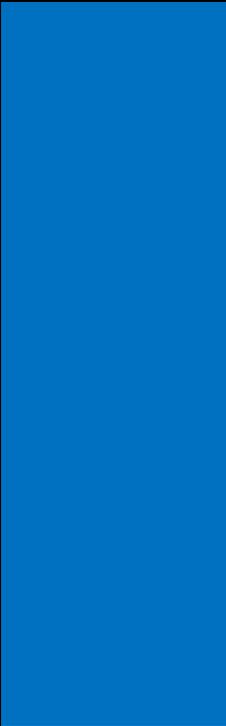


Demonstrating how policies and Proposals of the Downton Neighbourhood Plan address Wiltshire Core Strategy sustainability issues

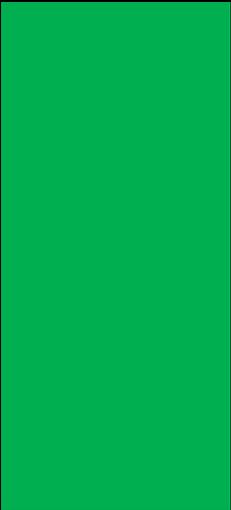
| Wiltshire Core Strategy Sustainability Assessment Objectives | NP Policy or Proposal | Impact | Sustainability Effect (See table at end) |
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| <p>1. Protect and enhance all biodiversity and geological features</p> | <p>LC4. Any development that compromises the Avon Valley SSSI and the Special Landscape area, as described in Wiltshire Council’s policy C6, or adversely affects wild life sites will not be supported.</p> <p>LC6. Scale and mass of all new development must be informed by, and sensitive to, local topography and landscape character, and not have negative visual impact on the rural landscape.</p> <p>RE1. Activities that preserve the rural nature of the Neighbourhood Plan area while also ensuring the continued economic well-being of the agricultural and non-agricultural business activities will be supported.</p> <p>REP1. The Parish Council to work with statutory bodies and others as appropriate to help achieve the needs of the rural community and a viable rural economy without compromising the special qualities of the area.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies protects and enhance priority habitats and species • Policies protect and enhance regional and locally designated wildlife sites (including SSSIs) • Policies contribute to the achievement of objectives and targets within national and local biodiversity strategies • Policies do not lead to habitat loss | |
| <p>2. Ensure the more efficient use of land and the use of suitably located previously</p> | <p>LH3. Random scattering of development in green field areas should be avoided; new housing developments should have some proximity</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies encourage the utilisation of undeveloped greenfield land only where | |

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| <p>developed land and buildings</p> | <p>connection with the existing built environment and be contiguous with Wiltshire Council's 2015 settlement boundaries.</p> <p>LH4. Any proposal for new homes should be located either on a brown field site or on the existing SHLAA sites in the order identified in the Site Preferences.</p> | <p>that land is located within close proximity to, or can provide, a good range of community facilities, key services, infrastructure and employment opportunities. This is also tested in the site preference criteria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies protect the best and most versatile agricultural land. This is also tested in the site preference criteria. • Policies encourages the use previously developed land | |
| <p>3. Promote sustainable waste management solutions that encourage the reduction, re-use and recycling of waste</p> | <p>LC7. Opportunities to maximise the activities of the Downton Green Group, in conjunction with the Salisbury Transition group, to encourage recycling, re-use and repair of household goods will be supported</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Downton Green Group are investigating opportunities for Recycling, local composting and providing a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste | |
| <p>4. Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner</p> | <p>ID2. No applications for development that add to existing foul and surface water problems will be supported.</p> <p>IDP3. Wessex Water to complete and implement an Infiltration Reduction Plan.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies ensure that essential water infrastructure is co-ordinated with all new development and ensures that no additional waste water management problems are incurred by | |

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| | | <p>new development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies ensure that local providers are involved in managing water resources in a sustainable way • Policies ensure that development can adapt to any future flood risk scenarios | |
| <p>5. Reduce the risk of flooding to existing developments and ensure there is no risk to new development</p> | <p>ID1. All applications for development are required to include drainage plans that take into account high levels of groundwater and a Flood Risk Assessment.</p> <p>IDP1. Before supporting any application for housing development, the Parish Council to insist that all drainage systems associated with the said development need to be sealed to prevent groundwater ingress, particularly at connections from premises to sewer systems and need to have assurances that testing and certification will be in place to ensure efficacy when connected.</p> <p>IDP2. Wiltshire Council to complete and implement a ground water management strategy for Downton.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies ensure that essential water infrastructure is co-ordinated with all new development and do not add to the risk of flooding to people and property in new development as well as existing properties • Policies ensures that development can adapt to any future flood risk scenarios • Policies identify the shared nature of the responsibility for flood management between local people, developers, provider companies and water suppliers | |
| <p>6. Improve air quality</p> | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Policies minimise the | |

