

# Basic Conditions Statement

Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of the Report

This is a Basic Conditions Statement, prepared to accompany the submission of the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan. The statement explains how the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions and other legal requirements.

# 2. Meeting Legal Requirements

## 2.1 General Legal Requirements

### Qualifying Body

The draft plan proposal is being submitted by Whaley Bridge Town Council, which is the qualifying body.

### The Neighbourhood Plan

The draft plan proposal relates to the use and development of land and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended).

### Period of Effect

The draft plan proposal states the period for which it is to have effect.

### Excluded Development

The draft plan proposal does not deal with mineral extraction, waste development, nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The Neighbourhood Plan does not undertake housing site allocations. It leaves this to the adopted High Peak Local Plan, in which strategic sites for housing development of 184 units at Bingswood, Furness Vale Business Park and land south of Macclesfield Road are allocated. However, the Neighbourhood Plan does seek to increase the residential population of the Town Centre, improving its vitality (Policy WB-G3 Residential Development).

### Neighbourhood Area

The draft plan proposal relates to the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. There are no other neighbourhood plans relating to the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Area.

## **2.2 The Basic Conditions**

The basic conditions that neighbourhood plans must meet are as follows:

- must be appropriate having regard to national policy;
- must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
- must be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the local area; and
- must be compatible with EU obligations.

In addition, the plan must meet requirements of human rights law.

Regulations specify an additional basic condition that a plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which set out the habitat regulation assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitat sites.

The following chapters of this statement deal with the basic conditions in more detail.

# 3.Sustainable Development

## 3.1 Dimensions of Sustainable Development

The National Planning Policy Framework states that sustainable development has economic, social and environmental dimensions.

The draft plan proposal takes a balanced approach to enabling growth, but also considering economic, social and environmental sustainability.

## 3.2 Delivering Growth

The draft plan proposal seeks to deliver growth through the following means:

**Meeting Local Need:** Policy WB-G3 supports suitable locations for residential development. This policy also identifies the housing mix, including reference to the impact of local topography on provision of developments to meet local need.

**Effective Growth:** The plan recognises that growth depends on the achievement of good design (Policy WB-E1).

**Transport Provision:** The plan requires a balanced range of transport provision (Policy WB-T1) and promotes low-carbon and active travel options (Policies WB-H2, WB-E5, WB-T1 and WB-T2).

**Employment:** The plan supports the provision of new and expanded employment and community facilities (Policies WB-G1 and WB-G2).

There are 14 policies in the Neighbourhood Plan:

Employment and Housing: 3 policies.

Heritage-Led Regeneration and Conservation: 3 policies.

Environment and Climate Change: 6 policies.

Transport and Movement: 2 policies.

## 3.3 Ensuring Growth is Sustainable

The draft plan proposal addresses sustainability in the following ways:

**Housing Mix and Standards:** The Neighbourhood Plan supports the housing growth strategy and associated policies of the Local Plan (Policy WB-G3). It also encourages community-led development which is not contained within the policies of the Local Plan. In particular, it supports the provision of storage for bins and for cycles separately or accommodated within suitable large garages.

**Natural Environment:** The Neighbourhood Plan protects the Natural Environment (Policy WB-E3). It identifies Potential Improvement Areas on the Wildlife Corridor Map.

Local Green Space: The Neighbourhood Plan designates 16 spaces as Local Green Spaces (Policy WB-E6).

Reducing Carbon Impact: The Neighbourhood Plan promotes inclusion of positive design features to reduce carbon impact in policy WB-E1.

Sustainable Design and Character: The importance of design to achieving sustainable growth is recognised and specific aspects of sustainable design are set out in policy WB-E1. Local character is also addressed in policies WB-E1 and WB-E2.

Heritage: The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to promote heritage-led regeneration of significant heritage assets and support the diversity and sustainability of the Market Street area and its uses (Policies WB-H1, WB-H2 and WB-H3). In particular, it identifies the importance of the Peak Forest Canal and Canal Basin, and the Transhipment Shed (a Class II\* Listed Building).

Sustainable Transport: The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to ensure that development is served by a balanced and sustainable mix of transport operations (Policy WB-T1). Potential infrastructure improvements are not included in policy but are identified in section 3.6 of the Neighbourhood Plan.

### **3.4 Achieving Sustainable Development**

The combination of policies enabling growth and those addressing economic, social and environmental sustainability mean that the plan will help to achieve sustainable development. This takes account of the needs of current and future generations.

