

Local Plan Review Topic Paper

Utilities



April 2021

Contents

	page
Introduction	3
Summary	4
Part 1: Context	5
1.1 Utilities in the Peak District National Park	5
1.2 Water Resources Management Plans	6
1.3 National Planning Policy Framework	7
1.4 Local Plan: Core Strategy and Development Management Policies	9
Part 2: Performance of Policy	
2.1 What are we judging policy against?	12
2.2 Evidence: Annual Monitoring Reports	12
2.3 Other evidence and data	12
2.4 Conclusion	13
Part 3: Issues and Evidence Driving New Policy	14
Part 4: Performance of Policy	15
4.1 Further evidence	15
4.2 Questions arising	15

Introduction

This topic paper has been prepared to inform the review of the Peak District National Park Local Plan. Its focus is *Utilities*.

Its purpose is to:

- assess the performance of existing policy
- examine emerging issues and the latest research, guidance and evidence that will impact on new policy
- highlight gaps in knowledge and generate areas of further research

Other topic papers in this series cover:

- Climate Change and Sustainable Buildings
- Economy
- Health and Well-being
- Heritage and Built Conservation
- Housing
- Landscape, Biodiversity and Nature Recovery
- Minerals (pending)
- Recreation and Tourism
- Shops and Community Facilities
- Spatial Strategy
- Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure

Executive Summary

There is a range of networks offering utility provision to residents of and visitors to the National Park, including water and waste, gas, electricity and digital connectivity. The National Park also acts as a catchment area for water, supplying neighbouring urban communities.

There has been a significant increase in the requirement for good quality digital connectivity over the life of the Peak District National Park Core Strategy (2011). This has been brought to the fore since March 2020 through the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting restrictions on day-to-day activities. Education, shopping and business have become increasingly reliant on good mobile phone and broadband connectivity.

Planning policy will need to reflect changes in how people access education, employment, goods and services. It is likely that the demand for on-line provision will continue as the nation moves towards achieving its targets for Net Zero Carbon emissions. It is also likely that utilities policies will need to adapt to facilitate continued development both within and outside of the National Park. Adaption to climate change may also drive policy development in this area.

Part 1: Context

1.1 Utilities in the National Park

- 1.1.1 The Peak District National Park lies at the heart of England surrounded by urban areas and with a visitor catchment of approximately 13.5 million¹. The National Park also has a population of approximately 38,000 residents.
- 1.1.2 Most of the National Park has electricity and mains water supplies. However, coverage is not comprehensive. Mains gas supplies and mains sewerage are available in larger settlements but are less widespread in small villages and beyond village limits. Access to digital communications is likewise problematic in some locations within the National Park.
- 1.1.3 The Industrial Revolution led to a massive growth in population in the towns and cities surrounding the Peak District. Poor sanitation and a lack of clean drinking water fuelled outbreaks of waterborne diseases. This led to the creation of reservoirs across the wider Peak District to supply clean drinking water for neighbouring urban populations.
- 1.1.4 The majority of these reservoirs are located within the hill and valley topography around the edges of the National Park, with many still acting as functioning reservoirs. In most cases, the scenic beauty of these reservoirs and the recreation opportunities that they provide makes them popular visitor destinations. Such areas include the Upper Derwent Valley, the Goyt Valley, the Sheffield Lakes region and the Longdendale Valley.
- 1.1.5 Recent periods of prolonged drought, such as in the summer of 2018 through to the winter of 2018/19 have led to concerns over the certainty of supply. By contrast, both extreme weather events and other climatic effects have led to concerns for the structural integrity of some reservoir dam walls. In one particular case, the loss of structural integrity of the Toddbrook Reservoir Dam Wall during the summer of 2019 resulted in an emergency operation to empty the reservoir, stabilise the dam wall and evacuate large numbers of residents from Whaley Bridge².
- 1.1.6 A widespread network of pipelines transports water from reservoirs to houses and businesses both within and outside of the National Park. In addition to the supply of clean water, pipelines also deal with the transport of waste including grey water and sewerage.
- 1.1.7 The Peak District National Park is covered by three water companies, Severn Trent Water, United Utilities and Yorkshire Water. All three companies own and manage reservoirs and surrounding catchment land within the National Park. They are also responsible for the supply of water to the National Park and

¹ Office for National Statistics Census Data (2011) indicates that 13.5 million people live within a one-hour drive of the National Park boundary.

