

Heathfield Park

Local Neighbourhood Partnership

Heath Town, Springfield, New Park Village

Neighbourhood Plan

Your Plan Your Future

2014 - 2026



**Local people working towards a neighbourhood plan for
HEATH TOWN, SPRINGFIELD & NEW PARK VILLAGE**

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan

Your Plan Your Future

Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership consists of a group of local volunteers, some local individuals, others representing a number of organisations based in the Heath Town, Springfield and New Park Village area (see appendix 1 page 72 for list of members). Those volunteers have no background in planning, but a deep passion for the place where they live or volunteer. Without their enthusiasm, humour and determination, the Neighbourhood Plan would not have come to fruition.



Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership would like to thank Wolverhampton City Council for the support provided in preparing the Plan, particularly the North East Neighbourhood Services Team for their role in assisting the Local Neighbourhood Partnership to become the designated Neighbourhood Forum for the area and ensuring that good quality consultation, planning and engagement has taken place with local residents.

We would also like to thank Wolverhampton City Council's Planning Team for their expertise, guidance and support at the crucial stages of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan.



We pay tribute to the host of local residents, volunteers, organisations and local businesses who have taken part in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan, including those who have taken part in the Household and Business Survey and various stakeholder, consultation and workshop events over the last three years.

Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership would like to dedicate the Neighbourhood Plan to all who live, work, study, worship and do business in Heath Town, Springfield and New Park Village.

David Cope
Chair of Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership
Designated Neighbourhood Forum for the Heathfield Park area

FINAL VERSION

This Neighbourhood Plan was formally 'made' by Wolverhampton City Council on 17th September 2014, following a 'YES' vote in the community referendum on 17th July 2014.

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1. An Introduction to Heathfield Park's Neighbourhood Plan

Welcome to Heathfield Park's Neighbourhood Plan which was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council on Friday 17 January. The Plan sets out clearly the main proposals for future land use and planning policies which will guide development opportunities in the Plan area up to 2026 in line with the Black Country Core Strategy.

In 2011, Heathfield Park (which includes the neighbourhoods of Heath Town, Springfield and New Park Village) was selected as a frontrunner Neighbourhood Planning area and began the process of developing a Local Neighbourhood Plan for the Heathfield Park area of Wolverhampton.

Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership was identified as the lead for the development of a neighbourhood planning approach in the Heathfield Park area. The Partnership formed a Steering Group to oversee the early stages of development of the Neighbourhood Plan. In December 2012, the Local Neighbourhood Partnership was formally designated as the Neighbourhood Forum for the area by the Council and proceeded to draft the Neighbourhood Plan for public consultation.

Under the Localism Act 2011, it is expected that Neighbourhood Forums will remain in place for the next 5 years ensuring that the Plan is produced and monitored in accordance with its key planning policies and, if required, revised to ensure community aspirations are being achieved. Beyond, 2017, it is envisaged that the Forum will maintain some ownership of the Plan through the Local Neighbourhood Partnership and any successor organisations. Wolverhampton City Council will continue to monitor delivery of the plan up to 2026 and this will be recorded in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report prepared by the Planning Service.

At the time of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan, Wolverhampton was not proceeding with the Community Infrastructure Levy. However, this will be reviewed over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan. Wolverhampton City Council has undertaken to ensure that the Forum is kept informed of Section 106 Funds which are applicable to the Plan area. The Forum will consider planning applications and make representations to the Planning Committee to support, amend or oppose proposed Plans.

2. The Neighbourhood Plan and the Planning System

The Localism Act 2011 introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development by coming together to prepare Neighbourhood Plans. A Neighbourhood Plan is a new way of helping local communities to influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. Neighbourhood Plans enable local communities to take a more active role in the development of planning policies at a neighbourhood level and the preparation of development proposals, reflecting local need and aspirations.

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan will guide future development in Heath Town, Springfield and New Park Village. It will provide further guidance and designations based on the Black Country Core Strategy policies and will help to address residents' concerns in the area.

Wolverhampton City Council will continue to produce development plans that will set the strategic context within which the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan will sit. The Wolverhampton Development Plan consists of the Black Country Core Strategy (adopted Feb 2011), saved policies in the Unitary Development Plan (adopted June 2006), Area Actions Plans, and Supplementary Planning Documents. Figure 1 shows the structure of the Wolverhampton Development Plan.

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan must have appropriate regard to the Basic Conditions as outlined in Appendix 7 Statement of Basic Conditions. This includes appropriate regard to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and in general conformity with existing strategic local planning policy, in particular the Black Country Core Strategy. The Neighbourhood Plan must also comply with European Regulations on strategic environmental assessment and habitat regulations. A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Plan and a Habitat Regulations Assessment has been undertaken, and has been important in shaping the Plan.

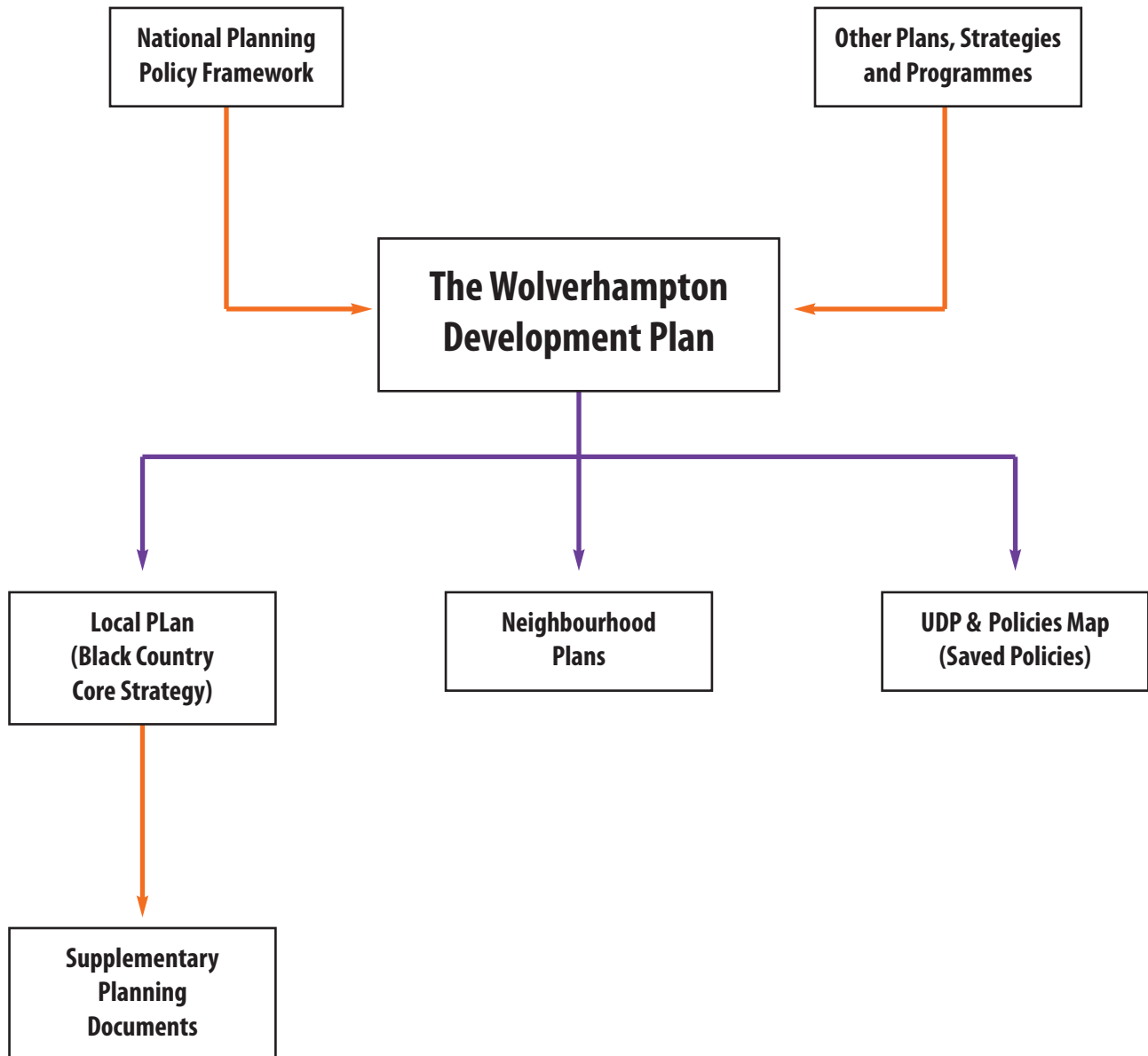
These documents can be found on the Council website

<http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>

In March 2014, Louise Brooke-Smith, an Independent Examiner was appointed to undertake an assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan. The examination included an assessment of the Basic Conditions; a review and consideration of all evidence and a Public Hearing which took place on Tuesday 13 May 2014. A final report of the examination was received by Wolverhampton City Council and the Neighbourhood Forum on 30 May 2014 which recommended a number of amendments which have been taken account in the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan. The final version of the Neighbourhood Plan proceeded to Referendum on Thursday 17 July 2014. All registered voters had the opportunity to vote YES or NO to the Plan. The Plan received 410 YES votes and 43 NO votes representing 8.36% of the electorate. The Plan received a 91% YES vote and was therefore put forward to Wolverhampton City Council for formal adoption. The Plan was formally adopted 'made' by Wolverhampton City Council at its Full Council meeting on Wednesday 17 September 2014

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan will now form part of the statutory development plan for Wolverhampton (see figure 1 overleaf). This means that Wolverhampton City Council or planning inspectors will have to make decisions on the basis of the Neighbourhood Plan, core strategy and saved UDP policies and any other material considerations when considering planning applications or appeals in the neighbourhood area. This effectively gives the local community in Heathfield Park more influence and control over the development of their area.

Figure 1: Wolverhampton Development Plan



3. Why a Neighbourhood Plan for Heathfield Park?

Heathfield Park is one of the City of Wolverhampton's fourteen Local Neighbourhood Partnership areas. It extends from the Eastern edge of Wolverhampton City Centre to the edge of the Bentley Bridge Retail Park, bounded by the A460 Cannock Road to the north and the Wyrley and Essington Canal to the south.

The name Heathfield Park was derived from the areas of Heath Town, Springfield, and New Park Village contained within these borders.

As one of the most deprived areas in Wolverhampton City and also in the worst 5% of wards nationally in terms of deprivation, health, employment, educational attainment, housing and child poverty, we believe that Heathfield Park is a priority area for investment and remodelling. The Neighbourhood Plan provides the opportunity for national and local planning policy to be reflected at a community level in a way that can address some of the needs that arise from the nature and classification of the area.

Figure 2 overleaf outlines the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area.

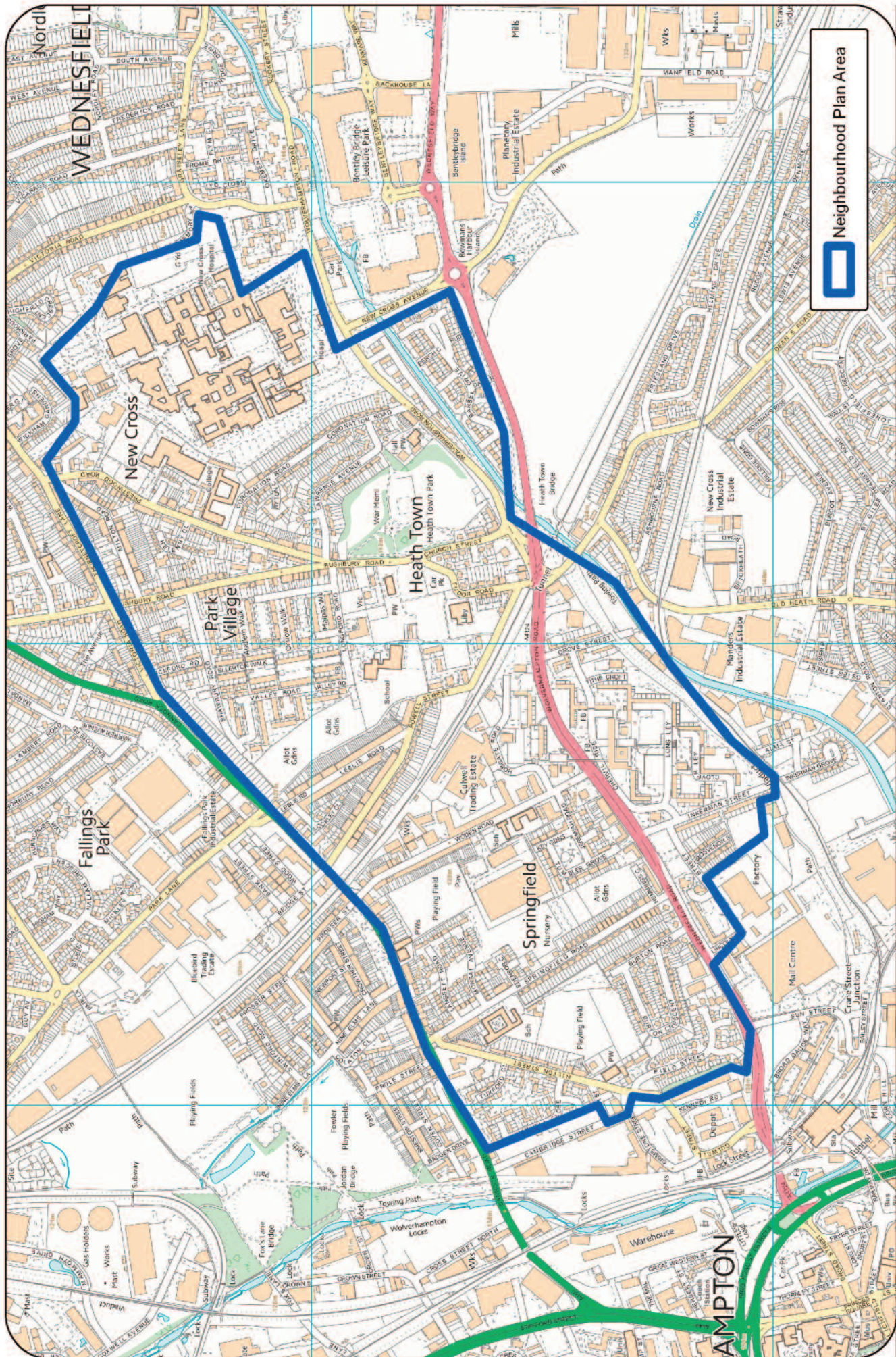


Figure 2: Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Area

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Ordnance Survey 100019537 (2014)

4. Our Vision for Heathfield Park

The vision for Heathfield Park has been developed as the plan has evolved, through workshops and consultation. It captures the aspirations of the people of Heathfield Park and provides a positive vision for the future, dispelling the current negative perception held by many within Wolverhampton.

'Our vision for Heathfield Park is for an attractive safe, green and pleasant neighbourhood providing its cosmopolitan community with high quality, affordable, well maintained housing and environment. A place where all will have a sense of belonging, and easy access to excellent education, leisure, transport networks, health service facilities and employment opportunities, giving the community a sustainable future.'

The aspirations of the community, as reflected in this Vision, have been used by the Forum as the basis of a series of policies. The following sections of the Plan explain how those policies have been developed.

5. Aims of the Plan

After consulting with local people in the area, six key themes have emerged as priority issues to be addressed for the regeneration and development of Heathfield Park as an important part of the City of Wolverhampton. They are:

Identity and Image – To challenge some of the negative perceptions and views of the area by promoting an improved image and identity for the area through its excellent local links, heritage sites, diversity and community assets.

Housing and Environment – To support high quality affordable housing with a mix of size, type and tenure to meet local and future needs, including family homes, clean and well maintained streets and estates, and provide an overall improved and safer local environment.

Employment and Skills – To positively encourage employment opportunities which exist in the area including making links with major employers whilst providing opportunities for smaller businesses to develop and thrive in the area offering good employment and training opportunities for local people.

Assets and Buildings – To further develop the richness of local volunteering, community pride and support for local social enterprises whilst ensuring that the community assets including community facilities, meeting places and shopping facilities are of high quality and accessible to the local community.

Transport and Traffic – To address the key challenges of the area's location within a busy urban environment nestled within two key and important arterial routes for the City, and the safety needs of other road users including pedestrians and cyclists.

Healthy Living – To see and secure good quality and accessible health care provision in the area and improved facilities, and well maintained green spaces, parks and canal routes.

The key themes have been considered as six Policy Areas (a full list of policies is available at Appendix 3 on page 78). These comprise:

- Policy Area (A) – Identity and Image
- Policy Area (B) – Housing and Environment
- Policy Area (C) – Employment and Skills
- Policy Area (D) – Assets and Buildings
- Policy Area (E) – Transport and Traffic
- Policy Area (F) – Healthy Living

6. Key Benefits and Outcomes

It is considered important to consider the aims of the Plan, as set out in Section 5 above, as a series of tangible outcomes and in this way specific policies can be presented which can guide new development in the area.

The following areas are presented as potential outcomes for the Heathfield Park area:

To improve gateways and access points to the Heathfield Park area with a view to maximising the unique location of the neighbourhood as a key gateway to Wolverhampton City Centre and as an integral part of Wolverhampton City as a whole.

To create an environment where all have the opportunity to flourish and live life to the full through the provision of, and access to, sustainable good quality open spaces, housing, communal facilities and transport networks.

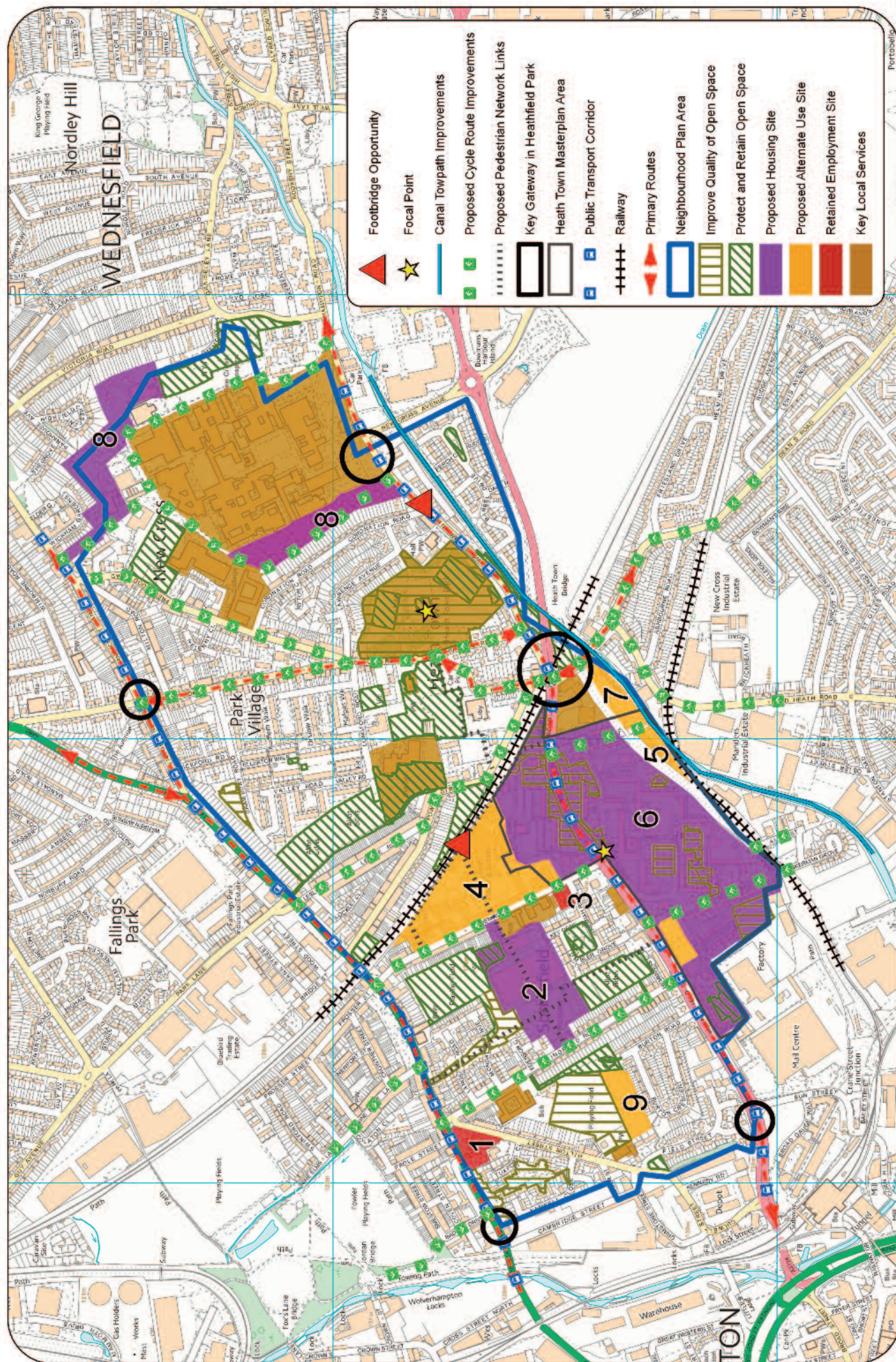
To create a 'heart' to the neighbourhood focusing on Heathfield Park's historical heritage around Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town Park and the former Heath Town Baths and Library, with linking walkways / cycleways to other green spaces within the area and beyond.

