

Title of proposal/policy/strategy	New Local Plan: Preferred Option	<p>Please ensure that you have read the following before completing the CIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A CIA will help you to identify the potential impacts, risks and benefits of your proposed policy, service or project. Doing this at an early stage enables engagement and research to be undertaken to identify actions that will either lessen the risk or maximise the benefits. The assessment will also help you to identify mitigating factors whereby risks may be balanced out to an extent by the benefits. This template should be used to support the development of a proposal during the planning stage, therefore should identify how it contributes to the Council's MTFS and Corporate Business Plan. A CIA Team should be identified with different, but relevant expertise to ensure that a full range of views are considered. Engagement and/or consultation should take place with appropriate and representative groups of people that are most likely to be affected. This must then be used to help shape the design/outcomes of the project. Please note that due to the publication of CIAs, it is advisable not to record personal details of members of the public, such as names or addresses. Once completed, the main findings from your CIA should be incorporated into section 6 of your Cabinet report before submission and then included as an appendix. Please ensure that this is signed off by your Head of Service.
Date Conducted	22 August 2022 (initiated 20 June 2022)	
Lead Officer and Service Area	Alex Yendole - Development	
CIA Team (Must include a range of people with the appropriate knowledge and expertise in the subject area)	Ella Smith Alex Yendole Megan Mulligan	
Head of Service Sign off and Date		
Summary of recommendations and mitigations (Please include in section 6 of cabinet report)		
Impact on Public Sector Equality Duty (taken from section 1 – p.3): The New Local Plan 2020-2040 will provide clear guidance to developers and also members of the public through planning policies and proposals in across the Borough. This will enable any resident or business to see the requirements related to future development. There are no direct impacts identified for Age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation at this stage.		
Wider community Impact (taken from section 2 – p.4-8): Working from a consistent evidence base through the Borough Council and with partners, ensures that Community Impact Assessment recommendations made in relation to the New Local Plan 2020-2040 with policy-specific areas are consistent and complementary to an approach that supports equality in both service provision and health outcomes. Specific reference will be made when details of the New Local Plan 2020-2040 are made available.		

<p>The New Local Plan will deliver a statutory development plan which is designed to be inclusive to all residents and those interested in planning the future for the Borough.</p> <p>Throughout the process of preparing the New Local Plan a thorough consultation and engagement process will enable residents and interested parties to be involved in its preparation, including 24/7 access to key documents through the Borough Council's website.</p>	
<p>Leadership Team Sign off and Date</p>	

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The table below describes what is required when completing the key sections of your assessment.

Which groups will be affected	Impact	Evidence of impact	Mitigations / Recommendations
<p>Which groups of people will be impacted by the proposed policy, service or project? This could be people in a particular area, a street, or a group of people with similar characteristics e.g. older people, young people or people with care needs.</p> <p>Also consider staff, residents and other external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Think about the impact the proposal may have on each of the different category areas and identify the benefits/risks associated with the proposal.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impacts should not be included if it is considered highly unlikely that they would occur. • Where no major impacts have been identified, please state N/A. • Due to the publication of CIAs, it is advisable not to record personal details of members of the public, such as names or addresses. 	<p>Please identify what evidence you have used to determine your decision of yes or no in relation to the impact.</p> <p>This can be information from the proposal, research, any data you have used etc.</p>	<p>Set out any recommendations as to how the benefits will be maximised and the risks minimised.</p> <p>Also highlight any trade-offs that may occur.</p>

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Section 1: Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)

Use this section to identify if the proposal will impact on our legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010 for both residents, staff and members. In summary, those subject to the general equality duty must have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity between different groups and foster good relations between different groups. Consider the following questions:

1. Who is currently using the service, across the protected characteristics?
2. What relevant information is available from the Census and population trends data?
3. What were the findings of the engagement/consultation?
4. What do we know about their experiences and outcomes?
5. Is there any relevant national, regional and/or local sources of research/evidence available?
6. Is there any relevant information from partners or voluntary, community, social enterprise organisations?
7. What is the analysis of the impact on those with relevant protected characteristics?