² Toddbrook Reservoir lies just outside of the National Park boundary and acts as a feeder supply for the Peak Forest Canal.

surrounding area, as well as the disposal of waste water and sewerage. The Peak District reservoirs and surrounding land often act as visitor attractions.

- 1.1.8 Other utility networks also cross the National Park. These include high voltage power lines, gas mains, telephone landlines and a major aviation fuel pipeline. In the case of power lines and telephone lines, the infrastructure is usually visible within the landscape. Telephone lines often follow transport infrastructure including railways and roads to access properties within the National Park. In the case of high voltage power lines, for safety reasons, they are usually set back from transport routes. In recognition of their visual impact, the National Grid actively funds the undergrounding of high voltage cables in locations of high scenic beauty, where it is appropriate and safe to do so. One such proposed scheme is for the undergrounding of high voltage cables near Dunford Bridge, on the edge of the National Park.
- 1.1.9 More recently, the growth in digital communication has driven the need for mobile phone masts and the provision of broadband internet access. Alongside this growth in digital connectivity, the availability of working public telephone boxes has declined significantly³.
- 1.1.10 The extraordinary circumstances accompanying the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic have served to exaggerate behaviours and change demand. This is discussed in Part 3.

English national parks and the broads: UK government vision and circular 2010

- 1.1.11 Under the heading of ‘*Encourage communications infrastructure*’, Paragraph 80 of the English national parks and the broads: UK government vision and circular 2010⁴ states that: -

“For the Parks to be a viable place for businesses and for communities to thrive, the communications infrastructure needs to be fit for purpose.”

1.2 Water Resources Management Plans

- 1.2.1 The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs asks water companies to “*provide a secure supply of water to their customers over a 25-year period, at an affordable price without damaging the environment*”⁵. Water companies in England and Wales are tasked with producing a Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) every five years to show how they will achieve this.
- 1.2.2 The 2017 Water Resources Planning Guideline recommends that in developing WRMPs that water companies assess resilience against a reference 1 in 200 year drought event⁶.

³ In the case of traditional K2 phone boxes, many have been adopted by communities and put to alternative uses including as locations for defibrillators.

⁴ English national parks and the broads: UK government vision and circular 2010 [National Parks Circular \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/431222/National_Parks_Circular_publishing_service.gov.uk)

⁵ Defra Policy Paper: [Water resources planning: how water companies ensure a secure supply of water for homes and businesses - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/431222/Water_resources_planning_how_water_companies_ensure_a_secure_supply_of_water_for_homes_and_businesses_-_GOV.UK_(www.gov.uk))

⁶ Severn Trent Water: Water Resources Management Plan [severn-trent-water-resource-management-plan.pdf](https://www.severntrentwater.co.uk/~/media/Severn-Trent-Water/WRMP/Severn-trent-water-resource-management-plan.pdf)

Severn Trent Water: Water Resources Management Plan⁷

- 1.2.3 The Severn Trent Water WRMP indicates existing resilience against a 1 in 200 year drought event. Because of this Severn Trent Water “*do not anticipate needing to invest in new sources of water for the purpose of improving drought resilience*”. Instead the focus will be on preserving drought resilience through responding to long term supply and demand pressures, with a focus on network distribution planning and capacity.

United Utilities: Water Resources Management Plan⁸

- 1.2.4 The United Utilities WRMP indicates existing resilience against a 1 in 200 year drought event (0.5% average annual risk). Therefore, there are no proposals to specifically invest in increasing drought resilience. Instead, the focus for United Utilities is: -

“To improve resilience where possible as part of our other activities. In particular, our enhanced leakage reduction programme will result in improvements to drought resilience as a supplementary benefit of those plans”.

Yorkshire Water: Water Resources Management Plan⁹

- 1.2.5 The Yorkshire Water WRMP states that Yorkshire Water “*plan for resilience to droughts that are worse than those seen in the historic record.*” However, the Plan also indicates that whilst there is currently a surplus of water compared to demand that this will change over time as a result of climate change. It is predicted that there will be a deficit of supply against demand from the mid-2030s onwards. The preferred solution put forward by Yorkshire Water to address this deficit is to reduce leakage and to invest in borehole supplies to enhance resilience.