## 4. National Policy and Guidance

### 4.1 Having Regard to National Policy and Guidance

The draft plan proposal has had regard to the National Planning Policy Framework July 2021 (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

The central theme of the NPPF is the presumption in favour of sustainable development. Three overarching objectives are stated for achieving sustainable development in Paragraph 8:

- a) an economic objective...
- b) a social objective...
- c) an environmental objective...

Paragraph 9 states: “these objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in this Framework...”

The Whaley Bridge draft plan proposal has the following aims:

1. To meet the diverse needs and aspirations of all of the community in terms of housing, local facilities and economic opportunity.
2. To attract investment, visitors, employment and sustainable development, to meet the needs of local residents and businesses.
3. To maintain or enhance the unique historic, built and natural character of different parts of the area.
4. To promote creative and sustainable design.
5. To address the challenges posed by a changing climate.
6. To preserve or enhance habitats, wildlife and biodiversity.

The Neighbourhood Plan is based on a range of evidence, in line with planning practice guidance. This includes evidence on housing need, the natural and historic environments, transport, flood risk, and other economic, social and environmental factors.

Rigorous selection processes were undertaken for the selection and allocation of Local Green Spaces for designation. These processes are set out in the consultation statement and Local Green Space evidence document.

### 4.2 National Planning Policy Framework Policy Areas

The NPPF was revised in July 2021 and contains a number of policy areas. The following table details the policy areas that are most relevant to the Whaley Bridge draft plan proposal.

<b>NPPF Policy</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan aims</b>	<b>Whaley Bridge NP Policies</b>
Chapter 2: Achieving sustainable development.  <i>“all plans should promote a</i>	1, 2	Policies WB-G1 and WB-G3 encourage sustainable development in terms of the economy and residential development.

<p><i>sustainable pattern of development that seeks to: meet the development needs of their area; align growth and infrastructure; improve the environment; mitigate climate change (including by making effective use of land in urban areas) and adapt to its effects;</i>"</p>		<p>Sustainable design of housing is dealt with in Policy WB-E1.</p>
<p>Chapter 6: Building a strong, competitive economy.</p> <p><i>"planning policies should ... set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth ..."</i></p>	<p>1, 2</p>	<p>Policy WG-G1 addresses use of space to support the economy.</p>
<p>Chapter 7: Ensuring the vitality of town centres.</p> <p>Planning policies should define town centres and primary shopping areas and <i>"promote their long-term vitality and viability, allowing them to 'grow and diversify'"</i></p>	<p>1, 2</p>	<p>Policies WB-G1 and WB-G2 deal with the town centre and community uses.</p>
<p>Chapter 8: Promoting healthy and safe communities.</p> <p><i>"Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places..."</i></p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</p>	<p>Policies WB-G3, WB-E1, WB-E5, and WB-T2 provide for healthy and safe communities.</p>
<p>Chapter 9: Promoting sustainable transport.</p> <p><i>"transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals ..."</i></p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</p>	<p>Policies WB-T1 and WB-T2 promote sustainable transport and movement.</p>
<p>Chapter 11: Making effective use of land.</p> <p><i>"Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions..."</i></p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6</p>	<p>Policy WB-G3 promotes effective use of land in residential development, while Policy WB-E1 promotes sustainable design.</p>
<p>Chapter 12: Achieving well-designed places.</p>	<p>3, 4</p>	<p>Policies WB-E1 and WB-E4 promote sustainable design that is locally distinctive and sensitive to the neighbourhood area.</p>

<p><i>“plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable... ...Neighbourhood Planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers ...”</i></p>		<p>Policy WB-E2 directly addresses the special qualities of minor villages and rural settlements in the neighbourhood area.</p>
<p>Chapter 14: Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding, and coastal change.</p> <p><i>“the planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change.”</i></p>	<p>4, 5, 6</p>	<p>Policy WB-E1 encourages sustainable design, and Policies WB-T1 and WB-T2 encourage low carbon travel.</p>
<p>Chapter 15: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.</p> <p><i>“Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment...”</i></p>	<p>4, 5, 6</p>	<p>The natural environment is the focus of Policies WB-E1 and WB-E3.</p> <p>Policy WB-E5 allocates Local Green Space.</p>
<p>Chapter 16: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.</p> <p><i>“plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats...”</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Policy WB-H1 addresses heritage buildings and features. Policies WB-H2 and WB-H3 identify and protect key heritage features in the neighbourhood area.</p>



# 5. Local Policy

## 5.1 General Conformity

It should be noted that general conformity relates to the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan taken as a whole, considered against the strategic local policies taken as a whole.