To develop a Traffic Management Strategy to improve road safety, facilities for pedestrians, cyclists and parking.

To encourage the local economy, to enable local people to up-skill and compete for job opportunities both locally and further afield, and to improve local shopping facilities.

To further encourage established and new community activities and groups.

These can be considered as a whole to reflect a strategy for the area, which is reflected in the Strategy Map as illustrated in Figure 3 on page 8. It is important to note that the Neighbourhood Plan can only be used to present policies that affect the use of land. These policies have been developed to reflect the above tangible outcomes but have also taken into account the Basic Conditions as noted earlier in this document.



7. The Development of the Plan

Over the past 3 years the Forum has been working with the local community, local businesses and stakeholders to develop the Neighbourhood Plan for the area. The consultation which has taken place has been extensive and has covered all areas of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

A detailed timeline (Appendix 4 on page 80) has been produced which identifies the development of the Plan from June 2011 until it was submitted to the Council and subsequently for examination and finally to Referendum in 2014. The consultation has included the following engagement in summary:

- Local introductory workshops
- Photographic walkabouts of the area including schools and residents
- Stakeholder Events
- Household Survey
- Business and Stakeholder Surveys
- Heathfield Park Mascot design competition
- Heathfield Park Facebook page
- Launch Events
- Roadshows
- Characterisation Study
- Options Workshops
- Employment Workshops
- Attendance at local meetings
- Visioning Workshops
- Visits to local businesses

In addition, the evidence base to support the Plan has been collected over this period of time and comprises of the various technical reports and documents which are set out in Appendix 2 on page 76.

Before submitting the final Plan to Wolverhampton City Council, the Forum undertook a pre-submission consultation with key stakeholders, residents, businesses and local groups from Monday 7 October 2013 to Sunday 17 November 2013. This resulted in 27 written responses from residents and stakeholders to the Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan was amended in the light of these representations and submitted to the Council on 17 January 2014. The Plan was then subject to a further period of consultation between 24 January 2014 to 7 March 2014, when 18 representations were received and taken into consideration by the Examiner. The results of the pre-submission consultation and the steps that have been taken to produce the Neighbourhood Plan are available in the Forum's Statement of Consultation at Appendix 8.

You can view the Statement of Consultation and a copy of the Examiner's Report and other supporting documents on the Wolverhampton City Council website
<http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>

8. Managing Future Developments: Policies for Heathfield Park

Planning decisions are guided by policies which are referred to when planning applications are made to Wolverhampton City Council. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with development plan policies, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Localism Act allows communities to develop their own policies, provided that they are based on sound evidence, community input and proper principles of planning. The preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan must follow the statutory process outlined.

The following elements of this section identify a series of Policy Areas, which as explained above, reflect the key themes identified by the community. Relevant policies that need to be considered at a national and local level are set out together with comment on how the Policy Area can be delivered and could be monitored.

24 Policies have been developed for Heathfield Park under the six Policy Areas which seek to influence planning and development outcomes in order that they meet the requirements of the community.

The policies have also been developed in the context of the Black Country Core Strategy, and the saved policies of the Unitary Development Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework and the strategic policies for Wolverhampton which will help deliver its objectives.

In November 2013, Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership with Wolverhampton City Council commissioned DVS Valuation Office Agency to undertake a viability assessment of a sample of sites in the Neighbourhood Plan area to determine the deliverability of the Plan as a whole.

The DVS Valuation Office Agency concludes that: 'After taking into account the sensitivity analysis and testing stated above it can be seen that the majority of the proposed developments are still not viable, although some schemes are viable. It can be assumed that over the life of the Local Neighbourhood Plan as the economic situation improves, and in conjunction with the redevelopment of the Heath Town Estate, the schemes will become viable and should also be able to accommodate some of the policy compliant affordable housing and S106 contributions required.'

On this basis, The Forum considers that the Plan proposals as a whole are or are likely to be viable over the lifetime of the Plan. This is reflected in housing site H2 which is currently being developed for housing.

Policy Area (A) – Identity and Image

“Over the years, Heathfield Park has welcomed and celebrated the presence of an international community. With more than 50 nationalities the area has largely benefited with the richness that these global cultures bring. Their traditions, languages, music and food add a unique flavour through their input in local events, festivals and running businesses, just to mention a few.” Daniel Williams-Smith, local resident

Aim

Develop and promote an improved image and identity for Heathfield Park.

This is expressed by a series of Neighbourhood Plan policies which reflect the following policies and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy and saved policies from the Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan.

Strategic Policy Requirements

The Neighbourhood Plan will conform to the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy, and the Unitary Development Plan requirements.

National Planning Policy Framework requirements:

- Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
- Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
- Requiring good design

Black Country Core Strategy requirements:

- CSP3 – Environmental Infrastructure
- CSP4 – Place Making
- DEL2 – Managing the Balance between Employment Land and Housing
- ENVI – Nature Conservation
- ENV2 – Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness
- ENV3 – Design Quality
- ENV5 – Flood Risk
- ENV6 – Open Space, Sports and Recreation
- ENV7 – Renewable Energy

Unitary Development Plan requirements:

- Policy HE1 – Preservation of Local Character and Distinctiveness
- Policy H6 – Design of Housing Development
- Policy D2 – Design Statement
- Policy D5 – Public Realm (public space / private space)
- Policy D6 – Townscape and Landscape
- Policy D10 – Community Safety
- Policy D13 – Sustainable Development (natural resources and energy use)
- Policy D14 – The Provision of Public Art
- Policy R3 – Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities
- Policy R6 – The Greenway Network

Evidence

Black Country Core Strategy policies on Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness, Design Quality, Place Making, Environmental Infrastructure and Nature Conservation.
Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study (Interim Character Zone Profiles), P Quigley et al, Feb 2013
Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study, Paul Quigley, June 2013
Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop Report, Princes Foundation, November 2011
Heathfield Park Issues and Themes Report, David Cope, April 2012
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement, Nov 2013
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Statement of Consultation, Jan 2013
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning Engagement Project, MEL Research, April 2012
Heathfield Park Options Workshops, Princes Foundation, November/December 2012
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report, LEPUS, Nov 2012
Heathfield Park Sustainability Appraisal Report, LEPUS, July 2013
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Options Report, LEPUS, Jan 2013
Heathfield Park Your Plan Your Future, Summary of Draft Neighbourhood Plan, Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, October 2013
Heath Town Masterplan Draft Report, Gillespies Feb 2013
Heath Town Masterplan Draft Gillespies, Rev B March 2013
New Park Village Draft Study Report, Jacobs Babbie Ltd, 2004
Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan, Saved Policies (2006)
Wolverhampton Open Space Sport and Recreation Study 2008
WCC Cabinet Report, Wolverhampton Strategic Approach to Open Space, 26.3.14
Wolverhampton City Council, Open Space Strategy and Action Plan, Feb 2014

Delivery

The majority of development proposals will be delivered by the private sector. The policy will help guide such proposals to appropriate locations in the Neighbourhood Plan area. Developer contributions or other funding mechanisms will help fund projects to improve the public realm and public art in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Monitoring

To be incorporated within the monitoring of Core Strategy policies on Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness, Design Quality, Place Making, Environmental Infrastructure and Nature Conservation.

Policy 1: Protect and promote the Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness of Heathfield Park

New development proposals should aim to protect, promote and enhance the special qualities, historic character and local distinctiveness of Heathfield Park in order to help maintain its cultural identity and strong sense of place.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate how proposed development takes account of and reinforces Heathfield Park's historic and distinctive townscape character. This will apply to the following types of application:-

- Major development (as defined in Article 2 of the Development Management Procedure Order or any amendment or replacement of that Order– excluding mining and waste development);
- Listed Building Consent;
- Development affecting heritage assets of local historic significance, including the canal and conservation areas refer to the Characterisation Study);
- The extension of an existing building where the floor space created exceeds 100 square metres;
- The erection of a building or buildings where the cubic content of the development exceeds 100 cubic metres.

Proposals should reflect the policies and guidance in relevant national and local planning documents as well as this Neighbourhood Plan and take account of the Heathfield Park Characterisation Study. It will address the following topics:-

- Context and character
- Historic and/or architectural significance
- Connection with green spaces
- Quality for pedestrians and cyclists
- Development design quality
- Car parking

Justification

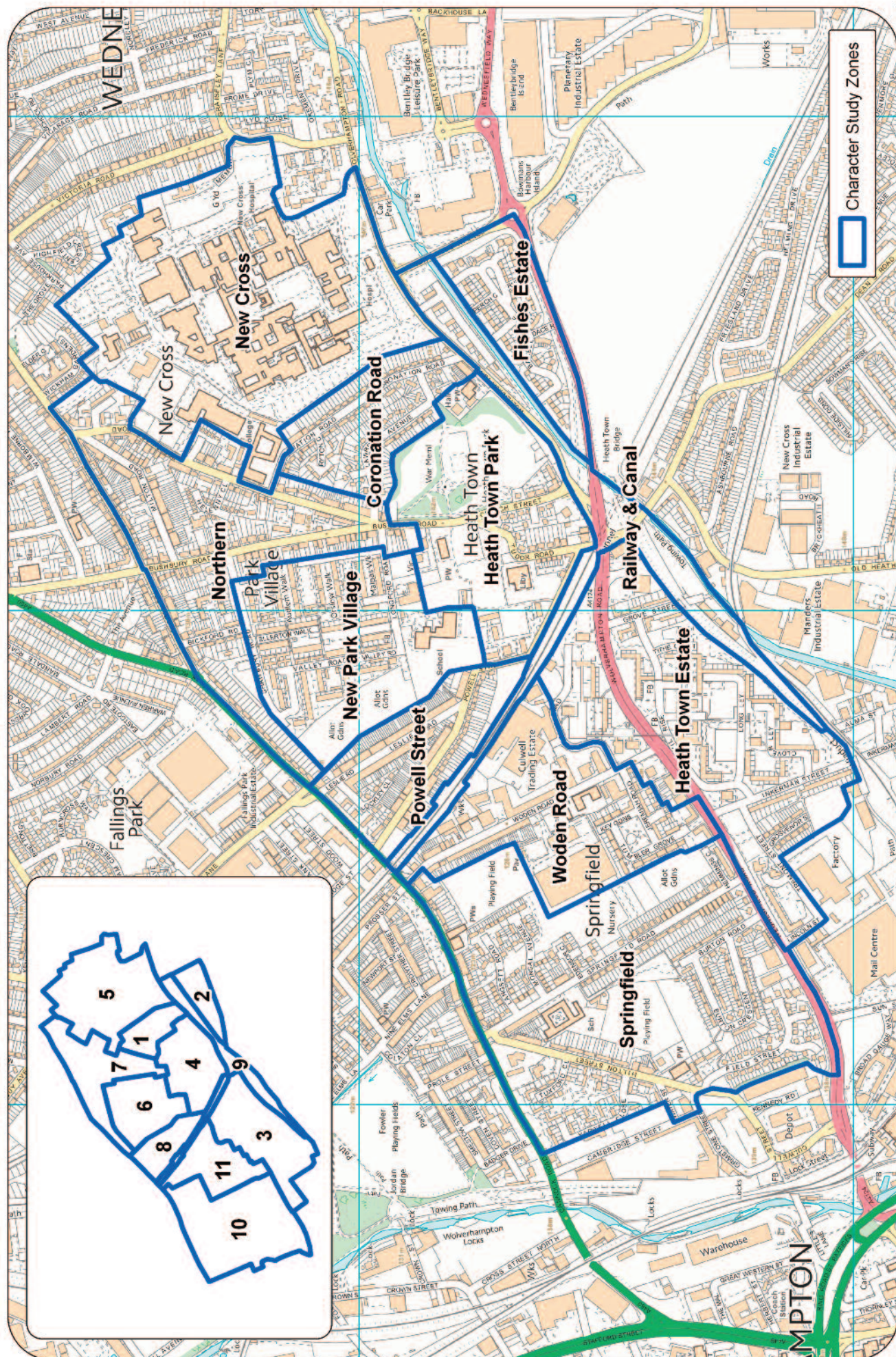
The Neighbourhood Plan protects and enhances the historic built environment and its local distinctiveness. The Plan encourages development proposals that make a positive contribution towards the distinctive character of the area as identified in the Heathfield Park Characterisation Study 2013.

This policy aims to ensure that new development relates to the specific local character of Heathfield Park and conserves or enhances the historic environment. A Design and Access Statement must accompany a planning application and include an assessment of how the scheme has been influenced by the character of the area with reference to the Heathfield Park Characterisation Study 2013.

Development proposals will need to respond to and complement the townscape,

transport and industrial heritage of Heathfield Park by demonstrating understanding and appreciation of the distinctive character of the eleven character zones Figure 4 on page 15 for Heathfield Park.

The 'Historic Characterisation Study' sets out the character profiles for each of the character zones and should be consulted when preparing a planning application and a Design and Access Statement.



Policy 2: Improve the quality of the public realm and street scene of Heathfield Park

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan, developments which enhance the quality of the public realm and street scene of Heathfield Park will be supported. This should be achieved by:-

- Making the environment more attractive, safer and more legible for pedestrians and cyclists, incorporating 'shared space' principles;
- Encourage under-utilised buildings and land to be brought back into appropriate use and make a positive contribution to the street scene;
- Encourage improvements to building frontages;
- Encourage native tree and wild flower planting schemes;
- Encourage removal of street clutter;
- Support the provision of high quality street furniture, paving and soft landscaping;
- Discourage and design out pavement parking
- Improvements to hard and soft landscaping on the New Park Village and Heath Town estates including improvements to walkways and stairwells, will be encouraged

Justification

Local people want to develop and promote an improved image and identity for Heathfield Park. 60% of local residents and businesses consider Heathfield Park to have a negative image. Changing perceptions amongst residents and businesses and people outside the area is a key priority of the Neighbourhood Plan. There is a need to generate a positive identity, image, and sense of pride in the area.

Focusing on improving the public realm to attract additional visitors and businesses to the area could help the local economy function and improve its vibrancy and viability. The improvements are likely to increase the satisfaction of the local people and enrich the setting and character of the area and make it a more desirable place in which to raise a family or open a business.

A focus on providing native tree and wild flower planting schemes links directly to the standards provided by Natural England and the Countryside Council for Wales Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard which states that no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace.

Policy 3: Improve the quality and physical appearance of gateways and focal points into Heathfield Park

New development proposals should contribute to the improvement of the quality and physical appearance of the gateways into, and focal points within, Heathfield Park, as illustrated at Figure 5 on page 18.

Sites and locations of priority include;

- Entrance to Heathfield Park area via Wednesfield Road;
- Entrance to Heathfield Park area via Cannock Road;
- Cross Roads at Heath Town bridge identified as 'gateway to area' (opportunity for public art, such as 'Angel of Heathfield Park');
- Heath Town Park including the Heath Town Baths and Library.

Encouragement is given to the re-use of appropriate buildings, the use of hard landscaping and high quality public art to create a sense of place.

Developers are encouraged to work together with local communities and businesses to help change the look and feel of the buildings and space.

Justification

There are two main arterial routes (Wednesfield Road and Cannock Road) which act as important gateways into Heathfield Park. There is a further gateway located at the confluence of the A4124, Tudor Road and Wolverhampton Road. This will be the location of the main gateway into Heathfield Park as it is near to Heath Town Park (the heart to the neighbourhood), and the grade II listed buildings of Holy Trinity Church, the almshouses, war memorial and Heath Town Public Baths and Library. The main focal points include Heath Town Park and the entrance to the Heath Town Estate. The community regards the Heath Town pedestrian bridge as an iconic structure as it provides a geographical landmark for people travelling into the area.

Enhancing the quality and physical appearance of gateways and focal points will improve the image and reputation of the area for local residents and visitors and promote the area externally. The gateways and focal points need to be better maintained to be able to instil a sense of pride in the area. Also, enhancements to shop frontages and the streetscape on main gateways can add value and attract new positive activity. Where environmental matters are contravened, the Council can use its powers under extant environmental health legislation to ensure that issues are addressed. It can also encourage landowners to bring vacant sites back into beneficial use.

Creating gateways and focal points which positively advertise Heathfield Park by use of public art which emphasises the locality, will help create a sense of local distinctiveness and enhance the character of the area. By working with local communities and businesses to improve the look and feel of the buildings and spaces it could help to increase their satisfaction in the neighbourhood.

Policy 4: Design out Crime

All developments and improvements in the Heathfield Park area should be designed to ensure that crime reduction and elimination are built into them as they are delivered. The priorities are:-

- Ensure people feel safe during hours of darkness through use of street lighting and active frontages and safe, permeable routes where appropriate;
- Reduce traffic speeding by implementing speed restriction zones and 'shared space' principles
- Improve pedestrian and cycling links to encourage walking and cycling by providing safe direct routes which can increase informal surveillance as a deterrent to crime.
- Maintain clean and tidy public areas to reduce litter and fly tipping;
- Address the issue of derelict properties and underused facilities which add to the negative image of Heathfield Park;

The design of major developments (as defined in Article 2 of the Development Management Procedure Order – excluding mining and waste development) are required to address the prevention of crime at the site and in the immediate vicinity.

Justification

The total recorded crime in Heathfield Park area per 1000 population for April 2011 to March 2012 was recorded as 95.0 compared to 76.5 for Wolverhampton City as a whole. Serious Acquisitive Crime per 1000 population for Heathfield Park was recorded as 23.7, compared to 17.5 for Wolverhampton City. Anti-social behaviour per 1000 population for Heathfield Park was 39.6, compared to 28.1 for Wolverhampton City. This indicates a high level of crime in the Neighbourhood Plan area compared to Wolverhampton City as a whole.

It was highlighted in the MEL Research Report (2012) that some of the worst things about living in Heathfield Park is the crime and anti-social behaviour, street cleanliness and a perception that the area is going downhill. The biggest crime and anti-social behaviour issues are litter/rubbish, drugs and drug dealing, and traffic speeding. Generally people feel safe during the day in Heathfield Park but feelings of safety fall after dark. In particular women and older people feel more vulnerable after dark. Residents living in Springfield and New Park Village are less likely to feel safe after dark. There is a problem of organised crime in the Heathfield Park area. These are important considerations for the Neighbourhood Plan to address. Reducing levels of crime and fear of crime are key priorities for the Neighbourhood Plan.

There is a stigma attached to parts of the Heathfield Park area due to reports of crime, anti-social behaviour, drug dealing and sometimes guns and gangs issues. Reducing crime and the threat of crime in the area would significantly improve peoples' quality of life. Developments should be designed to include natural surveillance so that the living areas in residential properties overlook public spaces outside. Designing out crime must also include measures to create walkable places by improving the accessibility and legibility of the area and creating active frontages for natural surveillance. An area which feels safe and secure and discourages crime is also likely to enhance the character of the area.

Policy Area (B) – Housing and Environment

“We need to look at how we can best use resources available to develop housing on the Heath Town, New Park Village and Springfield estates and privately owned development areas in the Heathfield Park area, to create an environment where people will want to live,” David Cope, Local Resident.

Aim

To meet the housing needs of existing and new residents through the provision of a range of new housing, the refurbishment of existing stock and the maintenance and on-going improvement of residential areas.

This is expressed by a series of Neighbourhood Plan policies which reflect the following policies and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Cores Strategy and saved policies from the Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan.

Strategic Policy Requirements

The Neighbourhood Plan will conform to the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy, and the Unitary Development Plan requirements.

National Planning Policy Framework requirements:

Deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, widen opportunities for home ownership and create sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities.

The NPPF states in paragraph 47 that to boost significantly the supply of housing, local planning authorities should:

- “Identifying and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years worth of housing against their housing requirements with an additional buffer of 5% to ensure choice and competition in the market for land;
- Identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;
- Set out their own approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances.”

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan sets out the following policies that aim to ensure a wide choice of high quality homes in the Heathfield Park area:

Policy 5 – Provide Local Housing

Policy 6 – Improve the condition and use of existing housing stock

Policy 7 – Provide a range of different housing types across all tenures

Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

Paragraph 93 states that “planning plays a key role in helping shape places to secure radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and providing resilience to the impacts of climate change, and supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure. This is central to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.”

To support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should:

- “Plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and
- When setting any local requirement for a building’s sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government’s zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards.” (Paragraph 95)

Paragraph 97 goes on to say: “To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy, local planning authorities should recognise the responsibility on all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources. They should:

- Have a positive strategy to promote energy from renewable and low carbon sources;
- Design their policies to maximise renewable and low carbon energy development while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily, including cumulative landscape and visual impacts;
- Consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources;
- Support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments outside such areas being taken forward through neighbourhood planning; and
- Identify opportunities where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers.”

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Policy 6 – Improve the Condition and use of existing housing stock seeks to deliver on this NPPF policy.