1.3 National Planning Policy Framework

- 1.3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework, 2019 (NPPF)¹⁰ sets the context for planning at the national level. Under ‘*Strategic Planning*’, paragraph 20 states that:

“Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development, and make sufficient provision for...”

⁷ Severn Trent Water: Water Resources Management Plan [severn-trent-water-resource-management-plan.pdf](#)

⁸ United Utilities Water Resources Management Plan [final-water-resources-management-plan-2019.pdf](#) ([unitedutilities.com](#))

⁹ Yorkshire Water: Water Resources Management Plan [water-resources-management-plan-2019.pdf](#) ([yorkshirewater.com](#))

¹⁰ National Planning Policy Framework (2019) https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/810197/NPPF_Feb_2019_revised.pdf

telecommunications...water supply, wastewater...and energy (including heat)”¹¹

1.3.2 Chapter 10 of the NPPF, ‘*Supporting high quality communications*’ states in paragraph 112, that:

“Advanced, high quality and reliable communications infrastructure is essential for economic growth and social well-being. Planning policies and decisions should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections. Policies should set out how high quality digital infrastructure, providing access to services from a range of providers, is expected to be delivered and upgraded over time; and should prioritise full fibre connections to existing and new developments”.

1.3.3 Paragraph 113 directs that the number of communications masts and associated sites “*should be kept to a minimum, consistent with the needs of users, efficient operation of the network and allowing capacity for future expansion*”. The paragraph promotes the reuse of existing masts and other structures, whilst stating that new masts and other equipment “*should be sympathetically designed and camouflaged where appropriate*”.

1.3.4 Paragraph 114 states that “*Local planning authorities should not impose a ban on new electronic communications development in certain areas*” or “*impose blanket Article 4 directions over a wide area*”.

1.3.5 Paragraph 116 provides advice to planning authorities in the determination of applications for communications infrastructure, stating:

“Local planning authorities must determine applications on planning grounds only. They should not seek to prevent competition between different operators, question the need for an electronic communications system, or set health safeguards different from the International Commission guidelines for public exposure¹².”

1.3.6 Under ‘*Planning for Climate Change*’, paragraph 149 of the NPPF states that:

“Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk...water supply, biodiversity and landscapes...”

1.3.7 Paragraph 151 suggests ways in which Plans can “*help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy and heat*”. These include:

- Providing a positive strategy for energy from renewable and low carbon sources;
- The identification of suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy, plus associated infrastructure;
- Identify opportunities for new development to access renewable and low carbon energy.

¹¹ Paragraph 20, part b of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019).

¹² The International Commission On Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection produces guidelines for limiting exposure to time-varying electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields (up to 300 GHz).

1.3.8 Chapter 15 of the NPPF (2019) '*Conserving and enhancing the natural environment*', states that "Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks" (paragraph 172). The paragraph goes on to state that "*the scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited*", and that: -

"Planning permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest."

1.3.9 Paragraph 172 then sets out the criteria against which these exceptional circumstances may be judged, in relation to; the need for the development; opportunities for the development to take place outside of the National Park; and the detrimental effects of the development on "*the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities*", balanced against opportunities to moderate such effects.

1.3.10 It should be noted, that the Government has recently consulted on changes to the General Permitted Development Order in relation to the relaxation of existing constraints on development for communications. The changes to the Order have yet to be made. In responding to the consultation results, the Government has committed to ensuring that appropriate environmental protections are put in place.

1.3.11 The National Parks England and Mobile UK Joint Accord / Memorandum of Understanding was adopted in June 2018. This seeks to deliver high quality mobile communication whilst minimising the impact of associated infrastructure on the Special Qualities of the National Parks. The accord commits all signatory parties to working proactively and pragmatically in pursuit of these aims.

1.4 Local Plan

Peak District National Park Core Strategy (2011)

1.4.1 The Peak District National Park Core Strategy (2011) does not include a specific chapter on Utilities. The Peak District National Park Local Plan (2001) provided specific and detailed utilities policies. The Peak District National Park Development Management Policies document replaced the 2011 Local Plan in May 2019.

