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Democratic Services



LICENSING AND PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Thursday 17 October 2024 at 7.30 pm

Place: Council Chamber, Epsom Town Hall

Online access to this meeting is available on YouTube: [Link to online broadcast](#)

The members listed below are summoned to attend the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Councillor Peter O'Donovan (Chair)

Councillor Neil Dallen (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Robert Leach

Councillor Rob Geleit

Councillor Shanice Goldman

Councillor Julie Morris

Councillor Phil Neale

Councillor Kieran Persand

Councillor Humphrey Reynolds

Councillor Clive Woodbridge

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sing', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Chief Executive

For further information, please contact democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk or tel: 01372 732000

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- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move to the assembly point at Dullshot Green and await further instructions; and
- Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so.

Public information

Please note that this meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Epsom and will be available to observe live using free YouTube software.

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Information about the terms of reference and membership of this Committee are available on the [Council's website](#). The website also provides copies of agendas, reports and minutes.

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Exclusion of the Press and the Public

There are no matters scheduled to be discussed at this meeting that would appear to disclose confidential or exempt information under the provisions Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). Should any such matters arise during the course of discussion of the below items or should the Chair agree to discuss any other such matters on the grounds of urgency, the Committee may wish to resolve to exclude the press and public by virtue of the private nature of the business to be transacted.

Questions and statements from the Public

Up to 30 minutes will be set aside for questions and statements from members of the public at meetings of this Committee. Any member of the public who lives, works, attends an educational establishment or owns or leases land in the Borough may ask a question or make a statement on matters within the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

All questions must consist of one question only and cannot consist of multiple parts. Questions and statements cannot relate to planning or licensing committees matters, the personal affairs of an individual, or a matter which is exempt from disclosure or confidential under the Local Government Act 1972. Questions which in the view of the Chair are defamatory, offensive, vexatious or frivolous will not be accepted. Each question or statement will be limited to 3 minutes in length.

If you wish to ask a question or make a statement at a meeting of this Committee, please contact Democratic Services at: democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Questions must be received in writing by Democratic Services by noon on the third working day before the day of the meeting. For this meeting this is **Noon, Monday 14 October**.

A written copy of statements must be received by Democratic Services by noon on the working day before the day of the meeting. For this meeting this is **Noon, Wednesday 16 October**.

For more information on public speaking protocol at Committees, please see [Annex 4.2](#) of the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Operating Framework.

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AGENDA

1. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

To take any questions or statements from members of the Public.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other registrable or non-registrable interests from Members in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting.

3. 2025/26 BUDGET TARGETS (Pages 5 - 10)

This report informs the Committee of the Council's revenue budget targets presented to the Strategy & Resources Committee in July. The report seeks guidance on the preparation of the Committee's service estimates for 2025/26.

4. EPSOM AND EWELL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - ANNUAL FUNDING AWARDS (Pages 11 - 32)

The Council undertook its annual funding rounds for strategic and neighbourhood CIL between the 7 May and 18 June 2024. During this funding window 5 strategic CIL bids and 23 neighbourhood CIL bids were received.

In accordance with the Epsom and Ewell CIL Spending Protocol the bids have all been subject to an initial stage 1 assessment. Only the bids that passed the Stage 1 assessment were then subject to a stage 2 assessment by members of the CIL Member Working Group.

Following this process, three Strategic CIL bids (totalling £1,755,000 of strategic CIL funding) and six neighbourhood CIL bids (£331,966.72 of neighbourhood CIL funding) are presented to this committee for approval.

Six of the nine funding bids exceed £50,000 in value and therefore in accordance with the Council's financial regulations, the funding decision will be referred to Strategy and Resources Committee (S&R) for ratification.

5. RESPONSE TO STONELEIGH AND AURIOL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (REGULATION 14) (Pages 33 - 160)

This report considers the Council's response to the Draft Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan that was published for consultation between 9 September 2024 and 27 October 2024 under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

The Draft Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum and the Council is a statutory consultee. Once formally 'made', a neighbourhood plan becomes part of the borough's statutory development plan and will therefore be used in the determination planning applications in the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum Area.

6. URGENT DECISION (Pages 161 - 164)

To report to the committee the decisions taken by the Chief Executive and Directors on the grounds of urgency, in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

2025/26 BUDGET TARGETS

Head of Service:	Brendan Bradley, Chief Finance Officer
Report Author	Anna Clements, Senior Accountant
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
Appendices (attached):	None

Summary

This report informs the Committee of the Council's revenue budget targets presented to the Strategy & Resources Committee in July. The report seeks guidance on the preparation of the Committee's service estimates for 2025/26.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the implications of the budget targets presented to Strategy & Resources Committee on 23 July 2024.
- (2) Consider how additional income or savings can be generated to address the projected Council wide funding gap of £573,000 in 2025/26, rising to £720,000 per annum by 2028/29.
- (3) Note that owing to the Council's projected budget deficit, any additional new revenue growth items (i.e. service enhancements resulting in increased net expenditure) supported by Policy Committees will need to be fully funded from existing budgets.

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 The recommendations will provide a clear framework for officers to develop a balanced budget for 2025/26, which is a statutory requirement.

2 Background

- 2.1 Since the Covid pandemic, the Council has been required to use one-off reserve funding to support its services and produce a balanced budget. This practice is unsustainable as reserve balances reduce, and the Council must find additional annual income or expenditure savings to address the budget shortfall.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 23 July 2024, Strategy and Resources Committee agreed the budget targets and workstreams to enable the Council to work towards setting a balanced budget for 2025/26.
- 2.3 The committee noted that excluding any new growth in expenditure, additional annual income/savings of £573,000 are projected to be needed to achieve a balance budget for 2025/26, increasing to £720,000 by 2028/29.

3 Full Proposals

- 3.1 For financial planning purposes, latest forecasts show that the Council faces a projected budget deficit of £573,000 in 2025/26, rising to £720,000 by 2028/29.
- 3.2 To address this deficit, Strategy & Resources Committee agreed that the following workstreams should be progressed by Directors and Heads of Service:
 - 3.2.1 Service reviews focusing primarily on discretionary services to be considered at Strategy & Resources in July 2024, with the aim of increasing efficiencies and effectiveness whilst reducing cost.
 - 3.2.2 Ongoing review of existing asset utilisation to realise cost reductions in Council operational buildings and increased income from investment properties.
 - 3.2.3 Officers to be tasked with identifying further efficiencies and opportunities, although these are becoming harder to achieve after over a decade of austerity.
 - 3.2.4 A base review, which entails reviewing the year end position for 2023/24, identifying any potential savings, additional cost pressures and areas where savings can be developed.
 - 3.2.5 Continue to investigate and bring forward income streams which maximise revenue from new and existing services, such as invest to save opportunities. Ensure any new powers are considered to generate additional income for the Council, such as any new charging policy for waste.

- 3.2.6 Undertake a review of reserves to be reported to Financial Strategy Advisory Group to seek support for recommended minimum reserve balances.
- 3.2.7 A target to increase fees and charges income by 6% in 2025/26 (as previously agreed at Full Council in February 2024), then by CPI+1% from 2026/27 onwards. Increased income can come from higher volumes and does not necessarily have to be through increasing the published fee. Heads of Service review fees and charges annually to ensure any increases are achievable and report to policy committees for approval.
- 3.2.8 To maximise external funding and partnership opportunities, for example submitting grant applications as opportunities arise.
- 3.3 Officers will maintain engagement with policy chairs and members throughout the budgeting process, and budget forecasts and assumptions will continue to be reviewed and updated throughout the process.
- 3.4 Where additional income/savings have been previously agreed, support of these is requested from the Committee; but no new additional income or savings targets were proposed for 2025/26 for this Committee.
- 3.5 Furthermore, owing to the Council's projected budget deficit, for any additional new revenue growth items (i.e. service enhancements resulting in increased net expenditure) supported by policy committees, the committee or Council will need to identify how these can be fully funded from existing budgets.

4 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

4.1 Equality Impact Assessment

4.1.1 None for the purposes of this report.

4.2 Crime & Disorder

4.2.1 None for the purposes of this report.

4.3 Safeguarding

4.3.1 None for the purposes of this report.

4.4 Dependencies

4.4.1 None for the purposes of this report.

4.5 Other

4.5.1 The Council has a statutory duty to set a balanced budget each year, demonstrating how planned expenditure on services will be fully funded.

4.5.2 Should the Council not progress the proposed budget strategy and fail to achieve a significant net reduction in its cost of services, there is a clear risk that reserves will continue to diminish with the Council eventually becoming unable to set a balanced budget.

4.5.3 Financial risk assessments will be completed with service estimates for this Committee in January 2025 and for Council in February 2025.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 Financial implications are set out in the strategic financial planning report to Strategy & Resources Committee of 23 July 2024.

5.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** It is important that the budgets target recommendations be agreed to maintain the future financial health of the Council.

6 Legal Implications

6.1 The Council has a statutory responsibility to set a balanced budget each year.

6.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** None arising from this report.

7 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

7.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- Effective Council.

7.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

7.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** None for the purposes of this report.

7.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** None for the purposes of this report.

7.5 **Partnerships:** None for the purposes of this report.

8 Background papers

8.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- 2025/26 Strategic Financial Planning report to Strategy & Resources
23 July 2024.

Other papers:

- Budget Book 2024/25.
- [Medium Term Financial Plan 2024-28](#)

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EPSOM AND EWELL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - ANNUAL FUNDING ALLOCATIONS 2024

Head of Service:	Justin Turvey, Head of Place Development
Report Author	Ian Mawer, Michelle Meskell
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?	No
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 – Strategic and Neighbourhood CIL Bids recommended to be funded. Appendix 2 – Strategic and Neighbourhood CIL Bids not recommended to be funded.

Summary

The Council undertook its annual funding rounds for strategic and neighbourhood CIL between the 7 May and 18 June 2024. During this funding window 5 strategic CIL bids and 23 neighbourhood CIL bids were received.

In accordance with the Epsom and Ewell CIL Spending Protocol (January 2024), all bids received have been subject to an initial stage 1 assessment. Only the bids that passed the Stage 1 assessment were then subject to a stage 2 assessment by the CIL Member Working Group.

Following this process, three Strategic CIL bids (totalling £1,755,000 of strategic CIL funding) and six neighbourhood CIL bids (£331,966 of neighbourhood CIL funding) are presented to this committee for approval.

As the cumulative value of the CIL bids recommended for approval exceeds £50,000, in accordance with the Council's financial regulations, the recommendations of this committee will be subject to approval of the funding by the Strategy and Resources Committee (S&R).

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Approve the recommendations of the CIL Member Working Group by provisionally allocating CIL funding to the projects detailed in Appendix 1;**
- (2) Support a request to Strategy and Resources Committee to approve the funding totalling £2,086,966 from CIL as set-out in this report.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To ensure the robust and effective expenditure and reporting in line with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) and in accordance with the Epsom and Ewell CIL Spending Protocol (January 2024).

2 Background

- 2.1 Epsom and Ewell's CIL Charging Schedule came into force on the 1 July 2014 and applies to all liable developments that were granted permission after this date. CIL is payable when work to implement the development commences.
- 2.2 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is used to mitigate the cumulative impact of development but is rarely sufficient to fund all of the infrastructure that is required to support development of an area. CIL cannot be used to remedy existing deficiencies (unless those deficiencies will be made more severe by new development) undertake maintenance of existing infrastructure, or remedy demands from population growth driven by other factors such as birth rates.
- 2.3 On the 18 January 2024 this committee approved the Epsom and Ewell CIL Spending Protocol which sets out the governance arrangements for spending CIL funds in the Borough.
- 2.4 CIL Regulations require apportionment of CIL as follows:
 - The Strategic CL Portion (70-80%)
 - The Neighbourhood Portion (15-25%)
 - The CIL Administrative proportion (5%)

Strategic CIL

- 2.5 Strategic CIL funding can be used to fund infrastructure, including transport, flood defences, schools, hospitals, and other health and social care facilities. Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support development of their area. CIL can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or provide new infrastructure that is necessary to support development. The clearest way to justify this is to link it to the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan that supports the Local Plan. We cannot use strategic CIL to fund affordable housing as this is still dealt with through s106 obligations.
- 2.6 As of the 30 June 2024 there was £7,621,000 of unallocated Strategic CIL funding available in the borough.

Neighbourhood CIL

- 2.7 The Neighbourhood portion can be used to fund a wider range of spending, including affordable housing but it must still be necessary to support development.
- 2.8 As of the 30 June 2024 there was £1,226,000 of unallocated Neighbourhood CIL funding available.

3 Recommendations for CIL funding

- 3.1 Following the adoption of the CIL Spending Protocol in January 2024, the council raised awareness of the opportunity of CIL funding with strategic infrastructure providers (such as Surrey County Council). During the annual funding round, we received 5 strategic CIL bids and 23 Neighbourhood CIL bids.
- 3.2 The process of scoring and categorisation for strategic and neighbourhood CIL bids is set out in the Epsom and Ewell CIL Spending Protocol (January 2024).

Strategic CIL bids

- 3.3 The CIL Member Working Group has recommended the allocation of Strategic CIL funding to the following projects:
- Ewell Village public realm enhancements - £1,250,000.
 - Priest Hill Football Development – Full size 3G football pitch - £405,000.
 - New Club House at Old Schools lane, Ewell - £100,000.
- 3.4 Further detail on the bids recommended for approval is contained in Appendix 1 – Part 1.
- 3.5 Two strategic bids have not been recommended for funding. These are as follows:
- Epsom Playhouse replacement lighting project – this bid did not pass the stage 1 assessment (the project is maintenance).
 - A project relating to increasing capacity at GP surgeries has not been recommended for funding following a stage 2 assessment as the CIL Member Working Group considered that the scheme was ‘desirable’, whereas the other projects recommended for funding were categorised as essential. Further details on the un-successful bids are contained in Appendix 2 – Part 1.

Neighbourhood CIL bids

3.6 The CIL Member Working Group has recommended the allocation of Neighbourhood CIL funding to the following projects:

- Glyn Hall – Replacement Community Building - £85,000
- Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve Footpath Improvements - £78,644
- Bourne Hall Woodland Play Area - £68,627
- Gateley Green Playground Improvements - £49,829
- Gibraltar Playground Improvements - £44,866
- Waterloo Road Street Tree Planting - £5,000

3.7 Further detail on the neighbourhood bids recommended to be funded is contained in Appendix 1 – Part 2.

3.8 A total of 17 neighbourhood bids have not been recommended for funding this year. The reasons being:

- 7 bids failed Stage 1 of the site assessment criteria set out in the CIL Spending Protocol. The projects were therefore not progressed to stage 2.
- 7 bids did not score more than six points during the Stage 2 Assessment as required by the CIL Spending Protocol
- 3 bids scored more than six points overall, but scored a 1 or less on the best value criteria.

3.9 Further details on the bids that are not recommended to be funded are contained in Appendix 2 – Part 2.

4 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

4.1 Equality Impact Assessment

4.1.1 None

4.2 Crime & Disorder

4.2.1 None

4.3 Safeguarding

4.3.1 None

4.4 Dependencies

4.4.1 None

4.5 Other

4.5.1 None

5 Financial Implications

5.1 CIL is intended to support the strategic infrastructure that is required to support the development of the local area and spend must be in accordance with our Spending Protocol.

5.2 The Council was in receipt of £7,621,000 unallocated Strategic CIL and £1,226,000 Neighbourhood CIL (as of the 30 June 2024) which are available to fund CIL bids.

5.3 This report requests £1,755,000 of strategic CIL funding and £331,966 of neighbourhood CIL funding be provisionally allocated, subject to subsequent approval of the funding at Strategy & Resources Committee.

5.4 If approved, the remaining balance of unallocated Strategic CIL would reduce to £5,866,000 and the balance of Neighbourhood CIL would reduce to c.£894,000.

5.5 Allocating £2,086,966 of CIL funding would result in an estimated £93,910 per annum reduction in treasury management income, assuming investment returns of 4.5%, which will need to be factored into the Council's future financial plans.

5.6 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** Financial implications are set-out in the body of the report.

6 Legal Implications

6.1 The collection and spending of CIL is governed by The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 as amended ("the CIL Regulations"). Part 7 of The Community Infrastructure Levy sets out how CIL may be applied and in particular Regulation 59(1) places a duty on the Council to apply CIL to funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area.

6.2 Charging authorities may not use the levy to fund affordable housing

Legal Officer's comments: None other than as outlined in this report.

7 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

7.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- Enhance the borough's natural assets, preserving and increasing Biodiversity.
- Work with partners to develop and improve transport and infrastructure with particular emphasis on sustainable travel options.

7.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

7.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** None.

7.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:**

7.5 Allocation of funds is in line with the Council's Spending Protocol and is not introducing new policy. It is considered that there is a wide range of projects recommended for funding, including those which enable greater access and facilities for all.