The draft plan proposal has been drafted against the context of strategic local policies and, taken as a whole, does not undermine and helps to deliver the spatial strategy of the Local Plan.

## 5.2 Strategic Policies

Strategic local policy is contained within the High Peak Local Plan (adopted April 2016), and the Peak District National Park's Local Development Framework Core Strategy (adopted October 2011) and Development Management Policies (adopted May 2019). The relevant strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan for the purpose of meeting the basic conditions are:

- S 2 Settlement Hierarchy
- S 3 Strategic Housing Development
- S 4 Maintaining and Enhancing an Economic Base
- S 6 Central Sub-area Strategy
- EQ 1 Climate Change
- EQ 2 Landscape Character
- EQ 3 Rural Development
- EQ 5 Biodiversity
- EQ 6 Design and Place Making
- EQ 7 Built and Historic Environment
- EQ 8 Green Infrastructure
- EQ 9 Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows
- E 1 New Employment Development
- E 4 Change of Use of Existing Business Land and Premises
- E5 Regenerating an Industrial Legacy
- E 6 Promoting Peak District Tourism and Culture
- H 1 Location of Housing Development
- H 2 Housing Allocations
- H 3 New Housing Development
- H 4 Affordable Housing
- CF 1 Retail and Town Centres
- CF 2 Primary Shopping Frontages
- CF 3 Local Infrastructure Provision
- CF 4 Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities
- CF 5 Provision and Retention of Local Community Services and Facilities
- CF 6 Accessibility and Transport

The relevant strategic policies in the Peak District National Park's Local Development Framework Core Strategy (adopted October 2011) and Development Management Policies (adopted May 2019) for the purpose of meeting the basic conditions are:

- Local Development Framework Core Strategy

- GSP1: Securing national park purposes and sustainable development
- GSP2: Enhancing the National Park
- GSP3: Development management principles
- DS1: Development strategy
- L1: Landscape character and valued characteristics
- L2: Sites of biodiversity or geo-diversity importance
- L3: Cultural heritage assets of archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic significance
- HC1: New Housing
- HC4: Provision and retention of community services and facilities
- HC5: Shops, professional services and related activities
- E1: Business development in towns and villages
- E2: Businesses in the countryside
- RT1: Recreation, environmental education and interpretation
- RT2: Hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation
- RT3: Caravans and camping
- CC1: Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- CC2: Low carbon and renewable energy development
- T1: Reducing the general need to travel and encouraging sustainable transport
- T2: Reducing and directing traffic
- T3: Design of transport infrastructure
- T4: Managing the demand for freight transport
- T5: Managing the demand for rail, and reuse of former railway routes
- T6: Routes for walking, cycling and horse riding, and waterways
- T7: Minimising the adverse impact of motor vehicles and managing the demand for car and coach parks
- Development Management Plan:
  - DMC3: Siting, design, layout and landscaping
  - DMC5: Assessing the impact of development on designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings
  - DMC7: Listed buildings
  - DMC8: Conservation Areas
  - DMS2: Change of use of shops, community services and facilities

### 5.3 Policy Comparison

The relationship of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan to the Local Plan strategic policies are considered in detail in the following table.

Adopted Local Plan Policies	Whaley Bridge NP Policies
S 2 Settlement Hierarchy	Policies WB-G1 and WB-G3 support development.
S 3 Strategic Housing Development	Policies WB-G1 and WB-G3 support development.
S 4 Maintaining and Enhancing an Economic Base	Policies WB-G1 and WB-G2 support the economy.

