

Appendix B Local Plan Review evidence base list

Ref No.	Document Title	Purpose of Piece of Evidence	Current Status	Dependencies	Why is this piece of Evidence Needed?	Member routing?	Key Project Dates	Need for Updating/ Refreshing?
Housing								
1	Exceptional Circumstances for a Lower Housing figure Paper	The December 2023 NPPF revisions stated that “there may be exceptional circumstances, including relating to the particular demographic characteristics of an area which justify an alternative approach to assessing housing need; in which case the alternative approach should also reflect current and future demographic trends and market signals.” (Para 61 (NPPF, December 2023)	Out to tender	None	NPPF requirement if a lower housing target is desirable	IAM/PTPWG/P&R	Tender commenced February 2024 and closes 22 nd March 2024	
2	GTAA (Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Show People Accommodation Needs Assessment) Link: GTAA 2023 (swale.gov.uk)	Update of future Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs and also needs of Travelling Show People	Published	Call for sites must come first	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/PIB/Informal PTPWG presentation	February 2024	
3	Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Show People Accommodation Needs Assessment Superseded by Item 2	Specialist technical report to identify future accommodations needs for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People Informs allocations and policy to deliver this specialist accommodation, ensure statutory obligations are met and to deliver sustainable development	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	November 2018	

4	Housing Market Area Assessment	Update of 2020 study to determine future housing needs for the borough in terms of type, size and tenure	Published	Whole plan viability assessment must come first	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	TBC	Needs updating prior to publication of a Reg 19
5	Swale Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Link: Housing Market Assessment for Swale.pdf	Analysis of housing needs in the borough and what future needs should be addressed in policies and proposals in the LPR	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	June 2020	
6	Swale Borough Council: Choices for Housing Growth Link: Swale Borough Council Choices for housing growth	Report on high level strategic options for housing growth for Swale Local Plan Review. General evidence report to identify potential development options based on capacity	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	February 2018	
Air Quality								
7	Air Quality Modelling	To identify potential impacts on Air Quality through potential development proposed in the Local Plan	Unable to start yet	Local Plan preferred allocations/ HELAA/ELR must come first	Statutory/NP PF requirement	IAM and Informal PTPWG presentation	TBC	
8	Air Quality Monitoring Report Link: Final Air Quality Modelling Report for Swale LP December 2020.pdf	Assess impacts of potential local plan site allocations on air quality in the borough	Published	None	Desirable	No Further Action	December 2020	
Environment								
9	Agricultural Land Review	The best agricultural land for food production is now a material consideration in Planning matters under the December 2023 NPPF so we need to update our evidence on best and most versatile land in Swale.	Not started yet – new requirement as of Dec 2023	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	TBC	
10	Swale Tree Strategy	It aims to safeguard existing trees, woodlands and hedgerows employing the necessary mechanisms to conserve this	Scoping Stage	Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy will influence it	Desirable (requested by members in Feb 2023)	IAM/ PTPWG/P&R	TBC	

		outstanding resource and to capitalise on the benefits of green infrastructure by increasing tree planting and canopy cover and attracting investment to ensure delivery.						
11	Borough Wide Design Code	To allow local areas to have their own framework for creating well-designed and inclusive places in keeping with local context, character and preference.	Unable to start yet	The Viability Study must come first as it will inform details on viable homes standards.	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/PTPWG/P &R	TBC	
12	Kent Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been created under the 2021 Environment Act and are a system of spatial strategies for nature and environmental improvement that will underpin England's Nature Recovery Network. They will deliver the government's commitment to ending the decline of nature and supporting its recovery. The Partnership is lead and managed by KCC with SBC actively involved.	Partnership (Making Space for Nature in Kent and Medway) launched October 2023	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Update/info reports to IAM/Informal PTPWG/Environment Committee	TBC	
13	Water Cycle Study	Assessment of sustainable water quality and resources across the borough	Commissioned	Stage 1 – none Stage 2 – none Stage 3 – HELAA must come first	Desirable and to meet the October 2022 Council Motion	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	March 2024 June 2024 September 2024	
14	Swale Biodiversity Baseline Report Link: Biodiversity Baseline Study.pdf (swale.gov.uk)	Baseline assessment of the biodiversity in Swale in relation to meeting our duties under the Environment Act	Published	None	Desirable	No Further Action	October 2020	
15	Swale Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy Link: Swale GBI Strategy	identify and guide opportunities for a greener, healthier, more biodiverse and prosperous Swale.	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	September 2020	