7.6 **Partnerships:**

8 Background papers

8.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

- Epsom and Ewell CIL Spending Protocol (January 2024) - accessible from the following link:

<https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/residents/planning/planning-policy/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/EEBC%20CIL%20spending%20protocol%20-%20final.pdf>

- Epsom and Ewell Interim Infrastructure Plan (May 2024) – accessible from the following link:

<https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/residents/planning/planning-policy/community-infrastructure-levy-cil/Interim%20Infrastructure%20Plan%20May%202024%20%281%29.pdf>

Appendix 1 - Bids Recommended for Funding

Part 1 – Strategic

Project	Ewell Village Enhancements
Bid Requester	Surrey County Council
Project Summary	Public realm improvements in the centre of Ewell Village, bringing about a revitalised, safer, and more connected village.
Total Cost	£2.6m
CIL Funding Requested	£1.25m
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Criteria Score 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to Development Strategy - Score 2 (essential but not time critical)

Project	New Clubhouse at Old Schools Lane, Ewell
Bid Requester	Epsom Sports Club
Project Summary	Planning permission has been granted to build a new clubhouse, a single storey L-shaped building with four changing rooms, a multi-purpose room providing a warm space for in door activities, with kitchen and bar services. The fully accessible facility will provide a facility for local community use as well as sports participants and spectators.
Total Cost	£2.1m
CIL Funding Requested	£100,000.00
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Criteria Score 11, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to Development Strategy - Score 3 (essential and time critical)

Project	Priest Hill Football Club
Bid Requester	GLF Schools
Project Summary	A unique partnership between Glyn School (a school with GLF Schools Multi Academy Trust) and Epsom & Ewell Colts Football Club. To enhance the playing field facilities at the Priest Hill site, to include a full size FA approved 3G football pitch. This development provides a 100m x 64m FIFA standard all-weather pitch, with fencing and floodlights. This project will drive significant change in our locality by offering affordable access to world class facilities. Fundamentally, this facility will be accessed by such a diverse audience; from community groups enjoying recreational activities to more structured training and sport from football clubs.
Total Cost	£1,050,420
CIL Funding Requested	£405,000
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Criteria Score 9, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to Development Strategy - Score 2 (essential but not time critical)

Part 2 – Neighbourhood CIL

Project	Glyn Hall – Replacement Community Building
Bid Requester	Ewell Village Hall
Project Summary	To demolish and re-build the community hall, which has been an integral part of village life for over 100 years. To progress with the re-building project to rejuvenate this little part of Ewell Village and provide a new cost effective central hub for the community. The main beneficiaries will be the local community of Epsom and Ewell, to include groups and individuals offering a range of activities open to people of all generations, family groups and local businesses.
Total Cost	£400,000
CIL Funding Requested	£85,000
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (2 out of 3)

Project	Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve Footpath Improvements
Bid Requester	Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
Project Summary	Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve (LNR) Footpath Hard Surface Creation. Footpath from the Manor Drive entrance to Hogsmill railway tunnel via north side of the stepping stones; the Hogsmill river railway tunnel. The project beneficiaries will be all residents of the Borough, who will enjoy improved access to nature in the Hogsmill LNR, whether able-bodied or users of mobility aids, together with groups engaged in educational activities. The project will help manage visitor pressure helping protect fragile habitats within the nature reserve.
Total Cost	£79,144
CIL Funding Requested	£78,644
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (2 out of 3)

Project	Bourne Hall Woodland Play Area
Bid Requester	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Project Summary	To implement a new children's playground into the wooded area adjacent to the outdoor gym, offering rustic outdoor play. This project is for a play facility in the beautiful surroundings of Bourne Hall. The design and type of equipment chosen complements the natural surroundings of the park area, with all equipment parts made from wood with metal sleeving at the base to protect the equipment in the ground from rotting increasing the lifespan of the products.
Total Cost	£68,627.06
CIL Funding Requested	£68,627.06
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (3 out of 3)

Project	Gateley Green Playground Improvements
Bid Requester	Local Councillors
Project Summary	The project at Gatley Green playground will provide a chance to upgrade the current facilities, installing new play equipment which will comprise four play boards that encourage the use of fine motor skills and imaginative play, a toddler multi-unit, a roundabout, two springers and a parent and toddler swing. Resident families and younger children with little or no access to private amenity space or outdoor play equipment. This a public playground, there are no restrictions, no membership or entrance fees.
Total Cost	£49,829.35
CIL Funding Requested	£49,829.35
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (3 out of 3)

Project	Gibraltar Playground Improvements
Bid Requester	Ewell Village Residents Association / Local Ward Councillor
Project Summary	Project would upgrade the playground, installing three new items of equipment, and four play panels, all aimed at the younger under 12 age group. Local residents, with young families will have access to a better quality playground, offering a place for active and educational play.
Total Cost	£44,866.31
CIL Funding Requested	£44,866.31
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (3 out of 3) 3

Project	Waterloo Road Street Tree Planting
Bid Requester	Epsom and Ewell Tree Advisory Board
Project Summary	The project will provide an environmental and aesthetical lift to the edge of the Town Centre by planting two trees on Waterloo Road.
Total Cost	£5,000.00
CIL Funding Requested	£5,000.00
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (3 out of 3)

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Appendix 2 - Strategic and Neighbourhood CIL Bids not recommended to be funded.

Part 1 – Strategic

Project	Improving primary care capacity
Bid Requester	Integrated Care Partnership (ICP)
Project Summary	Improving primary care capacity by the creation of additional space through reutilisation, digital improvements, and refurbishment, facilitated by off-site patient record storage.
Total Cost	£119,379
CIL Funding Requested	£98,684
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Failed at Stage 2</p> <p>Overall Criteria Score 7,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to Development Strategy - Score 1 (Desirable)

Project	Theatre Playhouse Lighting
Bid Requester	Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
Project Summary	Purchase of Show / Stage lighting at the Epsom Playhouse for the auditorium. This will support the development of the Theatre to offer a wider offering of productions to the community across the whole of the borough enabling and attracting a more a diverse offering of Arts and Culture productions within the Theatre. It will also reduction the carbon footprint of the theatre.
Total Cost	£225,000
CIL Funding Requested	£225,000
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed at Stage 1 Shortlisting the following criteria has not been met 2,4,6 and 9 of the spending protocol</p> <p>Replacement lighting s not considered to deliver clear and significant benefits to the community, Replacement of lighting system that is reaching the end of its function life does not meet criteria for CIL.</p>

Part 2 – Neighbourhood CIL

Project	Horton Country Park footpath replacement
Bid Requester	The Friends of Horton Country Park
Project Summary	To continue work begun in 2018 to restore the worn out surfaces of the network of signed paths and bridleways in Horton Country Park. Funding secured previously from the CIL Fund has resulted in successfully restoring 5.45km of surfaces. There are a further 1.57km of tracks in Horton Country Park that need restoration where they are in poor condition and require attention.
Total Cost	£80,000
CIL Funding Requested	£80,000
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (1 out of 3)

Project	LED Floodlighting
Bid Requester	Ebbisham Sports and Social Club
Project Summary	This project will replace the inefficient lights bulbs across our 4 badminton courts and 3 tennis courts to new LED environmentally sustainable lightbulbs, offering better light coverage, as well as increasing court capacity allowing more people from the wider community to play these racket sports safely, especially low-income families, older people, and people with disabilities.
Total Cost	£30,908
CIL Funding Requested	£13,908
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (1 out of 3)

Project	Gib Tennis Courts
Bid Requester	Ewell Village Residents Association / Local Councilor
Project Summary	Project would completely resurface the two tennis courts and surrounding fencing to improve quality and reduce ongoing maintenance and repair costs. Currently the condition of the courts is extremely poor which creates an uneven surface for playing tennis.
Total Cost	£38,448
CIL Funding Requested	£38,448
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (2 out of 3)

Project	3rd Epsom Scout Group - 'An HQ Fit for the Future'
Bid Requester	3 rd Epsom Scout Group
Project Summary	Build an additional meeting room, new kitchen, and toilets (including disabled facilities). The project is to extend 3 rd Epsom Scout Group's existing Hall, situated within Town Ward. This will provide modern, accessible facilities for the growing number of children and young people in the Group and for the local charities and businesses that also use the Hall.
Total Cost	£416,856
CIL Funding Requested	£180,000
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (0 out of 3)

Project	St Martins School MUGA
Bid Requester	St Martin's School
Project Summary	The multi-use games area (MUGA) is a versatile modern facility that will provide a venue for the pupils to undertake their classes and the potential host tournaments with other schools. The MUGA will have its own access point which will allow members of the public use it outside school hours.
Total Cost	£110,920
CIL Funding Requested	£87, 420
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (1 out of 3)

Project	Poole Road Tennis
Bid Requester	West Ewell and Ruxley Residents Association/Cllr Alan Williamson
Project Summary	The project would completely resurface the two tennis courts and surrounding fencing to improve quality and reduce ongoing maintenance and repair costs. Currently the condition of the courts is extremely poor which creates an uneven surface for playing tennis.
Total Cost	£38,448
CIL Funding Requested	£38,448
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (2 out of 3)

Project	Nam Yang Martial arts
Bid Requester	Nam yang martial Arts Club Epsom
Project Summary	Provision of new martial arts building next to the existing main pavilion in a new build permanent modular building. Epsom and Ewell Council have already allocated £170,000 towards the project with planning permission, arboriculture/tree/bat surveys etc., demolition and removal having already taken place. The previous building in Alexandra Park was deemed no longer fit for purpose in February 2022, to which we had to relocate our club. We currently hire halls on an hourly rate at 3rd Epsom Scouts and Glynn Secondary School.
Total Cost	£331,250.00
CIL Funding Requested	£161,250.00
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (1 out of 3)

Project	Hardwicks Yard
Bid Requester	Two Local Councillors
Project Summary	This community project at Hardwicks Yard will provide a safe playground for resident families. The proposal is to resurface the entire area, including pathways between equipment, preserve the swing set, and introduce a new, bigger climbing frame and a springer horse.
Total Cost	£41,061.56
CIL Funding Requested	£41,061.56
Stage 2 Scoring	Overall Score 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (2 out of 3)

Project	Warren Playground
Bid Requester	Two Local Councillors & Langley Vale Village Hall Community Group
Project Summary	Childrens playground equipment replacement, resurface with new basketball court surface area. The Warren currently has an out of date childrens playground with a surface that is end of life. There is a small basketball court with one basket with a surface that is out of date and end of life.
Total Cost	£78,292.96
CIL Funding Requested	£78,292.96
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Score (2 out of 3)

Project	Longrove Park Safe Area
Bid Requester	<p>Parents/Carers of children attending Southfield Park School, local residents and park users.</p> <p>Supported and submitted by a Local Councillor</p>
Project Summary	To provide a small pitch sized fenced area for use by park users, local residents and Southfield Park Primary School pupils, providing a safe and dog free area for young children and families.
Total Cost	£24,480
CIL Funding Requested	£23,880
Stage 2 Scoring	<p>Overall Score 6</p> <p>Best Value Score (1 out of 3)</p>

NCIL Bids Not Recommended for Funding: Stage 1

All projects were checked against a set of 9 basic eligibility criteria as set out in the spending protocol.

Project	East Steet Housing Development
Project Summary	Housing development including social housing to land at the rear of 135 -139 East Street
Total Cost	TBC
CIL Funding Requested	TBC
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed Stage 1 shortlisting the following criteria has not been met 1,2,4,9,10,11 and 12 -</p> <p>The bid documentation was incomplete and not clear. The project failed to demonstrate clear and significant benefits to the community, unclear what would be delivered. Unclear how the bid relates to the effects of new development / supports development and no detailed project proposals or costings provided.</p> <p>The bid did not show the amount of CIL monies requested and unclear whether land owner consent to progress scheme.</p>

Project	Allotment Signage (Notice Boards)
Project Summary	Install 10 notice boards including posts and installation materials at allotment sites.
Total Cost	£10,000
CIL Funding Requested	£10,000
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed Stage 1 Shortlisting the following criteria has not been met ,2,4, and 6 –</p> <p>Benefits to wider community unclear. The project would only benefit allotments holders and tree advisory board members. Unclear how the bid relates to the effects of new development / supports development and no detailed project proposals or costings provided. The bid was not for fixed infrastructure, some signs not fixed (additional notices requested as spares).</p>

Project	Outdoor Chess Tables and Set, Market Place, Epsom
Project Summary	Install permanent chess table and moveable set in market place
Total Cost	£5,181
CIL Funding Requested	£3,780
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed Stage 1 Shortlisting the following criteria has not been met 2, 3,6 and 11</p> <p>The bid would only benefit a small number of residents but unclear on how it would benefit the wider community. The bid failed to demonstrate that the project will last beyond three years. The proposed chess table is fixed but the chess pieces are moveable. The bid failed to demonstrate if the permissions are in place with EBBC or SCC as no location information was provided.</p>

Project	Ruxley Sea Scouts - HQ roof replacement
Project Summary	Replace damaged and leaking roof at 1 st Ruxley Sea Scout HQ
Total Cost	£23,450
CIL Funding Requested	£17,500
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed Stage 1 Shortlisting the following criteria has not been met 5 –</p> <p>Consider this project to be maintenance - replacing roofing purlins.</p>

Project	Intraoperative PTH Assay Machine Immunosay Analyzer
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Project Summary	When carrying out parathyroid surgery this machine can confirm whilst patients are under anesthetic that the correct parathyroid gland has been removed.
Total Cost	£35,000
CIL Funding Requested	£5,000
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed Stage 1 Shortlisting the following criteria has not been met 2,4, and 6 –</p> <p>The bid would only benefit a small number of residents but unclear on how it would benefit the wider community. Unclear how the bid relates to the effects of new development / supports development. The bid is not for fixed infrastructure, the machine can be moved. Unclear whether permission in place for machine to be located within the hospital.</p>

Project	Cricket Nets at Alexandra Park
Project Summary	This is a proposal for a new recreational facility in Alexandra Park. The introduction of cricket nets would be an asset to the play facilities already in the park and would encourage participation in the sport.
Total Cost	£44,000
CIL Funding Requested	£44,000
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed Stage 1 Shortlisting the following criteria has not been met 1,4,6,9 and 11 –</p> <p>The bid documentation was incomplete and not clear. Unclear how the bid relates to the effects of new development / supports development and no detailed project proposals or breakdown of costings provided. The bid failed to demonstrate if the nets were moveable or fixed.</p>

Project	Alexandra Park Tennis
Project Summary	Alexandra Park tennis courts needs playing surface renovation as the current surface is end of life
Total Cost	£63,439.20
CIL Funding Requested	£63,439.20
Stage 1 Scoring	<p>Failed Stage 1 Shortlisting the following criteria has not been met 1,4,5 and 9 –</p> <p>The bid documentation was incomplete and not clear. Unclear how the bid relates to the effects of new development / supports development and no detailed project proposals or breakdown of costings provided. The bid failed to demonstrate it goes beyond pure maintenance.</p>

RESPONSE TO STONELEIGH AND AURIOL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (REGULATION 14) CONSULTATION

Head of Service:	Justin Turvey, Head of Place Development
Report Author	Susie Legg, Ian Mawer
Wards affected:	Auriol Ward; Stoneleigh Ward;
Urgent Decision?	No
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 –Draft Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 14). Appendix 2 – Summary of Basic Conditions. Appendix 3 – Epsom and Ewell Response to Regulation 14 Neighbourhood Plan.

Summary

This report considers the Council's response to the Draft Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan that was published for consultation between 9 September 2024 and 27 October 2024 under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

The Draft Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum and the Council is a statutory consultee. Once formally 'made', a neighbourhood plan becomes part of the boroughs statutory development plan and will therefore be used in the determination planning applications in the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum Area.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Approve the Councils response to the Draft Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan set out in Appendix 3 that is currently subject to public consultation under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 The Council is a Statutory Consultee on Neighbourhood Plans and this stage is our main opportunity to make comments on the plan in its pre-submission form. It is important that we identify potential issues with conformity with the Council's Development Plan and ensure that the policies will be effective when determining planning applications.

2 Background

- 2.1 Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum has been working to prepare a neighbourhood plan for several years. Neighbourhood plans are required to be in general conformity with strategic policies in the Borough's adopted Local Plan. Once formally 'made', they become part of the statutory land use development plan with equivalent weight and legal status as the Epsom and Ewell Local Plan.
- 2.2 The Council has a statutory duty to provide advice and assistance to Neighbourhood Forums that are preparing a neighbourhood plan. Planning officers have had regular contact with Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum and have provided comments and planning advice throughout the preparation of the draft Neighbourhood Plan, via meetings and email correspondence. Officers recognise and support the hard work that has gone into preparing the draft neighbourhood plan.
- 2.3 There are nine key steps to producing a neighbourhood plan which are detailed below. The Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan is currently at Step 4:
- Step 1 - Designating a neighbourhood area
 - Step 2 - Designating a neighbourhood forum
 - Step 3 - Preparing a draft neighbourhood plan - evidence gathering and public engagement.
 - Step 4 - Pre-Submission publicity and consultation
 - Step 5 - Submission of a neighbourhood plan to the Council as the local planning authority
 - Step 6 - Independent Examination
 - Step 7 – Referendum
 - Step 8 - Bringing the neighbourhood plan into force
 - Step 9 – Monitoring and review

- 2.4 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 set out a series of prescribed stages in the preparation of a neighbourhood plan. Regulation 14 requires that a Neighbourhood Forum should undertake public consultation on its draft plan for a period of at least 6 weeks.
- 2.5 This Regulation 14 stage provides the main opportunity for the Council as a statutory consultee, to make comments on the Neighbourhood Plan in its draft (pre-submission) form. The comments made are intended to help ensure that the draft plan is in general conformity with the adopted Epsom and Ewell Local Plan, is likely to meet the basic conditions tests and that the policies will be effective when determining planning applications.
- 2.6 Following the completion of the Regulation 14 consultation, the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum may make amendments to the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Planning officers will continue to assist the Forum and offer advice regarding any proposed changes.
- 2.7 The next stage will be for the Forum to submit their draft Neighbourhood Plan to the Council, this is Step 5 as set out above in paragraph 2.3.
- 2.8 The Council takes responsibility for the later stages of the neighbourhood plan process including the Regulation 16 consultation and submission of the draft Plan for independent examination. The appointed examiner will consider whether the Plan meets the 'basic conditions' (these are summarised for information in Appendix 2). Following receipt of the examiners' report, the council must then decide what action to take in response to the examiner's recommendations and decide whether the Plan should proceed to a local referendum.

Draft Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.9 The draft Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan (attached as Appendix 1) contains 17 draft policies which are under 5 core themes, notably:
 - Housing
 - Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community / Cultural Facilities
 - Green Spaces and Biodiversity
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Transport
- 2.10 The Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate any land for development and is supported by the Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Codes.

Summary of response comments

2.11 Officers have reviewed the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and provided detailed comments (attached as Appendix 3), which are summarised below:

- Recommend presenting some of the evidence base separately to the plan to reduce the plans length.
- Recommend rewording some policies and objectives.
- Recommend removing some policy requirements that duplicate or are not in full conformity with legal requirements (such as biodiversity net gain required by the environment act or standards required by the building regulations).
- Recommend updating policies on retail to reflect changes to the use classes order, specifically the Use Class E (commercial, business and service).
- Recommend having regard to planning consents that have been granted in the Neighbourhood Forum area which will impact some of the proposed designations.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 None

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 None

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None

4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising at this stage of the neighbourhood plan process.

- 4.2 After completing the Regulation 14 consultation, the Neighbourhood Forum is required to submit the draft Neighbourhood Plan (including any amendments) to the Council, which will then be directly responsible for the later stages of the neighbourhood plan process including submitting the draft Plan for independent examination and organising a local referendum. The Council is entitled to funding from central Government to help support this and has a specific budget set aside for neighbourhood planning.
- 4.3 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** Any future costs for EEBC arising from a Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum would have to be either externally funded from the central government support referenced above, or from existing resources.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Council as local planning authority is under a duty to give such advice or assistance to qualifying bodies preparing neighbourhood plans as, in all the circumstances, they consider appropriate for the purpose of, or in connection with, facilitating the making of proposals for neighbourhood plans within their area.
- 5.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** None other than as outlined in this report

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

- 6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:**
- Encourage high quality design which balances the built environment with new open green spaces.
- 6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.
- 6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:**
- 6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:**
- 6.5 **Partnerships:** The response to this consultation will support the development of the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan.

