



COUNCIL: 16 October 2024

Report of: Assistant Director of Planning and Regulatory Services

Lead Member: Councillor Gareth Dowling

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**SUBJECT: RESPONSE OF WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL TO
CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL PLANNING
POLICY FRAMEWORK**

Wards affected: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform Members of the response submitted by officers to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation on 24 September 2024.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the response to the National Planning Policy Framework consultation attached as Appendix A to this report be noted.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Government initiated a consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in mid-2024. The consultation aimed to gather views on revisions related to housing delivery, environmental sustainability, and local decision-making.

3.2 Officers from the Council's Planning Service reviewed the proposed changes, consulted with key stakeholders, and prepared a response to the consultation, which was submitted on 24 September 2024.

4.0 RESPONSE DETAILS

4.1 The response, which is attached in full as Appendix A, reflects the Council's position on the proposed NPPF changes, focused on the potential impacts on local development, housing targets, and environmental considerations, ensuring the views of the Borough are represented.

4.2 The consultation response was fully endorsed by the relevant party lead members in advance of its submission on 24 September 2024.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The submitted response to the NPPF consultation demonstrates the Council's proactive engagement with national planning policies and ensures that the interests of the Borough are reflected in shaping future planning regulations.

6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no significant financial or resource implications arising from this report.

8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 The actions referred to in this report are covered by the scheme of delegation to officers and any necessary changes have been made in the relevant risk registers.

9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

In accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 the background papers used in the compilation of reports relating to planning applications are listed within the text of each report and are available for inspection in the Planning Division, except for such documents as contain exempt or confidential information defined in Schedule 12A of the Act.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Human Rights

The relevant provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 and the European Convention on Human Rights have been taken into account in the preparation of this report, particularly the implications arising from Article 8 (the right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence) and Article 1 of Protocol 1 (the right of peaceful enjoyment of possessions and protection of property).

Appendices

Appendix A – Response issued to DHLUC on 24 September 2024.