Black Country Core Strategy requirements:

- DEL2 – Managing the Balance between Employment Land and Housing
- ENV1 – Nature Conservation
- ENV5 – Flood Risk
- HOU1 – Delivering Sustainable Housing Growth
- HOU2 – Housing Density, Type and Accessibility
- HOU3 – Delivering Affordable Housing
- ENV7 – Renewable Energy

Unitary Development Plan requirements:

- Policy H6 – Design of Housing Development
- Policy H7 – Conversion of Buildings from Non-Residential to Residential Use
- Policy H8 – Open Space, Sport and Recreation Requirements for New Housing Developments

Evidence

Black Country Core Strategy Policies on Housing

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement (Nov 2013)

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Statement of Consultation (Jan 2014)

Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop Report, Princes Foundation, Nov 2011

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study (Interim Character Zone Profiles), P Quigley et al, Feb 2013

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study, Paul Quigley, June 2013
 Heathfield Park Issues and Themes Report, David Cope, April 2012
 Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning Engagement Project, MEL Research, April 2012
 Heathfield Park Options Workshops, Princes Foundation, November/December 2012
 Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report, LEPUS, Nov 2012
 Heathfield Park Sustainability Appraisal Report, LEPUS, July 2013
 Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Options Report, LEPUS, Jan 2013
 Heathfield Park Transport Study, ITP (2012)
 Heathfield Park Your Plan, Your Future, Summary of Draft Neighbourhood Plan, Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, October 2013
 Heath Town Masterplan Draft Report, Gillespies (Feb 2013)
 Heath Town Masterplan Draft Gillespies, Rev B March 2013
 WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Plans, 21.6.11
 WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Future Strategy for Heath Town Estate and Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Update, 25.7.12
 WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 8, Draft Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan and Heath Town Masterplan, 11.9.13
 WCC Local Development Scheme 2013-2016, Local Investment Plan, Nov 2013
 New Park Village Draft Study Report, Jacobs Babbie Ltd, 2004
 WCC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA), 2013
 Wolverhampton Housing Strategy 2013-2018
 Wolverhampton Open Space Sport and Recreation Study 2008
 WCC Cabinet Report, Wolverhampton Strategic Approach to Open Space, 26.3.14
 Wolverhampton City Council Open Space Strategy and Action Plan, Feb 2014
 Wolverhampton Playing Pitch Assessment/Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan 2012
 Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Plan Viability Testing Study Wolverhampton, District Valuer Services, Dec 2012
 Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan, Saved Policies 2006

Delivery

The majority of development proposals will be delivered by the private sector and the local authority. The policy will help guide such proposals to appropriate locations in the Neighbourhood Plan area. Developer contributions will help fund affordable housing and/or environmental improvements/enhancements.

Monitoring

To be incorporated within the monitoring of Core Strategy policies on housing.

Policy 5: Provide Local Housing

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan at least 585 new homes will be supported in the area. The majority of this housing will be provided on the housing site allocations listed below and shown on the site allocation plan. (Figure 6 overleaf)

In addition to these allocated sites, development for small scale residential infill within the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area will be supported if it is well designed and meets the relevant requirements as set out in other policies in this Plan, the Black Country Core Strategy and saved policies from the Wolverhampton UDP. The density of development should create a character that is appropriate to the site's context and the development design must incorporate principles of creating good connections, transport and accessibility links.

Figure 6 outlines the housing site allocations listed below:

- Area H1 - Bass Brewery Playing Fields - 1.4 ha / 50 homes subject to mitigation for loss of playing fields
- Area H2 – Gunnebo UK Ltd – 2.6 ha / 70 homes (planning permission)
- Area H3/E3 - Culwell Trading Estate - 4 ha / commercial and up to 70 homes – mixed use development
- Area H4/E4 – RDP Electronics Ltd, Grove St - 0.35 ha / commercial / leisure use or 10 family homes with frontage parking, subject to site becoming surplus for current employment use
- Area H5 – Heath Town Estate – 160 net new homes – subject to final proposals in the Heath Town Masterplan
- Area H6 – Former G & P Batteries site, Grove St – 0.6 ha / 35 homes (planning permission)
- Area H7 – New Cross Hospital car parks – 3.3 ha / 150 homes (planning permission) subject to an acceptable parking strategy
- Area H8 – Burton Road/Taylor's playing field – 1 ha / 20 homes, subject to mitigation for loss of playing pitch
- Area H9/E5 – Duke of York – 0.5 ha/20 homes – potential for mixed use, ie commercial, retail, community, employment and housing

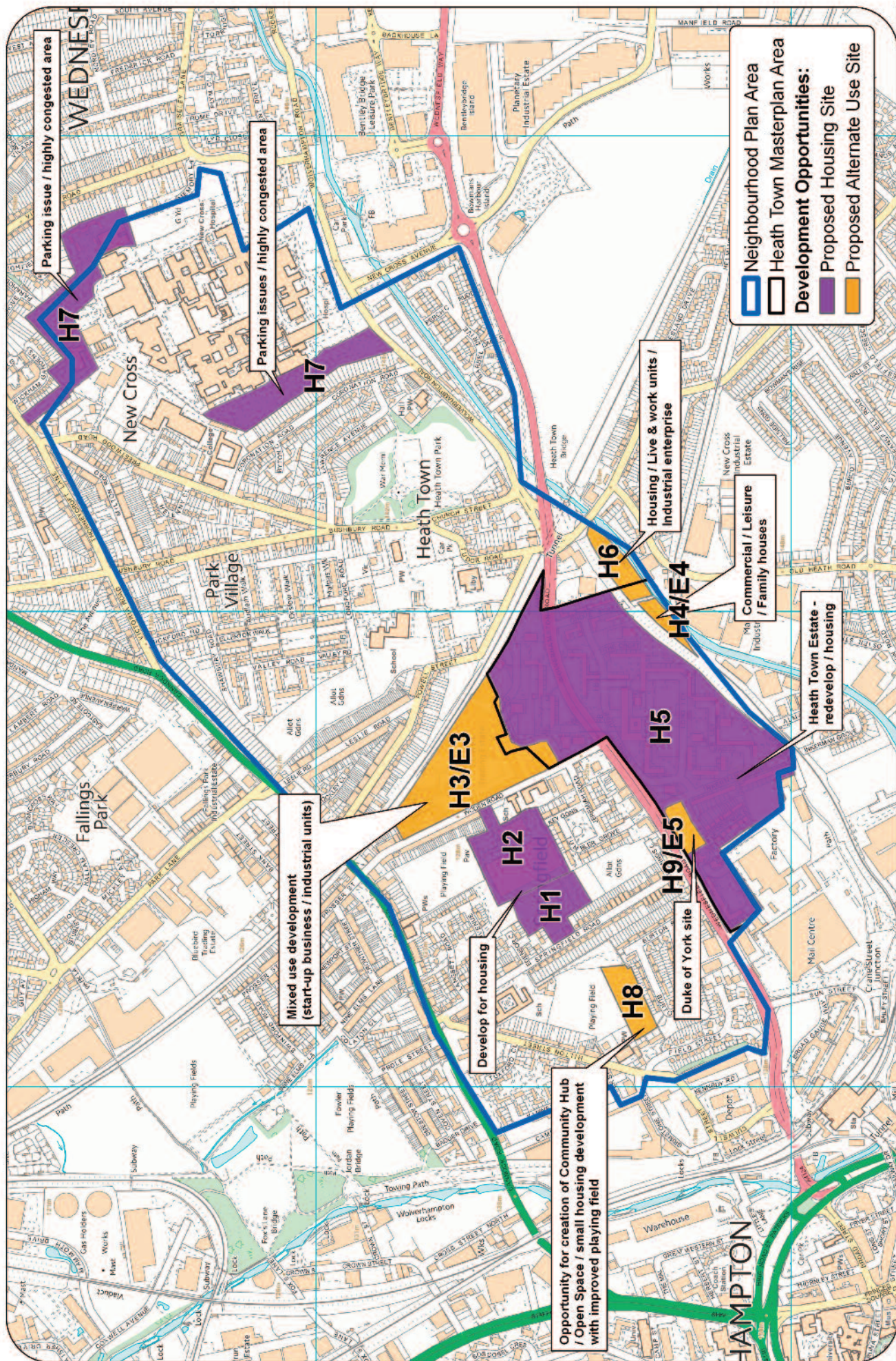


Figure 6: Housing Site Allocations

Justification

The community have identified a clear need for more housing, particularly affordable housing, and see this as a priority for the Plan.

Heathfield Park falls within an identified Housing Market Intervention Area in the Black Country Core Strategy - an area requiring housing renewal activity - with a focus on the Heath Town Estate, which is identified as a Housing Renewal Hub.

The Black Country Core Strategy sets out housing targets for Wolverhampton for the period up to 2026, but does not identify a specific housing target for the Plan area. However, the Wolverhampton Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2013, which identifies sites suitable for housing across the City, assumes that, by 2026, 460 homes with a potential 35 made up of small windfall sites will be built in the Plan area. These are made up of:

- 255 homes on sites with planning permission in the Plan area (Areas H2, H6 and H7)
- 170 homes in Areas H1, H3, H4, H8, and H9
- 35 homes on small windfall sites (<15 homes)
- 50 homes through the remodelling of Heath Town Estate, including some demolition of existing housing and building new housing on under-used land around the Estate (Area H5). This figure is low due to the publication of the SHLAA which pre-dates the draft Heath Town Masterplan.

The Employment Areas Study identifies employment areas which are likely to come forward for redevelopment based on the intentions of landowners/businesses, the physical condition of buildings and the pattern of land-ownership. Based on the results of this study mixed use is proposed for the Culwell Trading Estate site and a flexible approach to redevelopment of the RDP Electronics site. This will allow for both the retention of local jobs and the provision of new housing to meet local needs.

An additional source of housing capacity in the area is available by developing on limited areas of open space to boost housing capacity; where there are wider social and environmental benefits in doing so, based on developer contributions to improve other areas of open space within the area. There are a number of playing field sites in the Plan area. The Bass Brewery Playing Fields site is not laid out as pitches and is not available for public use, and the Woden detached playing field is not currently in use. Releasing these sites for housing would generate investment to create or improve playing pitches in the local area in line with the Wolverhampton Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan.

Housing sites on H1 and H2 are located in the Springfield area and are located over the top of a culverted watercourse that flows into Smestow Brook. In line with ENV5 and recommendations from the Environment Agency, development of these sites should also include investigation of the watercourse and options for deculverting should be explored.

The Neighbourhood Plan does not establish a specific approach to affordable housing in the area. Affordable housing will be delivered in accordance with Core Strategy Policy HOU3 which requires 25% affordable housing on all sites of 15 dwellings or more where this is financially viable.

Policy 6: Improve the condition and use of existing housing stock

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan, the development of a maintenance and works programme will be positively encouraged to improve the condition and use of the existing housing stock, make it more energy efficient and enhance the image of the area. Positive encouragement will be given to a housing management strategy across the area to maintain standards.

The key priorities for the area are:

- Improve the condition of existing Council housing stock through Decent Homes funding
 - Heath Town Estate
 - New Park Village Estate
 - Springfield Horseshoe
- **Heath Town Estate**
 - Create around 160 extra homes on under-used land across the Estate where this development will 'knit together' and improve the appearance of the Estate
 - Provide a mix of new housing to meet needs including a larger proportion of more traditional family homes of a high quality and address sustainable means of energy generation such as the new Biomass Boiler
 - Provide appropriate physical, social and green infrastructure. This should address the need for more secure and off-road parking and the creation of more quality open spaces and play areas
 - Improve community access and facilities on the site of Chervil Rise, including the community centre and shopping precinct
 - Create accessible, inclusive, interesting neighbourhood designs that support green lifestyles
 - Improve the physical appearance and image of the Estate
 - Provide for a well managed, safe and secure public realm – reducing crime and anti-social behaviour
- **New Park Village Estate**
 - increase natural surveillance around the site
 - remove link decks and ramps where required
 - improve street lighting
 - improve tree planting
- **Private Rented Sector**
 - Encourage the implementation of quality standards for landlords to reverse the deterioration of the appearance of private rented properties
 - consider the introduction of a managed or accredited scheme for landlords
- **Improve the Energy Efficiency of the stock**
 - Encourage the provision of renewable and low carbon energy generation networks and opportunities
- **Retrofitting SuDs**
 - Encourage the introduction of Sustainable Drainage Systems

Justification

The plan encourages sustainable development schemes and the provision of low carbon energy infrastructure to address climate change, reduce energy costs and improve energy security in the long-term. New housing needs to be integrated with surrounding neighbourhoods e.g. through the design of public spaces to attract people into the Heathfield Park area. Wolverhampton Homes and existing Tenant Management Organisations will work together to develop and encourage sustainable initiatives.

Evidence has shown that Council houses, maisonettes and flats (low rise and high rise) are the types of properties in most need of improvements in Heathfield Park. Improving the condition of houses could ensure that they are fit for use, and make sure all groups have access to decent housing, this is recognised as a key issue in the Sustainability Appraisal (Objective 6). Furthermore, improving the condition of the existing housing stock could help to enhance the local distinctiveness and safeguard the character of the townscape.

There has been an increase in private landlord ownership and short-term leasing resulting in deterioration in maintenance and appearance of these properties. The plan will support those wishing to rent properties to encourage people to move and live in Heathfield Park. Residents are keen to work closely with private landlords to upgrade properties and sustain historic character wherever possible. In light of this evidence, the implementation of quality standards for landlords, such as an "Accredited Scheme" for rental properties, will be encouraged.

There is a perception amongst all respondents that housing on the Heath Town Estate is most in need of improvement. There has been extensive consultation and uncertainty over a number of years about future plans for the Heath Town Estate. The Baseline Report for the Heath Town Masterplan (January 2013) has clearly identified that the layout of individual flats needs extensive work to meet resident needs. Many felt better flat design would lead to people staying longer on the estate rather than moving to alternative accommodation.

Policy 7: Provide a range of different housing types across all tenures

Development providing traditional family homes will be supported by the plan with internal space and garden space to serve the needs of large and young families. It will also support the delivery of smaller and accessible units for the elderly to move into that will provide them with the opportunity to remain in the community. Across the area, priority will be given to family housing and the following proportions of household types will be sought in new developments:

- 1 bedroom – 10 - 20%
- 2 bedroom – 20 – 30%
- 3+ bedroom – 50 – 70%

Justification

Evidence suggests there is a clear shortage of housing choice in the plan area. There is a high demand for houses amongst local residents in Heathfield Park, particularly larger houses with 3 or more bedrooms and garden space. On schemes of more than 15 dwellings, a mix of house types and sizes that will meet the needs of both existing and future residents will be required.

For individual planning applications, this mix will be determined on a site by site basis, based on best available information regarding housing need, site surroundings and viability considerations.

The MEL Household Survey has highlighted that those living in the area would like to see a range of housing to suit a mix of local needs, including providing family friendly accommodation with garden spaces. There is a view that most people come to the area because they have been placed there rather than through choice and many will move out of the area when the opportunity presents itself.

Policy Area (C) – Employment and Skills

“One of the areas of concern for local residents is that of employment. What we need is a strategy designed to support residents and local businesses in the development of appropriate skills that will enable them to grow.” Bill Nicholls, Director of Re-Entry

Aim

To provide the opportunity for businesses in the Heathfield Park area to develop and offer good employment and training opportunities for local people.

This is reflected by a series of Neighbourhood Plan policies which conform to the following policies and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy and saved policies from the Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan.

Strategic Policy Requirements

The Neighbourhood Plan will conform to the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy, and the Unitary Development Plan requirements.

National Planning Policy Framework requirements:

Building a strong, competitive economy

The NPPF states in paragraph 18 that “the Government is committed to securing economic growth in order to create jobs and prosperity”. In paragraph 19 it goes on to say the “Government is committed to ensuring that the planning system does everything it can to support sustainable economic growth. Planning should operate to encourage and not act as an impediment to sustainable growth. Therefore significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth through the planning system”.

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan sets out the following policies that aim to build a strong, competitive economy:

Policy 8 – Strengthen the local economy to enhance social economic well-being, upskill and enable local people to compete for job opportunities across Heathfield Park and the City

Policy 9 – Develop new skills in the area through the development of high quality schools and adult learning providers

Ensuring the vitality of town centres

The NPPF states in paragraph 23 that: “Planning policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period.” The NPPF sets out the issues that Local Authorities should consider when drawing up Local Plans. Those of particular relevance to Heathfield Park include:-

- *“Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality;*
- *Define a network and hierarchy of centres that is resilient to anticipated future economic changes;*
- *Promote competitive town centres that provide customer choice and a diverse retail offer and which reflect the individuality of town centres;*

- *Where town centres are in decline, local planning authorities should plan positively for their future to encourage economic activity."*

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan sets out Policy 10: Improve Local Shopping Facilities, to comply with this NPPF policy.

Black Country Core Strategy requirements:

- CEN5 – District and Local Centres
- CEN6 – Local Shopping Facilities
- DEL2 – Managing the Balance Between Employment Land and Housing
- EMP1 – Providing for Economic Growth
- EMP 3 – Local Quality Employment Areas
- EMP 4 – Maintaining a Supply of Readily Available Land
- EMP 5 – Improving Access to the Labour Market
- HOU 5 – Education and Healthcare Facilities

Unitary Development Plan requirements:

- Policy B5 – Design Standards for Employment Sites
- Policy B11 – Ancillary Uses in Employment Areas and Premises
- Policy C1 – Health, Education and Other Community Services

Supplementary Planning Guidance requirements:

- SPG 1 – Business, Industrial and Warehousing Development

Evidence

Black Country Core Strategy Policies on employment, economic growth and district, local and shopping facilities (Adopted Feb 2011)

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement, Nov 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Statement of Consultation, Jan 2014

Heathfield Park Your Plan Your Future, Summary of Draft Neighbourhood Plan, Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, Oct 2013

Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop Report, Princes Foundation, Nov 2011

Heathfield Park Employment Study, Bruton Knowles (Sept 2012)

Heathfield Park Issues and Themes Report, David Cope, April 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning Engagement Project, MEL Research, April 2012

Heathfield Park Options Workshops, Princes Foundation, November/December 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report, LEPUS, Nov 2012

Heathfield Park Sustainability Appraisal Report, LEPUS, July 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Options Report, LEPUS, Jan 2013

Heath Town Masterplan Draft Report, Gillespies (Feb 2013)

Heath Town Masterplan Draft Gillespies, Rev B March 2013

Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Plan Viability Testing Study Wolverhampton, District Valuer Services, Dec 2012

Heathfield Park Transport Study, ITP, Oct 2012

Heath Town Sports Academy Feasibility Study, Donald Insall Associates, Nov 2011

WCC Cabinet Report, Community Hubs – A Five Year Vision for Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton City Council, 2011

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Plans, 21.6.11

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Future Strategy for the Heath Town Estate and Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Update, 25.7.12
WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 8, Draft Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan and Heath Town Masterplan, 11.9.13
WCC Local Development Scheme 2013-2016, Local Investment Plan, Nov 2013
Wolverhampton Children's Trust Well Being and Resilience board, Heathfield Park Asset Mapping Update, Sept 2013
Wolverhampton Children's Trust Well Being and Resilience board, Heathfield Park Asset Mapping Final Report, May 2014
Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan, Saved Policies (2006)

Delivery

The majority of development proposals will be delivered by the private sector and the local authority with support from local businesses and social enterprises.

Monitoring

To be incorporated within the monitoring of Core Strategy policies on employment, leisure, tourism, and centre policies in the Core Strategy.

Policy 8: Strengthen the local economy to enhance social economic well-being, upskill and enable local people to compete for job opportunities across Heathfield Park and the City

The plan will seek to achieve the retention and expansion of viable employment activity and strengthen linkages to opportunities for local people to access local employment across the City.

This will be achieved by:

- The development of small scale social enterprises and other businesses that meet the needs of the community, such as the creation of live work units
- Provide land and/or premises for a training hub within the Neighbourhood Plan area
- Improving transport from the area to the city centre in partnership with public transport providers
- Ensuring the implementation of (Recruitment and Training Policy) – Core Strategy EMP1

The Neighbourhood Plan will support the retention and expansion of the following sites:

(see figure 7 on page 33)

- Site E1 – Cannock Road Garage Ltd - retain as employment
- Site E2 – Hall Markets Ltd – retain for employment with the potential for re-use for small enterprise
- Site E3/H3 – Culwell Trading Estate – if the site comes forward for redevelopment than a mixed use scheme will be supported to include housing and some employment generating uses such as small business accommodation
- Site E4/H4 – RDP Electronics Limited - if the site comes forward for redevelopment than a mixed use scheme will be supported to include housing and some employment generating uses such as small business accommodation
- Site E5/H9 – Duke of York Public House – potential for mixed use, ie commercial, retail, community, employment and housing.