Protected Characteristics	Does the proposal impact on, or cause any issues for these groups?		Use this section to identify the impacts/issues and to explain why there are no issues if you indicated No.	Please indicate how you intend to address the impacts/issues.
	Yes	No		
Race	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups and do not adversely impact upon Race. However, it does make provision for Gypsy and Traveller sites in accordance with Planning Legislation and thus has an additional positive impact upon that protected group.	Since July 2018 the Stafford Borough Council has published a number of consultation reports on the New Local Plan 2020-2040, with supporting evidence and documents.
Disability	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups. Certain policies will have a positive impact on those with disabilities as they seek to make the environment more inclusive, such as through the policy "Homes for Life", which provides for a proportion of wheelchair accessible homes, as well as other connectivity and design policies.	The New Local Plan has been subject to community consultation as seen in the Statement of Community Involvement processes and supported by an evidence base. The Preferred Option will undergo consultation, via a variety of in-person and online events to reach a wide audience. The preferred option events will also ensure protected groups are included within the local plan
Sex	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups.	

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Age	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups and will also impact positively on all ages through policies such as homes for life, provision for older persons housing and connectivity and design policies.	consultation. This will be done through a variety of means as detailed in the consultation plan.
Religion or Belief	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups.	For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk) The local plan is positively prepared and seeks to ensure that new development meets current standards and also meets the needs of the population of Stafford Borough. Whilst the policies will impact consistently across the majority of protected groups and will make consistent improvements in the environment there will be an additional positive impact in particular on the provision of higher standards for accessible housing, homes for life and provision for Older Peoples housing and Gypsy and Traveller sites.
Gender Reassignment	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups.	
Sexual Orientation	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups.	
Pregnancy and Maternity	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups.	
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Yes		The NLP 2020-2040 policies are inclusive to all groups.	

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Section 2: Wider Community Impact

Community Impact: Economic Growth

Category Area	Does the proposal impact on, or cause any issues in these areas?		Use this section to identify the impacts/issues and to explain why there are no issues if you indicated No.	Please indicate how you intend to address the impacts/issues.
	Yes	No		
Covid-19 or Brexit		No	Not applicable	
Business Start Ups	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including policies to protect the environment and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>Although the majority of policies do not specifically respond to this topic, "Policy 18. Home working and small-scale employment uses" in the "Economy Policies" chapter is relevant.</p>	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p>
The built environment and land use	Yes		The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals.	The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.

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			<p>These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including policies to protect the environment and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>“Policy 1. Development Strategy” set out the proposed development strategy across the plan period. This policy is supported by the following chapters and policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Meecebrook Garden Community” chapter • “Site Allocation Policies” chapter • “Economy Policies” chapter • “Housing Policies” chapter • “Design and Infrastructure Policies” chapter, specifically the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 34. Urban Design and General Principles • Policy 35. Architectural Design • Policy 36. Landscaping Design • “Environment Policies” chapter 	<p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p>
Economic and sustainable growth	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to</p>	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-</p>

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			<p>future development including the local economy and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>All of the policies within the “Economy Policies” chapter and “Connection Policies” chapter are of note. These are supported by “Policy 1. Development Strategy” and the policies in the chapters “Meecebrook Garden Community” and “Site Allocation Policies”.</p>	<p>2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p> <p>Economically, the development strategy and supporting policies of this plan seek to provide the regulatory environment to support sustainable economic growth in both the Borough’s towns and rural areas, creating the conditions for increased employment, better jobs and promotion of the Borough.</p>
Rural communities	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including policies which relate specifically to localities / communities and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>The policies which specifically relate to rural communities are those in the following chapters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Site Allocation Policies” chapter, specifically the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 12. Other Housing Land Allocations • Policy 13. Local Green Space 	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 14. Penk and Sow Countryside Enhancement Area • Policy 15. Stone Countryside Enhancement Area • “Economy Policies” chapter, specifically the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 20. Agricultural and Forestry Development • Policy 21. Tourism Development • Policy 22. Canals • “Housing Policies” chapter, specifically the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 25. Rural Exception Sites • Policy 26. New Rural Dwellings • Policy 27. Replacement Dwellings • “Design and Infrastructure Policies” chapter, specifically the policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 37. Infrastructure to support New Development • Policy 39. Protecting Community Facilities 	
<p>Gaining employment and access to better jobs?</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including the local economy and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p>	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p>