1.4.2 However, Chapter 7 of the Peak District National Park Core Strategy (2011) contains two policies under the heading of '*General spatial policies*' and one under the '*Development Strategy*', which are relevant.

1.4.3 **Policy GSP1: Securing national park purposes and sustainable development** sets the tone for achieving a balance between the delivery of sustainable development and the achievement of National Park purposes. In particular, paragraph 7.20 sets out the requirement for "*developers to go that bit further in order to achieve sustainable development and conserve and enhance the National Park.*"¹³ Appropriate examples provided within paragraph 7.20 include

¹³ Paragraph 7.20, Peak District National Park Core Strategy (2011)

https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/49021/LDF-CoreStrategyFinal.pdf

“...sharing telecommunications masts...undergrounding electricity cables...using sustainable urban drainage....and fully justifying the need for new development.”

1.4.4 **Policy GSP3: Development management principles** sets out specific principles to which new development should conform. Of particular relevance is Part K of the policy, which sets the principle of *“adapting to and mitigating the impact of climate change, particularly in respect of carbon emissions, energy and water demand”*.

1.4.5 **Policy DS1: Development strategy** aims to promote a sustainable distribution and level of growth, whilst supporting the conservation and enhancement of the National Park. Part C of the policy is of particular relevance, stating that:

“In all settlements and in the countryside outside the Natural Zone the following forms of development will be acceptable in principle (where permission is required)”.

‘Utilities infrastructure’ is included within the forms of development listed.

Peak District National Park Development Management Policies (2019)

1.4.6 Chapter 10 of the Peak District National Park Development Management Policies (2019) contains five policies under the heading of *‘Utilities’*. The chapter provides detailed policies, which support the strategic policies of the Core Strategy.

1.4.7 **Policy DMU1: Development that requires new or upgraded service infrastructure** is supportive of the delivery of new or upgraded service infrastructure for new development, but stipulates the provision of full details within any planning application. Part A stipulates that permission is dependent on there being no adverse impact on the area’s valued characteristics. Part B requires that new land-use not occur prior to the installation of the supporting utility infrastructure.

1.4.8 **Policy DMU2: New and upgraded utilities services**, part A states that new or upgraded utilities services will only be permitted where they provide improved or extended services for National Park residents or businesses. The developments must not harm the area’s valued characteristics or other established uses. The policy also seeks the use of design and landscaping to minimise any impact on the built and natural environment or established activities. Part B of the policy seeks the undergrounding of new or upgraded facilities where possible.

1.4.9 **Policy DMU3: Development close to utility installations** prevents development adjacent to *“sewage treatment works, high pressure oil or gas pipelines or other notifiable installations”*. This is in order to prevent loss of amenity or risk to those subsequently using the development. The text accompanying the policy provides a table of Health & Safety Executive registered high-pressure gas pipelines.

1.4.10 **Policy DMU4: Telecommunications infrastructure** is comprised of five parts. Part A requires applicants to provide detailed assessment of the impact of the scheme on the landscape and other valued characteristics. Part B requires evidence in support of the need for the development.

1.4.11 Part C provides a set of criteria under which development will be permitted. This includes avoiding harm to landscape, cultural heritage and other special qualities;

an unavoidable need for the development to take place within the National Park; and the selection of the least harmful site, coupled with a minimalist approach to scale and design.

1.4.12 Part D advocates the siting of telecommunications equipment on existing structures where possible, whilst seeking to limit extensions above rooflines where existing buildings are used. Part E limits substantial new development to that which is part of the “*code-system operators’ network*”.

1.4.13 Finally **Policy DMU5: Restoration of utility and telecommunications infrastructure sites** sets out controls on the removal of redundant utilities and telecommunications, including the restoration of sites that have fallen out of use. Part C of the policy offers exemptions to “water supply infrastructure that may only come into use in times of drought or high rainfall”, provided that a long-term need is established.

Peak District National Park Management Plan (2018–23)

1.4.14 The current Peak District National Park Management Plan runs from 2018-2023. The updating process included the preparation of a number of topic papers covering areas of relevance to the review; one of these focused on communities. This topic paper identified poor broadband speeds and patchy connectivity as an issue for communities¹⁴.