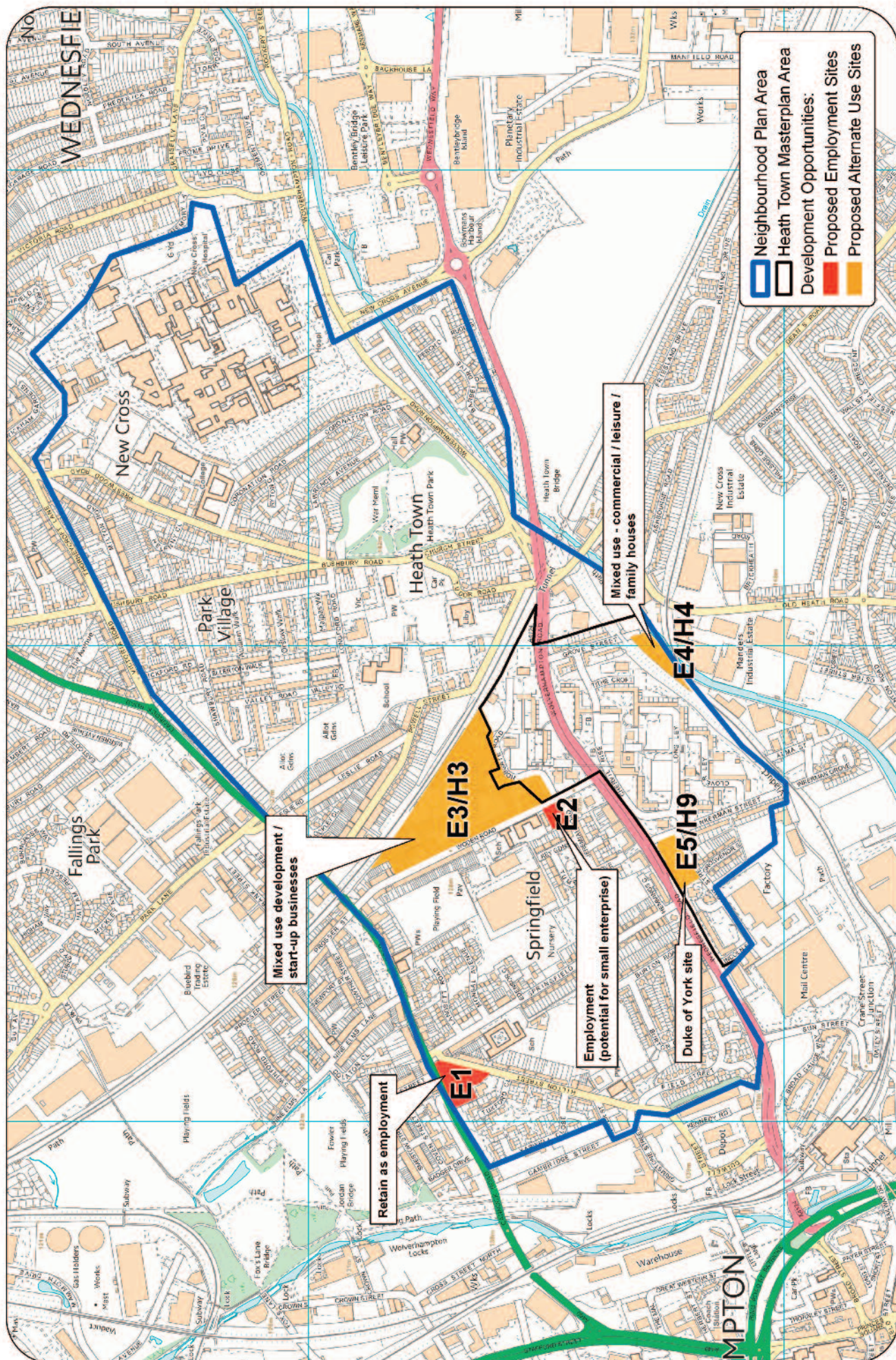


Figure 7: Employment Site Allocations

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Ordnance Survey 100019537 (2014)

Justification

There is a much higher rate of unemployment in Heathfield Park than in Wolverhampton as a whole. Comparative data suggests the proportion of working age residents claiming job seekers allowance in Heath Town ward was 10.4% and across Wolverhampton was 7.4%. Jobs for young people must be a consideration as the rate of unemployment is highest amongst 16-24 year olds. Unemployment in Heathfield Park can be reduced through a combination of new investment in the area and by enabling residents to compete for job opportunities across the city. Businesses are spread out within the area ranging in activity from a mixture of retail shops, engineering, to the delivery of health care at the City's hospital. Retail shops and small starter businesses should be encouraged to locate or expand in Heathfield Park; in particular residents want to see more retail shops on the Heath Town Estate.

The area is a 'busy' mixed area of housing and employment land with such areas as Culwell Trading Estate providing employment. Major employers such as Royal Mail, New Cross Hospital, the Premier Inn and Centro are located or provide services either within the area boundary or just outside and the area enjoys good transport links to the City Centre and beyond. Access to employment needs to be maximised which supports and takes advantage of the location of Heathfield Park in relation to the three areas covered by the new Area Action Plans being produced by Wolverhampton City Council.

The Plan will encourage local employment and apprenticeships for new development. 39% of businesses surveyed would consider offering apprenticeships in the future. More information about how organisations can get involved in apprenticeships should be distributed amongst businesses/stakeholders in the local area. Better engagement with local employers and businesses will help to support this relationship.

Employment land and premises in the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area is of variable quality and while some is well maintained and sustainable, a number of sites are unlikely to be fit for purpose and the Neighbourhood Plan Employment Study has shown this will become available for re-development over the Plan period. Core Strategy Policy EMP1 seeks to ensure a sufficient stock of employment land to meet demand and support the growth and diversification of the economy.

The MEL Business and Stakeholder Study surveyed 26 businesses in the local area. Businesses ranged from small independents through to large organisations and including retail shops, takeaways, schools, charities, community centres and New Cross Hospital. The number of employees these organisations employed ranged from 1 – 7,000 and the majority (65%, 17 businesses) had been located in Heathfield Park for more than ten years. 39% of businesses surveyed would consider offering apprenticeships in the future. The plan needs to support organisations getting involved in apprenticeships and distribute information amongst businesses/stakeholders in the local area.

There are a number of local organisations that provide training in the community. However, through consultation with residents it has become apparent that a training centre combined with a one-stop shop should be provided to create stronger links with business. The community has stated that it is essential to identify a site for a local hub for training and education for people of all age groups. This proposal is supported but further work is required to find suitable premises which meet the needs of the community. This would support training for school leavers and re-training the unemployed. Target training opportunities for New Cross Hospital and Royal Mail are links to be strengthened so local residents can work in the Heathfield Park area.

Policy 9: Develop new skills in the area through the development of high quality schools and adult learning providers

The plan will support initiatives that will help reduce unemployment through investment in both primary and secondary schools and through adult education. This will be achieved by:

- Supporting organisations that provide training and education to young people in the area
- Protecting existing provision
- Improving existing provision where required

Justification

Resident consultation has indicated that there needs to be a focus on up-skilling the local community and ensuring the infrastructure is available to support this. The plan will support the need to improve career, training and work experience opportunities for young people and community needs. The Baseline Report for the Heath Town Masterplan states that local people need training and work as a priority. The Core Strategy Policy EMP5 stipulates that a proportion of major planning permissions make provision for targeted recruitment or training secured through s106 Agreements.

Schools are key assets in the Neighbourhood Plan area. In particular, Heath Park School is bringing forward major improvements to the school as part of the Building Schools for the Future Programme. The current redevelopment proposals present the opportunity for the school to have an enhanced role in acting as a focus for local skills improvement and building relationships and engaging with local employers. Equally, Trinity Primary School is proposing an extension to its buildings to accommodate the additional pupil population through the Primary Capital Programme.

Policy 10: Improve local shopping facilities

The Local shopping facilities in the area will be protected and enhanced.

This will be achieved by:

- Supporting the retention of existing shopping facilities
- Supporting proposals for new small scale shopping facilities or extensions to existing facilities

Justification

There are clusters of small shopping facilities scattered across the Plan area and 3 shopping centres within the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area:

- 175 – 191 Wolverhampton Road
- 172 – 310 Chervil Rise
- Crossways Shopping Centre – at the junction of Wolverhampton Road and Deans Road

Wolverhampton Road - a small strip of traditional independent shops, representing the remnants of Victorian Heath Town, faces the estate. This comprises: 2 takeaways, mini food market, pharmacy and a barbers shop. These shops are well used by local residents but are tired looking and require sympathetic modernisation that reflects their historic significance for the area.

Chervil Rise - is integrated within the residential Chervil Rise block but is largely vacant due to being poorly situated at the second storey facing an interior court which is not visible from Wolverhampton Road. Apart from the few remaining retail outlets, the centre contains a community centre, Hope centre, health centre and police shop front. The centre also contains an office for Wolverhampton Homes in a separate building. Over time this shopping centre has declined as a viable commercial venture. Wolverhampton Homes' Asset Management Report records that only 7 of the 17 retail units are in use and that 4 of these remaining leases expire in 2012/13 and the longest lease lasts up to 2016.

As part of the regeneration of the estate, there is an opportunity to provide enhanced shopping facilities. This could be provided at Chervil Rise and/or Duke of York sites.

Crossways Shopping Centre - located adjacent to the eastern edge of the study area. Asda has recently taken a large unit on this centre and is trading well. Other shops comprise Farmfoods, a takeaway, pet shop, opticians, off licence, bookmakers. The centre is well used and has sufficient parking spaces.

Core Strategy Policy CEN6 recognises the need to ensure the provision and retention of local shops and other centre uses to meet essential day-to-day needs within reasonable walking distance of people's homes. The Neighbourhood Plan will support proposals to enhance and expand local shopping centres within the area.

The Heath Town Masterplan Baseline Report (January 2013) has identified that there is no Post Office or newsagent in the area and residents travel into the City Centre which can be

problematic for elderly residents. Residents generally shop at Asda (Crossways Shopping Centre) and many use the Retail Park (Bentley Bridge) located near New Cross Hospital. The Chervil Rise Shopping precinct is in need of re-modelling. The shop fronts are inwardly facing and miss out on passing trade. Consultation has highlighted that the remaining Heath Town Estate shops need a focus for investment. There needs to be more of a variety, residents have specifically stated that butcher and a baker would improve the situation and also link into the policies supporting healthy living.

The Heath Town Masterplan offers an opportunity to re-invigorate Heath Town Estate shops by re-modelling them into open plan units and facing onto main the road. The same could also improve Wednesfield Road shop fronts to attract and take advantage of passing traffic. Retail shops and small starter businesses should be encouraged to locate or expand in Heathfield Park, in particular residents want to see more shops on the Heath Town Estate. Explore opportunities to improve the retail units in Heath Town Centre as part of the Heath Town Masterplan. Take advantage of the empty shop units and encourage small businesses, training providers to occupy and provide employment and upskilling of local people.

The Issues and Aspirations Report stated that retail shops and small starter businesses should be encouraged to locate or expand in Heathfield Park, in particular respondents wanted to see more retail shops on the Heath Town Estate.

Policy Area (D) – Assets and Buildings

“Our schools, churches and community buildings are important to the fabric of community life. We want to protect, preserve and enhance our assets and buildings for now and to benefit future generations,”

Marlene Kneller, local resident.

Aim

Protect local assets and buildings and provide high quality community facilities.

This is expressed by a series of Neighbourhood Plan policies which reflect the following policies and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy and saved policies from the Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan.

Strategic Policy Requirements

The Neighbourhood Plan will conform to the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy, and the Unitary Development Plan requirements.

National Planning Policy Framework requirements:

Requiring good design

The NPPF attaches great importance to the design of the built environment. Paragraph 56 states: “Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning, and should contribute positively to making places better for people.” In paragraph 58 the NPPF makes reference to neighbourhood plans:

“Neighbourhood Plans should develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area. Such policies should be based on stated objectives for the future of the area and an understanding and evaluation of its defining characteristics. Planning policies and decisions should aim to ensure that developments:

- Will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development;*
- Establish a strong sense of place, using streetscapes and buildings to create attractive and comfortable places to live, work and visit;*
- Optimise the potential of the site to accommodate development, create and sustain an appropriate mix of uses (including incorporation of green and other public space as part of developments) and support local facilities and transport networks;*
- Respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation;*
- Create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and*
- Are visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping.”*

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan policies that seek to secure good design are:

Policy 11 – Protect heritage assets

Policy 12 – Designate a Conservation Area

Policy 13 – Protect and preserve biodiversity assets

Policy 14 – Provision of high quality community facilities

Policy 15 – Protect assets of community value

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

The NPPF in paragraph 109 states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- *“Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;*
- *Recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;*
- *Minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government’s commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;*
- *Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and*
- *Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.”*

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan includes the following policy which seeks to conserve and enhance the natural environment:

Policy 13 – Protect and Preserve Biodiversity Assets

Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

The NPPF states in paragraph 126 that those responsible for plan-making should have a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- *“The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
- *The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;*
- *The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and*
- *Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.”*

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan includes the following policies that have regard to the need to conserve and enhance the historic environment:

Policy 11 – Protect Heritage Assets

Policy 12 – Designate a Conversation Area

Black Country Core Strategy requirements:

- CSP3 – Environmental Infrastructure
- CSP4 – Place Making
- EMP6 – Cultural Facilities and the Visitor Economy
- ENV1 – Nature Conservation
- ENV2 – Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness
- ENV3 – Design Quality
- ENV4 – Canals
- ENV6 – Open Space, Sport and Recreation
- ENV7 – Renewable Energy

Unitary Development Plan requirements:

- Policy HE1 – Preservation of Local Character and Distinctiveness
- Policy HE2 – Historic Resource and Enabling Development
- Policy HE12 – Preservation and Active Use of Listed Buildings
- Policy N1 – Promotion of Nature Conservation
- Policy D6 – Townscape and Landscape
- Policy D12 – Nature Conservation and Natural Features
- Policy N9 – Protection of Wildlife Species
- Policy R6 – The Greenway Network

Evidence

Black Country Core Strategy Policies on Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness, Design Quality, Place (Adopted Feb 2011)

Habitats Regulations Assessment of Heathfield Park Draft Neighbourhood Plan, LEPUS, July 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement, Nov 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Statement of Consultation, Jan 2014

Heathfield Park Your Plan Your Future, Summary of Draft Neighbourhood Plan, Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, October 2013

Heathfield Park Employment Study, Bruton Knowles, Sept 2012

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study (Interim Character Zone Profiles), P Quigley et al, Feb 2013

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study, Paul Quigley, June 2013

Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop Report, Princes Foundation, November 2011

Heathfield Park Issues and Themes Report, David Cope, April 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning Engagement Project, MEL Research, April 2012

Heathfield Park Options Workshops, Princes Foundation, November/December 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report, LEPUS, Nov 2012

Heathfield Park Sustainability Appraisal Report, LEPUS, July 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Options Report, July 2012

Heath Town Masterplan Draft Report, Gillespies, Feb 2013

Heath Town Masterplan Draft Gillespies, Rev B March 2013

Heath Town Sports Academy Feasibility Study, Donald Insall Associates, Nov 2011

Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Plan Viability Testing Study Wolverhampton, District Valuer Services, Dec 2012

New Park Village Draft Study Report, Jacobs Babbie Ltd, 2004

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Plans, 21.6.11

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Future Strategy for the Heath Town Estate and Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Update, 25.7.12

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 8, Draft Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan and Heath Town Masterplan, 11.9.13

WCC Cabinet Report Community Hubs – A Five Year Vision for Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton City Council, 2011

WCC Local Development Scheme 2013-2016, Local Investment Plan, Nov 2013

WCC Proposed Changes to Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment (Jan 2014)

WCC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2013

Wolverhampton Children's Trust Well Being and Resilience Board, Heathfield Park Asset Mapping Update, Sept 2013

Wolverhampton Children's Trust Well Being and Resilience Board, Heathfield Park Asset Mapping Final Report, May 2014

Wolverhampton Housing Strategy 2013-2018

Wolverhampton Open Space Sport and Recreation Study 2008

Wolverhampton City Council Open Space Strategy and Action Plan Feb 2014

WCC Cabinet Report, Wolverhampton Strategic Approach to Open Space, 26.3.14

Wolverhampton Playing Pitch Assessment/Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan 2012

Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan, Saved Policies (2006)

Delivery

The majority of development proposals will be delivered by the private sector. The policy will help guide such proposals to appropriate locations in the Neighbourhood Plan area. The use of developer contributions or other funding mechanisms will help fund community facilities in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Monitoring

To be incorporated within the monitoring of Core Strategy policies on Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness, Design Quality, Place Making, Environmental Infrastructure and Nature Conservation.

Policy 11: Protect Heritage Assets

The Neighbourhood Plan will work to protect and enhance the historic environment of the Heathfield Park area.

Figure 8 overleaf illustrates the heritage assets in Heathfield Park identified from the work undertaken by the Historic Characterisation Study. Development proposals and refurbishment schemes affecting these assets will be required to be sensitive to the historic environment and unique character of the area.

Justification

The protection and promotion of heritage assets will help to create a more positive identity for the area and make it more attractive as a place to live, work, visit and do business. Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area has a diverse historic environment resource that includes five grade two listed buildings predominantly focussed around the Heath Town Park and Holy Trinity Church. They are:

- Holy Trinity Church
- Lych Gate to the East of the church
- Holy Trinity Almshouses
- Heath Town Park War Memorial
- Heath Town Baths and Library

The Heath Town Baths and Library building dates from the early 1930s and is Grade II listed. Since its closure in November 2006 it has suffered from vandalism and decay and requires investment in the short term to bring it back into productive use. The preservation and bringing back into use of this important building is a high priority for the Plan not only because it is a listed building and community asset but its dereliction contributes towards the negative perception of Heathfield Park.

Heathfield Park also has a number of non-designated historic assets that make a positive contribution towards the character and local distinctiveness of the area and are valued by local communities.

It should be noted that laws exist to protect properties that are statutorily listed or subject to designation. In addition, adopted policies within the Core Strategy and saved policies within the Wolverhampton UDP will be applied to any formal proposals that affect such property.

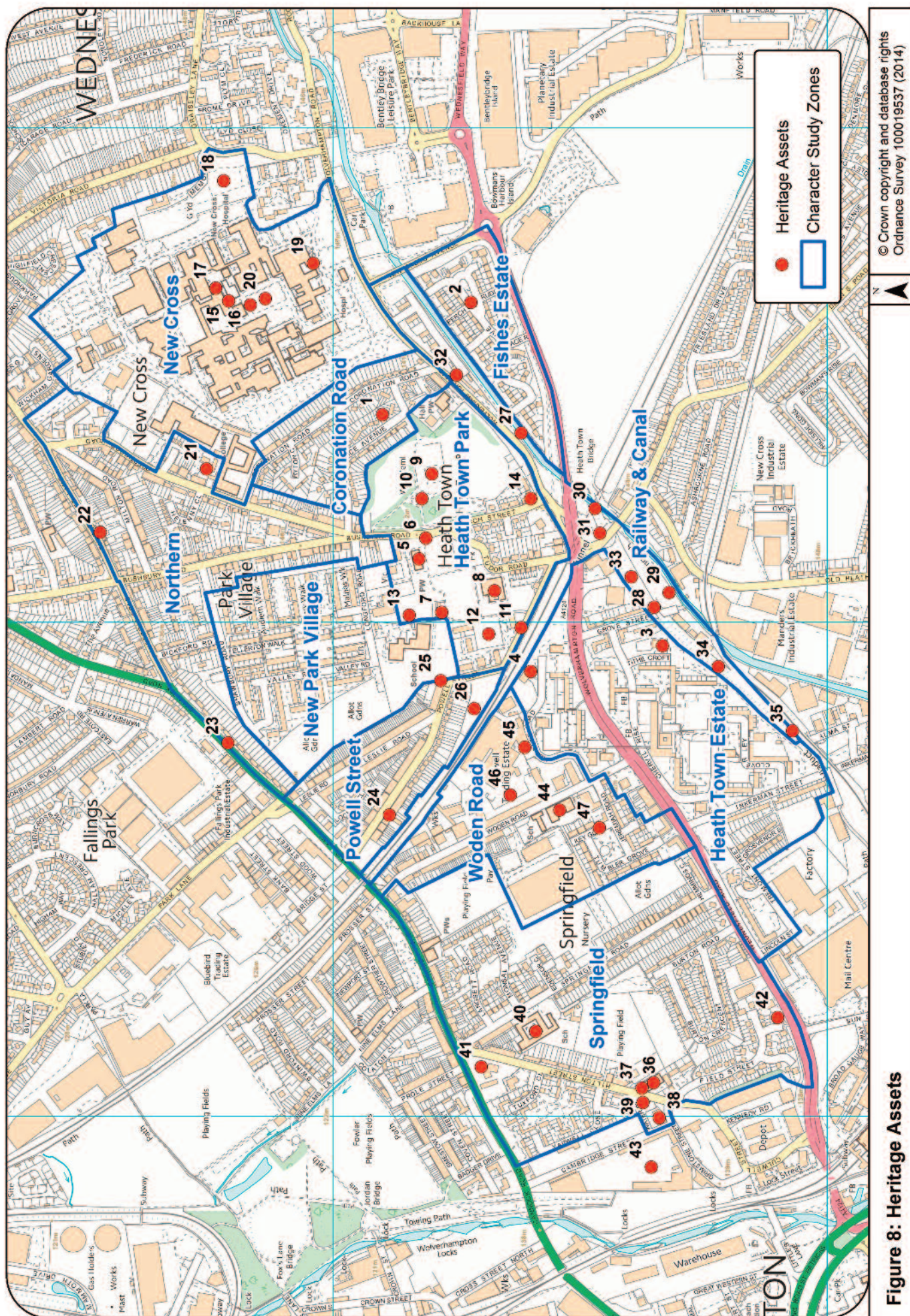


Table 1: Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan – Characterisation Assessment