S 6 Central Sub-area Strategy	Policy WB-H2 augments and should be applied with this Local Plan policy.
EQ 1 Climate Change	Policy WB-E1 encourages sustainable design, and Policies WB-T1 and WB-T2 encourage low carbon travel.
EQ 2 Landscape Character	Landscape character is addressed in Policies WB-H2, WB-E2, WB-E3, and WB-E4. Policy WB-G1 augments this Local Plan policy.
EQ 3 Rural Development	Policy WB-E2 addresses development in minor villages and rural settlements within the neighbourhood area, and Policies WB-E3 and WB-E4 address rural and landscape character.  Policy WB-G1 augments this Local Plan policy.
EQ 5 Biodiversity	Policy WB-E3 addresses the natural environment. Policy WB-H2 references and should be applied with this Local Plan policy.
EQ 6 Design and Place Making	Policies WB-E1, WB-E2 reference design and place making.  Policy WB-G1 augments this Local Plan policy.
EQ 7 Built and Historic Environment	Policies WB-E1, WB-H1, WB-H2, WB-H3, WB-E2 address heritage assets and the historic environment.  Policy WB-H1 in particular should be applied alongside this Local Plan policy.
EQ 8 Green Infrastructure	Green infrastructure is supported in Policies WB-H2, WB-E1, and WB-T2.  Policy WB-H2 in particular references and should be applied with this Local Plan policy.
EQ 9 Trees, woodland and hedgerows	This Local Plan policy is directly referenced and augmented by Policy WB-E3.
E 1 New Employment Development	Policy WB-G1 addresses employment.
E 4 Change of Use of Existing Business Land and Premises	Change of use is addressed in Policy WB-G1.
E5 Regenerating an Industrial Legacy	Historic industrial features in the neighbourhood area are addressed in WB-H2 and WB-H3.
E 6 Promoting Peak District Tourism and Culture	Tourism and culture are supported in Policies WB-G1 and WB-G2. Policy WB-H3 also references the importance of heritage assets to the visitor economy.
H 1 Location of Housing Development	Policies WB-G1 and WB-G3 support development. Policy WB-E4 safeguards the rural and landscape character by encouraging sympathetic development.
H 2 Housing Allocations	Policies WB-G1 and WB-G3 support development.

H 3 New Housing Development	Policies WB-G1, WB-G3, WB-E1, WB-E2 address development.
H 4 Affordable Housing	Policies WB-G1 and WB-G3 support development.
CF 1 Retail and Town Centres	Policy WB-G1 augments the Local Plan provisions for retail and town centres. Policy WB-G2 also references these areas.
CF 2 Primary Shopping Frontages	Policy WB-G1 addresses live/work units and shop fronts. The reinstatement of shop fronts is supported in WB-H1.
CF 3 Local Infrastructure Provision	Policy WB-E1 encourages provision of pedestrian and cycle infrastructure. Policy WB-H2 safeguards active travel along the Peak Forest Canal. Policy WB-T1 encourages a balanced provision of transport options.
CF 4 Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities	Policy WB-E5 allocates Local Green Space, while Policies WB-G1, WB-G2, and WB-H3 make provision for sports and recreation facilities.
CF 5 Provision and Retention of Local Community Services and Facilities	Policy WB-G1 augments this Local Plan policy.
CF 6 Accessibility and Transport	Policies WB-E1, WB-H2, and WB-T1 address transport and encourage convenience of active travel.  Policy WB-H2 in particular references and should be applied with this Local Plan policy.

The relationship of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan to the Peak District National Park's Local Development Framework Core Strategy (adopted October 2011) and Development Management Policies (adopted May 2019) policies are considered in detail in the following tables.

<b>Local Development Framework Core Strategy Policies</b>	<b>Whaley Bridge NP Policies</b>
GSP1: Securing National Park purposes and sustainable development	Policies WB-G1, WB-G2, WB-G3, WB-H1, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, and T1 relate to sustainable development and National Park purposes.
GSP2: Enhancing the National Park	Policies WB-G2, WB-G3, WB-H1, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, and T1 support enhancement of the National Park.
GSP3: Development management principles	The Development Management Principles are supported in WB-G2, WB-G3, WB-H1, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, and T1.
DS1: Development strategy	The Development strategy is supported in WB-G2, E2, E3, E4, E5, and E6.
L1: Landscape character and valued characteristics	This policy is supported in policies WB-G1, WB-G2, WB-G3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, and T1.
L2: Sites of biodiversity or geo-diversity importance	Policies E1, E2, E3, E4, and E5 support sites of biodiversity or geo-diversity importance.