7 Background papers

- 7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Other papers:

- Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Codes (July 2022). The document can be accessed from the following link:

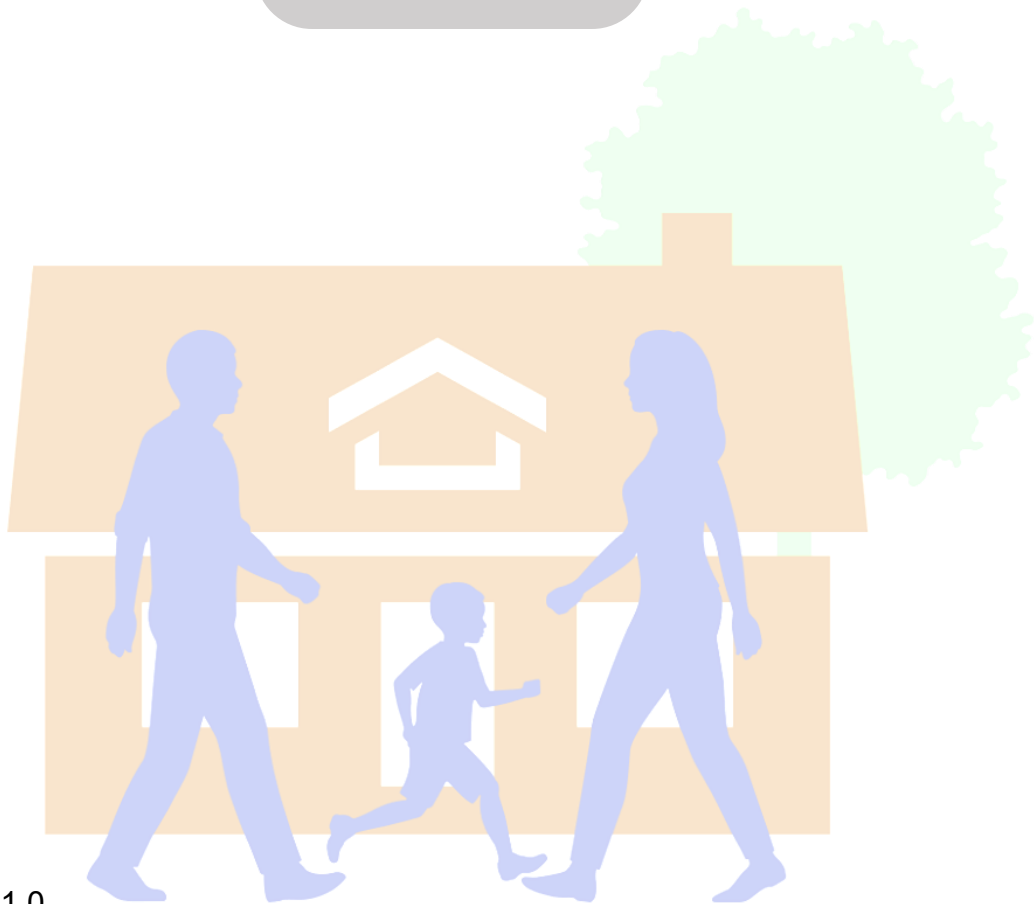
<https://sanf.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan>

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Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan

2024 - 2039



Revision: 1.0

Released: 03rd September 2024

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Foreword

Welcome to the Neighbourhood Plan for Stoneleigh and Auriol.

This Plan has taken over five years of work by the local community to complete. We saw it as an opportunity to help shape the areas of Stoneleigh and Auriol. To outline what we – the local residents – felt would be deemed good planning – and as an opportunity to say what we would like to see in the area; rather than just reacting to standalone planning proposals by developers.

The policies in this plan will be used to determine whether or not planning permission should be granted for development in our area. It will sit alongside the developing Local Plan for Epsom & Ewell and the statutory policies from central Government. A Neighbourhood plan gives local residents a say in the changing nature of the area. This is ever more important whilst Epsom and Ewell's local plan continues to undergo consultation, as many of the existing policies are deemed out of date and carry little weight in planning appeals.

There are areas which some people in the community wanted to go further on. It is important to note that a Neighbourhood Plan can't directly contradict the existing Local Plan for the area, or national Government policies in the NPPF. That said we have conducted significant local engagement, through events, leaflet drops and on-line surveys to try and ensure the voice of the community is across every aspect of this plan. We hope you feel the same.

We live in a great local area, a physically compact neighbourhood largely reminiscent of the 1930's housing estate first developed over ninety years ago. It retains that community feel, most recently so evident as we all wrestled with the Pandemic challenge. It has good local shops, beautiful open spaces and places of historical note. We have successful local schools, welcoming cafes and pubs and thriving clubs and community groups that work to benefit the local community. It's these wonderful elements we wish to maintain.

The team that has produced this plan has changed somewhat through its five-year lifespan; and we're really grateful to every single individual who has played a part – from drafting the SANP, providing technical input into the policies, putting up signs advertising local events to filling in a survey – you have all helped ensure the voice of the Stoneleigh and Auriol community comes across.

Special thanks should go to those who have been involved in the committee; a small team of local volunteers who have really seen this as an opportunity to help shape the future of our area. The committee has included the following individuals during its lifetime: -

- Maurice Bacon
- Shannon Cramer
- Anthony Froud
- Richard Harris
- Amanda Heaton
- Sue Hibbs
- Diana Kay
- Dave Major
- Keith Roberts
- Natalie Rogers
- Nikki Rovagna
- Keith Tutton
- Peter Webb

This has been ably supported by the work of other local organisations including SARA (Stoneleigh and Auriol Residents Association), Stoneleigh Traders, Friends of Auriol Park, Stoneleigh Community Library and a number of the churches within the local area.

Most important of all, this Plan would not have been produced without the contributions made by many local residents including the c.150 Stoneleigh & Auriol Neighbourhood Forum members – thank you to everyone. Through sensitive development that respects the local area of Stoneleigh and Auriol, we can move forward as a thriving community. Our Neighbourhood Plan has tried to capture what we have and look for sensible ways for the community to evolve and prosper. Now the challenge will be to implement it.

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Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope of the Neighbourhood Plan

- 1.1.1 The overarching purpose of the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan (thereafter referred to as the SANP) is to enable the community of Stoneleigh and Auriol to have a say in deciding the future development of Stoneleigh and Auriol in a way that maintains the unique character and sense of community of the area, whilst growing to meet future needs.
- 1.1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan has been created to supplement and build on existing strategic and local policies in the Epsom and Ewell Local Plan which are relevant to key issues in the area of Stoneleigh and Auriol. It should be noted, that at the time of development, Epsom and Ewell Borough Council (EEBC) are in the process of developing a new Local Plan, with the aim of consulting with residents late 2024.
- 1.1.3 The Neighbourhood Plan enables planning issues which are of particular importance to Stoneleigh and Auriol, to be assessed in detail and relevant policies to be set out. It is intended to cover a period of 15 years from the date of adoption.
- 1.1.4 The Neighbourhood Plan does not cover all planning issues in Stoneleigh and Auriol as many of these are adequately covered in the NPPF together with the existing Epsom and Ewell Local Plan and its associated Development Management Policies. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to limit itself to local planning issues in Stoneleigh and Auriol which require specific additional guidance.
- 1.1.5 The Neighbourhood Plan process has been the subject of extensive public consultation. This process has been iterative and has included:
- Questionnaires (online and in-person using the same questions)
 - Public meetings, presentations and question and answer sessions.
 - Simple yes/no feedback on whether the residents agree with the proposed policies along with collecting comments regarding each policy proposal to refine the policy's objective.

- 1.1.6 This process has enabled a coherent vision of how residents and businesses want the area to be protected and improved. This is captured in the Vision and Objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan. The detailed policies in the Neighbourhood Plan stem from the Vision and Objectives.
- 1.1.7 The forum and this plan recognise the requirements and limitations relating to the designation of a neighbourhood forum contained in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Section 61F, particularly the limitation on its lifespan (5 years) contained in subsection (8).

1.2 Vision

To ensure that the Stoneleigh and Auriol wards retain their original, unique character and strong sense of community by promoting and improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of those living and working in Stoneleigh and Auriol, whilst growing to meet future needs.

1.3 What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

- 1.3.1 The UK government (gov.uk, undated) describes Neighbourhood Planning as:

“...a new way for communities to have a say in the future of the places where they live and work. It gives you the power to produce a plan with real legal weight that directs development in your local area. It helps you:

- *choose where you want new homes, shops and offices to be built*
- *have your say on what those new buildings should look like*
- *grant planning permission for the new buildings you want to see go ahead”*

1.4 Overview of Strategic Policy Context for the Stoneleigh & Auriol Neighbourhood Plan

- 1.4.1 In writing the Stoneleigh & Auriol Neighbourhood Plan (SANP), careful consideration was given to the evolving framework of planning policies, particularly the Epsom and Ewell Local Plan, which remained in draft during the SANP NP formulation. As a result, the SANP relied on the existing adopted Epsom and Ewell Local Plan (EELP), the emerging Draft Local Plan, and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to ensure alignment with statutory requirements and strategic objectives.
- 1.4.2 The NPPF sets out the Government's expectation that "a positive approach should be taken to achieving sustainable development through seeking economic, social and environmental gains jointly and simultaneously through the planning system". Updated in 2021, the NPPF outlines the Government's planning policies for England and how these are to be applied in local and neighbourhood plans. Critically, the NPPF must be taken into account in the preparation of all new development plans, including this NDP. The NPPF policies which are particularly relevant to this NDP are:
- The presumption in favour of sustainable development
 - Delivering a wide choice of high-quality homes
 - Building a strong, competitive economy
 - Making effective use of land
 - Achieving well-designed places
 - Promoting healthy and safe communities
 - Meeting the challenge of climate change
 - Conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment.
- 1.4.3 By adhering to these key NPPF policies, the Stoneleigh & Auriol Neighbourhood Plan not only reflects local aspirations but also contributes to the broader national agenda of sustainable development and effective land use planning.

1.5 How to use this Neighbourhood Plan

- 1.5.1 The Neighbourhood Plan sets out policies for development in the Stoneleigh and Auriol area. Policies are clearly identified using a green background and are indexed at the beginning of this document. Each policy has a distinct section, title and policy number. These policies must be addressed by any development proposals coming forward in the area.
- 1.5.2 Planning applications must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 1.5.3 For the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Area the development plan is made up of the NPPF, the Local Plan for Epsom and Ewell, and when it is adopted, the Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in conjunction with the development of the updated Epsom and Ewell Local Plan
- 1.5.4 Where policies within the SANP differ from policies in other development plan documents, the most up-to-date and specific policy takes precedence. However, where this Neighbourhood Plan does not include a relevant policy, policies in the other development plan documents should be used to determine planning applications. The Neighbourhood Plan only includes policies where a local approach is needed.
- 1.5.5 In addition to policies for development, the Neighbourhood Plan includes proposals to achieve the objectives of the SANP. The Planning Practice Guidance is clear that such community aspirations can be included within neighbourhood plans, but that they should be clearly distinguished from the SANP's policies. As such, these are referred to in the text of the SANP as 'Community Proposals' and are clearly identified with a yellow background and each proposal has its own recommendation number. Whilst these recommendations might not carry any weight when it comes to making planning decisions, they reflect the views and wishes of the residents when it comes to options available to developers.
- 1.5.6 Implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan will be monitored by the Forum Committee through quarterly reports and an annual Progress Report to the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum AGM.

1.6 History of SANF

- 1.6.1 SANF was born out a series of unpopular planning applications made within the Stoneleigh and Auriol wards in Epsom and Ewell.
- 1.6.2 The formation of SANF was conceived by local residents as an opportunity to influence proactively developments, with the aim of retaining the distinctive local character of the area.
- 1.6.3** The Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum was designated by the Licensing and Planning Committee of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, on November 12th 2020 under the Localism Act 2011. It is the formally recognised 'qualifying body' for the area, comprising a large group of active residents, business representatives and representatives of local community services and voluntary groups. The Neighbourhood Forum was established with a view to bringing forward a Neighbourhood Plan for the area.
- 1.6.4 EEBC agreed on the 12th of November 2020, to designate the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan by Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum, under Section 61G (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 1.6.5 EEBC also agreed on the 12th of November 2020, to designate the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum for the purposes of preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Area under 61F of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The SANF designation expires on the 12th of November 2025.

Full details of these agreements can be found on the EEBC Website via:
<https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/stoneleigh-and-auriol-neighbourhood-forum>

A full history of SANF engagements can be found in

1.6.6 Appendix 6 – SANF Key Dates and Engagement

1.6.2 Drivers in the Creation of SANF

1.6.2.1 An eight-storey tower block was proposed for Station Approach in Auriol, which culminated in the creation of Stop Stoneleigh Tower Block Action Group (SSTBAG). This group successfully campaigned against this application, but it became apparent that a longer-term solution to the unpopular planning applications within Stoneleigh and Auriol needed to be found. Many of those involved with SSTBAG went on to form SANF.

1.6.2.2 The COVID-19 pandemic has also changed the priorities of those looking to purchase a property. The House Buyer Bureau (2024) states:

A major impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that is still being seen today is the shift in buyer priorities when choosing a new home. Homes are now having to meet a different set of requirements for owners and the checklist for many has changed. There is more of an emphasis on additional living areas and outdoor space and replacing some buyers' need for short commutes or local amenities. Additional office space is a must for home workers, whether within the property or in an outdoor summer house. Moving to a suburb with private outdoor space has become important for those living in the middle of large cities.

1.6.2.3 The housing stock and amenities within Stoneleigh and Auriol already meets or exceeds the post-pandemic requirements listed above, and the pre-pandemic planning philosophy of building higher, denser, smaller properties near transport hubs (or in the case of Stoneleigh a single route station and two major bus routes that skirt the wards) specifically aimed at city-based commuters is now out of date.

1.6.2.4 The planning application for Station Approach, if it had gone ahead would have set a precedent for higher, denser, unsympathetic development within the area which was another driver in the creation of SANF.

1.7 Area Overview

1.7.1 The designated area for the SANP covers around 180 hectares and is located in the Borough of Epsom and Ewell in the county of Surrey. The designated area is based on the Stoneleigh and Auriol ward boundaries, prior to the minor boundary changes made before the 2023 local council elections.

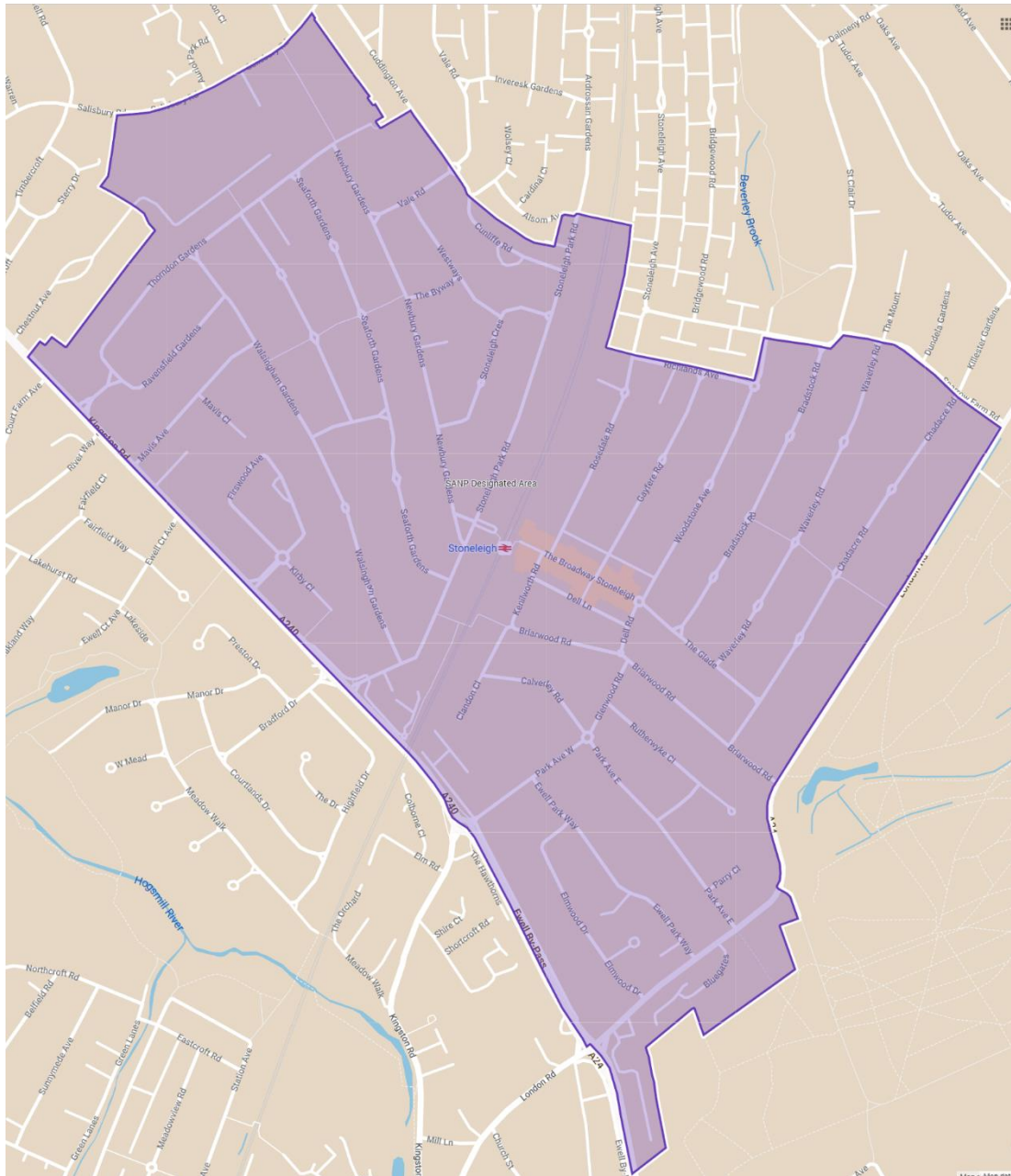


Figure 1 – The SANP Designated Area

- 1.7.2 Stoneleigh and Auriol is a neighbourhood located in close proximity to Nonsuch Park (a Grade II Registered Park and Gardens) where the scheduled monument of Nonsuch Palace is located. There are more two parks within the area: the recreation ground in Park Avenue West and Auriol Park. Cuddington Recreation Ground is located close to the northern border of Stoneleigh.
- 1.7.3 The neighbourhood area mostly comprises of suburban residential streets laid out in a linear and grid pattern. According to the 2021 census there are 8,571 residents in Stoneleigh and Auriol with 1,895 under 18yrs and approximately the same number over 65 years. 90.5% of residents live in houses or bungalows with the remainder in flats or apartments.
- 1.7.4 The area is accessible via the A240 (Kingston Road/ Ewell By-pass) running along the western border of the neighbourhood, and the A24 which is along the area's southern border. The northern border of Stoneleigh is also the boundary of Greater London. There are no main roads running through the area.
- 1.7.5 Stoneleigh and Auriol lies between three major town centres: Epsom (3 miles), Sutton (3 miles) and Kingston upon Thames (5 miles). It shares a long northern border with Cuddington Ward and with the London borough of Sutton. The villages of Ewell and Cheam are less than a mile away.