Heritage Assets

Ref	Character Area	Heritage Asset	Graded Designations
1	Coronation Road	Steel-framed houses, Coronation Road	
2	Fishes Estate	Ridge & Furrow, Witton Road	
3	Heath Town Estate	Little Lowe & Great Lowe Barrows (site), Wednesfield Road	
4	Heath Town Estate	Windmill (site), South End of Station Road	
5	Heath Town Park	Holy Trinity Church, Church Street	Yes – Listed Building (Grade II)
6	Heath Town Park	Lych Gate to east of Holy Trinity, Church Street	Yes – Listed Building (Grade II)
7	Heath Town Park	Holy Trinity Almshouses, Church Street	Yes – Listed Building (Grade II)
8	Heath Town Park	Heath Town Public Baths and Library	Yes – Listed Building (Grade II)
9	Heath Town Park	Heath Town Park, Bushbury Road	
10	Heath Town Park	Heath Town Park War Memorial, Bushbury Road	Yes – Listed Building (Grade II)
11	Heath Town Park	Sandstone retaining wall, Powell Street (mid c19)	
12	Heath Town Park	Memorial Gardens, Powell Street	
13	Heath Town Park	Site of graves relocated from St Georges (Wolverhampton)	
14	Heath Town Park	Settlement, Heath Town	
15	New Cross	Wednesfield Open Lands, New Cross Hospital site	
16	New Cross	Wolverhampton Union Workhouse, New Cross Hospital site	
17	New Cross	New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton Road	
18	New Cross	New Cross Cemetery, Memory Lane	
19	New Cross	Finchfield House, Wolverhampton Road	
20	New Cross	Poplars Suite, New Cross Hospital	
21	Northern	North Farm (site), Prestwood Road, New Cross	
22	Northern	Bird in Hand Public House, south side of Thorneycroft Lane	
23	Northern	Clinker retaining wall, south side of Cannock Road	
24	Powell Street	Former tin plate worker's residence, 46 Powell Street (late c19)	
25	Powell Street	Route of medieval track at rear of Leslie Road	
26	Powell Street	Nature Reserve (site of Wednesfield Heath Station, mid c19), Powell Street	
27	Railway & Canal	Wyrley and Essington Canal	
28	Railway & Canal	Railway Bridge, W & W Railway, Over Grove Street	
29	Railway & Canal	Star Iron Works, South End of Grove Street	
30	Railway & Canal	Railway Bridge Over W & E Canal, Heath Town	
31	Railway & Canal	Deans Road Bridge (W&E), Heath Town	
32	Railway & Canal	Settlement Site, New Cross	

Ref	Character Area	Heritage Asset	Graded Designations
33	Railway & Canal	Heath Town Station	
34	Railway & Canal	W & W railway line	
35	Railway & Canal	Railway viaduct	
36	Springfield	St Stephen's Church, Hilton Street	Yes – Local list
37	Springfield	War Memorial (St Stephen's Church), Hilton Street	
38	Springfield	Springfield Community Centre, Water Street	
39	Springfield	Freemasons Arm Public House & Alan Garbett Butchers Building, Hilton Street	
40	Springfield	Woden Primary School, Springfield Road	
41	Springfield	Grimstone Farm (site), Cannock Road	
42	Springfield	Bigwoods Electrical Engineering, Wednesfield Road	
43	Springfield	Springfield Brewery Buildings	Yes – Listed Building (Grade II)
44	Woden Road	St. Stephen's C of E School, Woden Road	Yes – Local list
45	Woden Road	Former (Beau Ideal) bicycle factory, Hobgate Road (c19)	
46	Woden Road	Buildings of former Culwell Works, including wall marking the former Wednesfield/ Wolverhampton boundary (c19)	
47	Woden Road	CHUBB Safe Works, Wednesfield Road	

Policy 12: Designate a Conservation Area

A conservation area covering the historic heart of the Neighbourhood Plan area is proposed in the Heathfield Park area.

The designation of a Conservation Area would protect and preserve the character and appearance of the most significant group of heritage assets in Heathfield Park.

A 'core area' with additional options, as indicated in Figure 9 overleaf, will be the subject of further public consultation.

The conservation area will need to be agreed with and designated by Wolverhampton City Council.

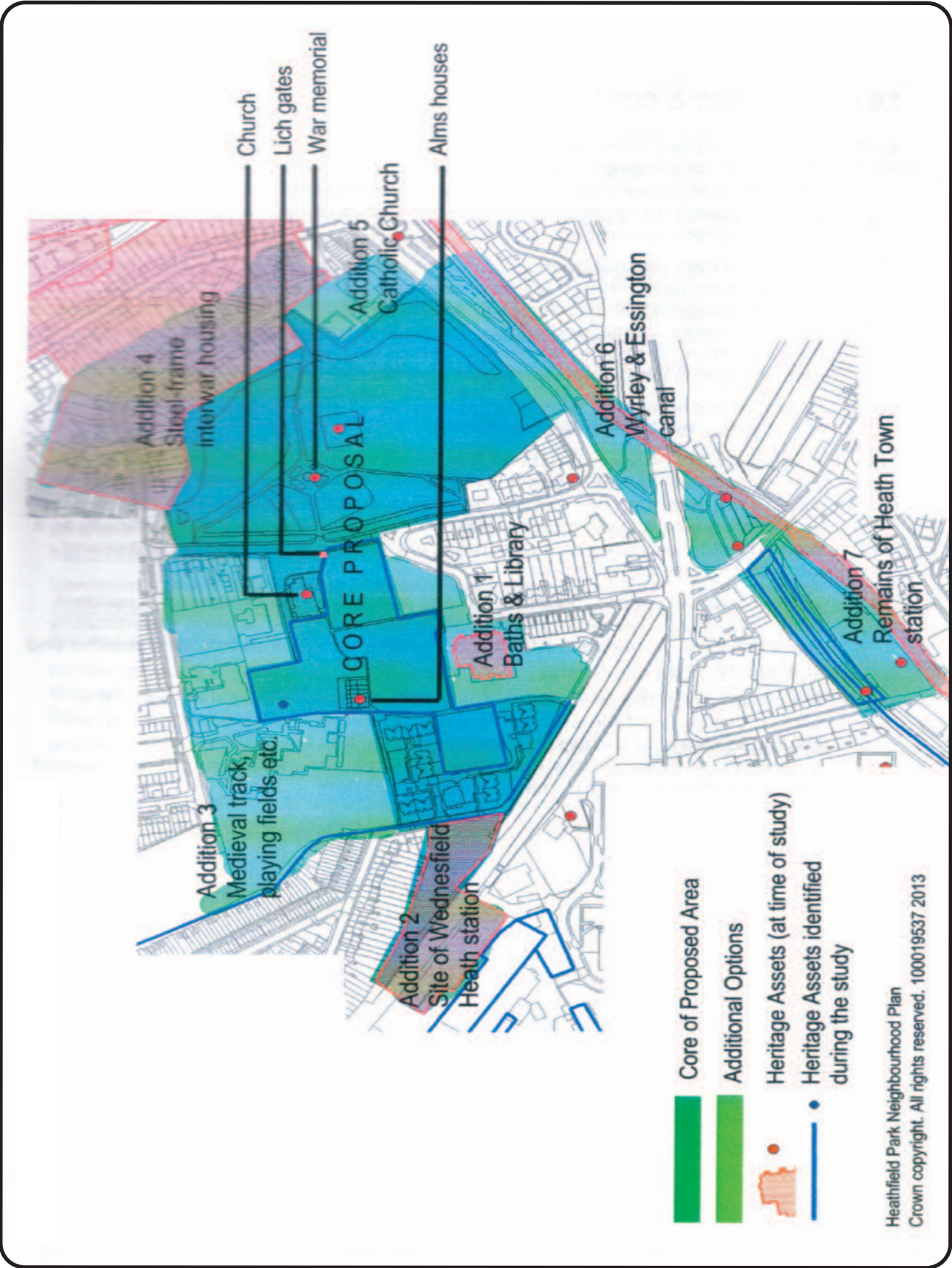
Justification

The Historic Characterisation Study has identified a need to support the conservation of areas of townscape value and assets associated with the industrial heritage of the Neighbourhood Plan area to help reinforce the sense of place and enhance the image of the area.

Conservation areas are areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Conservation areas contain buildings, structures and other features of historic or architectural importance, which, together with the open spaces between them, interact to create areas of special quality and interest.

Local Authorities have the power to designate conservation areas and have a statutory duty to pay attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing them. Conservation area designation increases the local planning authority's control over demolition of buildings and works to trees and there are some additional restrictions on the type of development and alterations to buildings that can be carried out (which would normally be classed as 'permitted development') and not require planning permission. In the process of undertaking the Characterisation Study the area around Holy Trinity Church was identified as having special architectural and historic interest that would justify a designation. Having a conservation area in the heart of the neighbourhood would also give the area recognition as one of the important historic places in the city.

Figure 9 - Map of Proposed Conservation Area



Policy 13: Protect, Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity Assets

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan biodiversity assets will be protected and the awareness of Heathfield Park's biodiversity assets will be strengthened. Proposed development immediately adjacent to or affecting an area of biodiversity importance, as illustrated within Figure 10 overleaf, will not be permitted if it will result in significant harm to the biodiversity value of the site, unless adequate mitigation can be provided as part of the development.

Adequate information must be submitted with planning applications for proposals which may affect any designated site or habitat to ensure that the likely impacts of the proposal can be fully assessed. Without this there will be a presumption against granting permission unless suitable mitigation measures are agreed and implemented.

Justification

The Neighbourhood Plan area must protect and preserve the green infrastructure assets that are important features for supporting urban wildlife. There are key species as listed in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP/LBAP) located near to Wyrley and Essington Canal within the Plan area. The BAP/LBAP identifies the priority habitats (spaces where plants and creatures live) and species (insects, birds and other animals) in the local authority area, and targets actions to maintain and enhance the wildlife. Many of these places also have historic interest giving them dual importance and providing opportunities for enhancement and interpretation of their historic and natural heritage.

A habitat survey has been undertaken of the Wyrley and Essington Canal, with the view to identifying this as a designated nature conservation site. The canal is also an important asset that local people identify with. It needs to be protected and promoted as a leisure attraction for the local community.

Allotment sites are important biodiversity resources within urban environments. Heathfield Park has two allotment sites at Springfield Road and Leslie Road. Currently all allotment plots are in use and have waiting lists. These sites should be protected from development.

Private gardens and street trees also contribute to green infrastructure assets. Heathfield Park has a good private garden resource and is relatively well wooded for a near inner city area, with street trees and woodland. These biodiversity resources need to be protected and preserved.

The promotion and enhancement of green spaces and the canal network could lead to the creation and protection of wildlife habitats and increased awareness of their biodiversity and heritage by the local community.

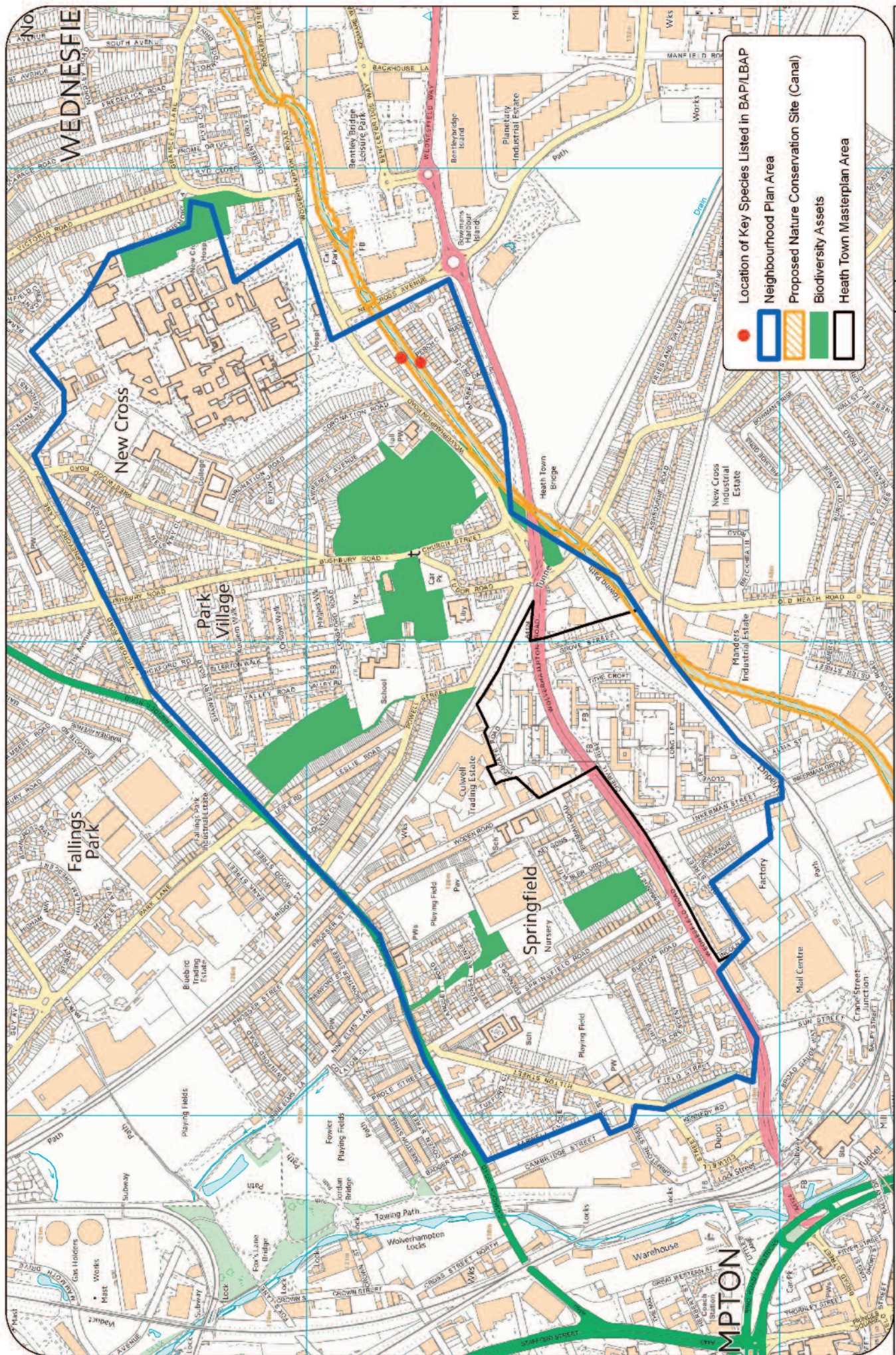


Figure 10: Biodiversity Assets

Policy 14: Provision of High Quality Community Facilities

Proposals for high quality community facilities that encourage day to day social interaction or community based events will be supported. The priorities for improving existing community facilities are:-

- Heath Town Public Baths and Library Site, Tudor Road
- Heath Town Community Centre, Heath Town Estate
- Springfield Youth Centre, Grimstone Street
- Heath Town Adventure Playground Site, Hobgate Road
- Holy Trinity Church Hall, Bushbury Road are looking at opportunities for redevelopment and extension of facilities
- St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Wolverhampton Road

Proposals for the location of a Community Service Hub in Heathfield Park serving Wolverhampton North East will be supported.

Justification

There are very few quality community facilities in Heathfield Park and the limited number of facilities that there are face an uncertain future, such as the Adventure Playground off Hobgate Road which is now closed. Heath Town Community Centre is in need of renovation and appropriate booking and maintenance arrangements to ensure its future. Local people often use the churches in the area as key community meeting places, although general access to these facilities can sometimes be limited at certain times. Community facilities are an important focus for the neighbourhood to encourage social well-being and social cohesion. Investment will be encouraged to provide quality community facilities for new and existing residents.

Wolverhampton City Council is considering the provision of a Community Service Hub in the North East Constituency over the Plan period, which if located in the Plan area will provide employment opportunities in the local area. The Plan will encourage and support this facility to be located in the Heathfield Park area due to its unique location as a gateway to the City Centre and due to the availability of appropriate sites and services located in Wolverhampton North East. Community Service Hubs are expected to bring together a number of services such as community facilities, health and social care, neighbourhood services, police, libraries, possibly extending to other community/charitable services. No site has been identified for this proposal at the present time and further work will be progressed. Potential locations in the Heathfield Park area could include locations on the Wolverhampton Road including the former Duke of York site or other sites made available as part of the Heath Town Master Plan or possibly the former Heath Town Baths and Library site should existing plans not come to fruition.

Policy 15: Retain and Enhance Sites and Property considered to have Community Value

The Plan identifies buildings, sites and features, illustrated in Figure 11 overleaf and listed in Table 2 on page 53, which the community consider to be important for their heritage and for their social well-being, cultural, recreational or sporting importance.

Development proposals affecting these properties will be supported which;

- Enhance the community use of these assets;
- Help secure their viability;
- Encourage new community facilities to be based in local neighbourhoods; and
- Are accessible to all local residents.

Some of the sites and property identified in Figure 11 and Table 2 will be subject of a separate process which will confirm them formally as 'Assets of Community Value'.

Justification

The objective of this policy is to encourage the retention and enhancement of sites considered to have community value. Appendix 5 on page 86 outlines each asset and the protection available through existing policies.

Development schemes that enhance the community use of these assets will be supported, as outlined in Policy 14.

The buildings, sites and features highlighted are considered to be important for the social well-being and social interest of the local community. If a planning application comes forward to develop any assets listed, consultation with local residents and other interested bodies should be carried out by the developer at the pre-application stage in accordance with Policy 24 of this Plan. Planning applications should be accompanied by evidence that the community has been consulted with a record of the views expressed by local people and how these have been addressed in the scheme.

Developers are encouraged to consult at an early stage with the community if they wish to make changes to any of the assets. By consulting at an early stage, it will help the developer to gain community support for appropriate development schemes, which may speed up the planning application process.

The properties identified are important to the community and wherever possible should remain in public use and stay part of community life. Reflecting this, it is expected that some of the properties identified will be the subject of separate formal submissions to the City Council in order for them to be confirmed as Assets of Community Value as part of the Community Right to Bid process. This will be undertaken in accordance with all relevant legislation and regulation.