1.4.15 The current National Park Management Plan focuses on 6 key areas of impact: -

- 1: Preparing for a future climate
- 2: Ensuring a future for farming and land management
- 3: Managing landscape conservation on a big scale
- 4: A National Park for everyone
- 5: Encouraging enjoyment with understanding
- 6: Supporting thriving and sustainable communities and economy

Utilities plays a key role in ‘areas of impact’ 1, 5 and 6.

¹⁴ Peak District National Park Management Plan Topic Papers
https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0032/78179/Background-Topic-Papers.pdf

Part 2: Performance of Existing Policy

2.1 What are we judging policy against?

2.1.1 The Peak District National Park Core Strategy (2011) does not contain specific objectives with regard to utilities.

Peak District National Park Management Plan (2018–23)

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2.1.3 The current National Park Management Plan focuses on 6 key areas of impact:

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Utilities plays a key role in 'areas of impact' 1, 5 and 6.

2.2 Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) (2012/13 to 2016-17)

2.2.1 The Peak District National Park Core Strategy (2011) does not contain specific policies for utilities so there is no routine monitoring. However AMRs do report on discussions between the National Park Authority and National Grid in relation to the undergrounding of high voltage electricity cables in the Longdendale Valley.

2.2.2 National Grid has proposed an undergrounding scheme on the north-eastern edge of the National Park at Dunford Bridge as part of the 'Visual Impact Provision Project'. The National Park Authority is supportive of this scheme, however it falls largely outside the Park boundary. National Grid has submitted a planning application to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. The application is currently under consideration. Should the proposed scheme take place, it would compromise any future reinstatement of the former Woodhead railway along its former route. As such, it is in opposition to the National Park Authority's current policy stance of safeguarding the route of the former Woodhead Railway against any development prejudicial to its reopening.

¹⁵ Peak District National Park Management Plan Topic Papers
https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0032/78179/Background-Topic-Papers.pdf

2.3 Other evidence and data

Parish Statements

- 2.3.1 The Peak District National Park Authority has worked in partnership with its constituent parishes to produce a series of Parish Statements. The statements include the aspirations of each parish, along with an assessment of its existing level of facilities and access to services. The Peak District National Park First Report on Parish Statements (2020) amalgamates the information from these statements.
- 2.3.2 One of the drivers in producing the Parish Statements is to establish a definition for '*thriving and sustainable communities*'. One of the issues raised in response to this definition was '*improved broadband*'¹⁶.
- 2.3.3 When asked about the issues affecting them, 17% of those parishes who raised an issue mentioned the availability of broadband. Perhaps, unsurprisingly, 23% of parishes identified 'Improving broadband' as a future aspiration.

2.4 Conclusion

- 2.4.1 Over the life of the Core Strategy, the demand for new or replacement utility development has largely remained low, apart from where new development has required connection into existing electricity, gas or water and waste networks. The main exception to this is the increased demand for telecommunications infrastructure.
- 2.4.2 The relatively rapid development and uptake of mobile and Smartphones has led to greater demand for access to later generation phone signals with the subsequent need for infrastructure updates.
- 2.4.3 Where major electricity distribution networks cross the National Park, it is usually to the detriment of the wider landscape. The Longdendale Valley is a case in point with high voltage wires emerging from the former railway tunnel at Woodhead Station to be carried along the valley on large pylons. It is a longstanding aspiration of the National Park Authority to see the undergrounding of these high voltage cables.

¹⁶ Peak District National Park First Report on Parish Statements (2020)

Part 3: Issues and Evidence Driving New Policy

- 3.1 It is likely that the rollout of 5G networks will bring additional pressure for either more or larger telecommunications masts to meet this demand.
- 3.2 Proposed changes to the General Permitted Development Order may further reduce the degree of influence that the National Park Authority has on size, design and location of telecommunications equipment.
- 3.3 A growing population coupled with the effects of climate change may lead to concerns for the longer-term certainty of water supply. The 2018/19 dry spell saw reservoirs within the National Park displaying extremely depleted reserves of water. This may lead to a call for additional reservoirs both within and on the edge of the National Park.
- 3.4 The UK is moving towards net zero, with ongoing implications for how we travel, work and heat and power our homes. This is likely to lead to changes in how energy is generated and then distributed.
- 3.5 As the nation moves towards electric and hydrogen vehicles there will be a requirement for additional electricity distribution and increased demand.

