

Appendix II Local Plan Review Evidence Base list – July 2024 update

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))	Commissioned	None	NPPF requirement if a lower housing target is desirable	Informal PTPWG	Scoping report received Second draft end of July	
2	GTAA (Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Show People Accommodation Needs Assessment)	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	Informal PTPWG	Feb-24	
3	Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Show People Accommodation Needs Assessment	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	Nov-18	
	Link: Appendix I – Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment.pdf (swale.gov.uk)							
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	Informal PTPWG	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	Jun-20	
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	Feb-18	
Air Quality								
7	Air Quality Modelling	To identify potential impacts on Air Quality through potential development proposed in the Local Plan	Commissioning	Local Plan preferred allocations/	Statutory/NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	TBC	

				HELAA/ELR must come first				
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	Dec-20	
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.	Detailed evidence	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	First draft August	
10	Swale Tree Strategy	It aims to safeguard existing trees, woodlands and hedgerows employing the necessary mechanisms to conserve this outstanding resource and to capitalise on the benefits of green infrastructure by increasing tree planting and canopy cover and attracting investment to ensure delivery.	Detailed evidence	Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy will influence it	Desirable (requested by members in Feb 2023)	Formal PTPWG and P&R	TBC	
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.	Not started yet	The Viability Study must come first as it will inform details on viable homes standards.	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Formal PTPWG and P&R	To Follow Local Plan Review	
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	Informal PTPWG and 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	Informal PTPWG	Summer 2024 Autumn Spring 2025	

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	Oct-20	
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	Sep-20	
16	Costal Erosion Zones for CCMA's		Not started yet					
Climate Change								
17	Climate change study / 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.	Commissioned	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	Informal PTPWG and Environment Committee	First draft mid September	
18	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	Jan-21	Needs updating/refreshing before we draft another Reg 19
Economy and Employment								
19	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	Informal PTPWG/ P&R/ Regeneration and Property Committee	TBC	
20	Employment Land Review 2023	Update of 2018 study to determine the future economic land needs of the borough	Published		Statutory/NPPF requirement	No further action	Dec-23	

21	Employment Land Review 2018	Specialist technical report identifying future needs for employment land in the borough Informs allocations for employment land and policies to deliver sustainable development and support job creation	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Aug-18	
	Link: Swale ELR v3 28Aug18 format.pdf							
22	Swale Retail & Leisure Needs Assessment - 2023 Retail Capacity Update	Update of retail needs assessment published in 2018/19	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Dec-22	
	Link: Swale Retail Leisure Needs Assessment 2023 WEB.pdf							
23	Retail and Leisure Needs Assessment	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	Dec-18	
	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)							

Flood Risk

24	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	Informal PTPWG	Commencing May 2024 First draft January 2025	
25	Sequential Test (flooding)	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-20	
	Link: Sequential Test 2020.pdf (swale.gov.uk)							
26	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Assessment of flood risk from all sources across the borough	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Mar-20	
	Link: Planning and Regeneration – Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Completed (swale.gov.uk)							
27	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 (SFRA)	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	Nov-19	
	Link: JBA Consulting Report Template 2015 (swale.gov.uk)							

Heritage

28	Swale Heritage Strategy	Heritage Strategy to inform policies in the LPR	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Jan-20	
	Link: Heritage and landscape – Swale’s Heritage Strategy							

Infrastructure

29	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	Not started yet	Local Plan Review preferred allocations and topic based policies must come first	Statutory/NPPF requirement	Formal PTPWG and P&R	Scoping Autumn 2024 Draft Spring 2025	
30	Transport Modelling	To identify potential impacts on road network through potential development proposed in the Local Plan	Commissioned	Local Plan preferred allocations/ HELAA/ELR must come first	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Potentially as a for info to JTB. Informal PTPWG	Regulation 18 modelling Late September 2024	
31	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	Environment Committee, JTB	Jun-24	
32	Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan	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 materials that it needs, whilst protecting the environment.	Ongoing	Site allocations are shared with KCC to ensure no conflicts	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	Publication of draft updated Kent Mineral Sites Plan for representations on soundness Jan/Feb 2024	
	(Swale are consultees and actively engage in the process)						EiP for Mineral Plan May 2024	
33	Swale Borough Local Plan Review: Transport Modelling Evidence	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 Informal PTPWG and potentially a presentation to JTB	Jun-20	
	Link: Appendix I Swale Local Plan Model Rerun Summary Report draft .pdf							
34	Swale Highway Model: Local Plan future testing scenario report	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-19	
	Link: Appdx 1 Local Plan Scenario Testing 20may19.pdf (swale.gov.uk)							
	Appdx II Swale LMVR v9.14 4jul18.pdf							
Land								