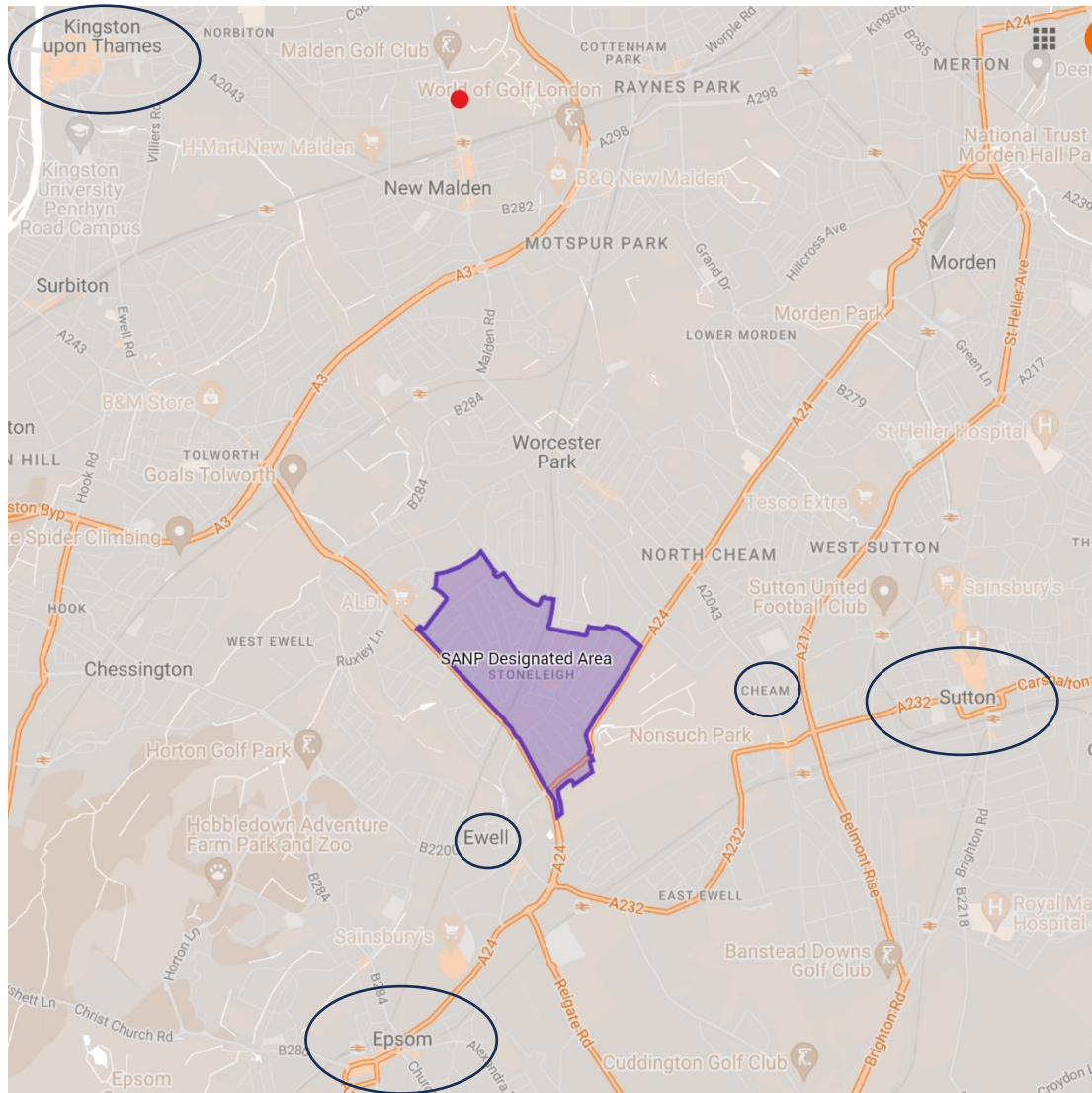


Figure 2 – Stoneleigh and Auriol Location

- 1.7.6 Stoneleigh Station and Stoneleigh Broadway are in the centre of the neighbourhood. The station is serviced by South Western Railway, which provides direct trains towards London Waterloo, Guildford and Dorking. There are also several bus routes that connect Stoneleigh and Auriol with nearby centres – such as Epsom and Morden. Most buses run along the main roads that form the boundaries of the area, but there is currently a “hopper” bus which circulates through the neighbourhood area to connect with Worcester Park and Epsom.
- 1.7.7 Stoneleigh Broadway is the principal retail hub of the community with a variety of shops, cafes/restaurants, offices and a public house. Other, smaller retail areas can be found along the A240 (Kingston Road / Ewell Bypass) and on the border of Auriol and Cuddington.

- 1.7.8 There are a number of other community facilities within Stoneleigh and Auriol. These include a community library, a Hindu temple, three local churches and two scout halls, which can be hired by groups and individuals for parties and community events.
- 1.7.9 There are two public houses within Stoneleigh and Auriol: The Station (formerly The Stoneleigh) and The Queen Adelaide. The Station public house is located on Stoneleigh Broadway and is a grade II listed building. The Queen Adelaide is located on the A240 Another public house: The Willow Tree is located on the border of Auriol and Cuddington. Recently, many public houses within Epsom and Ewell have been either demolished or converted to flats.
- 1.7.10 There are four schools within the neighbourhood, two in each ward.
- The Mead Infant and nursery school for children aged 2 ½ -7yrs and Auriol Junior School for children 7-11yrs are in Auriol ward. The schools are in adjacent buildings and have a shared playing field.
- In Stoneleigh there are 2 primary schools Meadow Primary School and Nonsuch Primary School which have attached nursery provision providing education from 2 ½ - 11 yrs. The school halls are used by community groups such as dance and fitness classes and for holiday and drama clubs. The schools provide around 1470 school places for children aged 4-11 in the designated area. While there are no secondary schools within the neighbourhood, there are four within in Epsom and Ewell (two single sex and two mixed) Given the close proximity the London boroughs of Sutton and Kingston some children travel outside the borough for secondary education.
- Recently, there have been cases of schools within Epsom and Ewell selling their playing fields for housing developments.
- 1.7.11 Public Rights of Way weave through the area, connecting residential roads and cul-de-sacs with nearby open spaces, providing connections between the neighbourhood and surrounding built-up areas. The area is noted for its tree-lined streets, grassy verges, front gardens and lozenge-shaped grassy roundabouts which were part of the original design for the area

- 1.7.12 Auriol Park is the key amenity open space serving the Auriol ward. Auriol Park comprises of a playground, playing fields, a café, tennis courts, a basketball court and a bowling club. The playing fields are also used by people and groups from outside the area for example. The area is also in close proximity to Nonsuch Park to the south, Hogsmill Riverside to the west, and Cuddington Recreation Ground to the northeast.
- 1.7.13 Nonsuch Park has key historical significance for Stoneleigh and Auriol once formed part of the Great Park. Now only the part known as Little Park remains. This is a valuable local green space and is the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and is A Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) Nonsuch Park is used extensively by residents of Stoneleigh for leisure, and recreation including running, walking, bike riding, and dog walking.

1.8 History and Heritage

- 1.8.1 The designated area of Stoneleigh and Auriol is distinct entity within the borough of Epsom and Ewell due to both the geographical location and its historical significance. The term Stoneleigh is generally used to describe both the Stoneleigh and Auriol wards, as historically, this was the name for the entire area.
- 1.8.2 Stoneleigh is located within the original Great Park of Henry VIII's Nonsuch Palace.



Figure 3 – Outline map showing the Great and Little Parks (Epsom & Ewell History Explorer, 2019)

- 1.8.3 In 1858 part of the land was purchased by the London and South Western Railway to complete the build the Wimbledon to Epsom section of the Waterloo to Epsom railway line. This line now forms the boundary between Stoneleigh and Auriol wards. The two cattle arches constructed as part of the railway line are still the only way for pedestrians to cross directly between Stoneleigh and Auriol other than the station footbridge. Cars and other vehicles cannot cross directly and need to go to the boundary roads.

- 1.8.4 In 1860 John Jefferies Stone bought a parcel of land from the original Great Park which comprised of 220 acres of arable land and woods with four farms. This land includes the present-day Stoneleigh and Auriol wards plus some additional land stretching towards Worcester Park which is now part of the London Borough of Sutton.



Figure 4 – Photograph of John Jefferies Stone (H. A. Antrobus, 1948)

- 1.8.5 In July 1879, one month before he died, John Jefferies Stone wrote his will regarding his Surrey Estate.

“It is my earnest desire that the said land should be sold as building land rather than agricultural land in so far as it is possible....”

- 1.8.6 JJ Stones’ executors, Edward Mulready Stone and Frederick Stone worked together with the local council to develop a comprehensive town plan for the area. This could be said to be an early example of a Neighbourhood plan. It took around 50 years for the plan to come to fruition. The protracted negotiations began to move forward in 1929 when the Southern Railway agreed to build a station to serve the new estate
- 1.8.7 In 1930 it was announced that an Interim Development Order had be made to build 3000 homes, including 24 acres of recreational land, a shopping centre and a railway station on the Stoneleigh Estate, named after JJ Stone and his house: “Stoneleigh”, which had been built on the site of one of the farms.

- 1.8.8 The executors formed the Stoneleigh Trust, to organise the sale of the land to various developers. They had a clear vision of the type of housing that they wanted in the area so design codes were developed. The requirements included building lines frontages and the height of buildings. It even went in to the height of garden walls and boundary fences and in the residential streets it included verges and grassy roundabouts. The town plan included a shopping centre now known as Stoneleigh Broadway and designated green spaces for recreation.
- 1.8.9 The station was completed in 1932 and building began soon afterwards. with rapid development between 1932-1937 when the estate was essentially finished in the form it is today. The original town plan included spaces for schools on either side of the railway line and these were opened in 1936/37.
- 1.8.10 Many of the properties built at the time were of a style which became widely known as the Stoneleigh Chalet and this style is still referenced by EEBC for areas outside of Stoneleigh in their Character Area Summary (EEBC, undated, p26).



Figure 5 – The Stoneleigh Chalet, as shown in the brochure from Messrs. Atkinson & Marler, Estate Agents

- 1.8.11 By the beginning of the second world war the estate was essentially complete. Most of the building work since that time has been extensions on the existing houses. The original house called Stoneleigh and its immediate grounds was kept intact until the 1970s when the house was demolished and the land developed as a mix of private housing and housing association units.

- 1.8.12 There was also a plot of land adjacent to the station which had originally been earmarked for a cinema. It remained as wasteland until the early 1960s when a block with retail and residential units was constructed. The first of these became the library in Stoneleigh in 1966.

Another post-war development was land opposite the site of the Stoneleigh House which was part of the original grounds. This has been developed as the Bluegates estate, scout hall and nature reserve.

- 1.8.13 More detailed information on the history of Stoneleigh can be found at: eehe.org.uk/?p=29875 and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stoneleigh,_Surrey

1.9 Acronyms

The following acronyms are used within this document.

Acronym	Description
AECOM	A multinational consulting company used to create the Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Codes document. The name of the company is derived from: A rchitecture, E ngineering, C onstruction, O perations, and M anagement
BNG	B iodiversity N et G ain.
CIL	C ommunity I nfrastructure L evy
EEBC	E psom and E well B orough C ouncil
EETAB	E psom and E well T ree A dvisory B oard
NDP	N ew D evelopment P lans. Term used by the Government that refers to newly created development plans that are lower in the planning hierarchy than the NPPF.
NPPF	N ational P lanning P olicy F ramework. This sets out the Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies for England (not Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland). The policies set out in this framework apply to the preparation of local and neighbourhood plans and to decisions on planning applications.
RCHC	R etail, C ommercial, H ospitality and C ommunity/Cultural facilities
SANF	S toneleigh and A uriol N eighbourhood F orum
SANP	S toneleigh and A uriol N eighbourhood P lan
SCC	S urrey C ounty C ouncil
SSTBAG	S top S toneleigh T ower B lock A ction G roup
SuDS	S ustainable D rainage S ystems

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2

Housing

2.1 High Level Objectives

Objectives	Policy / Community Recommendation
i. To ensure that the unique character of Stoneleigh and Auriol is maintained or improved, and that any new or modified buildings are appropriate with this character and sympathetic with the existing building lines.	SA-P-H-01 Consistency of Building Lines
	SA-P-H-02 New Development Height and character
	SA-CR-H-01 Support for Sympathetic Higher Density Development
ii. To ensure that any backland developments do not have an adverse impact to the local character of the Designated Area.	SA-P-H-03 Permitted Backland Development

2.2 Overview

- 2.2.1 As part of the production of this plan, the Neighbourhood Forum produced the “Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Code” document with the assistance of AECOM, which depicts the design and nature of the designated area, outlining how good design should be the cornerstone of any future development. A copy of this document is available on the SANF website
- 2.2.2 This section outlines key points and policies the Neighbourhood Forum wishes to adopt in line with this guide. However, for the avoidance of doubt, the design principles within the “Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Code” document form the basis of this Neighbourhood Plan and should be considered in their entirety as part of any proposed development within the Designated Area.

2.3 Policy SA-P-H-01 – Consistency of Building Lines**Policy SA-P-H-01 – Consistency of Building Lines**

New developments and property modifications, should maintain a consistent building line, complementing the existing form, massing and roofscape of the existing properties on the same vicinity and incorporating the sloping nature of the area where appropriate.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	DM10 Design Requirements for New Developments - Page 22 DM12 Housing Standards - Page 24
NPPF (2023):	11. Making Effective Use of Land: Paragraphs 123, 125 - 129, Pages 36 - 38 12. Achieving well-designed and beautiful places: Paragraphs 132, 135, 136 & 139, Pages 39 - 41

2.3.1 Context

- 2.3.1.1 The majority of housing in Stoneleigh and Auriol is made up of three-bedroom semi-detached housing, with front gardens and off-street parking. The houses maintain a consistent building line at the front, along long, sweeping roads in both Stoneleigh and Auriol. In Stoneleigh, the roads widen and provide a gateway towards Stoneleigh Broadway and the Designated Area Boundary roads of London Road (A24) and Kingston Road (A240). In Auriol, feeder roads lead typically towards Stoneleigh Park Road and the Kingston Road (A24).
- 2.3.1.2 Over many years, an increasing number of the homes have been extended – into the roof space, to the back and to the side as applicable. However limited change is visible at the street, other than side extensions and increased paving for more off-street parking. The area therefore retains the original character of the estate as built within the 1930s, with long roads made up of mainly 1930s semi-detached housing.

2.3.2 Rationale and Justification

2.3.2.1 One of the aims of the SANP, as stated in section 1.1 is to maintain “the unique character of the area”. Maintaining this character - the building lines and the look and feel of the area is a key consideration for local residents, as demonstrated by the below data from a Housing Survey commissioned on May 27th 2022, following the initial draft production of the Local Neighbourhood Design Guide:

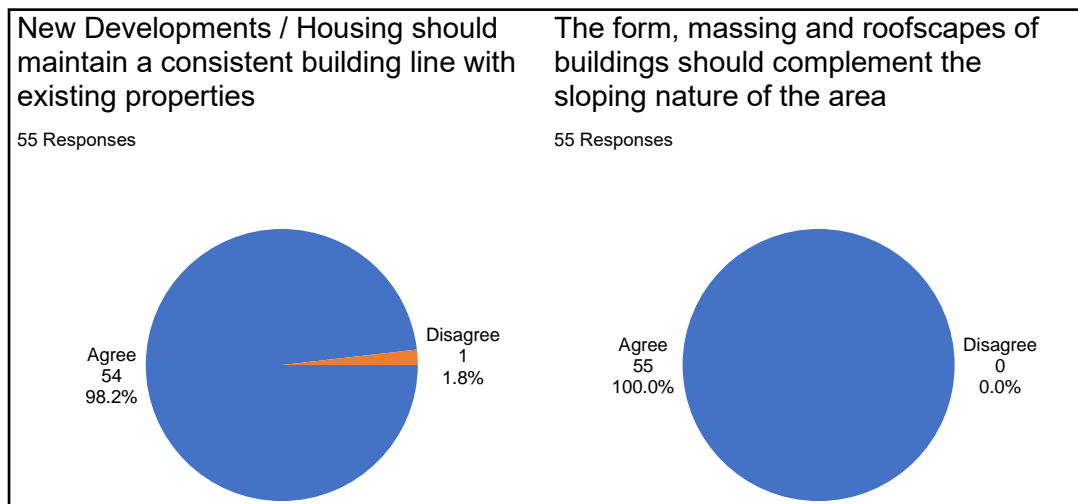


Figure 6 – Responses to the Building Line Survey Questions

The Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Codes (2022) states that there is a need to “Retain the long straight and sweeping streets.” As such, Policy SA-H-01 is introduced to maintain the Building Line and the planned flow of the Designated Area.

2.3.2.2 The SANP Designated Area is also defined by a number of natural inclines and declines – a sloping nature. An example of this can be seen at the bottom of Stoneleigh Park Road, whereby a natural building line is retained despite an incline and changes in property type as you progress up the road.



Figure 7 – Roof Lines following the natural incline on Newbury Gardens down to Stoneleigh Park Road

2.3.2.3 The individual houses on streets vary in style. Whilst there are a number of designs they remain largely as originally built, with the differing character adding to the local street scene and environment. Whilst they differ slightly, many of their properties are consistent, including Building Lines, Mass of buildings and a sloping roof to the street side of the property. This similarly is seen as a key characteristic of the area, as demonstrated in the same Housing survey referenced above.

2.4 Policy SA-P-H-02 – New Development Height and Character

Policy SA-P-H-02 – New Development Height and Character

New Developments should be in line with the surrounding building heights which are generally 2 to 3 storeys high. Any planned variations to this would need to show how they would maintain the existing character of the area within said proposal.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):

DM10 Design Requirements for New Developments - Page 22
DM12 Housing Standards - Page 24
DM13 Building Heights - Page 25

NPPF (2023):

11. Making Effective Use of Land: Paragraphs 123, 125 - 129, Pages 36-38
12. Achieving well-designed and beautiful places: Paragraphs 132, 135, 136 & 139, Pages 39 - 41

2.4.1 Context

- 2.4.1.1 The Housing profile in Stoneleigh and Auriol is made up largely of 2 or 3 storey housing, with a few recent developments of flats adding a 4th storey in very specific locations - for example on Dell Lane, Stoneleigh. The Broadway and Shopping areas on London Road are similarly 3 storey dwellings, naturally supportive and considerate of the surrounding area.
- 2.4.1.2 The consistent building height in residential areas is referenced in the existing Epsom and Ewell Development Management Policy of 2015, which states that Buildings higher than 12m will be inappropriate in all areas of the Borough except those identified within the Epsom Town Centre Boundary. In the Licensing and Planning meeting of the 8th of May 2018 (EEBC, 2018), it was agreed to relax this policy in the interim period, with the aim of a new Local Plan - yet to be finalised - aiming to add clarification on this principle.
- 2.4.1.3 A Proposal for the development of a seven or eight-story flat development, and subsequently a four-storey building, at Station Approach in Stoneleigh tested this principle. These plans received over 1000 complaints, with over half of these referencing the building height as excessive.

2.4.2 Rationale and Justification

- 2.4.2.1 This was further reviewed in the commission of the Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guides and Code, which states that Buildings should be generally of 2 to 3 storeys high and within this guidance as defined by the Development Management Policies.

This similarly was tested with local residents (May 17th 2022), the results of which are shown below: -

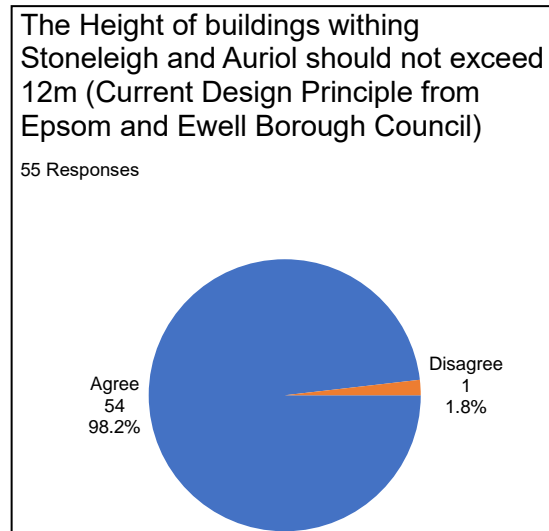


Figure 8 – Response to the Maximum Building Height Survey Question

- 2.4.2.2 Whilst Epsom and Ewell Borough Council has in recent times agreed to relax their policy on design height, it is a characteristic of the surrounding area that the vast majority of all residential buildings are two to three storeys, and consistent in appearance.
- 2.4.2.3 As such Policy SA-P-H-02 looks to state that Building Height be specifically considered as part of the Proposal; and that any development blends in with the surrounding area – in both height and character. This would include the edge of the designated area including London Road and A240 Kingston Road; and Stoneleigh Broadway – the main shopping area of the designated area.

