

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE CABINET MEETING OF NOVEMBER 30TH, 2020

PUBLIC REPORT: Y

EXEMPT REPORT: N

Report Title	Planning Application Local Validation List.
KEY DECISION	Yes
Report Author	Adrian Eastwood - Development Planning Manager
Purpose of Report	To consider and approve for public consultation the Draft <u>Planning Application Local Validation List</u> attached to this report at <u>Appendix 1.</u>
Reason for Decision	The Council's current validation list was prepared in 2013 and is out of date.
Portfolio (holder)	Councillor J Bateman (Planning)
Corporate Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An enterprising, vibrant place • A healthy, inclusive and engaged community
Financial Implications	The draft local validation list has been produced within existing resources. .
Risk Management Implications	See section 4.0 below.
Environmental Implications	None.
Legal Implications	A local validation list should be reviewed every 2 years as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). As the current list has not been reviewed in that time it is out of date.
Equality Implications	No overall adverse effects have been identified.
Data Protection Implications	None.
Consultation	A minimum six-week period of consultation is expected in winter 2020-21.
Options	See section 7.0 below.
Background Papers	none
Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the draft Local validation list be approved for a minimum six-week public consultation. 2. Report back to cabinet following consultation. 3. Consultation is to accord with Consultation Plan (Appendix 2).

1 Introduction

1.1 Planning applications to be valid must satisfy national information requirements. These are plans and drawings, ownership certificate and sometimes a Design and Access Statement.

- 1.2 A local planning authority may supplement this and request more supporting information with a planning application. To do that any requirements should be specified on a local validation list which is not less than 2 years old. This local list may be prepared by a local planning authority to clarify what information is usually required for applications of a particular type, scale or location.
- 1.3 As the current validation list was prepared in 2013 it is out of date. It also refers to old core strategy policies and previous versions of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

2 Key Facts

- 2.1 A local validation list is effectively a checklist to help and potentially speed up the submission and validation of planning applications. It is not creating planning policy or guidance.

3 Summary

- 3.1 This proposed local validation list will satisfy national planning policy and guidance by replacing an out of date list. It will improve customer service by giving up to date validation information to help the submission of planning applications
- 3.2 Planning applications often raise local interest. Their consideration through Development Management and sometimes planning committee contribute significantly to business of the local authority. A local validation list will help the planning application process, especially at submission stage. In turn this contributes to Council priorities including a safe, enterprising and vibrant place, and a healthy and prosperous future.

4 Risk Management Implications

- 4.1 The national validation requirements give less detail than a local list may require. Not having an up to date local list lessens ability to require information that could help inform a planning application decision and reduces customer service by not having such a checklist.
- 4.2 A consultation plan set out at Appendix 2 is in place to guide public consultation on the local validation list and this links into a communications plan which is in place to managing key messages relating to the document to assist all customers.

5 Legal Issues

- 5.1 The NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance set out policy and guidance on the local validation list including that it should be no less than two years old.

6 Equality Implications

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. No adverse effects were identified.

7 Options

- 7.1 To not prepare a new local list and rely on national requirements. These requirements are limited as set out at 1.1 above and therefore this is not a recommended course of action.
- 7.2 To prepare an up to date planning application validation list. This will provide information in form of a check list for better customer service and planning application submissions. This is the preferred option recommended in this report.