Covid-19 Pandemic

- 3.6 During the spring 2020 lockdown, traffic flows across the National Park showed a significant decrease, as most travel focussed on essential journeys. At the same time, high levels of home-working, on-line shopping and home-education focussed attention on access to mobile phone and broadband connectivity. New ways of working for businesses operating within the National Park have also relied to a greater extent on digital connectivity. The current situation has highlighted the variability in provision across the National Park.
- 3.7 Even with the easing of lockdown over the summer of 2020, home working and on-line shopping remained higher than the pre Covid-19 levels. It is likely that this will continue into the future, furthering the need for improved connectivity. This demand is likely to be greatest in those areas that currently have poor digital connectivity.

Part 4: Requirement for Further Evidence and Questions Arising

4.1 Further evidence

- 4.1.1 The National Park Authority does not currently have GIS information (digital mapping) in relation to the location of strategic utilities infrastructure, telecommunications infrastructure or the extent of broadband coverage within the National Park. In terms of new development within the National Park, underground facilities may offer constraints to development, so a clear idea of location would be useful. Similarly, when planning new development, connectivity into the telecommunications network is likely to be as important going forward as connectivity to other utility services.
- 4.1.2 Whilst surface level reservoirs are clearly marked on Ordnance Survey base maps, their status is not apparent. A GIS layer indicating ownership of reservoirs and their status would be useful in reviewing the Plan and for future use by planners.
- 4.1.3 Consideration should be given to where small-scale solar, wind or water energy generation might be most effective and acceptable. This should also include areas where there are constraints or such development is not acceptable or appropriate.

4.2 Questions Arising

Water Supply

- 4.2.1 The Peak District National Park Local Plan (2001) made it clear in Policy LU2A that “*New Reservoirs will not be permitted*”. The equivalent policy DMU2 within the Development Management Policies does not specifically refer to reservoirs. The predicted growth in population in the National Park’s surrounding urban areas is likely to increase demand on water supplies. Similarly, the recent dry spell of spring 2018 through to winter 2018/19 demonstrated the susceptibility of the water supply to prolonged drought. Such extremes of weather are predicted to increase in frequency as a result of climate change, possibly leading to demand for new water collection and storage facilities within or on the edge of the National Park.
- 4.2.2 Constituent Water Resources Management Plans indicate an overall resilience in water supply in the medium to long term.
- Should the policy position be updated in relation to reservoirs within the National Park?
 - If so, should the approach be to refuse them outright or to safeguard areas where reservoirs might be required in the future?
 - Should policies focus more on homes and businesses collecting rainwater, reusing water and reducing use?

Telecommunications and broadband infrastructure

- 4.2.3 The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the increasing importance of telecommunications and broadband connectivity. Changes to the General Permitted Development Order have loosened planning control over

telecommunications infrastructure. Further proposed changes in support of rollout of the 5G network are likely to remove some additional control.

- Is the current criteria-based approach to permitting the development of telecommunications infrastructure still needed?
- Should the Authority focus on influencing design, mast sharing etc rather than the specific locations chosen?

Renewable Energy

4.2.4 Renewable energy is currently limited to small-scale schemes.

- Should the Authority identify areas where larger scale schemes might be acceptable?
- Should the policy be widened to include larger scale solar power?

(These issues are examined more fully in the Topic Paper 'Climate Change and Sustainable Buildings'.)

Future Demand for Energy

4.2.5 The future demand for energy is changing.

- Does the Local Plan need utility policies to take account of the moves towards electric and hydrogen vehicles?
- As we move towards net-zero, there will need to be a move away from gas and oil powered heating towards electricity. Does the current supply allow for this expansion in use?
- Do our current utility policies offer sufficient scope in relation to widening the electrical grid?
- Do our current utility policies offer sufficient scope in relation to renewable electricity generation for remote areas, off-grid or with reduced capacity?