2.5 Community Recommendation SA-CR-H-01 – Support for Sympathetic Higher Density Development

Community Recommendation SA-CR-H-01 – Support for sympathetic higher density development

The Neighbourhood Forum fully supports the above caveat within policy DM11, with its aim of sympathetic higher density development, and would note that the policies stated within this document would need to be met, in the cases where a higher density development is proposed, to ensure that any higher density proposals do not adversely affect the character of the area.

2.5.1 Context

2.5.1.1 As previously mentioned, the majority of housing stock within the Designated Area is made up of Semi-detached housing. Many of these houses have been extended to the side/rear of the property. Current Epsom and Ewell Development Management Policies (EEBC, 2020) require properties to have approximately 1 metre between the properties, which the Neighbourhood Forum would support retaining.

2.5.1.2 Epsom and Ewell's Housing Density Policy - DM11 - states that the majority of developments should not exceed 40 dwellings per hectare. The Neighbourhood Forum supports this position for any development of semi-detached / detached or attached houses, however recognises that for proposed developments of flats, a higher density is appropriate. Policy DM11 also states that: -

Proposals for new housing must demonstrate how the density of development would contribute towards maintaining and enhancing the visual character and appearance of the wider townscape and lead to no net loss of biodiversity.

2.6 Policy SA-P-H-03 – Permitted Backland Development

Policy SA-P-H-03 – Permitted Backland Development

New Private Dwellings shall be permitted within one or more Residential Plots only if they meet the following criteria, as well as the other policies contained within the SANP.

- An appropriately maintained and sufficient access road to all proposed residential units within the plan;
- Details of how parking will be provided within the confines of the available plot within the Proposal; and in line with the parking standards outlined separately within this plan;
- Appropriate and proportionate Green Spaces to be made available;
- No adverse overlooking of other Residences, Gardens and/or Amenities spaces.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	DM10 Design Requirements for New Developments - Page 22 DM15: Backland Development - Page 29
NPPF (2023):	11. Making Effective Use of Land: Paragraphs 123, 125 - 129, Pages 36-38

2.6.1 Context

2.6.1.1 The existing Epsom and Ewell Policy DM16 on “Backland” Development states there

Will be a presumption against the loss of rear domestic gardens due to the need to maintain local character, amenity space, green infrastructure and biodiversity.

2.6.1.2 Whilst Permitted Development allows for the extension of properties up to 6m to the rear, or build Summer Houses/Garages/Outbuildings within the Permitted Development areas of the NPPF, the character of the area is partly defined by the long back gardens available to the residential streets within the Designated Area; and the biodiversity and wildlife that these environments provide and encourage.

2.6.2 Rationale and Justification

2.6.2.1 In a survey conducted in May 2022, in support of this plan, 75% of residents disagreed with development in back gardens, beyond that permitted within the existing NPPF. The remaining 25% stated that it was dependent upon the proposal submitted. Given the demands for housing expected over this plan's lifetime, it is not appropriate to say that any housing cannot be built in existing Back Garden spaces. However, this policy is provisioned to ensure that any such development does not have an adverse impact to the local character of the Designated Area.

3

**Retail, Commercial, Hospitality &
Community / Cultural Facilities**

3.1 High Level Objectives

Objectives	Policy / Community Recommendation
i. To protect and enhance existing Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community / Cultural Facilities whilst ensuring a diverse range of facilities are available and accessible to local residents.	SA-P-R-01 Safeguarding Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community/Cultural Facilities
	SA-P-R-02 Safeguarding of Public Houses
	SA-CR-R-01 Support for Retail Diversity.
ii. To ensure that any new Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community / Cultural development does not have a negative impact on parking in the immediate area.	SA-P-R-03 Parking at Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community/Cultural Facilities

3.2 Overview

- 3.2.1 RCHC refers to Retail, Commercial, Hospitality and Community/Cultural facilities within this section.
- 3.2.2 RCHC has an important role within Stoneleigh and Auriol, providing local services and, employment whilst adding a unique character to the local area. Any proposed development in this area should include appropriate provision or substitution of such facilities, which at the time of writing are close to 100% occupancy, providing a sustainable local centre with shops, cafes and local community facilities including, for example: Stoneleigh Library.
- 3.2.3 There are five areas within the SANP designated area containing some or all types of RCHC premises. These are:
- Stoneleigh Broadway
 - Station Approach
 - Vale Road
 - Stoneleigh Park Road / Kingston Road AKA Stoneleigh Parade
 - London Road (Organ and Dragon Junction)
- 3.2.4 The retail areas above typically comprise shop units, with residential accommodation above. There is free on-street parking available for durations ranging from 30 minutes to 3 hours (depending on the retail location). private garages, pay and display car parks (Stoneleigh Public House and Stoneleigh Parade car park), Any redevelopment of these areas should take into account policy: SA-P-R-01 – Safeguarding of Retail Facilities.
- 3.2.5 There are 4 places of worship within the SANP designated area. These are (Name, Denomination/Affiliation, Location):
- Sri Raja Rajeswari Amman Temple. Hindu. Dell Lane.
 - St John the Baptist's Church, Anglican, Station Approach.
 - Stoneleigh Baptist Church, Baptist. Chadacre Road.
 - Stoneleigh Methodist Church, Methodist. Stoneleigh Crescent

- 3.2.6 The Development Management plan DM31 of EEBC 2017 seeks to support and safeguard isolated shops and groups of shops that serve local areas such as The Broadway, Station Approach, Stoneleigh Park Road and Vale Road. It will need to be demonstrated to the council under this DM that any change of use away from a retail outlet will provide a community service or function. SANF supports and commends the current plan DM31, along with any strengthening of the current scope and purpose of this DM plan, within the New Local Plan as it proceeds through council, as it is intended to preserve valued retail sites such as those in the SANP Designated Area.
- 3.2.7 Each of the RCHC areas within the SANP designated area have different characteristics and provide different kinds of retail services to the local residents.

3.2.2 Stoneleigh Broadway

- 3.2.2.1 Stoneleigh Broadway is a retail area situated outside Epsom Town centre within the Borough of Epsom and Ewell comprising 55 units. The larger retail outlets on The Broadway consist of multiple units.

The percentage of currently vacant units (5.5%) is below the national high street average of 13.9% for Q2 of 2023 as reported by the British Retail Consortium (2023), with currently only three units empty since 2019 (pre Covid). This indicates that The Broadway remains a vibrant and commercially successful shopping area.

- 3.2.2.2 Stoneleigh Broadway offers a diverse range of shops within the current mix of retail outlets including large multiples used by national retailers. The majority of retailers on Stoneleigh Broadway are independent.
- 3.2.2.3 Alongside shops, Stoneleigh Broadway has a number of restaurants, take-aways, cafes, dry cleaners, a library, a medical centre and a grade 2 listed public house (The Station)

3.2.2.4 Behind both sides of the Broadway there commercial and community facilities that include warehousing, car sales, a museum, a Hindu temple, a scout hall and nursery, along with parking spaces for the shops and flats on the Broadway.

3.2.3 Station Approach

3.2.3.1 Station Approach currently contains six retail units, one of which is vacant.

3.2.3.2 There are some small commercial units behind station approach.

3.2.3.3 Station Approach is located in close proximity to Stoneleigh Broadway, but is separated by the railway line running through Stoneleigh and Auriol. The shortest route to get from Stoneleigh Broadway (A) to Station Approach (B) by car involves a 1.1-mile journey.

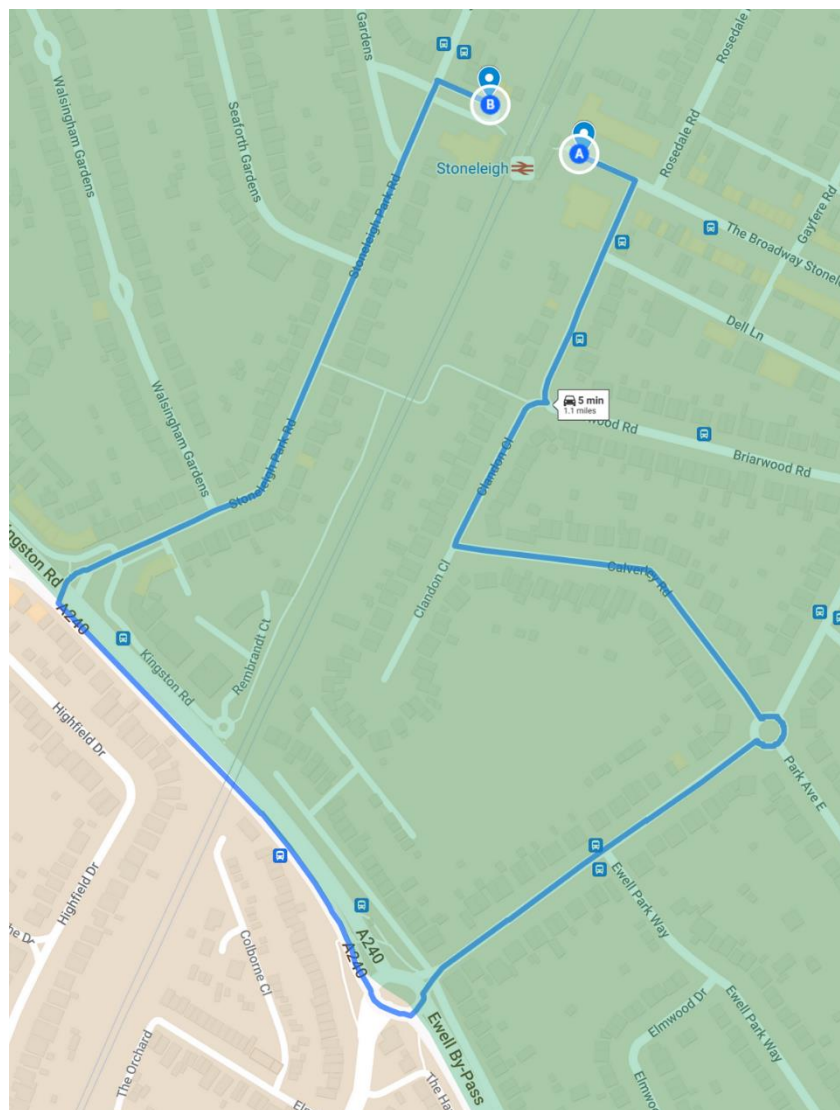


Figure 9 – Shortest Route from Stoneleigh Broadway to Station Approach by Car

3.2.3.4 SANF notes that one retail outlet on Station Approach has been converted with planning permission into a residential property, with changed frontage. Whilst recognising this has gone through the appropriate council planning, SANF wishes it to be noted that it is a loss of a much-needed retail site on Station Approach.

3.2.4 Vale Road

3.2.4.1 Vale Road offers a limited but diverse range of shops and services, providing a very important local resource for those without car access to The Broadway or Epsom town Centre. Footfall is very local, many visit by car with parking available on Vale Road. Most shops have self-contained flats above.

3.2.4.2 Not all of the retail units on Vale Road are part of the SANP designated area, with some being part of Cuddington Ward. There is also a public house (The Willow Tree) in the vicinity, which also draws visitors to the area.

3.2.5 Stoneleigh Park Road / Kingston Road

3.2.5.1 Stoneleigh Park Road / Kingston Road offers a diverse range of small shops, eateries and services, with residential flats located above. Further retail units are available on the other side of the Kingston Road, which whilst not included within the SANP designated area, does influence the number of people visiting.

3.2.5.2 There is a public house (Queen Adelaide) which has an attached hotel and a petrol station/retail outlet located on the Kingston Road, that both fall within the SANP designated area.

3.2.6 London Road (Organ and Dragon Junction)

3.2.6.1 The London Road (Organ and Dragon Junction) is one of the busiest non-motorway junctions in Surrey. The section of this junction within the SANP designated area has a 24-hour petrol station and retail outlet. There is also a large and distinctive self-storage retail unit. The junction was named after the former public house that stood on the corner of the junction.

3.3 Policy SA-P-R-01 – Safeguarding of Retail Facilities

Policy SA-P-R-01 – Safeguarding of Retail Facilities

The established purpose and role of the Retail Centres, as outlined in this section, will be preserved for the Stoneleigh and Auriol area. We will support proposals aimed at enriching and strengthening the vitality and sustainability of the shops and services within these Retail locations. Proposals that would improve and enhance local facilities and services by addressing the daily requirements of the community will be particularly supported. Whilst some of these retail areas may fall under DM31, the protection afforded DM28 should be extended to all retail areas within the SANF designated area. Any development leading to a reduction in retail floor space within the Retail locations will not receive support.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	DM28: Existing Retail Centres (Outside of Epsom Town Centre). Page 47 DM31: Safeguarding Small-Scale Retail Provision. Page 51
NPPF (2023):	N/A

3.3.1 Context

3.3.1.1 Stoneleigh and Auriol has multiple retail facilities as outlined in overview for this section. These facilities have changed over time, but have always been diverse and met the needs of local residents.

3.3.2 Rationale and Justification

3.3.2.1 There is a slow but discernible trend for change of use from Retail Class A1 retail to class B1 office spaces in these local retail centres. The south side of The Broadway was, until recently, protected by Article 4 Directions from Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, which placed a restriction on primary retail frontages in Epsom Town Centre and Stoneleigh Broadway converting from what was A1 (retail) to A2 (professional services). The re-classification of retail premises (A1, A2 etc) has moved on and the new Class E classification for Commercial, Business and Service renders the Article 4 Direction obsolete.

3.4 Policy SA-P-R-02 – Safeguarding of Public Houses

Policy SA-P-R-02 – Safeguarding of Public Houses

The Station Pub (The Broadway, Stoneleigh), and The Queen Adelaide (272 Kingston Road) should be regarded as valued community facilities and proposals which would result in the loss of any of these existing public houses will not be supported.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	N/A
NPPF (2023):	N/A

3.4.1 Context

3.4.1.1 Stoneleigh and Auriol has two remaining public houses.

- The Station Pub (The Broadway, Stoneleigh)
- The Queen Adelaide (272 Kingston Road, Auriol)

There is another public house used by many residents of Auriol, named The Willow Tree. This public house is on the border of Cuddington and Auriol, and falls into the Cuddington ward and is therefore outside of the SANF designated area.

3.4.1.2 A public house called “The Organ and Dragon” located on the London Road junction of the A24 and A240 in Stoneleigh closed in 2012 and was demolished in 2014. Numerous planning applications have been made for the site, including a supermarket and fast-food restaurant. It’s likely that the site will become a complex of flats or care homes. Planning permission for the site was granted in 2022 for up to 45 flats, but the site was immediately put up for sale once planning permission was obtained. As of February 2024, the site remains derelict since the demolition of the public house.

3.4.1.3 The Station Pub was Grade II listed on the 24th of August 2015. The Organ and Dragon pub was in the process of becoming Grade II listed prior to its demolition in 2014. The Queen Adelaide public house currently has no protection as a listed building.

3.4.2 Rationale and Justification

3.4.2.1 According to CompanyDebt, 2024

Since 2000, a quarter of pubs have closed in the UK, totalling more than 13,000 locations. Four out of five people have seen a pub close down within five miles of their home. During 2023, more than 500 freehold pubs were sold, 34% of which will no longer operate as pubs in the future.

...

One lesser known theory for why pubs close attributes the trend to high property prices. With many pubs occupying older buildings right in the centre of communities, their bricks and mortar value tempts publicans to sell to developers, or convert for another use.

3.5 Community Recommendation SA-CR-R-01 – Support for retail diversity.

Community Recommendation SA-CR-R-01 – Support for retail diversity.

Applications to maintain or enhance the diverse range of retail outlets in all shopping locations covered by this plan will be given full support, as long as the applications are for outlets in keeping with the area. Any plans that diminish the diversity of retail outlets in the area will not be supported.

3.5.1 Context

3.5.1.1 The retail outlets in Stoneleigh and Auriol are diverse with healthy competition where duplication of facilities exist. For example, Stoneleigh Broadway can accommodate multiple supermarket chains, but there is not an excess of any one type of retailer.

3.5.2 Rationale and Justification

3.5.2.1 The trend for a large number of multiple similar outlets, such as barbers, charity shops, American Candy stores and vaping outlets all within a small local area can have a detrimental effect on the high street.

3.6 Policy SA-P-R-03 – Parking at Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community/Cultural Facilities

Policy SA-P-R-03 – Parking at Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community/Cultural Facilities

Any new, expansion of, or change of use of, “Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community/Cultural Facility” sites, especially those expected to attract large numbers of vehicles should provide adequate on-site parking for the predicted volume of attendees and should not rely on utilizing existing on street parking in the local vicinity. Parking at these facilities should also not adversely impact the general traffic flow in the local area.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	N/A
NPPF (2023):	N/A

3.6.1 Context

3.6.1.1 The land behind one of the service roads on Stoneleigh Broadway has had planning applications in the past, which would have had a major impact on the parking in the local area.

3.6.2 Rationale and Justification

3.6.2.1 The addition or expansion of any facility in the area should not have a major negative impact on the existing businesses and the residents in the vicinity of the development. For example, the service road (Dell Lane) had an application to build a hall with a capacity of over 800 people with no additional parking facilities in the immediate area. The hall would have attracted many vehicles from outside the immediate vicinity; sometimes twice per day to an area that already has issues dealing with the volume of cars being parked, leading to a lower footfall for the retailers and further issues with parking in the surrounding residential streets.

- 3.6.2.2 Whilst the above is a real-life example, the same argument would apply to any new development or change of use, for example one of the larger retail units changing use to a popular national fast-food chain would cause issues in the area if no additional parking was provided for the new facility.
- 3.6.2.3 This policy is especially important where large numbers of vehicles are due to arrive and/or leave within a short space of time. For example, the aforementioned planning application stated that it may have two services per day, which could have had 800 people arriving and then leaving as another 800 arrive. In this case, the use of public transport would be very unlikely, so congestion and parking issues would be very likely.

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4

Green Spaces and Biodiversity

4.1 High Level Objectives

Objectives	Policy / Community Recommendation
i. To protect and enhance existing green spaces, sites of environmental significance, the semi-rural/leafy suburb character of the area and to ensure that they remain to the benefit of the community.	SA-P-G-01 Protection of Local Spaces
	SA-P-G-02 Protection of Notable Green Spaces
	SA-P-G-03 Managing the Impact on Biodiversity.
	SA-P-G-04 Protection of Trees, woodlands and Hedgerows

4.2 Overview

- 4.2.1 The green spaces in Stoneleigh and Auriol, together with the parks lying just outside the area, make an essential contribution to the area's character and identity.
- 4.2.2 The many trees, hedgerows and lawns in the streets and gardens together with views of Epsom Downs also add to the semi-rural atmosphere. The trees along the railway embankments also add to this impression.
- 4.2.3 Bordering the eastern edge of Stoneleigh is the historic Nonsuch Park (250 acres / 101 hectares) and to the north is the grassy Cuddington Recreation Ground (25 acres / 10.1 hectares).
- 4.2.4 The Epsom and Ewell Tree Advisory Board (EETAB), promotes the preservation and care of local trees, reported that nine new trees have recently been planted in Stoneleigh and Auriol, plus thirteen fruit trees in Auriol Park.