Climate Change

16	Pathways to Net Zero	A study setting out how Swale will get to Net Zero by 2030/2050 and what planning policies are required to achieve that. It could also potentially set out the approach to integrating transport, active travel, public transport with the local plan.	Unable to start yet	The Viability Study must come first as it will inform details on viable homes standards.	Desirable and it will help Swale meet its Climate and Ecological Emergency declaration and action plan objectives	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation and potentially Environment Committee	TBC	
17	Sustainable Design and Construction Standards Link: Square Gain Policy Recommendations table FINAL January 2021.pdf (swale.gov.uk)	Recommendations to inform policy to deliver sustainability standards in buildings and deliver zero carbon by 2030	Published	None	Desirable To assist with the delivery of the Council's Ecological and Climate Emergency Action Plan	No Further Action	January 2021	Needs updating/refreshing before we draft another Reg 19

Economy and Employment

18	Tourism and Culture Study	Potential study to see what Swale has, its potential and growth areas.	The current headline intention is that the existing Visitor Economy Framework is updated within a refreshed Economic Development Strategy	It will be part of the Economic Development Strategy refresh	Desirable	IAM/Informal PTPWG/P&R/R regeneration and Property Committee	TBC	
19	Employment Land Review 2023	Update of 2018 study to determine the future economic land needs of the borough	Published		Statutory/NP PF requirement	No further action	February 2024	
20	Employment Land Review 2018 Link: Swale ELR v3 28Aug18 format.pdf	Specialist technical report identifying future needs for employment land in the borough	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	August 2018	

		Informs allocations for employment land and policies to deliver sustainable development and support job creation						
21	Swale Retail & Leisure Needs Assessment - 2023 Retail Capacity Update Link: Swale_Retail_Leisure_Needs_Assessment_2023_WEB.pdf	Update of retail needs assessment published in 2018/19	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	December 2022	
22	Retail and Leisure Needs Assessment Link: Microsoft Word – Retail Leisure Needs Assessment – Rev 3 – 01.03.19 (swale.gov.uk) Retail Leisure Needs Assessment – Appendix 2- Final Issue 22.2.19 A.pdf (swale.gov.uk)	Specialist technical report to identify future retail and commercial leisure needs Informs allocations and policy to support our town centres and to deliver retail and leisure floorspace needs and to deliver sustainable development.	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	December 2018	
Flood Risk								
23	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Sequential Test	Update of previous study to take account of latest data, policy and guidance	Commissioned	Completion of EA modelling must come first and LP allocations are required for the sequential test	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	Due to commence March 2024	
24	Sequential Test (flooding) Link: Sequential Test 2020.pdf (swale.gov.uk)	Analysis of sites that are at risk of flooding Ranking of sites in terms of flood risk	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	May 2020	
25	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Link: Planning and Regeneration – Strategic	Assessment of flood risk from all sources across the borough	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	March 2020	