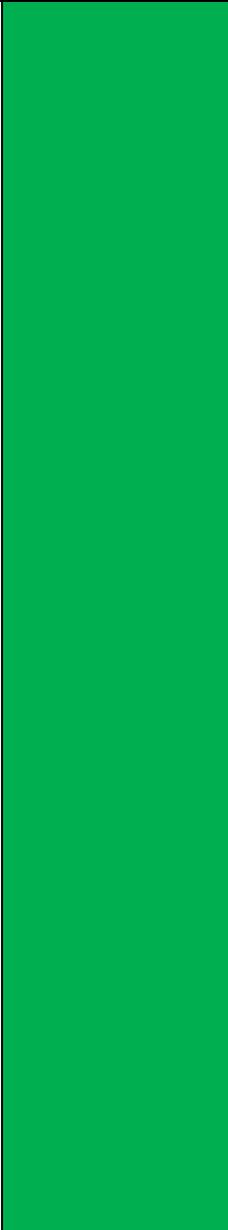
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| <p>throughout Wiltshire and minimise and / or mitigate against all sources of environmental pollution</p> | <p>LHP2. Access arrangements for new development of land north of the junction of the A338 and B3080 must minimise the creation of new junctions on the A338 by utilising the existing roundabout at Batten Road.</p> <p>REP2. Residents and the Parish Council to continue to lobby for the provision of superfast broadband throughout the rural parts of the parish within the next three years. (encouraging home working and reducing travel pollution)</p> <p>T3. Proposals which support a sustainable transport strategy for rural areas including Wiltshire Council’s objectives to reduce impacts on the built and natural environment (SO3), encourage the efficient movement of freight (SO10) and improve safety for all road users (SO8) will be supported.</p> | <p>impact on local air quality and mitigates the impacts on air quality from road transport</p> |  |
| <p>7. Minimise our impacts on climate change and reduce our vulnerability to future climate change effects</p> | <p>LC3. All new development and any alterations to existing buildings must achieve the highest possible level of energy efficiency and sustainability, taking account of the visual impact and its position in the landscape.</p> <p>T3. Proposals which support a sustainable transport strategy for rural areas including Wiltshire Council’s objectives to reduce impacts on the built and natural environment (SO3), encourage the efficient movement of freight (SO10) and improve safety for all road users (SO8) will be supported.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Policies promote energy efficiency in buildings and new development and minimises contributions to climate change through sustainable building practices • Policies reduce transport emissions |  |
| <p>8. Protect, maintain and</p> | <p>LC5. Housing development on the Parish’s public</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies conserve features |  |

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| <p>enhance the historic environment and archaeological assets</p> | <p>Green Infrastructure will not be supported. This includes: The Millennium Green, Moot Lane Playing Fields, The Downton Moot, The Borough Greens and the Memorial Gardens.</p> | <p>and areas of historical and cultural value, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, and Historic Parks and Gardens. The Plan’s narrative goes further in identifying how this is to be managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies maintain the character and distinctiveness of the local settlement | |
| <p>9. Protect and enhance the character and quality of Wiltshire’s rural and urban landscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place</p> | <p>LC1. New Development throughout the Parish must respect heritage, local building styles and traditions, and enhance the character of the local environment. LC2. Any development in the conservation area must conform to the guidelines expressed in the Village Design Statement. LH1. Housing Development must be aligned with the Core Strategy allocation of 190 homes (2006-2026). LH2. For any remaining residential development required to meet Core Strategy requirements from the date of acceptance of the Neighbourhood Plan, small scale development, as preferred by the community (between 15 and 25 houses and including infill), should influence the planning decision. REP3. The Parish Council to continue to work with the appropriate authorities to highlight the maintenance requirements of the rural roads throughout the life of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies protect the landscape character and scenic quality of the Plan area • Policies minimise the visual impact of new developments on the landscape and promote the most efficient use of land by prioritising the use of previously developed land where possible. | |

