

Why has the Neighbourhood Plan included a list of site preferences?

It is clear from the Report on the Examination into the Wiltshire Core Strategy, both from the evidence submitted by Wiltshire Council and the Inspector's conclusions, that the **County will need to find further housing numbers for the later stages of the plan period and thereafter.** This means that the Council, and/or local communities through the Neighbourhood Planning process, will be expected to review the potential for housing growth. It is for this reason that the **Neighbourhood Plan includes site analyses and a statement of preferences so that if, more housing is allocated or events demonstrate the need for change, then the Parish would have a preference for specific sites.** This would be subject to review of relevant sections of the Neighbourhood Plan and only after further consultation.

How have sites been analysed to reach a list of preferences?

Several years ago the Government required all councils to call for land owners and others to register sites where there could be housing development. This was in order to ensure that there is sufficient land available to build the housing that the Government has identified as required to meet the need for new homes. Submissions were analysed and the results became the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (known as SHLAA sites). All the sites listed by Wiltshire as within the Neighbourhood Plan area have been included in the site preference analysis.

Criteria were developed from suggestions provided by Wiltshire Council with additions from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and take account of issues that were considered to be important by residents as demonstrated in local questionnaires. So that the analysis could be fair to those sites where there are no planning applications currently in place, only criteria that could be applied to the site itself (and not to the design included in specific planning applications) were included. Some issues were considered to be more important than others and a weighting has been applied that is based on residents' views of level of importance. The criteria and the weighting have been agreed by the Steering Group and the Parish Council.

The resulting list is not definitive and will only inform the planning committee. It is also still subject to Wiltshire Council's consultation process for future Development Planning.

Please note:

- **Several of the site owners have no intention to submit planning applications and have expressed a view that they are unlikely to do so in the future. We have included them because none of us can know what will happen in the future.**
- **A 'high' scoring site does not mean that any planning application that is submitted will be considered acceptable to the Parish**
- **A 'low' scoring site does not mean that the Parish won't support a planning application if the reasons for the low score are mitigated in the application.**