4.3 Policy SA-P-G-01 – Protection of Local Green Spaces

Policy SA-P-G-01 – Protection of Local Green Spaces

The value of the Stoneleigh and Auriol Local Green Spaces (as identified in paragraph 4.3.1.1 will be conserved and protected from development in line with national policies. Inappropriate forms of development within any area of the Local Green Spaces listed in paragraph 4.3.1.1, items 1 to 6 (inclusive), will not be permitted unless justified by very exceptional circumstances.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	N/A
NPPF (2023):	8. Promoting healthy and safe communities: Paragraphs 105 - 106, Page 30

4.3.1 Context

4.3.1.1 There are nine large green spaces contained within Stoneleigh and Auriol, as shown below and detailed in paragraphs 0 and 4.3.1.3.

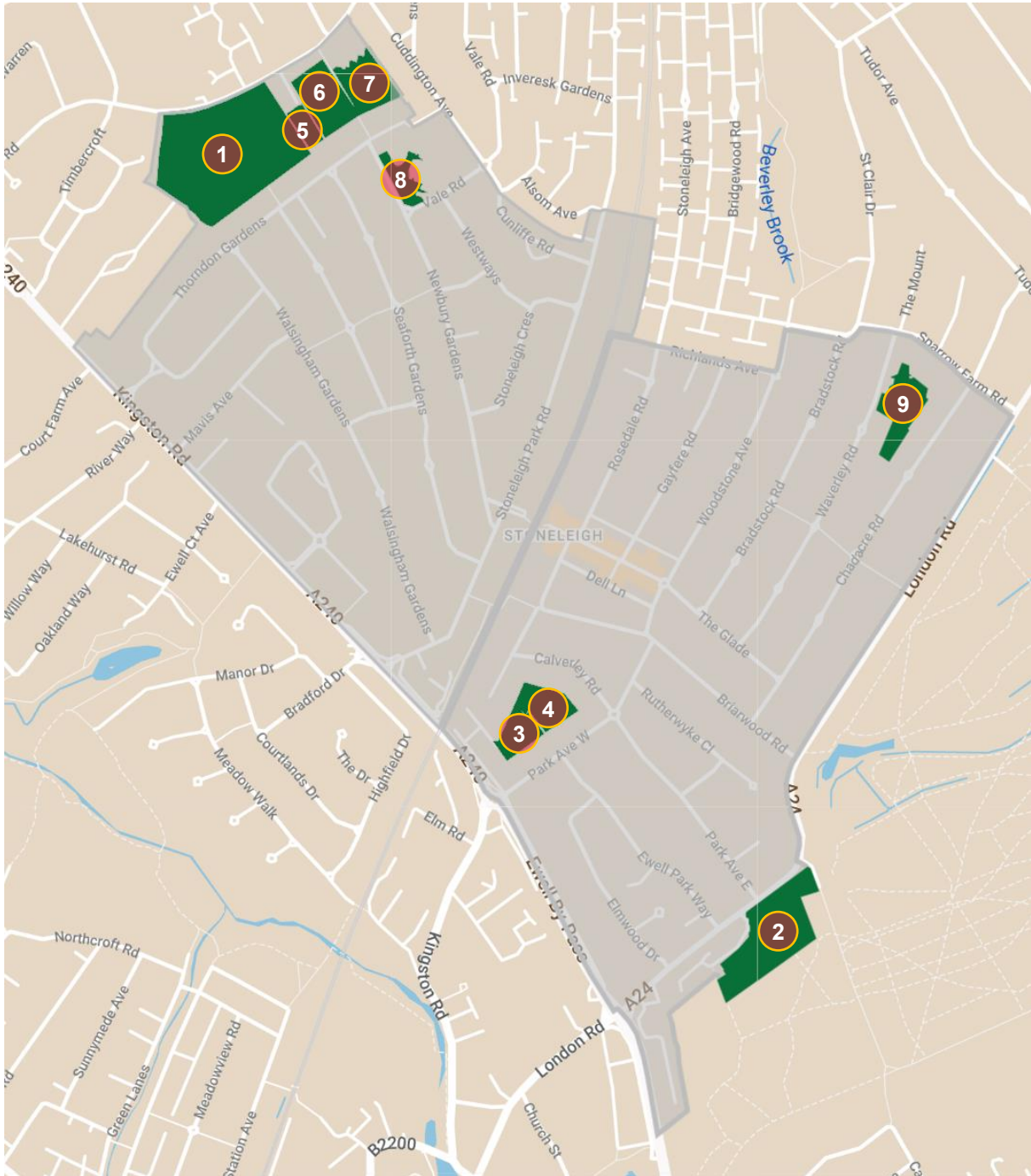


Figure 10 – Local Green Spaces in the SANP designated area

4.3.1.2 Within the area are we designate the following Local Green Spaces numbered 1 to 6 Inclusive (also shown on the map above)

Each of these meets the NPPF criteria of being:

- Close to the community
- Not extensive tracts of land
- Special, as described below

1) Auriol Park (14.5 acres / 5.9 hectares)

An area of grass and trees containing sports/football pitches, bowling green, tennis courts, an under 12's playground, a fenced multi-use play area and a café. It is used by hundreds of people each week (based on a snap survey taken on Saturday 17th February 2024 at approximately 11am). It is widely acknowledged that the park is used for sporting activities, dog walking, general leisure activities including the children's play area.

2) A section of Nonsuch Park

The Cherry Orchard Nursery site, which is the part of Nonsuch Park that included within the Stoneleigh ward.

Approximately 6 acres / 2.4 hectares of dense woodland where there is "an exceptional population of slow worms". (EEBC, Nonsuch Park Management Plan, 2023, Ch 1.5). Members of the community walk through its winding pathways daily.

3) Recreation Ground (Park Ave West) (1.6 acres / 0.3 hectares)

A grassy area with trees, which members of the community walk through daily.

4) Allotments (Park Ave West)

Self-managed allotments run by their own associations with council support (EEBC, 2023). Located next to the Recreation Ground. A high percentage of plots (near 100%) are tenanted, with a waiting list.

5) Allotments (Barn Elms, by Auriol Park)

Council managed allotments (EEBC, 2023). A high percentage of plots (near 100%) are tenanted, with a waiting list.

6) Old School Field (Salisbury Road) – owned by SCC (not currently officially publicly accessible).

This site forms part of a contiguous green corridor, along with Auriol Park, Barn Elm Allotments and Cuddington School Field. The Biodiversity Net Gain survey carried out by Surrey Wildlife Trust (2023, P3) indicates the adverse impact that the proposed development of the field would have. Even with mitigation measures the BNG Survey states:

“The implementation of the measures will not meet a measurable gain for hedgerow units or habitat units. Furthermore, the project proposals will not satisfy trading rules.”

A substantial loss of biodiversity would occur.

Prior to SCC removing access to the playing field, it was used by the school and groups such as the Scouts for camping and other outdoor activities.

4.3.1.3 Other Large Spaces, numbered 7 – 9 (see map above):

7) Cuddington Community School field

8) Auriol and the Mead School field

9) Meadow and Nonsuch Primary School fields

These playing fields are protected by NPPF policies.

4.3.2 Rationale and Justification

4.3.2.1 Opinions recorded at Forum engagement events show that parks, green spaces, trees, and Council flowerbeds are highly valued by residents, who consider them to be an important part of the local environment.

4.3.2.2 The park, recreation ground and playing fields all together make up less than 8% of the whole area and are therefore very precious to the community. They contribute hugely to the tranquillity, happiness and well-being of the residents.

4.3.2.3 The Nonsuch Park Habitat Management Plan states that there are over 80 species of birds and 400 plant species (EEBC, 2023).

- 4.3.2.4 Many of the birds also visit the Stoneleigh and Auriol area, including the crow, magpie, blackbird, song thrush, jay, starling, wood pigeon, collared dove, pied wagtail, robin, blue tit, great tit, house sparrow, dunnock, greater spotted woodpecker, green woodpecker, grey heron and gold finch.
- 4.3.2.5 Various small mammals also live in or visit the area, including nine species of bat that have been identified in the Protected Species Survey of the Salisbury Road area (Surrey Wildlife Trust, 2023) as part of an ongoing planning application for the former Auriol Junior School playing field (EEBC, 2023: Planning Reference: 23/00633/CMA).
- 4.3.2.6 Green spaces soak away rainwater, decreasing “run-off” and therefore decreasing stress to the drainage system as described further in the Sustainability chapter.

4.4 Policy SA-P-G-02 – Protection of Notable Green Spaces

Policy SA-P-G-02 – Protection of Notable Green Spaces

No new developments are to encroach onto the notable green spaces or reduce the spaces that are common throughout the designated area.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	N/A
NPPF (2023):	N/A

4.4.1 Context

4.4.1.1 Notable Green Spaces within the SANP designated area are:

- Large green triangles in Cunliffe Road, Newbury/Stoneleigh Park Road, and Firswood Ave.
- Smaller green triangles, green patches and flowerbeds at the end of Stoneleigh Park Road, end of Thorndon Gardens, Vale Road, end of Chadacre Road, Ewell Park Way, Elmwood Drive, The Broadway, Station Approach, Kingston Road (shops) and Bluegates.
- Long banks of trees: Ewell-By-Pass and railway embankment.

- Grass verges and roundabouts: everywhere

4.4.1.2 Notable private spaces within the SANP designated area are:

- Residents' gardens
- Railway embankments

4.4.2 Rationale and Justification

4.4.2.1 As mentioned previously, opinions recorded at Forum engagement events show that parks, green spaces, trees, and Council flowerbeds are highly valued by residents, who consider them to be an important part of the local environment.

4.4.2.2 These spaces are used for community events, for example the recent Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

4.5 Policy SA-P-G-03 – Managing the Impact on Biodiversity.

Policy SA-P-G-03 – Managing the Impact on Biodiversity.

All applications for development should consider the impact on the biodiversity within the area. This includes the problems associated with infill developments that impact on the green 'lanes' that have been created in the original planning for the Stoneleigh and Auriol developments. In accordance with NPPF policies, (and the Local Plan policy CS3,) developers must show how they will deliver a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain for areas of over 25 square metres.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	N/A
NPPF (2023):	15. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment: Paragraphs 185 - 186, Pages 53 - 54

4.5.1 Context

4.5.1.1 All the grassed areas including the residents' gardens and the railway embankments provide suitable environments for many insects and pollinators. Recorded species in the area include Red Admiral, Speckled Wood, Gatekeeper and Meadow Brown, Large White, Comma and Peacock butterflies.

4.5.2 Rationale and Justification

4.5.2.1 Green spaces, covered elsewhere in the SANP, and green areas between streets and gardens were built into the development. This is very similar to the draft Local Plan planning for a network of accessible and integrated green infrastructure across the borough (P254 8.12). P226 states that:

planning policies should contribute to and enhance the natural environment by minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity.

4.6 Policy SA-P-G-04 – Protection of Trees, woodlands and Hedgerows.**Policy SA-P-G-04 – Protection of Trees, woodlands and Hedgerows.**

All applications for development should minimise the destruction of trees, woodlands and hedgerows which contribute so significantly to the character of the area. However, where this is unavoidable, the plans should include the planting of at least as many trees and shrubs as have been destroyed by the development. All plans should include an explanation of how existing trees will be protected during the development.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):

DM5 Trees and Landscape - Page 11

NPPF (2023):

15. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment: Paragraph 186, Page 54

4.6.1 Context

4.6.1.1 When the two estates were developed, the overall design required significant planting of trees/bushes to improve the look of the area and to soften the lines of sight. Since then, general consensus has been reached regarding the benefits of greenery (especially trees) for reducing pollution and moderating extremes of temperature especially heat waves by providing shade. SANF welcome the EEBC initiative to increase the planting of trees in the Borough and would encourage all residents of Stoneleigh and Auriol to be involved and to look at whether trees and bushes can be re-planted in at the edge of driveways to restore some of the original ideas for the area. New developments must also take responsibility for improving the air quality and general look of the area by including green spaces in their plans.

4.6.2 Rationale and Justification

4.6.2.1 Green spaces including trees, hedgerows and gardens contribute significantly to biodiversity, carbon capture and therefore to the lessening of global warming.

4.6.2.2 The draft Local Plan (EEBC, 2023) (P230 7.72) states:

Not only do trees help us commune with nature but they provide enormous benefits for health and wellbeing, biodiversity, air purification and carbon capture. Trees provide a significant environmental, aesthetic, cultural and economic benefit for our residents.

The original developers of Stoneleigh and Auriol already understood this, as can be seen by the trees planted along all of the residential roads in the Designated Area and the green spaces within the retail areas.

4.6.2.3 SANF is concerned about the impact of infill and redevelopment in our residential area. It is important that the destruction of trees for infill and redevelopment is avoided when planning permission is granted and monitored closely by EEBC during development.

5

Environmental Sustainability

5.1 High Level Objectives

Objectives	Policy / Community Recommendation
i. To protect the water supply and foul water drainage for new and existing residents.	SA-P-S-01 Certainty of Water Supply and Foul Water Drainage
ii. To protect residents from flooding.	SA-P-S-02 Minimising Flood Risks
	SA-P-S-03 Sustainable Drainage
	SA-CR-S-01 Drainage Improvement
iii. To encourage the use of renewable energy in the home	SA-P-S-04 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
	SA-P-S-05 Electric Car Charging

5.2 Overview

5.2.1 The UN Commission on Environment and Development defines sustainable development as:

development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Within the Neighbourhood plan we are looking at long term sustainability including topics such as Global Warming, Carbon neutrality as well as short term issues such as increased flood risks, air quality and extreme weather conditions. The objective is to set policies for development which address both the long- and short-term issues.

5.2.2 Water neutrality, is defined by the Environment Agency (2009, P1) as:

'...total demand for water should be the same after new development is built, as it was before. That is, the new demand for water should be offset in the existing community by making existing homes and buildings in the area more water efficient' (Therival et al., undated).

5.2.3 The impact of climate change in the short-term affects residents differently depending on their location within the designated area, but the way in which developments are carried out can have a significant impact on other areas of the designated area.

5.3 Policy SA-P-S-01 – Certainty of Adequate Water Supply

Policy SA-P-S-01 – Certainty of Water Supply and Foul Water Drainage

For any new developments, the developers should document and minimise the implications for the water supply and foul water drainage for third party properties. This should provide certainty of water supply/quality, along with minimising the impact on foul water drainage through which any shared drains run, in line with NPPF strategic policy.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):

N/A

NPPF (2023):

3. Plan-making: Paragraph 20b, Page 8

5.3.1 Context

5.3.1.1 Water to most of the Area is supplied by SES which primarily uses underground aquifers. Climate change is already having an impact, and could have an even greater impact on the volume of ground water that is collected in the aquifers as the levels of rainfall change. There is clearly a limit to the amount of water that is available within the SES catchment area.

5.3.1.2 Drainage within the area falls into two distinct types: foul water which is the responsibility of Thames water and rain run-off, much of which flows into the lake at Ewell Court and hence into the Hogsmill river.

5.3.2 Rationale and Justification

5.3.2.1 No resident will ever want their water supply, including water quality, pressure and taste to be adversely affected by any new developments.

5.3.2.2 The foul water drainage system was installed in the 1930s when the estate was built. Houses 'share' the foul drainage systems which link into major under street drains. Blockages within the shared drainage system can affect properties which may not be responsible for cause, resulting in foul water rising through manhole covers in front or back gardens. Adding new properties to the system could exacerbate the situation and cause further inconvenience to 'innocent' households.

5.4 Policy SA-P-S-02 – Minimising Flood Risks

Policy SA-P-S-02 – Minimising Flood Risks.

Any new developments, of any size, including extensions requiring planning permission, will minimise the amount of excess water run-off into the street through the use of soak-aways or ponds, retain as much green space as possible. All new developments should capture water in butts for garden and general outdoor use, with the additional benefit of enhancing water neutrality.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	N/A, Potentially: Draft Local Plan (2023), Policy S15: Flood Risk and Sustainable Drainage Page 234
NPPF (2023):	N/A

5.4.1 Context

5.4.1.1 Within the designated area and following a report commission by EEBC (Jacobs, 2008) and later updated in 2018, it was confirmed that certain roads fall within the floodplain of the Hogsmill River. According to the flood modelling, an area known locally as the Hogsmill Open Space largely lies within a buffer-strip of green space that has been created either side of the watercourse. As stated in section 6.7.2, paragraph 184 of the 2008 SFRA document and in section 5.4.2 of the 2018 update:

The Flood Zone 3a impacts extensively on properties in Briarwood Road, Stoneleigh Park Road, Preston Drive and Manor Drive following the path of the stream from Nonsuch Park to the Hogsmill.

Flood Zone 3a has the following recommendations:

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)
Level 1

JE JACOBS

flooding, and may be subject to fast flowing and/or deep water. Very careful consideration must be given to future sustainability and safety issues within this area.

Flood Zone 3a (High Probability)

9. Areas subject to a 1% probability of flooding occurring in any one year (1 in 100 year) have been delineated as Flood Zone 3a High Probability. Development within these areas may only be considered following application of the Sequential Test, and 'more vulnerable' development should be avoided wherever possible.
10. The SFRA has outlined specific development control recommendations that should be placed upon development within Zone 3a High Probability to minimise the damage to property, the risk to life in case of flooding and the need for sustainable drainage techniques. It is essential that the developer carries out a detailed Flood Risk Assessment to consider the site-based constraints that flooding may place upon the proposed development.

Flood Zone 2 (Medium Probability)

Figure 11 – Flood Zone 3a recommendations

5.4.1.2 In terms of surface water flooding, one out of four principal surface water flow paths within the designated area is along Walsingham Gardens, continuing until it flows into King George's Auriol Park

5.4.2 Rationale and Justification

5.4.2.1 'Clean' water causes most of the flooding in the designated area during periods of heavy rain. When the Stoneleigh and Auriol estates were built, all properties had front and back gardens intrinsic to the design. In recent years, a significant amount of ground which previously absorbed rainwater, has been covered over by concrete and other non-porous materials, especially in front gardens, but also for extensions and patios in back gardens. Recent changes to legislation have required any new driveways which face on the road to include drainage and soak aways. However, this has only been installed in a small number of the total drives that have been paved over.

5.5 Policy SA-P-S-03 – Sustainable Drainage

Policy SA-P-S-03 – Sustainable Drainage

Developers will be required to implement SuDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems) for developments that propose one or more dwellings and any new commercial, retail or leisure floorspace at a level appropriate to the scale and type of development.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	DM19: Development & Flood Risk, Page 32
NPPF (2023):	14. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change: Paragraph 175, Page 50.

5.5.1 Context

5.5.1.1 SuDS forms part of the ongoing defence against surface water flooding, lowering the risk of overwhelming foul sewers as identified in the context for Policy SA-P-S-02 – Minimising Flood Risks.