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| <p>10. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing, and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within their communities</p> | <p>LH5. Proposals for new housing development must make sure that there is mix of housing to meet identifiable needs of the local community, especially with regard to the provision of starter and smaller homes for private purchase including downsizing of existing residents as well as affordable homes for rent or shared ownership. LHP1. Wiltshire Council and Housing Associations must give priority to the needs of people in the Downton Plan area when allocating affordable housing.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies provide an adequate supply of affordable housing and a range of housing types and sizes to meet the needs of all sectors of the community. The allocation of 30% affordable housing in S Wilts is assessed as being adequate. |  |
| <p>11. Provide a safe and healthy environment in which to live</p> | <p>T2. Proposals to improve the safe delivery of pupils to Downton Primary School and Trafalgar Secondary School sites on foot, by bicycle, school buses or by car, even if they involve changes to the existing site entrances, will be supported and should be expedited. T1. Development that would give rise to unacceptable highway dangers will not be permitted. Developers must identify the realistic level of traffic they are likely to generate. They must assess the potential impact of this traffic on pedestrians, cyclists, road safety, parking and congestion within the Downton Neighbourhood Plan area and include measures to mitigate any impacts. CF3. Adequate medical services to serve the residents of the plan area and those outside the plan area for whom Downton is a service provider must</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies aim to enhance the safe access to local schools beyond that which currently exists. • Policies take account of the impact on safety of additional traffic with a view to mitigating these • Policies encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities by supporting and improving existing leisure facilities. • Policies provide for high quality, accessible health care facilities • Policies promote outside recreational and leisure |  |

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| | <p>be provided.</p> <p>CFP2. The Parish Council to support plans for the medical and dental practices to expand as needed by residents of new housing where these conform to the Neighbourhood Plan Development Policies.</p> <p>LFP1. The Parish Council to support lobbying for Public and Private Funding to ensure that a sustainable Leisure Centre and Fitness Suite are available for use by Downton Residents and the surrounding area.</p> <p>LFP2. The Parish council to look favourably on proposals that encourage outdoor activities.</p> | <p>opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These will maintain or enhance the quality of life of existing local residents and improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities | |
| <p>12. Reduce poverty and deprivation and promote more inclusive and self-contained communities</p> | <p>LF1. The availability of facilities to encourage good health and wellbeing of the local and visiting population will be supported if they are not in contravention of other Neighbourhood Plan policies.</p> <p>LEP4. The Parish Council to pursue the improvement of the Memorial Hall as an integrated solution to the provision of better facilities for the Community.</p> <p>CFP1. The Parish Council to support the expansion of the schools, pre-school and day nursery to ensure the provision of quality education where such plans are acceptable to the majority of the local population and conform to policies within the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downton is a relatively affluent area although there are pockets of low income areas. By providing integrated solutions to local facilities, the opportunities for local people will be increased. • Although attainment of higher educational qualifications is not rated at the percentage expected for the area, it is believed that this is because the history of Downton is of employment not requiring academic qualifications and | |

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| | | 40% of the population are over 65. It is believed that offering high quality early school opportunities to the existing and new population any pockets of poverty and deprivation will be overcome. | |
| 13. Improve equality of access to, and engagement in local, high-quality community services and facilities | <p>LFP1. The Parish Council to support lobbying for Public and Private Funding to ensure that a sustainable Leisure Centre and Fitness Suite are available for use by Downton Residents and the surrounding area.</p> <p>LFP2. The Parish council to look favourably on proposals that encourage outdoor activities.</p> <p>LFP3. The Parish Council to seek to improve the quality and availability of premises in the community for societies, meetings and activities by actions, including engagement with local schools to share facilities, and improving facilities in the Moot Lane recreational area within the restrictions of any covenant on the land ownership during the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>LEP4. The Parish Council to pursue the improvement of the Memorial Hall as an integrated solution to the provision of better facilities for the Community.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downton has a strong network of local activities, clubs and organisations but has lacked suitable meeting space. In addition the local leisure centre is underutilised. Policies encourage and promote social cohesion and inclusiveness by supporting meeting place expansion, developing recreation facilities and supporting the leisure centre so maintaining and enhancing local facilities | |
| 14. Raise educational attainment levels across the authority and provide opportunities for people to | <p>CF1. Adequate premises and consequent admission policies must be provided to facilitate children of the Parish of Year 11 or under who wish to attend the</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies provide and support high quality educational facilities • Policies improve the skills | |