L3: Cultural heritage assets of archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic significance	Policies E1, E2, and E4 address cultural heritage assets.
HC1: New Housing	New housing is addressed in WB-G3, Residential Development.
HC4: Provision and retention of community services and facilities	Community services and facilities are addressed in WB-G1 and are the focus of WB-G2, Community Facilities.
HC5: Shops, professional services and related activities	Policy WB-G1 Town Centre and Economy addresses shops.
E2: Businesses in the countryside	Policy WB-G1 Town Centre and Economy addresses business.
RT1: Recreation, environmental education and interpretation	This policy is addressed in policy WB-G1 Town Centre and Economy.
RT2: Hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation	This policy is addressed in policy WB-G1 Town Centre and Economy.
RT3: Caravans and camping	This policy is addressed in policy WB-G1 Town Centre and Economy.
CC1: Climate change mitigation and adaptation	Policy E1 – Sustainable Design addresses climate change mitigation and adaptation.
CC2: Low carbon and renewable energy development	Policy E1 – Sustainable Design addresses low carbon and renewable energy.
T1: Reducing the general need to travel and encouraging sustainable transport	Policies E5 and T1 address sustainable travel.
T2: Reducing and directing traffic	This policy is addressed in policy T1 – Transport and Movement.
T3: Design of transport infrastructure	This policy is addressed in policy T1 – Transport and Movement.
T4: Managing the demand for freight transport	This policy is addressed in policy T1 – Transport and Movement.
T5: Managing the demand for rail, and reuse of former railway routes	This policy is addressed in policy T1 – Transport and Movement.
T6: Routes for walking, cycling and horse riding, and waterways	Policies E5, T1, and T2 address routes for active travel.
T7: Minimising the adverse impact of motor vehicles and managing the demand for car and coach parks	Policy T1 addresses travel & transport.

<b>Development Management Policy Policies</b>	<b>Whaley Bridge NP Policies</b>
DMC3: Siting, design, layout and landscaping	Policy E1 addresses this policy.
DMC5: Assessing the impact of development on designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings	Policy WB-H1 addresses heritage assets.
DMC7: Listed buildings	Policy WB-H1 addresses heritage assets.
DMC8: Conservation Areas	Policy WB-H1 addresses heritage assets.
DMS2: Change of use of shops, community services and facilities	Community facilities are the focus of policy WB-G2.

## **6. EU Obligations and Human Rights**

### **6.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment**

The plan has been screened for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This included consultation with national statutory bodies. Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England responded and indicated that the plan would not have significant environmental impacts or affect a European site. Copies of their letters are included in the High Peak Borough Council Environmental Assessment Screening Assessment [May 2022]. The screening report concluded that the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan would not have significant environmental impact (see Appendix 1). A copy of the screening report forms part of the Neighbourhood Plan submission.

### **6.2 Habitat Regulations Assessment**

There are no European sites within or immediately adjacent to the Neighbourhood Area and no likely pathways with sites within 15km of the Neighbourhood Area. The Habitat Regulations Assessment report concluded as a result of the assessment it is unlikely that any likely significant effects on European sites would occur from the implementation of the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan. An extract of the report to show the conclusions can be found in Appendix 1.

### **6.3 EU Obligations**

Given the above screening outcomes, which take account of the responses of national statutory bodies, the draft plan proposal meets the basic conditions relating to not breaching EU obligations and Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

### **6.4 Human Rights**

The draft plan proposal is a result of extensive engagement with the local community and stakeholders, from the earliest stages of the process. This has informed the content of the draft plan. Further details can be found in the Consultation Statement. Statutory consultation (Regulation 14) was undertaken, and this took account of consultation case law, including compliance with Gunning principles. An equalities assessment is included at Appendix 2. This indicates that the plan would have positive impacts for people with protected characteristics. The draft plan proposal meets human rights requirements.

# Appendix 1

## i) Screening Outcomes

The following is an extract from the Whaley Bridge Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report [May 2022]:

“Having taken into account the results of the assessment above and the responses of the consultation bodies it is considered that the draft Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to lead to any significant environmental effects beyond those already assessed through the environmental assessments (SEA/SA and HRA) of the High Peak Local Plan and Peak District National Park LDF. In line with regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, it is therefore considered that no further environmental assessment is required.”

# Appendix 2

## i) Legal Requirements

The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between persons who have a “protected characteristic” and those who do not. Protected characteristics are defined in the Equality Act as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

An Equalities Assessment is a systematic analysis of a policy or policies in order to scrutinise the potential for an adverse impact on a particular group or community, in particularly those with a protected characteristic. An assessment has been made on whether the Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan has a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics.

If the impact is negative, this is given a high, medium or low assessment. The following table describes these:

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Description</b>
High	A significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.
medium	Some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence.
low	Almost no relevancy to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation-led.

