

Core Strategy Review &  
Neighbourhood Planning Update

Parish Council update

6 November 2019

# Agenda

- Update on Core Strategy review process
  - Impacts on Neighbourhood Planning
  - Questions
- 
- Key issues arising during production of NDPs
  - Key issues for parish councils
  - Table Discussion
- 
- Reviewing a NDP
  - Table Discussion

# Core Strategy Review

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Herefordshire Council

# Core Strategy review

## Why review?

- Commitment in the Core Strategy for a review in 2019.
- Requirement in NPPF for 5 year cycle of review of Local Plans.
- Requirement in NPPF to review housing requirement at least every 5 years
- The review process is likely to lead to a need to revise /update

# What can be considered when determining which policies/proposals should be updated?

These can include:

- conformity with national planning policy;
- changes to local circumstances - such as a change in Local Housing Need;
- Housing Delivery/5 year supply position;
- whether issues have arisen that impact on the deliverability of key sites; and
- whether any new social, environmental or economic priorities may have arisen.

# What is required when revising the plan?

- Any update/revisions must follow the plan-making procedure including consultation, publication, and examination by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State.
- It may not be necessary to revise the entire plan and there may be policies do not need updating.
- The greater the level of change proposed/required the longer the process is likely to take.

# Local Plan process

- Issues & Options
  - Draft Plan and/or Preferred Options
  - Pre-submission plan
  - Examination in Public
  - Modifications
  - Adoption
- 
- Existing Core Strategy will remain as the statutory development plan until the new plan is adopted.
  - May be possible to start to give some weight to emerging policies from draft plan stage but this will depend on level of objection.

# Local Plan Process

- Development of a comprehensive evidence base to justify the policies/proposals of the new plan.
- Engagement & consultation – undertaken at key stages of the plan making process, at least four stages of consultation prior to adoption.
- Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment.



# Local Plan review – areas to consider

- **Plan period** – covering the period up to 2041.
- **Vision / objectives** - do they require amendment updating.
- **Spatial Strategy** – Is the current spatial strategy still appropriate, what alternative options should be considered?
- **Housing target** – National standard method for calculating housing requirement which provides a minimum number of homes to be planned for. Are there exceptional circumstances which justify an alternative approach in Herefordshire?
- **Climate Change** – What can the plan do to help meet the Council's carbon reduction target?
- **Review of existing policies** – Are they working/ do they remain consistent with national policy?

# Local Plan review - Initial work

- Reviewing of existing plan against the revised national planning policy framework
- assessing areas where there may be gaps in the suite of existing policies
- identification of evidence requirements, including:
  - Housing needs and requirements
  - Strategic housing & employment land availability

# Local Plan review – Next steps

- Working with Cabinet to complete review and confirm scope of revisions/update and timetable
- Look again at vision and objectives
- Developing reasonable alternatives (options) for the spatial strategy
- Engagement & consultation upon issues/options in 2020

# Neighbourhood Planning in Herefordshire

Samantha Banks  
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Herefordshire Council

# Impacts on Neighbourhood Planning

# Core Strategy revision

Could alter:

- Settlement hierarchy
- Proportional growth figures
- Core policies and principles

Be aware of:

- Changes in national policy
- Core Strategy consultations
- Timescales of the revisions



# Core Strategy revision

You will need to consider:

- Whether you wish to review/ revise your NDPs
- How robust your current NDP is
- Timing of any review of your NDP
- How your current policies conform with the emerging Core Strategy



Questions?