	Flood Risk Assessment Completed (swale.gov.uk)							
26	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 (SFRA) Link: JBA Consulting Report Template 2015 (swale.gov.uk)	Specialist technical assessment of flood risk from all sources at a strategic level Informs whether or not more detailed flood risk assessment work is needed at a site specific level (sequential test)	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	November 2019	
Heritage								
27	Swale Heritage Strategy Link: Heritage and landscape – Swale’s Heritage Strategy	Heritage Strategy to inform policies in the LPR	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	January 2020	
Infrastructure								
28	Infrastructure Delivery Plan	To set out what infrastructure is needed, when and how it will be funded to support development proposed in the Local Plan	Unable to start yet	Local Plan preferred allocations/ HELAA/ELR/LP topic based policies must come first	Statutory/N PPF requirement	IAM/ PTPWG/P&R	TBC	
29	Transport Modelling	To identify potential impacts on road network through potential development proposed in the Local Plan	Unable to start yet	Local Plan preferred allocations/ HELAA/ELR must come first	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Potentially as a for info to JTB. IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	TBC	
30	Swale LCWIP (Local Walking and Cycling Plan)	A strategic approach to identifying cycling and walking improvements at a local level which can then be reflected in the LP in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and in site allocation policies	Started	None	Desirable/ good practice/helps meet sustainable development	IAM, Environment Committee, JTB	March 2024	
31	Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan (Swale are consultees and actively engage in the process)	The Minerals and Waste Local Plans, plan for sustainable waste management capacity and mineral supply to ensure that Kent has the waste infrastructure and raw	Ongoing	Site allocations are shared with KCC to ensure no conflicts	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG	Publication of draft updated Kent Mineral Sites Plan for representations	

		materials that it needs, whilst protecting the environment.					on soundness Jan/Feb 2024 EiP for Mineral Plan May 2024	
32	Swale Borough Local Plan Review: Transport Modelling Evidence Link: Appendix I Swale Local Plan Model Rerun Summary Report_draft .pdf	Assessment of development impacts on traffic and transport across the borough	Ongoing		Statutory /NPPF requirement	Some evidence has already been published .Future runs would go through IAM/Informal PTPWG and potentially a presentation to JTB	June 2020	
33	Swale Highway Model: Local Plan future testing scenario report Link: Appdx 1 Local Plan Scenario Testing 20may19.pdf (swale.gov.uk) Appdx II Swale LMVR v9.14 4jul18.pdf	Specialist technical report to assess the capacity within Swale of the road network and the potential impacts of new development. Informs strategic development options and allocations to deliver sustainable development	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	May 2019	

Land

34	Holistic Land Use Study	To look at all of the land requirements of housing, employment, agriculture, renewables, BNG, LNRS, etc.	Unable to start yet	Could potentially partner with Exceptional Circumstances paper	Desirable	IAM/Informal PTPWG	TBC	
35	Built up Area Boundary review	To account for under construction and built out Local Plan allocations, windfall development, change of use of agricultural buildings since adoption of the Local Plan in 2017.	Unable to start yet	Landscape evidence must come first	Desirable	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	TBC	
36	Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA)	Identify available land for development within the borough to meet future development needs	in Progress	Whole Plan Viability Assessment must come first as it will provide area based	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	1st Draft late May 2024	

				viability assumptions for development				
37	Swale Borough Settlement Hierarchy Link: Settlement Hierarchy Study 2020.pdf (swale.gov.uk)	Analysis of the centres across the borough to identify their place in the settlement hierarchy	Published	None	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	No Further Action	August 2020	
38	New Garden Communities Assessment of Stage 2 submissions Link: Appendix I – PBA REPORT 2nd stage assessment Sept 2019.pdf (swale.gov.uk)	Specialist technical assessment of the risks, opportunities and uncertainties associated with the four submitted garden communities in Swale Informs strategic development options and allocations to deliver sustainable development	Published	None	Desirable	No Further Action	October 2019	
39	New Garden Communities Assessment of Submissions Link: Meeting Title: (swale.gov.uk)	Specialist technical report to assess the submissions received in response to a ‘call for sites’ for potential NGCs. Informs strategic development options and allocations to deliver sustainable development.	Published	None	Desirable	No Further Action	February 2019	
40	Strategic Development Options prospectus Link: Local Plans - Strategic Development Options (formerly known as New Garden Communities) (swale.gov.uk)	Call for submission of strategic sites for consideration as a way to deliver the future development needs of the borough	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Spring 2018	
Landscape								
41	Landscape Character Assessment – update the 2011 version	Identify and describe variation in character of the landscape and explain the unique combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinctive by mapping	Unable to start yet	None (Not critical for the Local Plan but DM use it regularly for PAs)	Desirable	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	TBC	

