems elsewhere.

ENP3(c) Education – New developments shall (as appropriate for their size and nature) contribute to the expansion or new building of educational facilities.

ENP4 Green Infrastructure – New developments should integrate all aspects of design, connectivity and the natural environment. This includes appropriate and carefully planned landscaping, inclusion of open spaces, appropriate planting, maintenance and protection of green infrastructure.

ENP4(a) Enhancing Biodiversity – Includes a number of measures that seek to contribute to the achievement of increased biodiversity with the NP area.

ENP5 Sustainability: Climate Change – Particular support will be given for proposals that help meet the intentions of the Climate Change Act 2008.

[No ENP6 policy – EPC intentions only].

ENP7 Sustainable Transport – Includes helping to protect village roads, Masterplans are to include public transport improvements, safe access for a new school(s) and the Manual for Streets or OCC Guidance is used for the design and construction of new roads.

ENP8 Connected Place - Integration of New Developments with the Village – The village should be connected and integrated with new developments, having regard to the walking distances set out.

ENP9 Parking – Includes measures that should not allow developments to exacerbate existing parking problems within the existing village centre and ensure adequate and appropriate parking for new residents.

ENP10 Building a Strong Sustainable Economy – New developments shall support the existing and potential scale of local employment in the Eynsham area.

ENP11 Retail – New retail development should preserve or enhance the existing range and scale of local shopping opportunities.

ENP12 Local Green Spaces – 6 areas in Eynsham that have been designated and recognised for their specific values and will therefore have added protection against inappropriate development.

ENP13 Trees – This policy aims to help preserve existing healthy mature trees and have trees lost or in poor condition replaced, in relation to development.

ENP14 Sustainable Growth – New development should protect the character and community of Eynsham and seek to establish similar qualities in any new settlement such as the proposed Garden Village.

ENP14(a) Strategic Development Area and “Garden Village” – A series of measures aimed at protecting existing and new residents.

ENP15 Eynsham Village Centre – Development proposals shall have regard to the need to sustain and to create opportunities to improve qualities of Eynsham, its Historic Centre and Conservation Area.