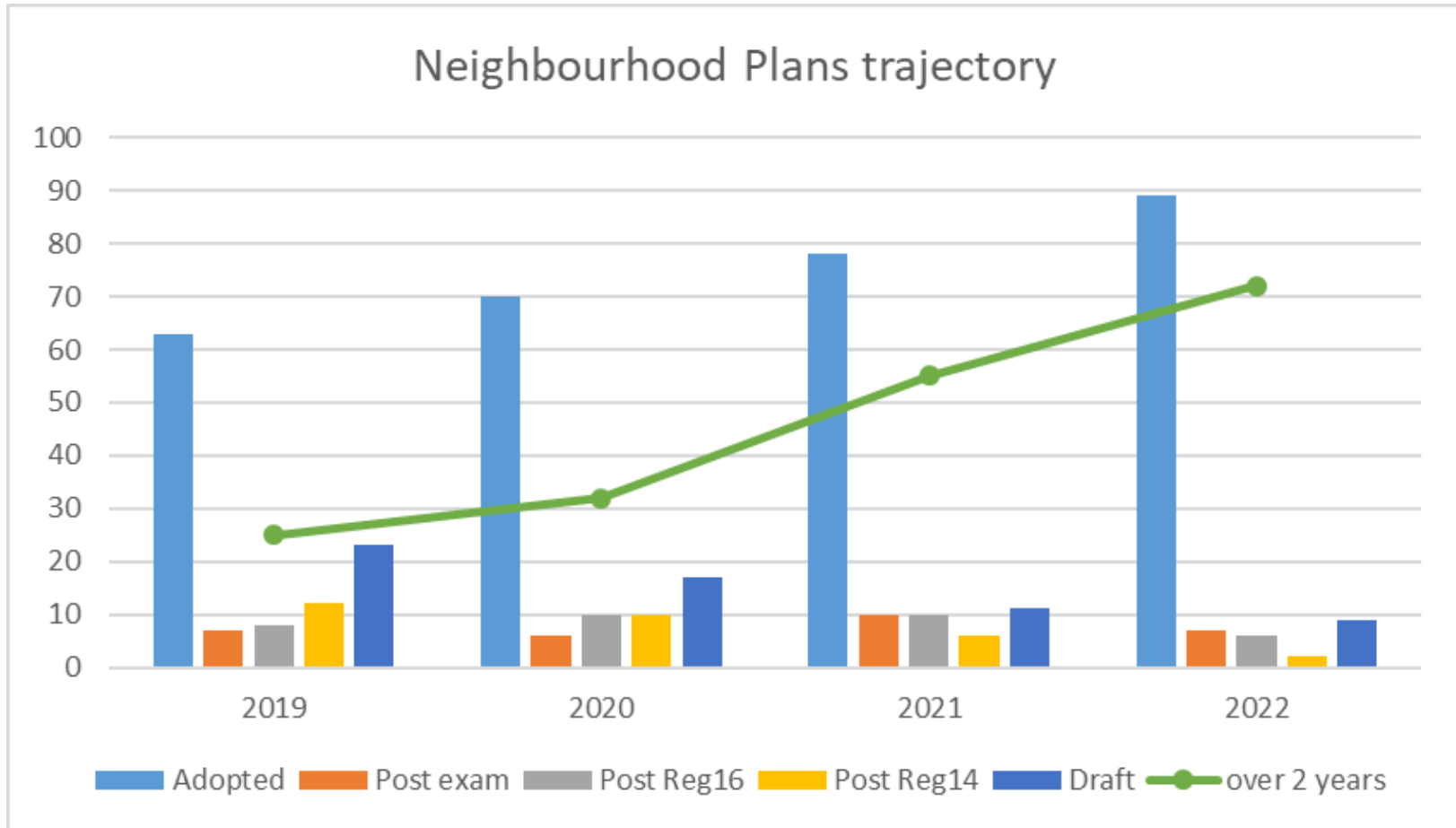
# Lessons learnt and key issues

# Key issues arising

- Core Strategy review / revisions
- 5 year land supply / 'out of date' NDPs after 2 years
- Appetite to review / revise
- More involved plans
- More scrutiny from developers
- More case law



# Key issues arising

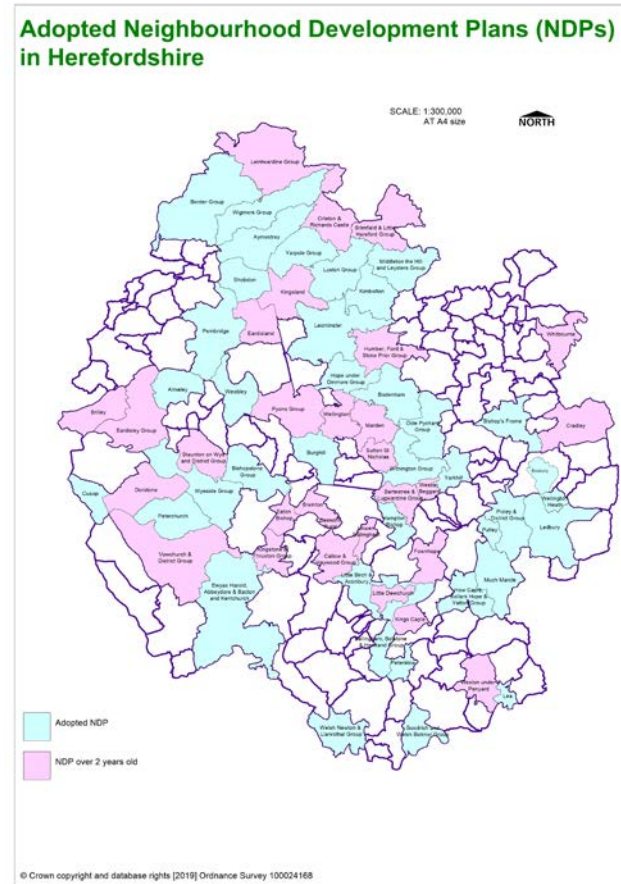


# Material weight of made plans

Full weight if:

- Under 2 years
- Contains site allocations
- At least three year land supply

The revised Core Strategy will gain material weight following draft plan consultation



# Key lessons so far for LPA

- Breakdown traditional views and roles
- Provide early support
- Engage service providers
- Continuous engagement with parishes
- Discuss 'basic conditions' issues early
- Encourage external support where needed



# Key lessons so far for Parish Councils

- Table discussion
- What have been the biggest lessons learnt?
- What would you do differently next time?
- What advice would you give your peers who were just starting out?