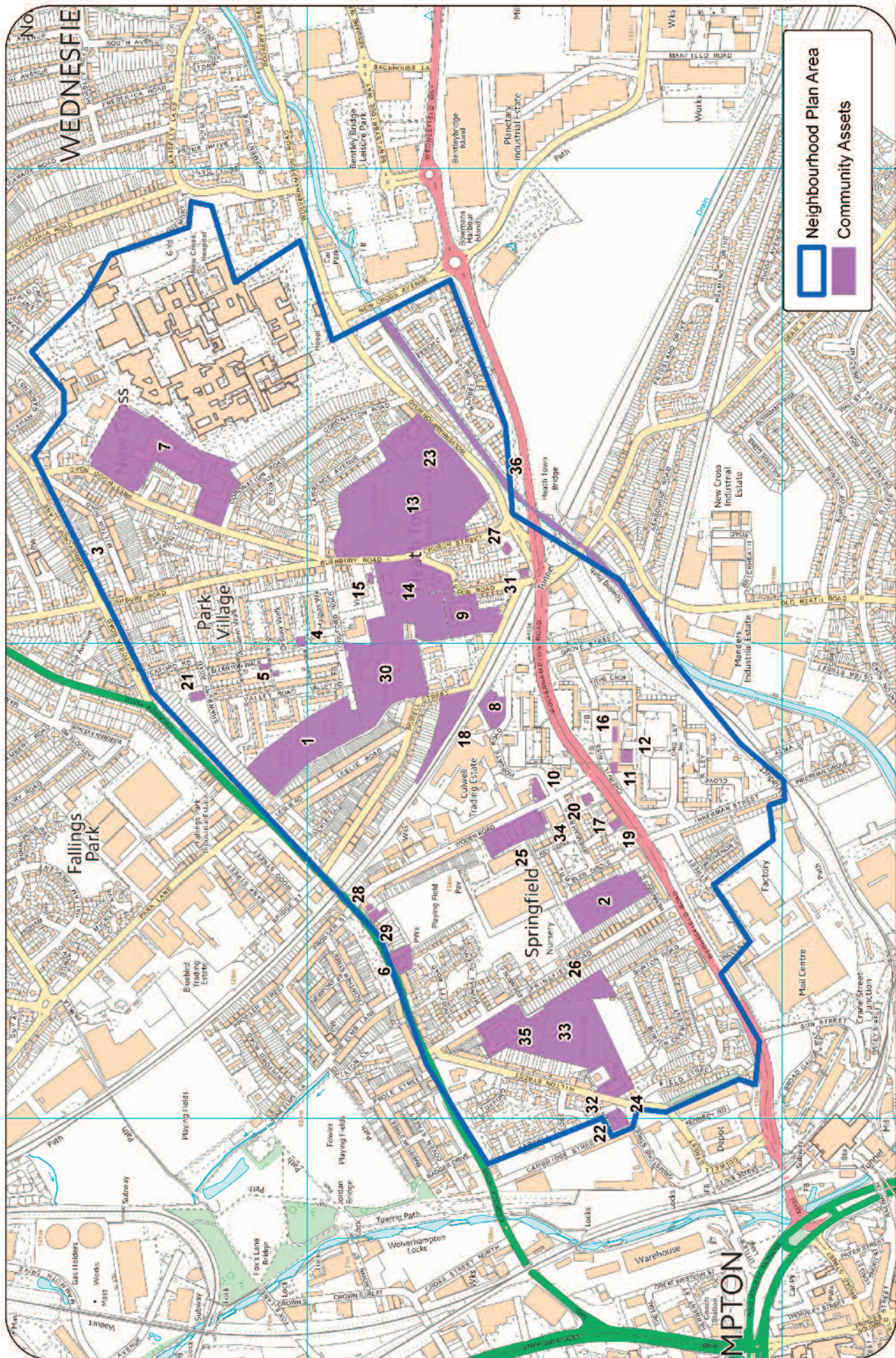


Figure 11 - Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan – Sites Considered to have Community Value

Table 2: Heathfield Park – Sites and Property Considered to have Community Value (illustrated in Figure 11)

Map Ref	Community Asset
1	Allotment gardens, Leslie Road
2	Allotment gardens, Springfield Road
3	Bird in Hand Public House, Thorneycroft Road
4	Ellerton House, Ellerton Walk, New Park Village
5	Ellerton Walk, Playgrounds
6	Guru Nanak Satsang Sikh Temple and Community Centre, Cannock Road
7	Heath Park Business and Enterprise College, Prestwood Road
8	Heath Town Adventure Playground, Hobgate Road
9	Heath Town Public Baths and Library, Tudor Road
10	Heath Town Club, Woden Road
11	Heath Town Community Centre, Heath Town Estate
12	Heath Town Medical Centre, Chervil Rise
13	Heath Town Park, Bushbury Road
13	Heath Town Park War Memorial, Bushbury Road
14	Holy Trinity Church and cemetery gardens, Church Street
14	Lych Gate to east of Holy Trinity, Church Street
15	Holy Trinity Church Hall, Bushbury Road
16	Hope Family Centre, Chervil Rise
17	Lloyds Pharmacy, Wednesfield Road
18	Nature Reserve, Powell Street
19	New Testament Church of God, Wednesfield Road
20	New Trust Centre, Wednesfield Road
21	New Park Village basketball court and skate park
22	Springfield Youth Centre, Grimstone Street
23	St Patrick's Catholic Church, Wolverhampton Road
24	St Stephen's Church and Church Hall, Hilton Street
25	St Stephen's C of E Primary School, Woden Road
26	Taylor's Playground, off Burton Road
27	The Manhattan Public House, Church Street
28	The Shed, Cannock Road
29	Travel Sports and Social Club, Cannock Road
30	Trinity Primary School, Longford Road
31	Tudor Road Surgery, Tudor Road
32	War Memorial (St Stephen's Church), Hilton Street
33	Woden Primary School, Springfield Road
34	Woden Road Surgery, Woden Road
35	Wolverhampton Sea Cadets, Springfield Road
36	Wyrley and Essington Canal

Policy Area (E) – Transport and Traffic

“Heathfield Park enjoys excellent transport links to the city centre, Wednesfield, Cannock and beyond. A plan that we can be proud of will celebrate and enhance these links and ensure that some of the problem areas, bottlenecks and parking issues are solved.”

Dave Hawtin, local resident.

Aim

To address transport, accessibility and parking issues in Heathfield Park.

This is expressed by a series of Neighbourhood Plan policies which reflect the following policies and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy and saved policies from the Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan.

Strategic Policy Requirements

The Neighbourhood Plan will conform to the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy, and the Unitary Development Plan requirements.

National Planning Policy Framework requirements:

Promoting Sustainable Transport

The NPPF states in paragraph 29 that: “The transport system needs to be balanced in favour of sustainable transport modes, giving people a real choice about how they travel. However, the Government recognises that different policies and measures will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas.”

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan includes a theme specifically focused on traffic and transport. This theme includes policies that relate to sustainable transport issues. These transport related policies are listed here:

Policy 16 – Develop a Traffic Management Strategy to address parking issues around New Cross Hospital and Heath Town Park Areas

Policy 17 – Improve road safety and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists

Policy 18 – Provision of new cycle routes and walkways to link green spaces and canal network

Policy 19 – Access and highway improvements as identified in Heathfield Park Transport Study

Black Country Core Strategy requirements:

- CSP5 – Transport Strategy
- TRAN1 – Priorities for the Development of the Transport Network
- TRAN2 – Managing Transport Impacts of New Development
- TRAN4 – Creating Coherent Networks for Cycling and for Walking
- TRAN5 – Influencing the Demand for Travel and Travel Choices
- ENV8 – Air Quality

Unitary Development Plan requirements:

- Policy AM1 – Access and Mobility and New Development (Part 2 only)
- Policy AM4 – Strategic Highway Network
- Policy AM5 – Protection of Highway Improvement Lines
- Policy AM8 – Public Transport
- Policy AM12 – Parking and Servicing Provision
- Policy AM15 – Road Safety and Personal Security

Evidence

Black Country Core Strategy policies on Transportation and Accessibility
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement, Nov 2013
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Statement of Consultation, Jan 2014
Heathfield Park Your Plan Your Future, Summary of Draft Neighbourhood Plan, Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, Oct 2013
Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop Report, Princes Foundation, November 2011
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Heathfield Park Sustainability Appraisal Report, LEPUS, July 2013
Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Options Report, LEPUS, Jan 2013
Heathfield Park Transport Study, ITP, 2012
WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Plans, 21.6.11
Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan, Saved Policies (2006)

Delivery

The majority of development proposals will be delivered by the private sector. The policy will help guide such proposals to appropriate locations in the Neighbourhood Plan area. The use of developer contributions or other funding mechanisms will help fund transport improvements in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Monitoring

To be incorporated within the monitoring of Core Strategy policies on Transport issues.

Policy 16: Develop a Traffic Management Strategy to Address Parking Issues around New Cross Hospital and Heath Town Park Areas

Prior to any further expansion of facilities at New Cross Hospital, a traffic management strategy will be prepared and the key priorities are:

- Seek ways to relieve congestion at visiting hours, eg staggering visiting hours
- Encourage the use of public transport by staff and visitors;
- Introduce car sharing programme for staff;
- Additional off site parking and consideration of shuttle bus facility;
- Provision of two storey car park on hospital site;
- A network of pedestrian and cycle links to the hospital;
- Cycle parking on hospital site for staff and visitors;
- Waiting times and parking restrictions applied around New Cross Hospital and Heath Town Park.

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan, we will seek to implement measures to manage traffic and parking issues around Heath Town Park. The key priorities will be:

- Encourage the use of pedestrian and cycle links to Heath Town Park through the provision of accessible footpaths onto and across the park and access to cycle routes and cycle racks within the park
- Encourage car sharing schemes for visiting clubs
- Provide a designated car park near to Heath Town Park without compromising the green space that the park offers

Justification

The Heathfield Park Transport Study 2012 identified the impact of overspill parking from New Cross Hospital as a key issue. A Traffic Management Strategy is necessary to address parking issues at the hospital. Working in partnership with the local community, transportation, police, NHS and neighbourhood services to look at enforcement visiting times and incentivise staff to use public transport and introduce a car sharing programme. The provision for offsite parking and improved pedestrian and cycle routes can help reduce parking and congestion. Improving the problem of parking at this important community facility could drastically improve the accessibility. It could become much easier for people to access this health facility and ensure there is no disadvantage to neighbouring properties.

In addition, Heath Town Park is an important park within the city and is one of the open spaces dedicated by the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge which was a programme held in 2012 committed to protecting outdoor recreation spaces across the country, as a permanent legacy of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics. It is a focal point for the community celebrations and football and sports activities as well as a much needed play area for young children and a key site for NHS funded outdoor gyms in the city. This site needs a dedicated parking facility to ensure that visitors' impact is not detrimental to the wider area.

Policy 17: Improve Road Safety and Facilities for Pedestrians and Cyclists

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan, new development proposals will be required to be supported by measures to improve road safety and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. Measures will be expected to:

- Ensure easy and equitable access to local services and facilities by pedestrians and cyclists;
- Assist with the establishment of a network of pedestrian and cycle routes linking residential areas to key services and facilities to promote active travel and social inclusion and to reduce reliance on car use;
- Improve road layouts to make them more pedestrian and cycle friendly;
- Review speed restrictions;
- Promote the use of 'shared space' principles;
- Reduce barriers to pedestrians and cyclists;
- Cycle parking to be provided at key services and facilities;
- Discourage freight and service vehicles using residential streets, particularly where schools are located. Any substantial new development which generates HGV traffic will be required to undertake a transport assessment to inform the implementation of measures.

Justification

Heathfield Park is potentially very accessible by foot, bicycle and public transport but has a high volume of traffic travelling through the area, mainly to and from the City Centre. Wolverhampton/Wednesfield Road (A4124) and Cannock Road (A460) are very busy arterial roads that pass through the area and act as barriers, making pedestrian and cycle access along them and from one area to another difficult and hazardous. New Cross Hospital, as a major facility and employer, contributes to the congestion in the area. Ensuring easy and equitable access to local services, facilities and opportunities is important for social inclusion and economic growth. Each neighbourhood has its own individual character and purpose. Within these, accessing key services such as schools, parks, medical centre and shops brings the community together. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to encourage people to access these areas from all different neighbourhoods by foot. This can be achieved through improving road layouts, reducing barriers and establishing a network of pedestrian links across the area.

The Neighbourhood Plan aims to encourage HGVs to use primary routes and avoid using the narrow residential streets in Heathfield area. This can be achieved by working with local businesses and Road Safety initiatives to manage traffic and loading activity in residential streets particularly where schools are located. Weight restrictions for vehicles should be imposed to stop HGVs using residential roads. Developments which route HGV traffic away from the residential roads will be supported. New development which generates additional HGV traffic will be required to undertake a transport assessment and will only be permitted where it can be shown that the proposal does not have an unacceptable traffic impact on local residents.

Delivery

These measures will be delivered in a number of ways, for example, in the detailed design of new development and through Section 106 Agreements with developers.

Policy 18: Provision of New Cycle Routes and Walkways to Link Green Spaces and Canal Network

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan a series of new cycle routes and walkways with links to green spaces and the canal network for pedestrians and cyclists will be encouraged. This will be achieved by:

- Establishing a network of pedestrian and cycle routes linked to green spaces;
- Enhancing the canal towpath for pedestrian and cycle use;
- Improving connections and legibility of the canal network.

Justification

The provision of new cycle routes, walkways and links to canal networks via Inkerman Street and Alma Street will form part of a package aimed at reducing congestion while promoting healthier lifestyles.

The linkage of pedestrian and cycle routes with green spaces and the canal network could lead to an increased use and help to retain and promote these green infrastructure assets as well as potentially link up fragmented areas of habitat.

Delivery

These measures will be delivered in a number of ways, for example, in the detailed design of new development and through Section 106 Agreements with developers.

Policy 19: Access and Highway improvements as identified in Heathfield Park Transport Study

The Neighbourhood Plan's priorities for access and highway improvements are shown in Figure 12 on page 60 and listed below. Where relevant, new development proposals will be expected to have regard to these:

- Improvements to Bushbury Road / Victoria Road junction (1)
- Pedestrian crossing at Church Street / Tudor Road (2)
- Recognised junction at Powell Street / Tudor Road (3)
- Pedestrian crossing at Wednesfield Road / Woden Road (4)
- Reduce impact of overspill parking from New Cross Hospital (5)
- Heath Town Park car parking (6)
- Reduction of vehicle speed along Bushbury Road (7)
- New Cross Hospital – Improved access on Prestwood Road (8)
- Wednesfield Road / Sun Street junction improvement (9)
- Improvements to junction of Wednesfield Road / Tudor Road (10)
- Improved pedestrian connectivity between Barbel Drive and Wolverhampton Road / Heath Town Park (11)

Figure 12 and 13 on pages 60 and 61 illustrate the location of these transport opportunities.

Justification

The Neighbourhood Plan specifies the location of key access and highway improvements found on primary and secondary routes in Heathfield Park. This information is based on the work prepared by Integrated Transport Planning (ITP) on behalf of Wolverhampton City Council and forms part of the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan. ITP produced the Heathfield Park Transport Study 2012, which identified potential and deliverable transport opportunities.

Development contributions from S106 agreements could help towards funding the road improvements that will help reduce congestion and increase road safety. These road improvements are shown on figure 13.

The Neighbourhood Forum is aware of the long term proposals to extend the Midland Metro route along the Wolverhampton/Wednesfield Road, thus joining up and enhancing the transport network across the Midlands and within Wolverhampton.

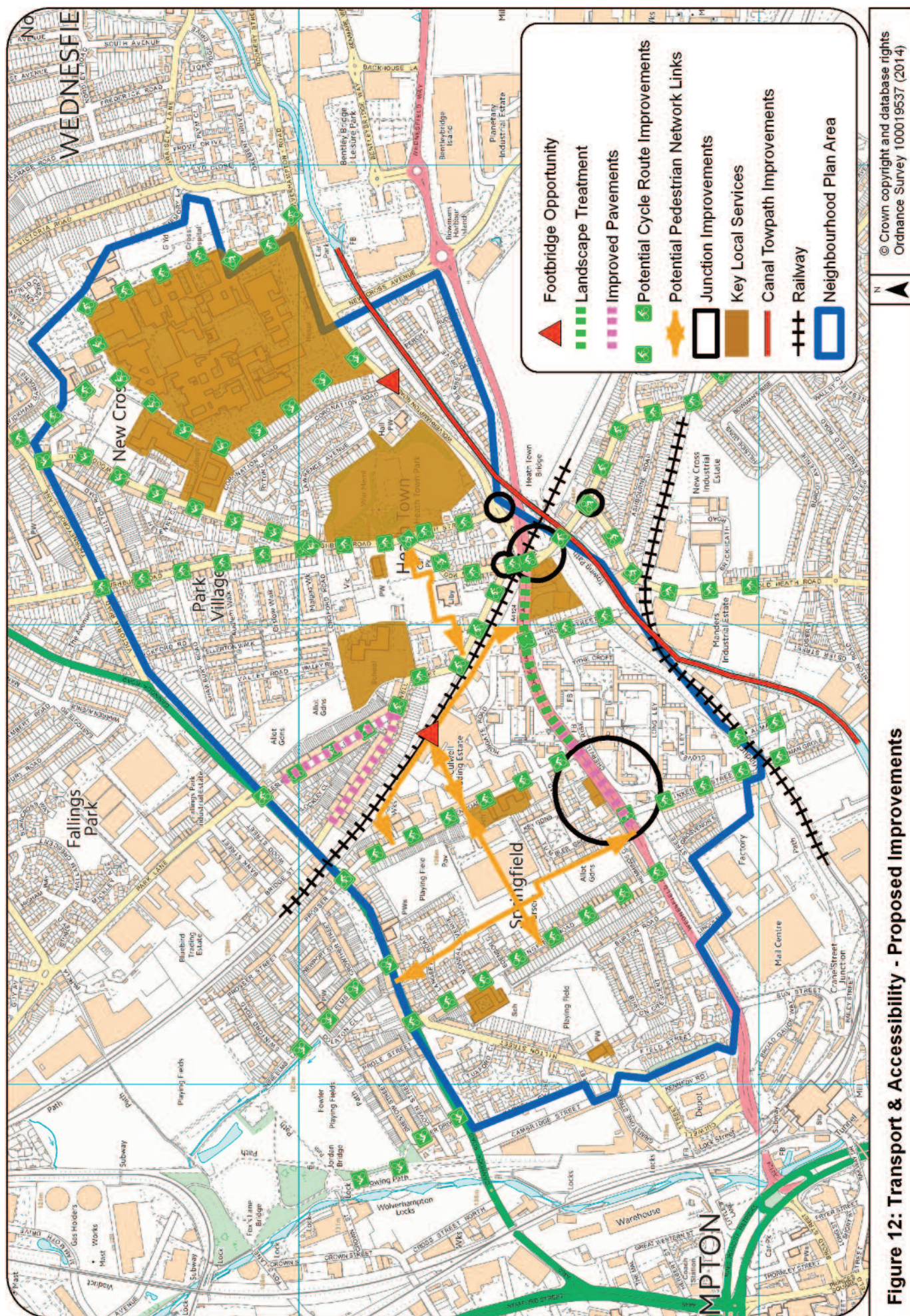
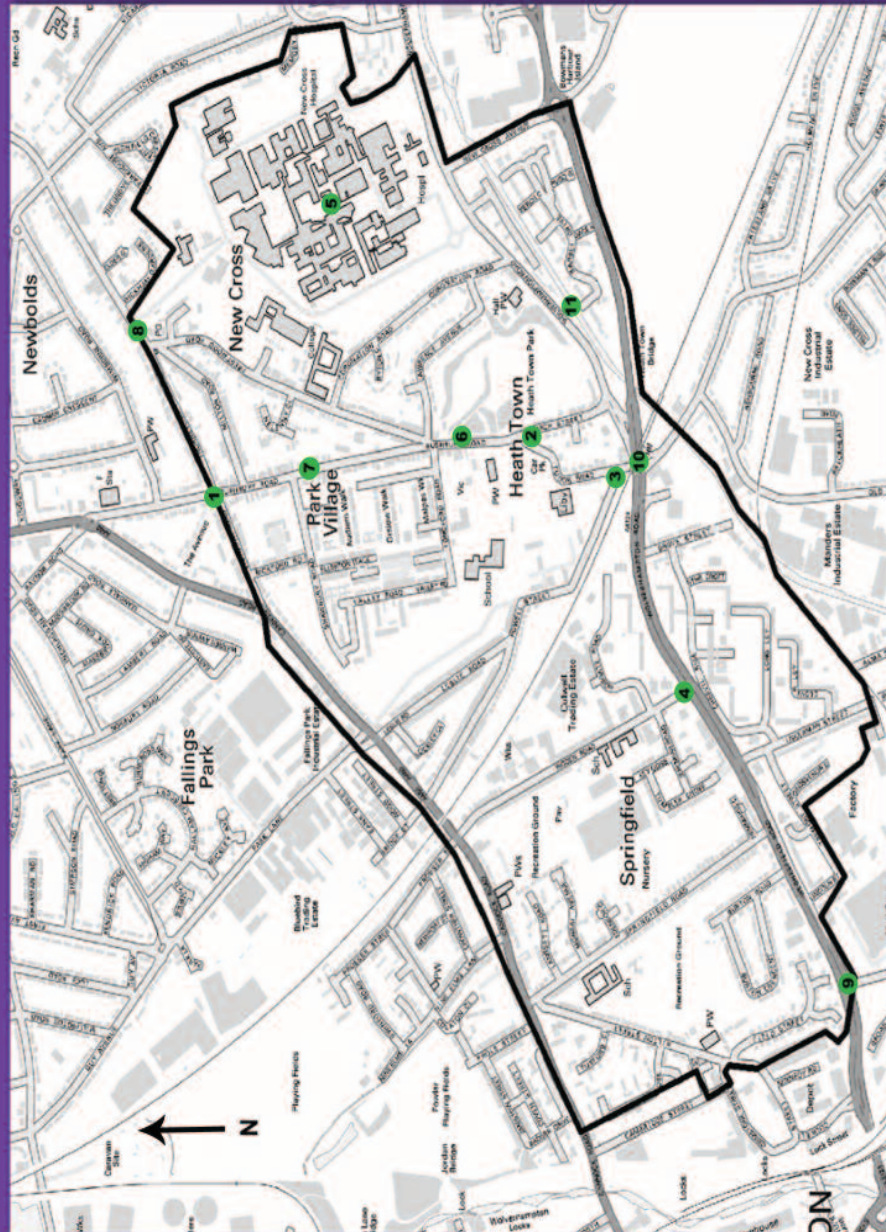


Figure 12: Transport & Accessibility - Proposed Improvements

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Transport Opportunities
(opportunities seen as green dots) 1

1. **Opportunity:** Improvements to Busbury Road / Victoria Road Junction.
Proposed Scheme: Investigate feasibility of providing a dedicated right-turn lane. Re-phase traffic signals to assist in vehicle movement and improve pedestrian crossing.
Prioritisation: Short-term.
2. **Opportunity:** Pedestrian Crossing at Church Street / Tudor Road.
Proposed Scheme: At-grade, uncontrolled pedestrian (Zebra) crossing.
Prioritisation: Short-term.
3. **Opportunity:** Reconfigured junction at Powell Street / Tudor Road.
Proposed Scheme: Introduction of concrete splitter island to 'force' vehicles to turn left at junction.
Prioritisation: Short-term.
4. **Opportunity:** Pedestrian Crossing at Wednesfield Road / Woden Road.
Proposed Scheme: Inclusion of pedestrian crossing configuration and phasing within existing junction.
Prioritisation: Medium-term.
5. **Opportunity:** Reduce Impact from Overspill Parking at New Cross Hospital.
Proposed Scheme: Relocation of overspill car parking from the Hospital which may require introduction of residents parking scheme beyond current pilot scheme. Involvement and consultation with New Cross Hospital essential to understand typical trip patterns for hospital staff and visitors.
Prioritisation: Short-term.