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			<p>All of the policies within the “Economy Policies” chapter and “Connection Policies” chapter are of note. These are supported by “Policy 1. Development Strategy” and the policies in the chapters “Meecebrook Garden Community” and “Site Allocation Policies”.</p>	
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Community Impact: Improving quality of Life, providing a safe, clean, attractive place to live and work, promoting wellbeing and stronger communities

Category Area	Does the proposal impact on, or cause any issues in these areas?		Use this section to identify the impacts/issues and to explain why there are no issues if you indicated No.	Please indicate how you intend to address the impacts/issues.
	Yes	No		
Community Recovery/Living with Covid		No	Not applicable	
Does the proposal promote clean and attractive environments	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including policies to protect the environment and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>The following policies within the “Design and Infrastructure Policies” chapter are of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 34. Urban design general principles • Policy 36. Landscaping design <p>Additionally, the following policies in the “Site Allocation Policies” chapter are also relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 13. Local Green Space • Policy 14. Penk and Sow Countryside Enhancement Area 	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p> <p>The Preferred Option sets out policies to protect the environment and to conserve and enhance protected landscapes e.g. Cannock Chase AONB and to protect Green and Blue infrastructure. Additionally, the plan sets out the approach to dealing with pollution and noise through the planning system.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 15. Stone Countryside Enhancement Area. <p>Many of the policies within the “Environment Policies” chapter are also relevant, specifically the policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 50. Pollution • Policy 51. Air Quality 	
Recycling and minimising residual waste		No	Not applicable	
Health and wellbeing of our residents	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including access to services and facilities and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>The following policies within the “Site Allocation Policies” chapter are of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 13. Local Green Space • Policy 14. Penk and Sow Countryside Enhancement Area • Policy 15. Stone Countryside Enhancement Area <p>The following policies within the “Economy Policies” chapter are of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 16. Protection of Employment Land 	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p> <p>The local plan creates the conditions for a positive impact on the health of the population of Stafford in terms of provision of open space, protection and enhancement of the green and blue infrastructure, and making opportunities available for the residents of Stafford to benefit from this green space and infrastructure with consequent health benefits. Protection and prevention of pollution also enables residents to benefit from better health, and the design policies and the protection of</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 17. Recognised Industrial Estates • Policy 18. Home Working and Small-Scale Employment Uses • Policy 21. Tourism Development <p>The following policies in the “Environment Policies” chapter are of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 45. Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) • Policy 46. Green and Blue Infrastructure Network • Policy 50. Pollution • Policy 51. Air Quality <p>The following policy in the “Connections Policies” chapter is of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 52. Transport 	community facilities meet the aims set out in the Stafford Corporate Plan.
Opportunities for volunteering		No	Not applicable	
Participation in social and leisure activities	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including policies which relate specifically to localities / communities and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p>	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p>

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			<p>The policies which specifically relate to rural communities are those in the following chapters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Site Allocation Policies” chapter, specifically the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 13. Local Green Space • Policy 14. Penk and Sow Countryside Enhancement Area • Policy 15. Stone Countryside Enhancement Area • “Economy Policies” chapter, specifically the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 19. Town Centres and Main Town Centre Uses • Policy 21. Tourism Development • Policy 22. Canals • “Design and Infrastructure Policies” chapter, specifically the policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 39. Protecting Community Facilities • “Environment Policies” chapter, specifically the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 41. Historic Environment • Policy 46. Green and Blue Infrastructure Network 	
Community safety	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including policies which</p>	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough</p>