# Review of NDPs

# Monitoring of Made NDPs

- Ensure Parish Council comments on planning applications
- Understand which policies of your plan are 'working'
- Review effectiveness of policies
- Changes to spatial strategy
- Changes to government policy





# Reviewing of NDPs

What has changes since last time:

- No longer a 'light touch approach'
- More scrutiny from 3<sup>rd</sup> parties
- Need for site allocations to meet NPPF requirements
- Review of the Core Strategy



# Review options

## Minor

- Non material
- Correcting errors
- References

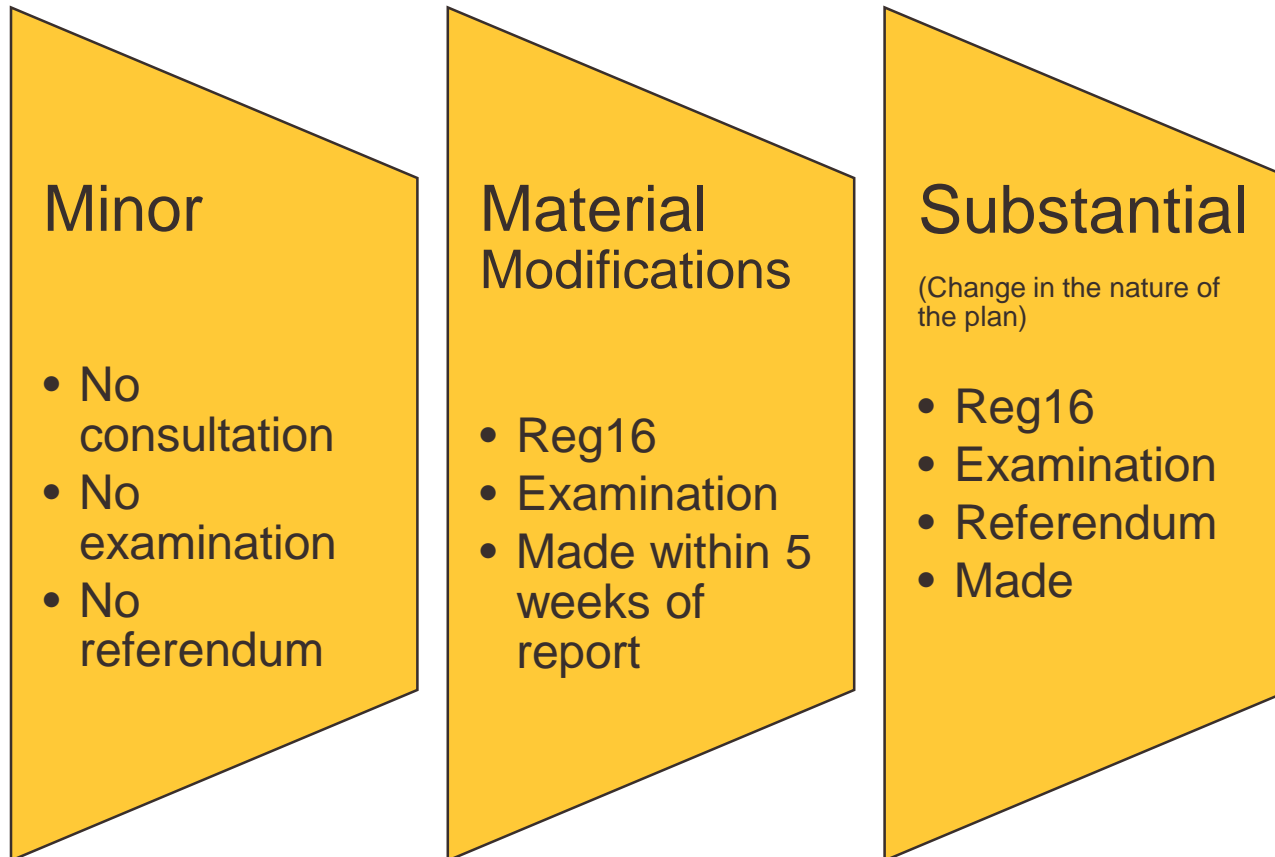
## Material Mods

- Do not change the strategy of the plan
- Additional detail to existing

## Substantial

- New allocations
- Changes to settlement boundary
- New policies

# Review options



# Scope of future NDP reviews

## Settlement boundaries and site allocation

- Para 14 of the NPPF
- More weight if under 5 year housing land supply
- Essence of neighbourhood planning
  
- Evidence required
- Controversial locally
- More scrutiny from developers

# Scope of future NDP reviews

## Table Discussion



- Pros and Cons of including site allocations and settlement boundaries within your NDP review.
- What additional support would be needed?

# Communications to look out for



Feedback form to all clerks regarding past experiences of neighbourhood planning and future intentions



All Clerks will receive a survey of parish services and facilities to support settlement hierarchy review