Transport Opportunities
cont.

6. **Opportunity:** Heath Town Park Parking
Proposed Scheme: Double yellow lines on Busbury Road and adjacent to Heath Town Park to remove haphazard parking. Identification of dedicated parking area.
Prioritisation: Medium-term.
7. **Opportunity:** Reduction of Vehicle Speed along Busbury Road.
Proposed Scheme: Traffic management measures to reduce vehicle speed.
Prioritisation: Medium-term.
8. **Opportunity:** New Cross Hospital - Improved Access on Prestwood Road
Proposed Scheme: Improved geometric design of junction to provide additional vehicle capacity. Scheme to include relocation of adjacent busbay.
Prioritisation: Medium-term.
9. **Opportunity:** Wednesfield Road / Sun Street Junction Improvement
Proposed Scheme: Reconfigure junction to provide continuation of bus / cycle lane through junction.
Prioritisation: Medium-term.
10. **Opportunity:** Improvements to Junction of Wednesfield Road / Tudor Road.
Proposed Scheme: Reconfigured junction.
Prioritisation: Long-term.
11. **Opportunity:** Improved pedestrian connectivity between Barbel Drive and Wolverhampton Road / Heath Town Park.
Proposed Scheme: New pedestrian footbridge over canal
Prioritisation: Long-term.

Figure 13 - Transport Opportunities

Policy Area (F) – Healthy Living

“We would like to encourage the community to use our open spaces and take advantage of the health and well being facilities available in the area. Access to good quality health and well being facilities is an important feature of the Neighbourhood Plan.” Gloria Blair-Riley, local resident and Chair of Heath Town Tenants and Residents Group.

Aim

To develop good quality health provision and develop opportunities for people to live healthy lives, including well maintained parks and canal routes.

This is expressed by a series of Neighbourhood Plan policies which reflect the following policies and guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy and saved policies from the Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan.

Strategic Policy Requirements

The Neighbourhood Plan will conform to the National Planning Policy Framework, the Black Country Core Strategy, and the Unitary Development Plan requirements.

National Planning Policy Framework requirements:

Promoting healthy communities

In paragraph 69 of the NPPF it recognises the planning system’s important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. It states “*Local planning authorities should create a shared vision with communities of the residential environment and facilities they wish to see. To support this, local planning authorities should aim to involve all sections of the community in the development of Local Plans and in planning decisions, and should facilitate neighbourhood planning. Planning policies and decisions, in turn, should aim to achieve places which promote:*

- *Opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity;*
- *Safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and*
- *Safe and accessible development, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.”*

The NPPF also recognises the importance of protecting special green spaces in paragraph 76: “*Local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them. By designating land as Local Green Space local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances. Identifying land as Local Green Space should therefore be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.”*

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan policies that promote healthy communities are:
Policy 20 – Provide good and accessible health care facilities
Policy 21 – Improve access to sports and recreation
Policy 22 – Protect and improve open spaces
Policy 23 – Heath Town Park – “Community Heart”

Black Country Core Strategy requirements:

- CSP3 – Environmental Infrastructure
- CSP4 – Place Making
- HOU5 – Education and Health Care Facilities
- ENV1 – Nature Conservation
- ENV2 – Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness
- ENV3 – Design Quality
- ENV4 – Canals
- ENV5 – Flood risk
- ENV6 – Open Space, Sport and Recreation
- ENV7 – Renewable Energy

Unitary Development Plan requirements:

- Policy C1 – Health, Education and other Community Services
- Policy C3 – Community Meeting Places
- Policy C7 – Medical Practices in Residential Areas
- Policy R3 – Protection of Open Spaces, Sport and Recreational Facilities
- Policy R4 – Development Adjacent to Open Spaces
- Policy R7 – Open Space Requirements for New Development
- Policy R9 – New Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities

Evidence

Black Country Core Strategy policies on Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness, Design Quality, Place Making, Environmental Infrastructure and Nature Conservation, Open Space, Sport and Recreation and Health Care facilities.

Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Heathfield Park Draft Neighbourhood Plan, LEPUS, July 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement, Nov 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Statement of Consultation, Jan 2014

Heathfield Park Your Plan Your Future Summary of Draft Neighbourhood Plan, Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, Oct 2013

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study (Interim Character Zone Profiles), P Quigley et al, Feb 2013

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study, Paul Quigley, June 2013

Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop Report, Princes Foundation, November 2011

Heathfield Park Issues and Themes Report, David Cope, April 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning Engagement Project, MEL Research, April 2012

Heathfield Park Options Workshops, Princes Foundation, November/December 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report, LEPUS, Nov 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Options Report, LEPUS, Jan 2013

Heathfield Park Sustainability Appraisal Report, LEPUS, July 2013

Heath Town Sports Academy Feasibility Study, Donald Insall Associates, November 2011

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Plans, 21.6.11

WCC Cabinet Report, Community Hubs A Five Year Vision for Wolverhampton, 2011

WCC Proposed Changes to Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment (Jan 2014)
Wolverhampton Children's Trust Well Being and Resilience Board, Heathfield Park Asset Mapping Update, Sept 2013
Wolverhampton Children's Trust Well Being and Resilience Board, Heathfield Park Asset Mapping Final Report, May 2014
Wolverhampton Open Space Sport and Recreation Study, 2008
WCC Cabinet Report, Wolverhampton Strategic Approach to Open Space, 26.3.14
Wolverhampton City Council Open Space Strategy and Action Plan, Feb 2014
Wolverhampton Playing Pitch Assessment / Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan 2012
Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan, Saved Policies (2006)

Delivery

The majority of development proposals will be delivered by the private sector. The policy will help guide such proposals to appropriate locations in the Neighbourhood Plan area. The use of developer contributions or other funding mechanisms will help fund medical, sport and recreational facilities in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Monitoring

To be incorporated within the monitoring of Core Strategy policies on open space, leisure, and community and health care facility.

Policy 20: Provide Good and Accessible Health Care Facilities

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan, positive encouragement will be given to proposals that result in improving health care facilities. The priorities concern the updating and extension of facilities at New Cross Hospital and consideration of these works on the wider community in terms of parking, traffic and congestion.

The Neighbourhood Plan will also encourage and support new health care facilities as there is a need for an enhanced medical centre within the area. The potential locations could be:-

- A new Health Care Centre on former Duke of York site;
- Improving the existing Heath Town Medical Centre on Chervil Rise;
- Provide enhanced health care provision as part of proposals to remodel facilities on the Heath Town Estate for wider community benefit.

Justification

The Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (2012) identified a high mortality rate from alcohol misuse, cardiovascular disease and infant mortality in Heathfield Park.

There are currently four health care facilities located within the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area:

- New Cross Hospital – Wolverhampton Road;
- Tudor Medical Centre – Tudor Road;
- Woden Road Surgery – Woden Road;
- Heath Town Medical Centre – Chervil Rise

New Cross Hospital is one of four tertiary hospitals serving the West Midlands region. It provides 700 beds, (including 27 intensive care and 14 neonatal intensive care). Employing almost 5000 staff it is the largest teaching hospital in the Black Country. In 2004 the £57 million Heart and Lung centre opened on the site, the UK's first purpose built specialist heart centre. The hospital will be updating and extending its facilities to include a new pathology building, a cancer therapy area and a new Emergency Portal which will replace the current Accident and Emergency department. The hospital is expanding and will cater for patients from across the West Midlands including taking in some additional work on behalf of Stafford Hospital.

New Cross Hospital has been fully engaged in the Neighbourhood Planning process and has invited Steering Group members to visit the hospital to discuss their forthcoming plans in some detail. Steering Group Members have asked for sensitive consideration to the wider community to be taken into account when developing such plans as parking, traffic and congestion are the main concerns which accompany such extensive development.

The Neighbourhood Plan will encourage investment in these existing healthcare facilities as well as supporting new healthcare facilities. Health care provision and access has been identified as a priority for Heathfield Park. The former Duke of York pub site has been assessed as a suitable site for a health care centre providing a sizeable footprint for such a facility to be developed. Residents have also identified Chervil Rise as a site that would also benefit from an improved medical centre. The Neighbourhood Plan supports the redevelopment of either of these two sites for health care purposes.

Policy 21: Improve Access to Sports and Recreation

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan sports facilities in the area will be encouraged. The priorities will be:

- Development of a community recreation facility at the former Heath Town Baths and Library site.
- To encourage the existing organisations involved in providing sports to local people to continue i.e. NPVAN basketball; Football development; Active youth clubs; Walking group; running group; Street dance; Cheerleaders and dance cheerleaders.
- The Somali led football group and the Heath Town football group.

Proposals for new residential development will be expected to strengthen pedestrian and cycle access to sports and recreational facilities and take opportunities for contributing towards improving existing sports and recreational provision or creating new sports facilities for the local community.

Justification

Adult participation in sport and recreation is low in Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area. Only 11.7% of adults over the age of 16 participate in sport for at least 30 minutes three times a week. Only 15.1% of adults over the age of 16 participate in active recreation for at least 30 minutes three or more days a week. The improvement and creation of youth centres and indoor sports facilities are a priority for the area. The Neighbourhood Plan needs to support and facilitate sport and recreation activities to encourage more active lifestyles for all age groups within the community.

Policy 22: Protect and Improve Open Spaces

Over the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan the broad scale and network of open spaces in the area will be protected and enhanced.

- a) Protect existing open spaces:
Development that would result in any harm to the character, accessibility, appearance, quality or amenity value of the open spaces identified in figure 14 for 'protection' will not be permitted unless the community will gain equivalent benefit from open space improvements or the provision of replacement open space.
- b) Improve quality of existing open space sites and canal network:
The priority open spaces for improvement and enhancement are shown on figure 14 as 'improve quality'. The canal network will also be improved for recreational purposes. These improvements will be funded from a combination of developer contributions and a range of other funding mechanisms.
- c) Make better use of poor quality open space sites:
Some existing open spaces are of poor quality, of low value to the local community or are surplus to requirements and could be used more beneficially for other purposes. in Figure 14 overleaf identifies the open spaces that could be used for other purposes as 'development opportunities'.
- d) Provide public open space on new development:
In line with current open space standards, UDP policy and priorities set out in the Council's Open Space Strategy and Action Plan, new housing developments of 10 homes or more should provide new public open space and play facilities for the benefit of new residents, make a reasonable financial contribution to improve existing open space and play facilities in the local area, as set out under b) above.

Justification

Access to open space and recreational facilities is limited due to under provision of walking and cycling routes and frequency of public transport. Joined up and circular routes for walking and cycling which safely connect up to open spaces, sports facilities and the canal are needed to reduce reliance on cars and encourage those who live and work in the area to walk and cycle.

Parks and open space were the top priority for improvement when compared against all other facilities in Heathfield Park. It is the quality of parks rather than the quantity which needs improving. In particular, Heath Town Park and the canal network provide a good resource for recreation. The quality of open space and green infrastructure corridors are key contributors to the quality of life, and therefore investment opportunities to improve quality should be encouraged. Smaller local open space sites could benefit from planting schemes to create wildflower meadows (Heath Town in Bloom), or used as children's play areas. There is a desire for more allotments and community food growing areas. Open space sites used for community food production could tie into the different nationalities and cuisines within the area and encourage social interaction.

The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to improve the quality of open spaces but proposes that some open spaces of poorer quality are used for other purposes, thereby maintaining a positive balance in favour of environmental objectives.

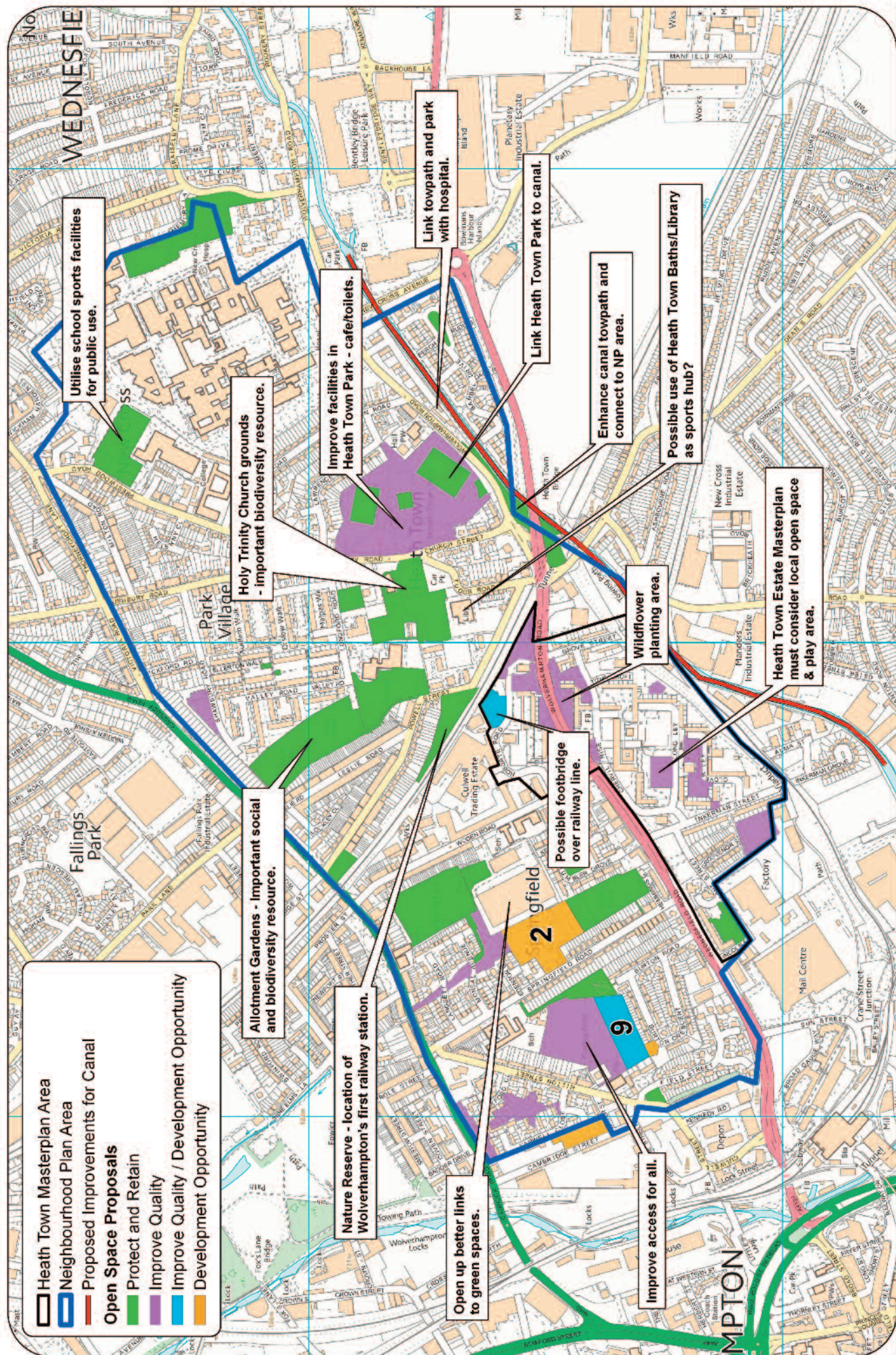


Figure 14: Open Space Proposals

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For the housing proposals set out under the Housing and Environment policies in this document, the open space and play requirements to serve new housing and appropriate compensation for loss of open space will be as follows:

(H1) Bass Brewery Playing Fields - Mitigation to be provided for loss of playing fields which were to be provided as part of housing development at Monsal Avenue. Mitigation should be sufficient to fund the creation of new pitches or opening up community access to pitches in the local area. Greenway to be provided along the route of the culvert running on the eastern edge of the site, linking to Monsal Avenue Open Space.

(H3) Culwell Trading Estate / Former Adventure Playground site – New on-site public open space of no less than 1 ha, in a location accessible to both new and existing residents, and to include a local equipped area for play and multi ball games area with appropriate space around these facilities to protect the amenity of residents.

(H8) Burton Road/Taylor's Playing Field – If playing pitch is retained, no requirements. If playing pitch is lost, mitigation to be provided by creating a new pitch or opening up community access to a pitch in the local area, and direct access to be provided to Burton Road play area.

(H5) Heath Town Estate Masterplan – ensure that the Estate to the south of Wolverhampton Road, including any new housing development, is served by a central area of open space with a local equipped area for play.

New development will be encouraged to create accessible links from development sites to the wider footpath network and green open spaces.

Policy 23: Heath Town Park – ‘Community Heart’

Heath Town Park will be promoted as the ‘community heart’ of Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan which will form part of the proposed conservation area for Heathfield Park. The priorities for the park will be:-

- Provide a mix of recreational opportunities including play areas, sports facilities, informal recreation, dog walking opportunities and multi-use facilities for walkers and cyclists;
- Enhanced community facilities within the park by providing a small café and toilets;
- Encourage annual events and shared activities for the benefit of all age groups of the local community;
- A network of pedestrian and cycle links to the park from the surrounding area to reduce reliance on car use;
- Car parking for park users.

Justification

Heath Town Park is the most prominent environmental and open space asset within Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan area. Heath Town Park itself is a well maintained park occupying a central location within the neighbourhood. It provides for a number of community uses, including an outdoor gym, children’s play area, ball court and football pitches. However, the success of this community asset brings with it problems of parking and traffic congestion, particularly over weekends due to the lack of off-road parking. This is a problem that needs to be resolved by developing a network of pedestrian and cycle routes and linking the canal network to avoid dependency on car use. Heathfield Park Transport Study (2012) identified the lack of general availability of car parking around Heath Town Park as a key issue.

Through consultation with local residents it has become apparent that Heath Town Park is regarded by the majority of residents as the ‘heart’ of Heathfield Park. Heath Town Park is a major asset and focal point for the community. The park therefore needs to be promoted as a community park by improving its facilities and using it for community events and shared activities for all age groups (i.e. party in the park).

Policy 24: Consultation

Statements of Community Involvement will be strongly encouraged to accompany planning applications for development affecting all allocated sites; as presented in the Plan, and will specifically be encouraged to accompany the following:

- All major planning applications
- Applications which result in the loss of public houses or community facilities
- Applications which alter the premises classifications in any of the commercial centres

The Statement of Community Involvement should include:

- an explanation of how the consultation was designed to reach a broad cross-section of local people
- a demonstration that a variety of methods were used to engage local people e.g. through face to face, postal and online communications
- a record of the views expressed in the consultation
- an explanation of how the proposals have responded to local people's views

Justification

The aims of this policy are; to actively involve Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, or its successor, in ongoing consultation and decisions regarding development opportunities in the Neighbourhood Plan area; and to actively gather local views about development proposals before any planning application is submitted.

Planning applications, proposals, strategies and other initiatives will come forward once this Plan is adopted. The process does not stop with the writing of the Plan.

The Neighbourhood Forum will remain in place to ensure it is complied with and to monitor its implementation. Local people want to ensure that their needs are addressed, and so ongoing consultation which involves as wide a cross-section of the community as possible, is required.

Appendix 1

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership became the designated Neighbourhood Forum in December 2012.

A large number of volunteers expressed an interest in becoming involved in the Neighbourhood Plan. The list below represents those who have been involved in the Steering Group over the past 18 months and have been instrumental in ensuring that community consultation has taken place with the wider community.