## ii) Whaley Bridge General Population Characteristics

Sourced from the 2011 Census key statistics the following table illustrates the age structure of the Parish residents:

### KS102EW - Age structure

**Source** ONS Crown Copyright Reserved  
[from Nomis on 19 August 2022]

**Population** All usual residents

**Units** Persons

<b>date</b>	2011	
<b>geography</b>	Whaley Bridge	
<b>measures</b>	value	percent
<b>Age</b>		
All usual residents	6,455	100.0
Age 0 to 4	339	5.3
Age 5 to 7	226	3.5
Age 8 to 9	143	2.2
Age 10 to 14	375	5.8
Age 15	83	1.3
Age 16 to 17	174	2.7
Age 18 to 19	140	2.2
Age 20 to 24	294	4.6
Age 25 to 29	239	3.7
Age 30 to 44	1,247	19.3
Age 45 to 59	1,561	24.2
Age 60 to 64	498	7.7
Age 65 to 74	662	10.3
Age 75 to 84	348	5.4
Age 85 to 89	74	1.1
Age 90 and over	52	0.8
Mean Age	42.0	-
Median Age	44.0	-



Sourced from the 2011 Census key statistics the following table illustrates the Ethnic Groups who live in the Parish:

## KS201EW - Ethnic group

**Source** ONS Crown Copyright Reserved  
[from Nomis on 19 August 2022]

**Population Units** All usual residents  
Persons

<b>date</b>	2011	
<b>geography</b>	Whaley Bridge	
<b>measures</b>	value	percent
<b>Ethnic Group</b>		
All usual residents	6,455	100.0
White	6,367	98.6
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	6,246	96.8
Irish	40	0.6
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0	0.0
Other White	81	1.3
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	44	0.7
White and Black Caribbean	7	0.1
White and Black African	1	0.0
White and Asian	17	0.3
Other Mixed	19	0.3
Asian/Asian British	34	0.5
Indian	10	0.2
Pakistani	1	0.0
Bangladeshi	0	0.0
Chinese	12	0.2
Other Asian	11	0.2
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	3	0.0
African	0	0.0
Caribbean	3	0.0
Other Black	0	0.0
Other ethnic group	7	0.1
Arab	2	0.0
Any other ethnic group	5	0.1

### **iii) Impacts on Protected Characteristics**

#### **Age:**

The plan seeks to accommodate housing need and growth (Policy WB-G3). This will help to ensure that housing provision caters for all ages, including younger people seeking housing for the first time, and older people looking to downsize by requiring that housing proposals properly address identified local needs.

Policy WB-G1 and WB-G2 relate to the centre of Whaley Bridge and encourage a range of uses to support the sustainability of the community by providing local facilities. This provides opportunity for employment to a range of people and provides services at the centre of Whaley Bridge, accessible to the immediate and wider community.

The impact on all ages will be positive.

#### **Disability:**

The needs of persons who are disabled or who have limited mobility are addressed in policies WB-G3 and WB-T1, which seek to create a well-designed and accessible environment with improved active transport links.

The impact on people with disabilities will be positive.

#### **Maternity and Pregnancy:**

Key issues for people who are pregnant or who have young children are access to appropriate housing, flexible employment, and community facilities. Policies WB-G2, WB-G3, WB-E1, WB-E5, WB-T1, and WB-T2 will enable this.

#### **Race:**

A very small proportion of the population of Whaley Bridge Parish are from non-white ethnic groups.

For the most part, the plan will have an equal impact on the local population regardless of race. A public realm designed with safety in mind will minimise opportunities for hate crime (there is no evidence that this is a problem in the Neighbourhood Area).

Policy WB-E1 seeks to create well designed development, which includes safety considerations. The impact will be positive on people of all races.

#### **Sex (Gender):**

The Neighbourhood Plan contains no specific policies or proposals for any particular gender. The policies have been written to provide equal opportunity to any gender in respect of the provision of development and access to facilities.

No gender is disadvantaged by any of the policies and proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan. People will benefit equally from the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan. This includes people with prams or pushchairs.

The impact will be positive for all genders.

**Religion, Gender Re-assignment, Sexual orientation:**

The Neighbourhood Plan cannot directly address the social attitudes that underpin hate crimes. However, it does seek to provide a well-designed and safe built environment for all.

The impact will be positive on all people, regardless of religion or LGBT+ status.

## **Conclusion**

The Neighbourhood Plan provides a strategy for the development of the Neighbourhood Area, and a range of policies and proposals, which will result in positive benefits for the local community, including those with protected characteristics.

## **Contact details**

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