

Section 4.1 Community Impacts – Annexe B

Schedule of relevant policies from the draft Cherwell Local Plan as Submitted to SOS January 2014 (policies are underlined headings, and italics)

B.83 We wish to ensure that new development fully integrates with existing settlements to forge one community, rather than separate communities (see Policy ESD 16: The Character of the Built Environment). We will also require investment in a range of community infrastructure including education, health, leisure facilities and public open space appropriate to the scale of proposed developments (see Section D).

B.88 Where appropriate we will encourage area renewal to invest in the physical infrastructure, community facilities and to improve the quality of the current housing stock, helping to secure better educational attainment, health and well-being and improved employment opportunities (see Policy BSC 5: Area Renewal).

Policy BSC 7: Meeting Education Needs

B.141 The provision of primary and secondary education, along with early years and lifelong learning will be needed throughout the district to accommodate population growth. The demand for pre-school facilities is likely to increase due to changes in lifestyles and work patterns.

B.142 We will support the growth plans of schools across the district and recognise the important role that viable schools have to play in maintaining the quality of life of communities across the district. Oxfordshire County Council as the Local Education Authority is usually responsible for the provision of new schools and school places. It has a statutory duty to ensure that there are enough school places. The District Council will work with the County Council and others to provide nursery, primary and secondary schools; further and higher education facilities; community learning facilities; special schools; free schools and other educational facilities. This will include for the strategic site allocations in the Local Plan. New schools will be provided where required, for example at North West Bicester (Policy Bicester 1) and Banbury Canalside (Policy Banbury 1). We will ensure sufficient primary and secondary school provision across the District to accommodate Cherwell's population growth. This may include seeking the provision of new schools, contributions towards these facilities or contributions towards expanding existing facilities. A draft Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared. Upon completion it will provide further details on how developer contributions for education facilities will be sought.

Policy BSC 7 Meeting Education Needs

The Council will work with partners to ensure the provision of pre-school, school, community learning and other facilities which provide for education and the development of skills. New schools buildings should be located in sustainable locations. The co-location of other services and facilities with schools should be considered to create community hubs.

Policy BSC 8 Securing Health and Well-Being

The Council will support the provision of health facilities in sustainable locations which contribute towards health and well-being including the replacement of the Bicester Community Hospital.

Policy BSC 9 Public Services and Utilities

The Council will support proposals which involve new or improvements to public services/utilities if they are required to enable the successful delivery of sites and where they

accord with other relevant policies in the Plan. All new developments will be expected to include provision for superfast Broadband.

Policy BSC 10 Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreation Provision

The Council will encourage partnership working to ensure that sufficient quantity and quality of, and convenient access to open space, sport and recreation provision is secured through the following measures:

- *Protecting existing sites*
- *Addressing existing deficiencies in provision through qualitative enhancement of existing provision, improving access to existing facilities or securing new provision, and*
- *Ensuring that proposals for new development contribute to open space, sport and recreation provision commensurate to the need generated by the proposals.*

In determining the nature of new or improved provision the Council will be guided by the evidence base and consult with town and parish councils, together with potential users of the green space wherever possible, to ensure that provision meets local needs.

Should the promoters of development consider that individual proposals would be unviable with the above requirements, 'open-book' financial analysis of proposed developments will be expected so that an in house economic viability assessment can be undertaken. Where it is agreed that an external economic viability assessment is required, the cost shall be met by the promoter.

Policy BSC 11 Local Standards of Provision - Outdoor Recreation

Development proposals will be required to contribute to the provision of open space, sport and recreation, together with secure arrangements for its management and maintenance. The amount, type and form of open space will be determined having regard to the nature and size of development proposed and the community needs likely to be generated by it. Provision should usually be made on site in accordance with the minimum standards of provision set out in 'Local Standards of Provision - Outdoor Recreation' above. Where this is not possible or appropriate, a financial contribution towards suitable new provision or enhancement of existing facilities off site will be sought, secured through a legal agreement.

North West Bicester Eco-development proposals for open space will be considered against the requirements of 'Policy Bicester 1: North West Bicester Eco-Town'.

Should the promoters of development consider that individual proposals would be unviable with the above requirements, open-book financial analysis of proposed developments will be expected so that an in-house economic viability assessment can be under taken. Where it is agreed that an external viability assessment is required, the cost shall be met by the promoter.

Policy BSC 12 Indoor Sport, Recreation and Community Facilities

The Council will encourage the provision of community facilities to enhance the sustainability of communities, and encourage partnership working to ensure that built sports provision is maintained in accordance with local standards of provision by the following means:

- *Protecting and enhancing the quality of existing facilities*
- *Improving access to existing facilities*

- *Ensuring that development proposals contribute towards the provision of new or improved facilities where the development would generate a need for sport, recreation and community facilities which cannot be met by existing provision.*

Policy ESD 18 Green Infrastructure

The district's green infrastructure network will be maintained and enhanced through the following measures:

- *Pursuing opportunities for joint working to maintain and improve the green infrastructure network, whilst protecting sites of importance for nature conservation*
- *Protecting and enhancing existing sites and features forming part of the green infrastructure network and improving sustainable connectivity between sites in accordance with policies on supporting a modal shift in transport (Policy SLE 4: Improved Transport and Connections), open space, sport and recreation (Policy BSC 10: Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreation Provision), adapting to climate change (Policy ESD 1: Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change), SuDS (Policy ESD 7: Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)), biodiversity and the natural environment (Policy ESD 10: Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity and the Natural Environment), Conservation Target Areas (Policy ESD 11: Conservation Target Areas), heritage assets (Policy ESD 16) and the Oxford Canal (Policy ESD17)*
- *Ensuring that green infrastructure network considerations are integral to the planning of new development. Proposals should maximise the opportunity to maintain and extend green infrastructure links to form a multi-functional network of open space, providing opportunities for walking and cycling, and connecting the towns to the urban fringe and the wider countryside beyond*
- *All strategic development sites (Section C: 'Policies for Cherwell's Places') will be required to incorporate green infrastructure provision and proposals should include details for future management and maintenance.*