David Cope (Chair)

William Nicholls

Sue Allen

Phillip Baccus

Gloria Blair-Riley

Kerrith Brown

Daniel Williams-Smith

Jaswinder Singh Chaggar

Raj Bains

Amanda Bevan

David Hawtin

Kathleen Hawtin

Marlene Kneller

John Lee

Margaret Nicholls

Maurice Simmonds

Maria Kay Tabou (until August 2013)

Jon Nelson

Hezlon Spence

Clyde Taylor

Liz Cope

Councillor Margaret Findlay (until May 2012)

Council and Service Provider Attendance:

Evelyn Brown	-	Wolverhampton Homes
Nigel Homer	-	Wolverhampton Homes
Mark Henderson	-	Wolverhampton Homes
Sgt Martin Hewitt	-	West Midlands Police, Heath Town Unit
Sue Lindup	-	Neighbourhood Services
Simon Hamilton	-	Neighbourhood Services
Adam Harper	-	Neighbourhood Services
Edwin Hardy	-	Neighbourhood Services
Sangita Kular	-	Wolverhampton City Council
Ian Culley	-	WCC, Planning
Craig Rowbottom	-	WCC, Planning
Helen Guest	-	WCC, Planning

Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop (November 2011)

Jaswinder Chaggar
David Cope
Pat Lockyer
Clyde Taylor
Daniel Williams-Smith
John Lee
Maurice Simmonds
Wayne Downing - St Stephens School
Andy Darnley – Heath Park School
Rebecca Webb – Heath Park School
Sue Crook – Heath Park School
Jo Edwards – Woden Primary School
Steve Hammond – Heath Park School
Amanda Smith – English Heritage
John Goldring – Holy Trinity Church
Kath Hawtin – Holy Trinity Church
Sue Allen – Hope Centre
Debbie Humphries – Community Focus
David Hawtin – Neighbourhood Watch, KIN
John Pemberton – Springfield Horseshoe
Cas Simpson – Youth Service
Amanda Bevan – Tessa Sanderson
Foundation
Rosie Fraser – Tessa Sanderson Foundation
Kerrith Brown – Heath Town Baths Sports
Academy
Margaret Nicholls – Re-Entry
Bill Nicholls – Re-Entry
Nicolas Crombie – Heantun Housing
Adrian Phillips – Wolverhampton City
Primary Care Trust
David Loughton – Royal Wolverhampton
Hospital Trust

Evelyn Brown – Wolverhampton Homes
Gloria Blair-Riley – Heath Town TRA
Angie Madden – Wolverhampton Homes
Ian Culley – Wolverhampton City Council,
Planning
Marianne Page – Wolverhampton City
Council, Traffic and Transport
Tessa Meek – Wolverhampton City Council,
Community
Craig Rowbottom – Wolverhampton City
Council, Planning
Sue Whitehouse – Wolverhampton City
Council, Planning
Michele Ross - Wolverhampton City
Council, Planning
Anna Dowd – Wolverhampton City Council
Wendy Mills - Wolverhampton City Council
Graham Clark - Wolverhampton City
Council, Economic Development
Cllr Margaret Findlay - Wolverhampton City
Council
Sangita Kular - Wolverhampton City Council
Sue Lindup – North East Neighbourhood
Services Team WCC
Adam Harper – North East Neighbourhood
Services Team, WCC
Bettina Bungay-Balwah – Princes
Foundation
Noel Isherwood – Princes Foundation
Rory Moody – Princes Foundation
Kim Hitch – Princes Foundation

Heathfield Park Characterisation Study Volunteers (October 2012)

David Cope
Bill Nicholls
Margaret Nicholls
Daniel Williams-Smith
Jaswinder Singh Chaggar
Liz Cope
Natasha Sandle

Jamie Manley
Ashmeen Hoonsan
Philip Baccus
Bob Deacon
Sangita Kular
Helen Guest

Neighbourhood Planning Options Workshops

(November/December 2012)

Tuesday 27th November Housing and Environment

Group 1

David Cope – local resident
Philip Baccus – local resident
Michele Ross - Planning
David Millington – WCC Public Realm
Adam Harper – Neighbourhood Services
Jeremy Monk- Hawksworth – Black Country Atelier
Trenton Williams – Princes Foundation
Helen Guest – Planning
Simon Hamilton – Neighbourhood Services

Group 2

David Hawtin – local resident
Kevin Moore – Assets and Buildings
Shaun Walker – Environmental Health
Edwin Hardy – Neighbourhood Services
PC Donnie Gordon – West Midlands Police
Sangita Kular – Planning
Sue Lindup – Neighbourhood Services
Charles Gardener – Princes Foundation
Laura Georgescu – Princes Foundation

Group 3

Gloria Blair-Riley – local resident
Marlene Kneller – local resident
David Smith – West Midlands Fire Service
Barry Williams - Gillespies
Darren Baggs – W'ton Homes
Shaun Brown – WCC Public Realm
Ian Culley – Planning
Kim Hitch – Princes Foundation

Tuesday 27th November Identity and Image/Healthy Living

Group 1

David Cope – local resident
Philip Baccus – local resident
Pat Roberts – CCG Lay Person
Jeanette Shaw – Healthy Lifestyles, NHS
Adam Harper – LNP
Jeremy Monk-Hawksworth – Black Country Atelier
Trenton Williams – Princes Foundation
Helen Guest - Planning
Simon Hamilton – Neighbourhood Services

Group 2

Kath Hawtin – local resident
Kevin Moore – Assets and Buildings
Paul Quigley – WCC, Landscape Architect
Shaun Walker – Environmental Health
Richard Welch – WCC Adults & Community
Edwin Harper – Neighbourhood Services
Sangita Kular – Planning
Sue Lindup – Neighbourhood Services
Charles Gardener – Princes Foundation
Laura Georgescu – Princes Foundation

Group 3

Gloria Blair-Riley – local resident
Liz Cope – local resident
Barry Williams - Gillespies
Evelyn Brown – W'ton Homes
Tracy Cresswell – W'ton City PCT
Shaun Brown – WCC Public Realm
Ian Culley – Planning
Kim Hitch – Princes Foundation

Tuesday 4th December Transport and Traffic

Group 1

David Cope – local resident
Jaswinder Chaggar – local resident
Jeremy Vanes – New Cross Hospital
Ian McGrane - ITP
Shaun Walker – Environmental Health
Adam Harper – Neighbourhood Services
Helen Guest - Planning
Simon Hamilton – Neighbourhood Services

Group 2

David Hawtin – local resident
Daniel Williams-Smith – local resident
Lesley Eagle – Assets and Buildings
Jeremy Monk-Hawksworth – BC Atelier
Marianne Page – WCC, Transportation
Edwin Hardy – Neighbourhood Services
Sue Lindup – Neighbourhood Services
Laura Georgescu – Princes Foundation

Group 3

Gloria Blair-Riley – local resident
PC Donnie Gordon – West Midlands Police
Barry Williams - Gillespies
Jonathan Morris – BC Atelier
Mac Jarvis – Neighbourhood Services
Ian Culley – Planning
Kim Hitch – Princes Foundation

Tuesday 4th December Employment and Skills

Group 1

David Cope – local resident
Jaswinder Chaggar – local resident
Matt Kitson – Bruton Knowles
Shaun Walker – Environmental Health
Janette Watson – Connexions
Lorna Prosser – City of W'ton College
Helen Guest – Planning
Simon Hamilton – Neighbourhood Services

Group 2

Liz Cope – local resident
Sue Allen – local resident
Kevin Moore – Assets and Buildings
Jeremy Monk-Hawksworth – BC Atelier
Jeff Baker – Adult Education Service
Cas Simpson – Youth Service
Sue Lindup – Neighbourhood Services
Laura Georgescu – Princes Foundation

Group 3

Gloria Blair-Riley – local resident
Clyde Taylor – local resident
Bill Nicholls – Re-Entry
Saj Rauf – Youth Service
Barry Williams - Gillespies
Dawn Aston-Adams – W'ton Homes
Jay Patel – WCC, Economic Partnerships
Ian Culley – Planning
Kim Hitch – Princes Foundation

Appendix 2 Evidence Documents

Black Country Core Strategy (Adopted February 2011)

Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Heathfield Park Draft Neighbourhood Plan, LEPUS, July 2013

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study (Interim Character Zone Profiles), P Quigley et al, Feb 2013

Heathfield Park Historic Characterisation Study, Paul Quigley, June 2013

Heathfield Park Community Planning Workshop Report, Princes Foundation, November 2011

Heathfield Park Employment Study, Bruton Knowles, Sept 2012

Heathfield Park Issues and Themes Report, David Cope, April 2012

Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Plan Viability Testing Study Wolverhampton, District Valuer Services, Dec 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning Engagement Project, MEL Research, April 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement (Nov 2013)

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Statement of Consultation (Jan 2013)

Heathfield Park Options Workshops, Princes Foundation, November/December 2012

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report, LEPUS, Nov 2012

Heathfield Park Sustainability Appraisal Report, LEPUS, July 2013

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Options Report, LEPUS, Jan 2013

Heathfield Park Forum Application for Heathfield Park Area, July 2012

Heathfield Park Your Plan, Your Future, Summary of Draft Neighbourhood Plan, Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Forum, October 2013

Heathfield Park Transport Study, ITP, October 2012

Heath Town Masterplan Draft Report, Gillespies, Feb 2013

Heath Town Masterplan Draft Gillespies, Rev B March 2013

Heath Town Sports Academy Feasibility Study, Donald Insall Associates, November 2011

New Park Village Draft Study Report, Jacobs Babbie Ltd, 2004

WCC Basic Conditions and Compliance Statement, Jan 2014

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Plans, 21st June 2011

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 5D, Future Strategy for the Heath Town Estate and Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Update, 25th July 2012

WCC Cabinet Report, Agenda Item 8, Draft Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan and Heath Town Masterplan, 11th September 2013

WCC Cabinet Report, Community Hubs
A Five Year Vision for Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton City Council, 2011

WCC Cabinet Report, Wolverhampton Strategic Approach to Open Space, 26th March 2014

WCC Decision Notice 20.12.12 – Determination of Neighbourhood Area and Neighbourhood Forum Applications for Heathfield Park Area

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Wolverhampton Children's Trust Well Being and Resilience Board, Heathfield Park Asset Mapping Final Report, May 2014

Wolverhampton Housing Strategy 2013-2018

Wolverhampton Open Space Sport and Recreation Study 2008

Wolverhampton City Council Open Space Strategy and Action Plan, Feb 2014

Wolverhampton Playing Pitch Assessment / Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan 2012

Wolverhampton Unitary Development Plan, Saved Policies (2006)

Appendix 3 Themes & Policies

Themes

- Identity and Image
- Housing and Environment
- Employment and Skills
- Assets and Buildings
- Transport and Traffic
- Healthy Living

Policies

A) Identity and Image

1. Protect and promote the Historic Character and Local Distinctiveness of Heathfield Park.
2. Improve the Quality of the Public Realm and Street Scene of Heathfield Park.
3. Improve the Quality and Physical Appearance of Gateways and Focal Points into Heathfield Park
4. Design Out Crime.

B) Housing and Environment

5. Provide Local Housing.
6. Improve the Condition and use of Existing Housing Stock.
7. Provide a range of different housing types across all tenures.

C) Employment and Skills

8. Strengthen the local economy to enhance social economic well-being, upskill and enable local people to compete for job opportunities across Heathfield Park and the city.
9. Develop new skills in the area through the development of high quality schools and adult learning providers.
10. Improve local shopping facilities.

D) Assets and Buildings

11. Protect heritage assets.
12. Designate a Conservation Area.
13. Protect Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity Assets
14. Provide high quality community facilities.
15. Retain and Enhance Sites and Property considered to have community value.

E) Transport and Traffic

16. Develop a traffic management strategy to address parking issues around New Cross Hospital and Heath Town Park
17. Improve road safety and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.
18. Provision of new cycle routes and walkways to link green spaces and canal network.
19. Access and highway improvements as identified in Heathfield Park Transport Study.

F) Healthy Living

20. Provide good and accessible health care facilities.

21. Improve access to sports and recreation.
22. Protect and improve open spaces.
23. Heath Town Park – ‘Community Heart’.

Consultation Policy

24. Consultation

Appendix 4

Timeline: Development of the Neighbourhood Plan

Here is a brief chronological summary of the development of the plan:-

Key Dates	Activity	Who was Involved
June 2011	Pilot established in Heathfield Park	WCC Planning and HFP Partnership
Aug 2011	Workshop Event with Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership to inform of Neighbourhood Plan and recruit interested Steering Group members	HFP Partnership
Sept 2011	Local primary and secondary schools	involved in photographic work in the area to identify their main 'likes' and 'dislikes' about the area HFP wardens, Woden, St S tephens, Trinity and Heath Park Schools
Oct 2011	First Steering Group meeting	HFP Partnership Steering Group Members
Nov 2011	Stakeholder Day	held with local people including presentations from local schools and key stakeholders HFP, Local reps, public bodies, schools, New Cross Hospital, Princes Foundation
Dec 2011	Household Survey commissioned with MEL Research	Steering Group, HFP members, WCC Policy and Planning advisors, MEL
Jan/Feb 2012	Volunteers briefed and Household Survey	distributed by hand to every household in the area Steering Group, HFP members, MEL Research company, local people

March 2012	Follow up of Household Survey	in low returning areas with interpreters on hand to provide additional languages (this resulted in a 42% response rate) and telephone contact made with stakeholders and business contacts (26 responded) MEL Research company, local people
	Sustainability Appraisal of the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan,	Scoping Report completed LEPUS, WCC, Steering Group
April 2012	Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Issues and Aspirations Report	<p>produced and provided to WCC Steering Group Chair, HFP members</p> <p>Local schools and youth groups involved in producing a mascot for the Neighbourhood Plan (Woden school pupil successful and received a prize) Steering Group, HFP members, local schools</p> <p>Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan facebook page launched Steering Group, HFP members</p> <p>Heathfield Park Transport Study commissioned</p> <p>Integrated Transport Planning (ITP), WCC Planners and Transport Dept, Steering Group</p>
June 2012	Your Plan Your Future	summary leaflet produced and distributed at Neighbourhood Plan Launch Day with Tessa Sanderson CBE. Consultation on transportation, Heath Town Baths development and historic character of the area. Steering Group, HFP members, local services, ITP, Tessa Sanderson Foundation, Judo Club and other activities at Holy Trinity Church

	Heathfield Park Issues and Aspiration Report	published Heathfield Park LNP website including supporting documentation, ie Household and Business/Stakeholder Survey Steering Group, Neighbourhood Services Team
July/Aug/Sept	Road Show commences including attendance at	New Park Village TMC Fearless Event, W'ton Homes Stop Hate Crime, EID Event, Asda community stand, Tremont House Lunch Club and presentations at Heath Town Tenants and New Park Village TMC Steering Group, HFP members, NPV TMC, Wolverhampton Homes, Asda, Lunch Clubs etc
July 2012	Heathfield Park Employment Study	– Survey Results available Bruton Knowles, WCC, Steering Group
Sept 2012	Meeting with North East Constituency MP Emma Reynolds	Steering Group Chair
	Wolverhampton MakeShift	Event presentation of Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning process
Oct 2012	Public Meeting	Neighbourhood Plan stage report and recruitment of local members to take part in the Landscape Characterisation Study for the area Steering Group Chair, Landscape Archaeologist, Local Community
	Landscape Characterisation Study and Training	carried out with local volunteers inc sixth formers from Heath Park School Steering Group, HFP members, local community, Landscape Archaeologist, Archives, Heath Park School

Nov/Dec 2012	Options Workshops	held with key stakeholders and local community Steering Group, HFP members, Stakeholders, Princes Foundation
Dec 2012	Employment Workshop	– 200 leaflets and posters distributed to employers in the area Steering Group, HFP members, wardens and employers
	Public Event	displaying key outcomes from Options Workshops – 4000 invitations distributed and 20 posters placed in community venues Steering Group, HFP members, Princes Foundation
	New Cross Hospital	site visit and meeting with Chief Executive and Head of Major Development Steering Group, New Cross Hospital
	Designation of Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership as Neighbourhood Forum approved	Steering Group
Jan 2013	Vision workshop	Steering Group
Feb 2013	Heathfield Park Annual General Meeting	– Stage Report of Plan and Options available for comments and discussion and consultation on Masterplan for Heath Town Estate Steering Group, HFP Partnership, Planners, Gillespies
	Public Consultation	– Heath Town Masterplan Gillespies, HFP members, Heath Town TRA, HFP Partnership, Planners
Feb, March, April 2013	Policies and Plan drafted	Steering Group, Neighbourhood Services, Planners

May 2013	Reviews	with HFP members, steering group, Planning Aid, Council depts, Heath Park School, New Park Village TMC, New Cross Hospital Steering Group, Neighbourhood Services, Planners etc
June 2013	Final Draft prepared	for presentation at Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership Steering Group
	Final Draft Landscape Characterisation Study	available and agreed Steering Group, Volunteers, Landscape Archaeologist
July 2013	Final Draft Neighbourhood Plan	agreed at Heathfield Park Steering Group and Board and sent to Wolverhampton City Council for scrutiny Steering Group, HFP members, Neighbourhood Services, Planners
7 Oct – 17 Nov 2013	Public Event Pre-Submission Consultation on Draft Neighbourhood Plan	Steering Group Members Members of the Local Community Local Stakeholders and Businesses Statutory Stakeholders
December 2013	Meetings to discuss feedback from the Pre-Submission Consultation	Steering Group Members
January 2014	Submission of the Final Plan, Statement of Commitment and Statement of Basic Conditions to Wolverhampton City Council	Steering Group Members

24 Jan - 7 March 2014	Council Statutory Consultation on Neighbourhood Plan	Wolverhampton City Council
March 2014	Appointment of Independent Examiner	Wolverhampton City Council, Steering Group Chair
13 May 2014	Public Hearing of Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan	Brooke-Smith Planning Consultants, Council, Mitchells and Butler, Canal and River Trust, New Cross Hospital, Steering Group Members, local residents
30 May 2014	Examination Report received	Brooke-Smith Planning Consultants, Council, HFP Neighbourhood Forum
17 July 2014	Referendum	All registered voters in the Neighbourhood Plan area
17 September 2014	Full Council Meeting	Plan is officially 'made' by Wolverhampton City Council

Appendix 5

Explanation of Policies which provide 'protection' to Assets referred to in Policy 15

Asset	Primary Adopted Development Plan Policies	Primary Neighbourhood Plan Policies
Allotment gardens, Leslie Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy R3 • Core Strategy Policy ENV6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 13 • Policy 22
Allotment gardens, Springfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy R3 • Core Strategy Policy ENV6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 13 • Policy 22
Bird in Hand Public House, Thorneycroft Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	
Ellerton House, Ellerton Walk, New Park Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 (Meeting Rooms) 	
Ellerton Walk, Playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy R3 • Core Strategy Policy ENV6 	
Guru Nanak Satsang Sikh Temple and Community Centre, Cannock Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	
Heath Park Business and Enterprise College, Prestwood Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy HOU5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 22
Heath Town Adventure Playground, Hobgate Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy R3 • Core Strategy Policy ENV6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 14 • Policy 22
Heath Town Public Baths and Library, Tudor Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 • Core Strategy Policy ENV2 • UDP Policies HE12–14; HE16-17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 11 • Policy 14 • Policy 21
Heath Town Club, Woden Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	

Asset	Primary Adopted Development Plan Policies	Primary Neighbourhood Plan Policies
Heath Town Community Centre, Heath Town Estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 14
Heath Town Medical Centre, Chervil Rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy HOU5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 20
Heath Town Park, Bushbury Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy ENV1 • Core Strategy Policy ENV2 • Core Strategy Policy ENV6 • Saved UDP Policy R3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 13 • Policy 22 • Policy 23
Heath Town Park War Memorial, Bushbury Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy ENV2 • UDP Policies HE12–14; HE16–17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 11
Holy Trinity Church and Cemetery Gardens, Church Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 • Core Strategy Policy ENV1 • Core Strategy Policy ENV2 • UDP Policies HE12–14; HE16–17 (Listed Building) • Saved UDP Policy R3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 11 • Policy 13 • Policy 22
Lych Gate to east of Holy Trinity, Church Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy ENV2 • UDP Policies HE12–14; HE16–17 (located within the curtilage of a Listed Building) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 11
Hope Family Centre, Chervil Rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	
Lloyds Pharmacy, Wednesfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy CEN6 • Core Strategy Policy HOU5 	
Nature Reserve, Powell Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy ENV1 • Saved UDP Policy R3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 13 • Policy 22
New Testament Church of God, Wednesfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	

Asset	Primary Adopted Development Plan Policies	Primary Neighbourhood Plan Policies
New Trust Centre, Wednesfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	
New Park Village basketball court and skate park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy R3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 22
Springfield Youth Centre, Grimstone Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 14
St Patrick's Catholic Church, Wolverhampton Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 14
St Stephen's Church and Church Hall, Hilton Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 • UDP Saved Policies HE18-20 (Local List) 	
St Stephen's C of E Primary School, Woden Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy HOU5 • UDP Saved Policies HE18-20 (Local List) 	
Taylors Playground, off Burton Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy R3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 22
The Manhattan Public House, Church Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	
The Shed, Cannock Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 (Social Club) 	
Travel Sports and Social Club, Cannock Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saved UDP Policy C3 	
Trinity Primary School, Longford Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy HOU5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 22
Tudor Road Surgery, Tudor Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy HOU5 	
War Memorial (St Stephen's Church), Hilton Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Policy ENV2 • UDP Saved Policies HE18-20 (Local List) 	

Asset	Primary Adopted Development Plan Policies	Primary Neighbourhood Plan Policies
Woden Primary School, Springfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Strategy Policy HOU5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy 22
Woden Road Surgery, Woden Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Strategy Policy HOU5 	
Wolverhampton Sea Cadets, Springfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saved UDP Policy C3 	
Wyrley and Essington Canal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Strategy Policy ENV1 Core Strategy Policy ENV2 Core Strategy Policy ENV4 Core Strategy Policy ENV6 	

Heathfield Park

Local Neighbourhood Partnership

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership, the designated Neighbourhood Forum for the area

**Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership
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