

ADDENDUM TO THE BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Review

Prepared by: Alcester Town Council (as the Qualifying Body)

Submitted to: Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Date: July 2026

1. Introduction & Purpose

1.1 This document forms an Addendum to the Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan Review Basic Conditions Statement submitted under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

1.2 The purpose of this Addendum is to explicitly demonstrate how the updated Alcester NDP aligns with recent statutory adjustments. It addresses Sections 98 and 99 of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, which mandate specific regard to climate change mitigation and Local Nature Recovery Strategies.

1.3 This statement supplements the original submission text, confirming that the minor modifications proposed to the NDP comply fully with all legal requirements.

2. Legal Requirements & The "Basic Conditions"

2.1 A Neighbourhood Development Plan must meet the Basic Conditions set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This Addendum demonstrates compliance with the following requirements:

- Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
 - The achievement of sustainable development.
 - That the making of the neighbourhood development plan would not result in the development plan for the area proposing less housing being provided than would be the case if the neighbourhood development plan were not made.
 - Preservation of EU/human rights obligations, Habitats Regulations, and new legislative targets.
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3. Compliance with the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023

3.1 Climate Change Mitigation (Section 98)

- **Requirement:** The Act requires neighbourhood plans to contribute actively to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.
- **Alcester NDP Alignment:** The review strengthens local climate policies. **Policy TI 2** champions sustainable telecommunications infrastructure. This limits commuting requirements. **Policy HBE 5** requires major developments to apply the Design for Homes “Building for a Healthy Life” criteria which seek to mitigate climate change by promoting active travel, green infrastructure and sustainable design. **Policy CLW 4** requires new housing designs to facilitate localized food growth, reducing carbon miles. **Policy NE 5** requires new development not to increase flood risk.

3.2 Biodiversity and Local Nature Recovery Strategies (Section 99)

- **Requirement:** Plans must have clear regard to any Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) affecting the parish area, ensuring positive contributions to the natural environment.
- **Alcester NDP Alignment:** The updated plan integrates seamlessly with Warwickshire-wide nature recovery initiatives. **Policy NE 1** safeguards mature, healthy trees and hedgerows. **Policy NE 2** formally enforces strict biodiversity net gain (BNG) provisions. These require developers to minimize environmental impact and enhance local wildlife corridors around the Arrow and Alne river catchments. **Policy NE 3** seeks to identify a further eight Local Green Spaces to protect their biodiversity and contribution to the natural environment.

4. Housing Delivery Basic Condition

4.1 The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 amended the Basic Conditions for neighbourhood development plans by replacing the former requirement for general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan. The relevant Basic Condition now requires that the making of the neighbourhood development plan would not result in less housing being provided within the local planning authority area than would otherwise be provided if the neighbourhood development plan were not made.

4.2 The Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan Review satisfies this requirement. The Review does not reduce the amount of housing planned for Alcester, remove any housing allocations, or introduce policies that would prevent or materially restrict the delivery of housing identified in the Stratford-on-Avon Core Strategy.

4.3 The modifications contained within the Review are principally concerned with updating planning policies to reflect current national legislation and local priorities, including climate change mitigation, biodiversity enhancement, design quality and local

environmental protection. These amendments do not alter the overall spatial strategy or planned level of housing growth.

4.4 Accordingly, the making of the Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan Review would not result in less housing being provided across the Stratford-on-Avon District than would be the case if the neighbourhood development plan were not made. The Review therefore satisfies this Basic Condition.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The modifications introduced in the March 2026 submission version of the Alcester NDP Review are minor and do not alter the fundamental vision of the original 2021 Made Plan.

5.2 It is concluded that the Alcester NDP Review meets all statutory requirements and successfully satisfies the Basic Conditions.