5.5.1.2 According to the susdrain community website (c, 2024)

SuDS are more sustainable than traditional drainage methods because they:

- *Manage runoff volumes and flow rates from hard surfaces, reducing the impact of urbanisation on flooding*
- *Provide opportunities for using runoff where it falls*
- *Protect or enhance water quality (reducing pollution from runoff)*
- *Protect natural flow regimes in watercourses*
- *Are sympathetic to the environment and the needs of the local community*
- *Provide an attractive habitat for wildlife in urban watercourses*
- *Provide opportunities for evapotranspiration from vegetation and surface water*

- *Encourage natural groundwater/aquifer recharge (where appropriate)*
- *Create better places to live, work and play.*

5.5.2 Rationale and Justification

5.5.2.1 All of the respondents to our survey carried out on the 25th of January 2024 agreed (most strongly) that new developments should utilise natural drainage systems to help reduce flooding.

5.6 Community Recommendation SA-CR-S-01 – Drainage Improvement

Community Recommendation SA-CR-S-01 – Drainage Improvement

- 1) The relevant Drainage Authorities will be encouraged to include drainage improvement schemes in their development plans.
- 2) A proportion of NCIL could be made available to service providers by the appropriate community body to encourage prioritisation of the delivery of these schemes.

5.7 Policy SA-P-S-04 – Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**Policy SA-P-S-04 – Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

- 1) Any new developments, of any size, should incorporate renewable and low-carbon energy and heating schemes, appropriate to the size of the development. (NPPF para.160)
- 2) The construction materials and design should maximise heat retention during cold months but also minimise the heat transmission to the property during hot weather.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):

N/A

NPPF (2023):

14. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change: Paragraph 160

5.7.1 Context

5.7.1.1 Climate Change impacts us all and all the respondents to our survey carried out on the 25th of January 2025, on sustainability felt that the local plan and hence the neighbourhood plan should address the issue of climate change even further. This was particularly relevant to energy efficiency and carbon neutrality.

5.7.1.2 At the time of their design and build, most of the dwellings in Stoneleigh and Auriol relied on fossil fuels for their heating with fireplaces in downstairs rooms and chimneys that heated the upstairs rooms as the smoke rose up the chimneys. Most have since installed either gas or electric central heating. However, residents are becoming increasingly aware of the need for sustainable energy and the number of homes with solar panels is increasing rapidly (which should be fuelled further by the EEBC Solar Together scheme which is now underway in the area).

5.7.2 Rationale and Justification

5.7.2.1 The need for new developments to be energy efficient had an almost 100% approval in our survey results.

5.8 Policy SA-P-S-05 – Provision for Electric Car Charging

Policy SA-P-S-05 – Electric Car Charging

All new developments should, where possible, provide electric car charging points for each of the individual households within the development. Ideally this will be combined with the solar energy panels and batteries to provide charge overnight.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):

N/A

NPPF (2023):

9. Promoting sustainable transport: Paragraph 116e

5.8.1 Context

5.8.1.1 The transport section of the Neighbourhood Plan outlines the continued need for car ownership, due to the lack of suitable available public transport for many of the journeys that need to be undertaken.

5.8.1.2 Public charging points have recently been added to Stoneleigh Broadway to encourage the use of electric vehicles.

5.8.2 Rationale and Justification

5.8.2.1 Most of the residents surveyed in January 2024 were in favour of providing services for electric vehicles to minimise the impact on the environment and to reduce the impacts of climate change.

5.8.2.2 Providing electric car charging on new developments will encourage new residents to move away from more polluting alternatives.

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6

Transport

6.1 High Level Objectives

Objectives	Policy / Community Recommendation
i. To create safer roads and footpaths within the neighbourhood, minimising traffic congestion and promoting better transport links with the wider area.	SA-P-T-01 Assessment of Transport Impact
	SA-P-T-02 Motor Vehicle and Cycle Storage
	SA-CR-T-01 Improvements to Transport Infrastructure

6.2 Overview

- 6.2.1 The Public Transport Accessibility Level (PTAL) (TFL 2023) for the SANP designated area is rated as: **1b. (very poor)**, as shown in the attached analysis contained in

- 6.2.2 Appendix 3 – PTAL Calculation.
- 6.2.3 It is widely agreed that sustainable travel options should be explored and implemented. Less driving and greater use of public transport, footpaths and cycle routes is beneficial for the health and well-being of residents.
- 6.2.4 Our survey carried out on May 22nd 2023 indicates that most local residents walk to the Broadway shops, but drive to the larger supermarkets such as those at North Cheam and Epsom.

- 6.2.5 A small survey, carried out on the 28th August 2023, of three typical roads in the designated area revealed an average car ownership of 1.55 vehicles per household and a distribution as shown below:

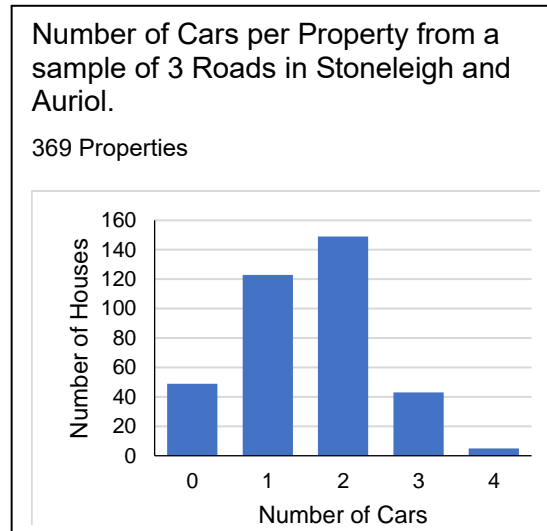


Figure 12 – Distribution of Cars per Property

6.2.2 Roads, Cycle Paths and Footpaths

- 6.2.2.1 Stoneleigh and Auriol are bordered by two main roads: The A24 London Road in the south east and the A240 Kingston Road in the south west. Residential roads mark the other edges of the area: Salisbury Road in the west and in the north, Sparrow Farm Road, Cunliffe Road and Cuddington Avenue.
- 6.2.2.2 A considerable amount of traffic passes through on roads such as Stoneleigh Park Road, Woodstone Avenue and Thorndon Gardens, which are “cut-throughs” to Worcester Park, and there is often traffic congestion in Park Avenue West.
- 6.2.2.3 Large amounts of traffic also pass through Park Avenue West, Glenwood Road and Briarwood Road to avoid congestion at the Organ and Dragon crossroads of the A240 / A24, which is one of the busiest non-motorway junctions in the whole of Surrey.
- 6.2.2.4 Speed platforms reduce the traffic speed in the Park Avenue/Briarwood Road area and also around the schools. Traffic islands also calm the traffic in some roads.

- 6.2.2.5 The roads within the designated area are, bar the major roads referenced earlier, 6 metres wide, meaning that car parking can only be provided on one side of the road without impacting traffic flow. Further, parking restrictions exist on the majority of the roads surrounding Stoneleigh Station and Stoneleigh Broadway, restricting on-street parking, typically Monday to Friday 08:00-18:00.
- 6.2.2.6 The uneven surfaces of some footpaths are a major hazard to pedestrians, especially the frail and elderly, and uneven road surfaces are a hazard to cyclists. This is of great concern to some residents, as recorded in our engagement events.
- 6.2.2.7 There are currently no marked cycle lanes in the residential roads, however there is an emerging cycle and walking route proposal from SCC. As mentioned previously, most roads are too narrow allow such an introduction. There are some specified cycle routes in Auriol Park and shared pedestrian cycle paths along the A24 and A240.
- 6.2.2.8 There are many alleyways joining local roads throughout the area which helpfully reduces walking distances. Most of these alleyways currently prohibit cycling.

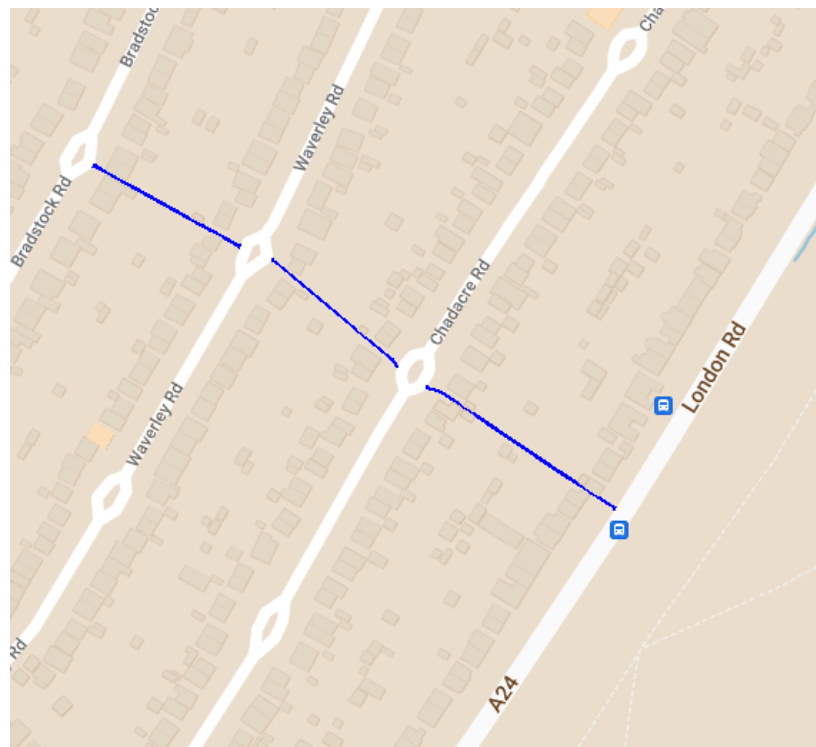


Figure 13 – Example of Alleyways linking roads (blue lines)

6.2.3 Rail and Buses

6.2.3.1 The Waterloo to Epsom (and beyond) railway line runs through the centre of the neighbourhood, which may be crossed on foot via the steps at the Railway Station (step free access is currently under construction), or through the alleyway “cattle-arch” under the railway embankment.

6.2.3.2 Trains to London are generally four per hour during peak times and only two per hour during off-peak and at weekends. Recent changes to the timetable on the line serving Stoneleigh have resulted in two peak time services per hour being cut to and from Epsom to Waterloo, resulting in more crowding on trains before they arrive at Stoneleigh. Saturday services have also been cut from four to two trains per hour.

During peak time there are two trains continuing from Epsom to Dorking per hour and two trains continuing on to Guildford per hour. Off peak this service is halved. Residents do not think this is a good service (see

6.2.3.3 Appendix 5 – Transport Survey Results). There are no other long-distance train services at any time.

6.2.3.4 Over 600 people take the train on a week-day morning between 6.00-8.30am, as this survey shows:

Stoneleigh Station Passengers Embarking (3rd November 2023)			
Time Interval (am)¹	Number of Adults	Number of Children	Total
06:10 - 06:25	42	0	42
06:25 - 06:55	86	0	86
06:55 - 07:25	68	4	72
07:25 - 07:40	69	20	89
07:40 - 07:55	66	81	147
07:55 - 08:10	59	12	71
08:10 - 08:25	55	70	125
Totals	445	187	632

Figure 14 – Stoneleigh Station Footfall

There are currently four bus routes servicing the residents of Stoneleigh and Auriol. These are detailed in

¹ Timings are split to coincide with the arrival of the trains, rather than having fixed time intervals. Trains both from and to London Waterloo generally arrive at Stoneleigh within 2 to 3 minutes of each other.

6.2.3.5 Appendix 4 – Bus Services in Stoneleigh and Auriol.

The location of the stops for these services can be seen on the maps in

Appendix 1 – SANF Map: Auriol Designated Area and

Appendix 2 – SANF Map: Stoneleigh Designated Area

6.3 Policy SA-P-T-01 – Assessment of Transport Impact**Policy SA-P-T-01 – Assessment of Transport Impact**

- 1) Multiple dwelling developments will be required to demonstrate how the proposals will mitigate any transport and parking impacts, taking account of the high volume of traffic that already exists, the shortage of parking spaces, and the limited public transport services, including, a Travel Plan in accordance with the SCC good practice guide.
- 2) Mitigation measures will be agreed in consultation with Surrey County Council, Epsom and Ewell Council and the Neighbourhood Forum as part of the assessment of planning applications. For example, the placement of entrances and exits with regards to junctions and high traffic areas.
- 3) Major developments should not exacerbate congestion on the local road network by constricting or stopping the flow of traffic, for example, no right turn across traffic, into the new development where the traffic flow could back up into a junction. These developments should be accompanied by a Transport Assessment and a Travel Plan setting out how transport requirements generated by the development will be addressed in a sustainable way. These assessments should be recent and implemented in a transparent and open² manner.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	DM36: Sustainable Transport for New Development, Page 57
NPPF (2023):	9. Promoting sustainable transport: Paragraph 117, Page 33

6.3.1 Context

6.3.1.1 Most vehicles are kept on residents' driveways as there is very little long-term on-road parking available. Residents have reported difficulty in finding parking spaces at peak shopping times and when there are community events at the Parish Church, the Baptist Church and the Hindu Temple.

² For example, an impact assessment on parking near Stoneleigh Station carried out during a rail strike or on a weekend, where there are no commuters parking in the local area would give an unrealistic view of the actual parking situation in the area.

6.3.1.2 Parking has been restricted by the use of single yellow lines in the roads in the vicinity of Stoneleigh Broadway / Stoneleigh railway station to counter inconsiderate parking by mainly commuters and shoppers, which in many cases prevented emergency vehicles and refuse collection crews from accessing the roads. Multiple examples can be found in the Epsom and Ewell Local Committee Agenda (SurreyCC, 2019, P19-22).

6.3.2 Rationale and Justification

6.3.2.1 In a survey conducted by the Neighbourhood Forum, 83% of residents highlighted a reliance upon cars for shopping; whilst only 29% stated a reliance for work. Further, in a recent failed planning development which proposed 14 dwellings with no allowance for off-site parking, over 600 of the 1000 objections specifically referenced a lack of parking and the impact on surrounding roads as a point of concern.

6.4 Policy SA-P-T-02 – Motor Vehicle and Cycle Storage

Policy SA-P-T-02 – Motor Vehicle and Cycle Storage

- 1) All new developments involving more than one dwelling, will include motor parking spaces of at least one per dwelling³ and charging points for electric vehicles.
- 2) All other developments will include motor vehicle parking spaces in accordance with the Local Plan and charging points for electric vehicles.
- 3) All new multiple residential developments will include cycle storage, which will be secure, easy to use and conveniently located.
- 4) All other developments will include cycle parking spaces in accordance with Local Plan standards.

Strategic Policy Context

EEBC Development Management Policies (2015):	DM37: Parking Standards, Page 58
NPPF (2023):	9. Promoting sustainable transport: Paragraph 108 e, Page 31

³ It should be noted that the existing Surrey Vehicular, Electric Vehicle and Cycle Parking Guidance for New Developments, published in 2021, does in some cases dictate a higher number of parking spaces for Residential Dwellings of over 2 bedrooms. Where such policies exist and dictate a higher number of minimum car parking spaces per dwelling, those would take precedence over this policy.

6.4.1 Context

6.4.1.1 The overview of this section describes the state of the current road infrastructure, parking and lack of “good” public transport services.

6.4.2 Rationale and Justification

6.4.2.1 Due to the limited capacity of the road network any new development will need to mitigate its impact on the operation, safety and accessibility of the network, by providing ample off-road parking spaces and bicycle storage.

6.4.2.2 The “very poor” rating of the Public Transport Accessibility Level (PTAL) in Stoneleigh and Auriol suggests that private car ownership is unlikely to fall until the public transport situation improves in quantity, frequency and in the number of destinations. Encouraging cycle usage by providing safe storage will help improve the situation.

6.5 Community Recommendation SA-CR-T-01 – Improvements to Transport Infrastructure

Community Recommendation SA-CR-T-01 – Improvements to Transport Infrastructure

Measures to be prioritized:

- 1) Improvements to footpaths, alleyways and roads, ensuring surfaces are smooth and hazard free.
- 2) Improvements to road safety with a 20-mph speed limit in the approaches to the Broadway and in the Broadway itself and “SLOW” signs on approaches.
- 3) Mirrors at the exits from Dell Lane and other blind corners.
- 4) Improvements to walking and cycling routes linking the neighbourhood to nearby parks, villages and town centres.
- 5) The creation of new dedicated cycle lanes and routes, where appropriate.
- 6) Improvements to public transport with more frequent buses to Worcester Park and Epsom and more frequent trains, returning the service to at least the pre-covid (2021) levels.