		and describing character types and areas.						
42	Swale Important Local Countryside Gap Study Link: McAfee Web Gateway - Notification (swale.gov.uk)	Review of land around Faversham and Teynham to identify 'gap' designations to safeguard the open and undeveloped character and to guard against coalescence	Published	None	Desirable	No Further Action	January 2021	
43	Swale Landscape Sensitivity Link: Swale Landscape Sensitivity Assessment	Analysis of land parcels most vulnerable to development pressure for their sensitivity to change in landscape terms Informs suitability of potential development sites in terms of the impact development would have on the landscape	Published	None	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	No Further Action	November 2019	Area specific update required once site allocations have been decided
44	Swale Landscape Sensitivity Area specific update	Area specific update to determine impacts of proposed development as set out in site allocations and accompanying policy criteria	Not started yet	Local Plan preferred allocations/ HELAA/ELR must come first	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	TBC	
45	Landscape Designation Review Link: Swale Local Landscape Designations	Technical assessment of landscape across the borough to identify landscape of highest local value	Published	None	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	No Further Action	November 2018	

Viability

46	Whole Plan Viability Assessment	Update of the 2020 Viability evidence to determine the value in land across the borough and determine the viability of policy options and choices for the LPR	Partial draft	Draft LP policies Site allocation selection Infrastructure Delivery Plan must come first	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation	Workshop – Late January Full Draft expected late March 2024	This will need to be updated as later versions of the LP are drafted
47	Local Plan viability study Link: 180504 Report Template V24 (swale.gov.uk)	To determine the value in land in the borough and the viability of development and to set out the costs of policy choices in relation to viability for new developments and the delivery of new infrastructure such as affordable housing, BNG etc.	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	December 2020	

Open Space, Sport and Recreation								
48	Local Green Spaces Link: Local Green Spaces.pdf (swale.gov.uk)	Assessment of proposed and designated LGS	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	February 2021	Needs updating/refreshing post a new call for sites
49	Built Sports Facilities Study	Update of the requirements of Built Sports Facilities in the future across the borough	Final draft	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG presentation And Community and/or Environment Committee	Committee 6 th March 2024 for adoption	
50	Open Space and Built Facilities Strategic Needs Report Link: ADD CLIENT ORGANISATION (swale.gov.uk)	Specialist technical report to identify future needs for open space and built facilities at a strategic level Informs open space and built facilities standards to support future development (policy requirement)	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	February 2019 (reported November 2019)	
51	Strategic Future Needs Assessment Link: ADD CLIENT ORGANISATION (swale.gov.uk)	Assessment of future needs for open space and Built Leisure Facilities	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	February 2019	
Miscellaneous/Procedural								
52	Authority Monitoring Report	Assesses the progress of our planning services over the previous financial year (1 April to 31 March), including progress on preparing the Local Plan against the benchmarks in the Local Development Scheme.	Unable to start yet	None	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG	Needs to be published alongside the Reg 19 stage of the Local Plan	
53	Sustainability Appraisal and HRA	Provide an update of the sustainability criteria against which the LPR should be measured	Unable to start yet	Scoping report - None Preferred options – HELAA/ELR must come first	Statutory /NPPF requirement	IAM/Informal PTPWG/ P&R (Full Council when it	TBC	

				Submission plan – Reg 18 and Reg 19 must come first		is accompanying the formal stages of the LP)		
54	Scoping Report for the Swale Borough Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Link: Chris McNulty Report Sustainability Appraisal for the Swale Borough Local Plan 2018-05-31	Suggested scope for the SA that considers and communicates likely effects of a draft plan and alternatives Provides the checks and balances to the whole process to ensure sustainable development is delivered	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	July 2018	

Note – The pieces of evidence with ‘TBC’ under the ‘Key Project Dates’ column will be able to be timetabled once we have an agreed LDS in place.

Status Key –

	Pieces of Evidence at this Stage
Unable to Start Yet	15
Commissioned	2
In Preparation	3
Final Draft	2
Published	30
Ongoing	2