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			<p>relate specifically to localities / communities and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>Although the majority of policies do not specifically respond to this topic, point A.8 of “Policy 34. Urban Design General Principles” in the “Design and Infrastructure Policies” chapter is of particular relevance.</p>	<p>Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p> <p>The New Local Plan 2020 – 2040 policies will have a positive impact by helping to strengthen communities through design policies that will increase natural surveillance to decrease crime.</p>
Areas of deprivation and vulnerable communities	Yes		<p>The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p>	<p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation.</p>
Access to safe and suitable accommodation	Yes		<p>The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including access to services and facilities and allows for comments which will be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>The following policies within the “Housing Policies” chapter are of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 23. Affordable Housing • Policy 24. Homes for Life • Policy 30. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation • Policy 31. Housing Mix and Density 	<p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p> <p>The provision of affordable housing and specialist housing which meets the identified need in Stafford, means residents have the opportunity to benefit from housing that meets their needs and is of an appropriate standard.</p>

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			<p>The following policy in the “Design and Infrastructure Policies” chapter is of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 39. Protecting Community Facilities 	
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Community Impact: Climate Change and Green Recovery

Category Area	Does the proposal impact on, or cause any issues in these areas?		Use this section to identify the impacts/issues and to explain why there are no issues if you indicated No.	Please indicate how you intend to address the impacts/issues.
	Yes	No		
Covid-19 Recovery		No	Not applicable	
Reducing emissions from our own activities		No	Not applicable	
Encouraging others to take action that contributes to carbon neutrality / sustainable development within communities	Yes		The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.	The New Local Plan Preferred Option will be subject to extensive community consultation. For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)
Mitigating and adapting to climate change	Yes		The Preferred Option enables residents or businesses to see the requirements related to future development including policies to facilitate the creation of sustainable developments, mitigate and adapt to climate change and support the Council’s green recovery objectives. The Preferred Option consultation allows for comments which will	The New Local Plan Preferred Option sets an ambitious approach to decarbonising new buildings within Stafford Borough which will impact positively on the
Supporting green recovery objectives	Yes			

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			<p>be considered ahead of the publication of the final Plan before submission.</p> <p>The development strategy has identified areas suitable for development which are in sustainable locations or have the opportunity to create a sustainable community (i.e. Meecebrook). The development strategy has been set out in “Policy 1. Development strategy” which is then supported by the chapters “Meecebrook Garden Community” and “Site allocation policies”.</p> <p>In relation to the mitigation and adaptation to climate change, the policies of specific note are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 4. Climate change development requirements • Policy 40. Renewable and low carbon energy • Policy 42. Flood risk • Policy 43. Sustainable drainage • Policy 46. Green and blue infrastructure network • Policy 52. Transport • Policy 53. Parking and electric vehicle charging point standards 	<p>environment and reduce greenhouse gas emissions where possible. Additionally, any potential impacts from the changing environment, such as areas having an increased flood risk, have been considered.</p> <p>The New Local Plan Preferred Option has been created to support the Council’s green recovery objectives.</p> <p>Of particular note from the New Local Plan evidence base are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffordshire Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation • Southern Staffordshire Council Water Cycle Study • Sustainability Appraisal – both the initial and interim report • Habitats Regulations Assessment – both the Issues and Options stage report and the Preferred Options stage report • Stafford Borough Nature Recovery Network <p>Please also see the topic papers which support the Preferred Option.</p>
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Community Impact: Financially sustainable and responsive to customer need