35	Holistic Land Use Study	To look at all of the land requirements of housing, employment, agriculture, renewables, BNG, LNRS, etc.	Not started yet	Could potentially partner with Exceptional Circumstances paper	Desirable	Informal PTPWG	TBC	
36	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.	Started	Latest monitored extant development site activity	Desirable	Informal PTPWG	Draft August 2024	
37	Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA)	Identify available land for development within the borough to meet future development needs	Ongoing	Whole Plan Viability Assessment must come first as it will provide area based viability assumptions for development	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	1st Draft June 2024	
38	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	Aug-20	
39	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	Oct-19	
40	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	Feb-19	
41	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								
42	Landscape Character Assessment – update the 2011 version	Identify and describe variation in character of the landscape and explain the unique	Not started yet	None (Not critical)	Desirable	Informal PTPWG	TBC	

		combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinctive by mapping and describing character types and areas.		for the Local Plan but DM use it regularly for PAs)				
43	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	Jan-21	
44	Important Countryside gap review	Review remaining gaps in the borough excluding those covered in the January 2021 study	Commissioned	None	Desirable	Informal PTPWG	First draft August 2024	
45	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	Nov-19	Area specific update required once site allocations have been decided
46	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	Commissioning	Local Plan preferred allocations/ HELAA/ELR must come first	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	Dec-24	
47	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	Nov-18	
Viability								
48	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	Complete draft	Draft LP policies	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	Workshop January 2024	This will need to be updated as later versions of the LP are drafted
				Site allocation selection			Draft report May 2024	
				Infrastructure Delivery Plan			Partial update February 2025	
49	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	Dec-20	
Open Space, Sport and Recreation								
50	Local Green Spaces	Assessment of proposed and designated LGS	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Feb-21	

	Link: Local Green Spaces.pdf (swale.gov.uk)							
51	Built Sports Facilities Study	Update of the requirements of Built Sports Facilities in the future across the borough	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG presentation And Community and/or Environment Committee	Mar-24	
52	Open Space strategy	To update the Open Space requirements for the Borough	Commissioning	None	Statutory/NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	TBC	
53	Open Space and Built Facilities Strategic Needs Report	Specialist technical report to identify future needs for open space and built facilities at a strategic level	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	February 2019 (reported November 2019)	
	Link: ADD CLIENT ORGANISATION (swale.gov.uk)	Informs open space and built facilities standards to support future development (policy requirement)						
54	Strategic Future Needs Assessment	Assessment of future needs for open space and Built Leisure Facilities	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Feb-19	
	Link: ADD CLIENT ORGANISATION (swale.gov.uk)							
Miscellaneous/Procedural								
55	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.	Not started yet	LPR monitoring indicators	Statutory/ NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG	To be published as part of Examination submission	
56	Sustainability Appraisal and HRA	Provide an update of the sustainability criteria against which the LPR should be measured	Commissioned	Scoping report - None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	Informal PTPWG and P&R (Full Council when it is accompanying the formal stages of the LP)	Sep-24	
				Preferred options – HELAA/ELR must come first				
				Submission plan – Reg 18 and Reg 19 must come first				
57	Scoping Report for the Swale Borough Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal	Suggested scope for the SA that considers and communicates likely effects of a draft plan and alternatives	Published	None	Statutory /NPPF requirement	No Further Action	Jul-18	
	Link: Chris McNulty Report Sustainability Appraisal for the Swale Borough Local Plan 2018-05-31	Provides the checks and balances to the whole process to ensure sustainable development is delivered						

Evidence progress status Key –

	Pieces of Evidence at this Stage
Not started yet	7
Commissioning	3
Commissioned/External	9
In Preparation/Internal	4
Final Draft	1
Published	31
Ongoing	2