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| <p>improve their workplace skills</p> | <p>Downton Schools.</p> <p>CF2. Any expansion of premises must involve suitable buildings and play areas with adequate car parking facilities and safe drop off zones.</p> <p>CFP1. The Parish Council to support the expansion of the schools, pre-school and day nursery to ensure the provision of quality education where such plans are acceptable to the majority of the local population and conform to policies within the Neighbourhood Plan. If, over time, more housing is required within the Parish then consideration must be given to a new primary school rather than additional classrooms.</p> <p>CFP3. Local schools to apply their admissions Policies to ensure their practice prioritise children within the Neighbourhood Plan area over those from outside of the area so that every child in the Parish under year 11 can attend a school in Downton</p> <p>LEP2. Communication between businesses and the Parish by means of a regular meeting which facilitates research on constraints on development, reviews demand, hosts links with local schools, encourages employment for local people and apprenticeships and supports job advertisements, to be enabled by the Parish Council within 1 year of the date of the Neighbourhood Plan .</p> | <p>and qualifications of young people and promote life-long learning that is accessible to all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies help to provide a supply of skilled labour, particularly through encouraging apprenticeships to match the needs of local businesses |  |
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| <p>15. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable transport choices</p> | <p>T3. Proposals which support a sustainable transport strategy for rural areas including Wiltshire Council’s objectives to reduce impacts on the built and natural environment (SO3), encourage the efficient movement of freight (SO10) and improve safety for all road users (SO8) will be supported.</p> <p>TP5. The Parish Council to work with local bus companies and Wiltshire Council to lobby for an increase in availability of public transport.</p> <p>T5. Work to improve footpaths and cycle routes through Downton and its Neighbourhood Plan area will be supported by cooperation with Wiltshire Council, the New Forest National Park Authority, Sustrans and landowners.</p> <p>REP2. Residents and the Parish Council to continue to lobby for the provision of superfast broadband throughout the rural parts of the parish within the next three years. (encouraging home working and reducing travel pollution)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies have the potential to increase the uptake of sustainable travel choices • By increasing broad band accessibility, policies have the potential to improve the jobs / homes balance and encourage home or other forms of remote working • Site preference criteria outcomes promote the siting of development in areas which it promote retained and short distance trips to access services and facilities |  |
| <p>16. Encourage a vibrant, diversified, and sustainable economy based on efficient resource use and offering opportunities and prosperity for all</p> | <p>LEP2. Communication between businesses and the Parish by means of a regular meeting which facilitates research on constraints on development, reviews demand, hosts links with local schools, encourages employment for local people and apprenticeships and supports job advertisements, to</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies support the creation of flexible jobs to meet the changing needs of the population • By encouraging good health facilities, policies promote efficient use of human resources in the local |  |

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| | <p>be enabled by the Parish Council within 1 year of the date of the Neighbourhood Plan .</p> <p>CF3. Adequate medical services to serve the residents of the plan area and those outside the plan area for whom Downton is a service provider must be provided.</p> | <p>population and have the potential to increase prosperity for all.</p> | |
| <p>17. Ensure adequate provision of high-quality employment land and diverse employment opportunities in appropriate locations to meet the needs of local businesses, a changing workforce and the environment</p> | <p>LE1. Optimal use of the existing Business Park to maximise employment will be encouraged.</p> <p>LE2. Proposals for the development of new or existing retail units within the Parish to be supported, where need is evidenced to the Parish Council by business applicants.</p> <p>LE3. Business applications to offer tourism or leisure facilities to be supported where these do not have any adverse impact on the protected areas of the New Forest Park area.</p> <p>RE1. Activities that preserve the rural nature of the Neighbourhood Plan area while also ensuring the continued economic well-being of the agricultural and non-agricultural business activities will be supported.</p> <p>LEP2. Communication between businesses and the Parish by means of a regular meeting which facilitates research on constraints on development, reviews demand, hosts links with local schools, encourages employment for local people and apprenticeships and supports job advertisements, to be enabled by the Parish Council within 1 year of the</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies improves business development and enhances competitiveness while supporting the rural economy • Policies supports economic diversification • Policies encourages the use of a variety of employment land with mixed employment use to support a varied and robust economy | |

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| | date of the Neighbourhood Plan . | | |
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Sustainability Threshold Assessment: Categories of Significance

| Symbol | Meaning | Sustainability Effect |
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| -- | Major Negative | Problematical and improbable because of known sustainability issues; mitigation likely to be difficult and/or expensive |
| - | Minor negative | Potential sustainability issues: mitigation and/or negotiation possible |
| + | Minor positive | No sustainability constraints and development acceptable |
| ++ | Major Positive | Development encouraged as would resolve existing sustainability problem |
| ? | Uncertain | Uncertain or Unknown Effects |
| 0 | Neutral | Neutral effect |