Category Area	Does the proposal impact on, or cause any issues in these areas?		Use this section to identify the impacts/issues and to explain why there are no issues if you indicated No.	Please indicate how you intend to address the impacts/issues.
	Yes	No		
Financial Recovery	Yes		<p>The development strategy and supporting policies of the Preferred Option seek to provide the basis for supporting sustainable economic growth in both the borough's towns and its rural areas.</p> <p>The specific policies in support of this can be seen in the "Economy policies" chapter.</p>	<p>Economically, the development strategy and supporting policies of this plan seek to provide the regulatory environment to support sustainable economic growth in both the Borough's towns and rural areas, creating the conditions for increased employment, better jobs and promotion of the Borough.</p> <p>Of particular note in the evidence base are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Appraisal – both the initial and interim report • Economic and Housing Development Needs Assessment • Town Centre Capacity Assessment for Stafford Borough <p>Please also see the Meecebrook evidence base and the topic papers which support the Preferred Option.</p>
Customer contact and interaction with our services	Yes		The New Local Plan will provide clear guidance to developers and members of the public through the planning policies and	The New Local Plan has been subject to community consultation as seen in the Statement of Community

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			<p>proposals. These policies and proposals will undergo consultation in the Preferred Option.</p>	<p>Involvement processes and supported by an evidence base.</p> <p>The Preferred Option will undergo consultation, via a variety of in-person and online events to reach a wide audience.</p> <p>For further details please see the Strategic Planning and Placemaking web pages, specifically the page on the New Local Plan; New Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)</p>
<p>Does the proposal have any additional risks and impacts not yet identified?</p>		<p>No</p>	<p>An adopted local plan for Stafford Borough is in place. However, there is a requirement on Local Planning Authorities to review Local Plans and ensure policies are up to date. for plans to be reviewed and kept up to date. A delay and / or uncertainty at the local level without a new Local Plan being produced could lead to legal challenges and / or planning appeals with potential significant costs for the Council.</p> <p>Whilst the Council will seek to ensure that the New Local Plan is progressed in accordance with the latest timetable and minimise any risks of delay it should be noted that the following external factors are beyond the Council's control and may have an impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in Government legislation, regulations and policy 	<p>The Council will seek to ensure that the New Local Plan is progressed in accordance with the latest timetable and minimise any risks of delay.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unanticipated scale and nature of consultation responses received including new evidence submitted unexpectedly • Failure of key partners and other agencies to deliver evidence on time and make responses to key elements of the process • Unanticipated delays in external events such as resource capacity of the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for the Examination process or failure to deliver robust arrangements for this process <p>It should be noted that the following risks can be considered and effectively managed by the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff turnover, recruitment difficulties and sickness absences leading to inadequate skills base • Political changes, procedural delays or failure to meet Council deadlines • Non-conformity and failure in the tests of soundness for new planning policy documents 	
Financial/Resource Implications				
Are there any financial/resource implications associated with the proposal?	Yes		<p>If Yes, please state them here:</p> <p>The exercise of formulating a new Local Plan was allocated a total budget of £536,000 in July 2017. Following delays and the impact of the pandemic, an additional £191,430 has been identified as being required to meet revised anticipated costs. Due to the three</p>	<p>Please state how your proposals for addressing the implications here:</p> <p>Delivery of the New Local Plan is envisaged to come within the revised resources available.</p>

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			<p>year proposed delay, £97,500 of this increase has been funded from the Council’s annual contributions of £32,500 per annum, together with £30,000 to cover additional costs relating to the pandemic. This leaves a balance of £63,930 to be funded. This outstanding balance has been allocated monies in principle from the planning fee reserve. Delivery of the New Local Plan is envisaged to come within the revised resources available as outlined above.</p> <p>The main costs incurred in preparing and finalising the New Local Plan include the evidence base, community engagement and consultation, and the independent Examination process prior to adoption.</p>	<p>The financial implications of updating the New Local Plan programme through the Local Development Scheme are that funds will now be spent in subsequent financial years than previously planned.</p>
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Once completed, please return to Corporate Business and Partnerships: corporatebusiness@staffordbc.gov.uk