6.5.1 Rationale and Justification

- 6.5.1.1 The above measures reflect the wishes of the residents in Stoneleigh and Auriol and would considerably improve the safety of pedestrians and drivers in the area, over which there is much public concern.
- 6.5.1.2 Better public transport and improved cycling routes will reduce the use of private cars and pollution of the atmosphere. New developments should positively impact on pedestrian and cycle networks or users.
- 6.5.1.3 CIL funding could be used to meet some of the above recommendations

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – SANF Map: Auriol Designated Area

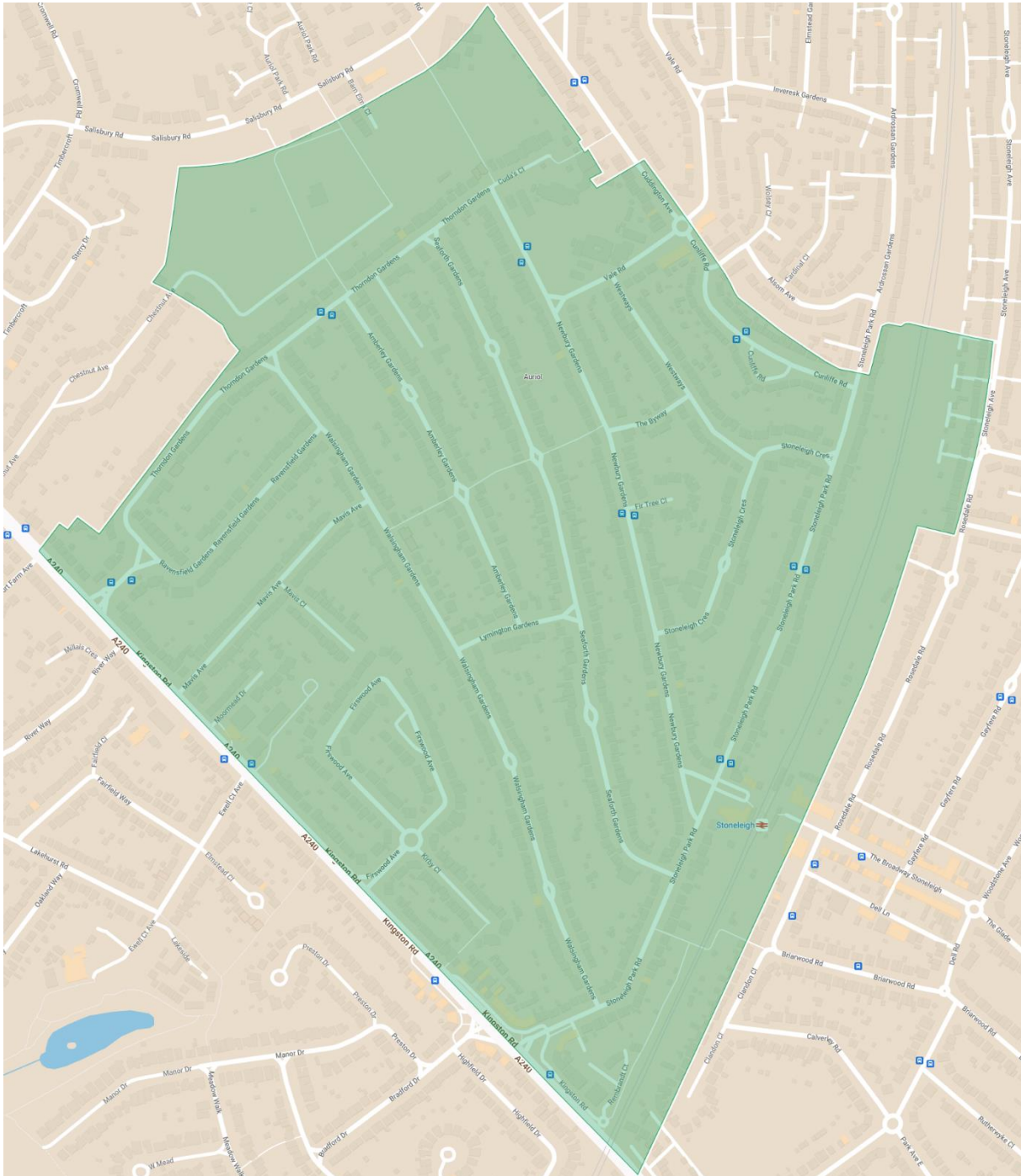


Figure 15 – Auriol Designated Area, also showing Public Transport Stops

Appendix 2 – SANF Map: Stoneleigh Designated Area

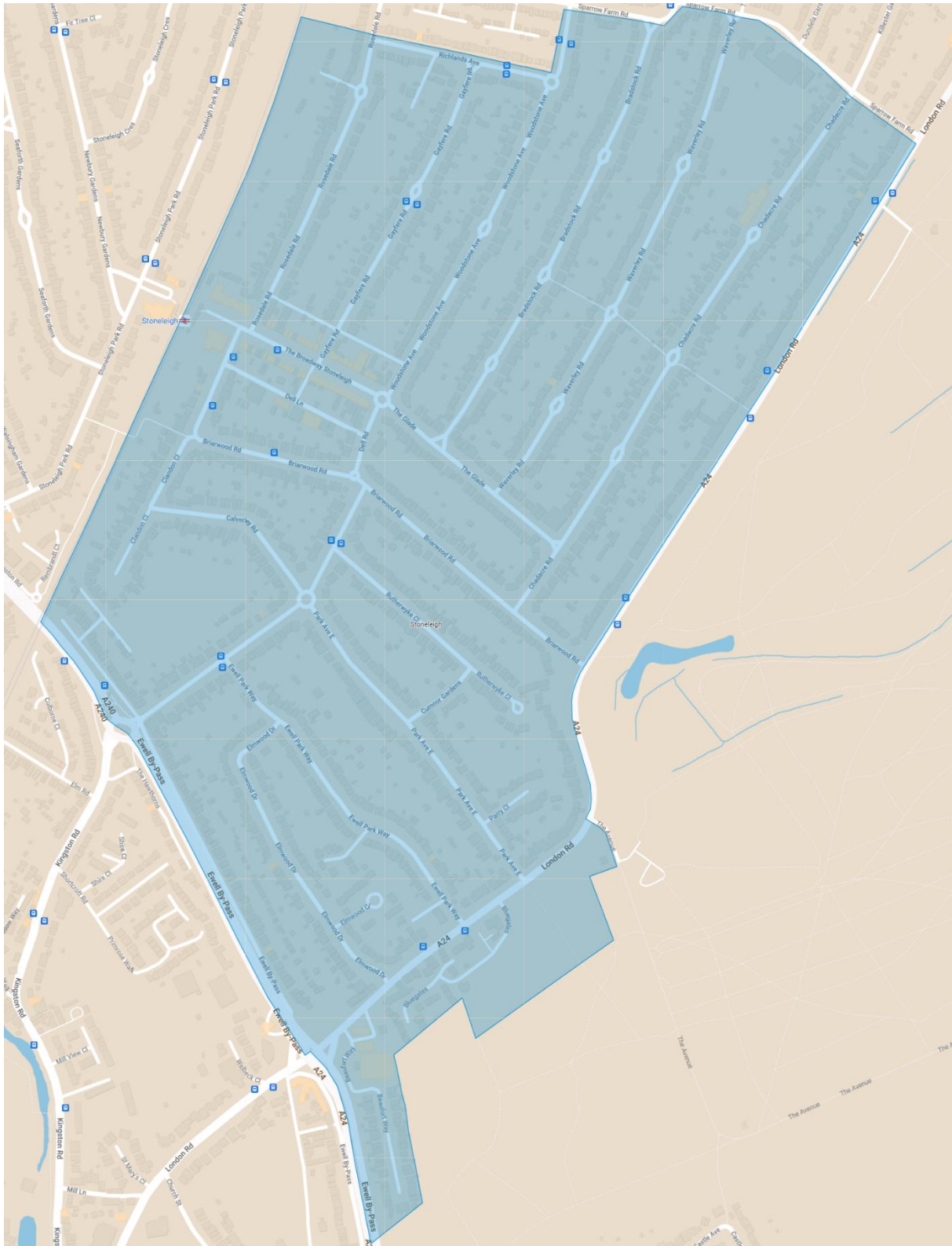


Figure 16 – Stoneleigh Designated Area, also showing Public Transport Stops

Appendix 3 – PTAL Calculation

PTAL Calculations for 7 Station Approach Stoneleigh

Updated 01st Sep 2020.

Valid Routes	Distance	08:15 – 09:15 Services
E16 -> Epsom	25.03m	None
E16 -> Worcester Park	23.1 m	None
406 -> Epsom	466m	8:32 8:51 9:11
406 -> Kingston	602m	8:34 8:56 9:16
293 -> Epsom	>640m	-
293 -> Morden	>640m	-
Train -> London	103m	8:27 8:40 8:53 9:10
Train -> Epsom	103m	8:22 8:37 8:52 9:07

Notes

Calculations are based on rush hour frequencies between 8:15am and 9:15am, using SAPs (Service Access Points) not more than 640m (Bus) or 960m (Rail) from the POI (Point of Interest). Hence E16 route is not used as there are no services in that rush hour period, and the 293 route is further than 640m. We use the "best" direction of the remaining routes. i.e. 406 to Epsom and Train to London.

406 -> Epsom

Walking distance 466m Service Frequency 3/hr

Walking Time = 5.83mins (at a speed of 80m per min)

Scheduled Waiting Time (SWT) = $0.5 * (60 / \text{Frequency}) = 10\text{mins}$

Total Access Time

= Walk Time + Average Waiting Time + Bus Delay

= 10min + 5.83min + 2.00min = 17.83min

EDF = $30 / 17.83 = 1.68$

$AI_{\text{BUS}} = (1.68 * 1) + (0 * 0.5) = 1.68$

Train to London

Walking distance 103m Service Frequency 3/hr

Walking Time = 1.29mins (at a speed of 80m per min)

Scheduled Waiting Time (SWT) = $0.5 * (60 / \text{Frequency}) = 10\text{mins}$

+ 0.75mins (train delay)

Access Time = 12.04mins

Total Access Time = Walk Time + Average Waiting Time + Train Delay

= 10min + 1.29min + 0.75min = 12.04mins

EDF = $30 / 12.04 = 2.49$

$AI_{\text{TRAIN}} = (2.49 * 1) + (0 * 0.5) = 2.49$

$PTAL = AI_{\text{BUS}} + AI_{\text{TRAIN}} = 1.68 + 2.49 = 4.17$

PTAL Result:

A **PTAL of 4.17** puts the location in band 1b with a **very poor Public Transport Accessibility Level**. This makes rather a mockery of the E&EBC statement that Stoneleigh is a transport hub which would usually have PTALs of 5 or 6.

Notes:

Motspur Park has a PTAL of around 2 but has a higher level of services. Worcester Park is about 3 but has trains that don't stop at Stoneleigh and more bus routes.

In Calculating the accessibility index (AI) factor for each transport mode the most favourable routes EDF is multiplied by 1 and all other routes by 0.5. The route AIs and summed to obtain the transport mode AI. In this case we only have a single route for each transport mode.

Strictly speaking the three train services might have to be split into separate routes.^o If this were the case it might actually lower the overall PTAL!

- ^o i.e. Guildford - Epsom - Stoneleigh - Waterloo / Epsom - Stoneleigh - Waterloo / etc

Appendix 4 – Bus Services in Stoneleigh and Auriol

E16 – Falcon Bus Service.

- A loop service running in both directions between Epsom and Worcester Park, running approximately hourly between 7am and 6pm Monday to Saturday (Falcon Buses 2021). This service skirts around the edge of Auriol and winds its way through Stoneleigh.



Figure 17 – E16 Bus Route through Stoneleigh and Auriol

293 – TFL Bus Service

- 293 – TFL (2023) service between Epsom Hospital and Morden, running frequent services seven days a week. This service runs along the A24 and is a considerable distance from many of the inner roads within Stoneleigh and Auriol.

406 – TFL Bus Service

- 406 – TFL (2023) service from Epsom to Kingston, running frequent services seven days a week. This service runs along the A240 and is also a considerable distance from many of the inner roads within Stoneleigh and Auriol.

668 – Go Ahead Bus Service

- 668 – Go Ahead (2023) service from Ashted to North Cheam. A school service, running only on active school days, once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

Appendix 5 – Transport Survey Results (May 22nd 2023)

1) What type of Transport do you Use?

Activity	On Foot	By Bicycle	By Car	By Motorbike	By Bus	By Train	N/A
Go Shopping Locally	20	0	7	0	1	0	0
Go Shopping Elsewhere	1	0	16	0	3	0	0
Travel to Work	2	0	7	0	0	4	4
Travel to School	3	0	5	0	0	0	9
Travel - Other Reasons	0	0	15	0	1	4	0

2) Please Rate the Following Transport Services

Service	Good	Adequate	Poor
Train	4	9	9
Bus	4	10	7
Cycle Paths	0	9	9

3) Are there any Improvements to Public Transport You would like to See?

Comments received:

- Restore Trains to 4 times per Hour
- Cycle Rails/Grooves on the new steps to the Station
- More than 2 trains per hour
- A wider choice of destinations on the trains, especially in the southern direction.
- Another bus route - heading toward London without having to change. (i.e. at Tolworth)
- It would be good if the 406 bus service from the north side of Stoneleigh went all the way to Epsom hospital. At present the residents of Morden get a door-to-door service with the 293 bus service, but those more likely to use Epsom hospital do not.
- More Peak time trains
- More destinations offered by train service.
- More trains & a station car park with reasonable rates

- Quite ok

4) Pavements, Footpaths and Alleyways - Please Tell us what you like/dislike about these

Comments received:

- Need better maintenance
- Better Lighting
- Some pavements very uneven
- Poor, Increased Lighting needed in alleys
- Alley was uneven resulting in pooling of water, muddy to the sides
- Very Uneven! A safety hazard.
- Remove Paving Blocks in the Broadway and relay with Something sustainable longer term
- Footpaths and alleyways are not very well maintained
- I like the grass verges and trees. Do not like the verge grass being still uncut.
- Pavements are quite poorly maintained but the street trees cause most damage and I would not like to see these removed! I would like to see fewer vehicles parked on verges
- In Stoneleigh, pavements are often uneven and have trip hazards. Alleyways are sometimes overgrown and the nuisance of dog mess is well known.
- In Epsom, the footpath along East Street past the Rainbow Centre has no designated area for pedestrians. It seems to be all for cyclists and I haven't seen many cyclists use it whereas there are lots of pedestrians.
- Lighting on footpaths and alleyways. Consistent paving - some recently done, some like Newbury Gardens remain a trip hazard for old/young residents
- Like the surroundings - trees, verges, gardens.
- Many pavements are uneven with multiple trip hazards. These need to be re-laid properly.
- Alleyways are dark and not well lit, which could be improved.
- Newly paved alleyways have no drainage so now flood every time it rains
- All ok
- When the council re-tarmac's the alleys leading to Nonsuch Pk they left about 8" of dirt either side. I asked workmen why because weeds will soon grow and

ruin all their work and that's exactly what's happened. They are full of weeds; some people are putting down weed killer & others hacking at it plus there's now non visible broken glass which dogs can walk on. Plus, because of the dirt edges they fill up with really big puddles every time it rains. Ordinary folk can see what will happen, why can't the council!

5) Roads - Traffic Flow, Speed and Layout

5a) - What Changes are needed to Improve Traffic Safety?

Comments received:

- Slow Traffic speeds where there is no existing traffic calming.
- Ensure speed limit is 20 mph.
- 20Mph in all of the area other than the boundary roads.
- Traffic seemed to have increased in residential roads and I would welcome a 20-mile speed limits.
- More traffic warden patrols.
- 20 mph limit in the Broadway and the approach roads.
- Reduced or controlled speed limits / especially on Stoneleigh Park Road.
- The speed along the A240 Kingston Road should be reduced to 30 miles per hour. Mending the potholes in the road would improve traffic safety. Whilst I agree in principle with "no mow May" the vegetation at some junctions and roundabouts cuts visibility.
- 20 mph zones.
- 20 mph speed limits for approaches to the Broadway.
- Along the Broadway, there are often cars speeding along it/racing at night. Perhaps the installation of a speed camera.
- More appropriate parking
- Not enough parking
- No parking for the residents
- Need to reduce speed on A24 down to 30mph, seen near misses with children trying to cross, someone is going to get killed, they go about 60 some eves. In Stoneleigh Broadway, they need a crossing for the elderly or those with mobility issues and reduce speed to 20 or even 10mph. Too many speeding there. Could do with an extra disabled bay.

5b - Pedestrian Safety

Comments received:




















- Pavements are as bad as roads - my neighbour had tripped twice in the Broadway
- Some more speed restrictions (sleeping policemen)
- There are some locations where double yellow lines would be useful to give better visibility for pedestrians crossing the road. For example, crossing Thorndon Gardens opposite the entrance to Auriol Park and also in Newbury Gardens crossing from the Alleyway to The Byway.
- Speed limit as above and also mirrors at the exits from Dell Lane.
- See above re cycle lane along East Street. The Council emphasis seems to be on cyclists but not everyone can or wants to cycle. How much use is actually made of the cycle lanes? If cyclists were to dismount before passing pedestrians or ring a bell in advance to warn them of their approach then the pavements could be shared more amicably.
- Generally good
- Mirrors on blind corners.
- It can be difficult to cross the Broadway due to the volume of traffic, drivers don't seem to take any notice of pedestrians and don't allow them to cross.
- Its fine
- Ok
- Have large visible (not too small like silly Sutton council) signs saying SLOW as you enter the Broadway. Renew some of the dangerous slabs on Stoneleigh Broadway, why don't they ever get seen to? Need a pedestrian crossing, seen many near misses. Myself & friends have tried parking in pub car park but it is only pay by phone and you can never get the internet connection to do it. Need a cash machine there!

5c - Cyclist Safety

Comments received:

- More Cycle lanes
- More Cycle lanes throughout the area
- Cycle lanes and paths through to the area

Appendix 6 – SANF Key Dates and Engagement History

Date	Type	Description
23 October 2019	 Public	Public Meeting explaining forums and asking for volunteers,
13 November 2019	 Private	A small group meeting of interested people.
20 November 2019	 Private	First committee meeting.
22 January 2020	 Public	Meeting for sharing information to local traders.
27 January 2020	 Private	Application to Council
24 February 2020	 Public	Public Engagement Event - Updating
2020 Much internal activity, but no public/private meetings due to Covid Lockdowns.		
12 November 2020	 Key Date	Forum Designated
02 December 2020	 Private	Meeting with AECOM
28 March 2021	 Key Date	Acquired CIC Status
06 May 2021	 Private	Meeting with the Council
29 July 2021	 Public	Inaugural AGM
17 November 2021	 Public	Engagement Event (Library) – gauging opinions
05 February 2022	 Public	Engagement Event (Auriol Park)
09 June 2022	 Public	AGM and update
14 August 2022	 Key Date	Received AECOM Survey/design codes
23 February 2023	 Public	Engagement Event - recording opinions (Library)
28 June 2023	 Public	AGM and Engagement Event
25 January 2024	 Public	Engagement Event – displaying policies
20 June 2024	 Public	AGM and Engagement Event

Appendix 7 – Monitoring and Reviewing the SANP**The role of the Forum**

The Forum will continue beyond this Plan being made. Whilst the main focus of the Forum to date has been on the production of the SANP, there are other functions such as:

- Promoting local events and community engagement.
- Commenting on planning applications of note in the area, including at committee.
- Being a sounding board for other local community groups.
- Discussing issues of importance to membership about the way the designated area is changing.
- Lobbying Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, Surrey County Council and other organisations on planning, transport, environmental and heritage issues.
- Advising the Council on the best use of CIL and other resources.
- Liaising with other forums in Epsom and Ewell and the wider Surrey area on matters of common interest.

Functions of the Forum:

These functions will continue after the SANP has been approved. In addition, the Forum will monitor implementation of the policies in this plan, particularly:

- To ensure funding is being applied correctly.
- To assess whether policies are being applied consistently and interpreted correctly in response to applications.
- To review the policies and to propose revisions and updating where appropriate and in line with current legislation/guidance and the emerging Local Plan for Epsom and Ewell.

Reviewing the SANP

The life of the SANP is 20 years. We anticipate that revisions and updates will be required at least every 3-5 years in response to changes in the environment, infrastructure being delivered, and the evolving priorities of the residential and business communities. Updates may be required in response to the emerging Local Plan for Epsom and Ewell, once that has been finalised. These will require separate consultation and adoption processes, which will be managed by SANF and EEBC.

A further referendum is not required if the Examiner decides that the modifications would not change the nature of the SANP and would meet the basic conditions. If this is the case, the LPA must make the SANP within five weeks of receiving the Examiner's report.

The Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 amended the legislation governing neighbourhood planning, including clarifying:

- The status of draft plans in planning decision making.
- The process for making minor amendments to adopted plans.
- The effect of further borough council boundary changes on designated neighbourhood areas.
- How local planning authorities will provide assistance to neighbourhood forums during the process of drafting, consultation and making of neighbourhood plans.

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Summary of the 'Basic Conditions' for Neighbourhood Plans

Only a draft neighbourhood plan that meets each of a set of basic conditions can be put to a referendum and be made. The basic conditions are set out in paragraph 8(2) of schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

The basic conditions are:

- having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan.
- the making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.
- the making of the neighbourhood plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area).
- the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, retained EU obligations.
- prescribed conditions are met in relation to the plan and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the neighbourhood plan.

Other basic conditions Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 prescribe 2 basic conditions in addition to those set out in the primary legislation.

These are:

- the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which set out the habitat regulation assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitats sites.
- having regard to all material considerations, it is appropriate that the Neighbourhood Development Plan is made.

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Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan EEBC comments on Regulation 14

This draft Regulation 14 Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Plan which has been made available for public consultation from 9 September to 27 October 2024. The following comments have been compiled by the Epsom & Ewell Planning Policy team.

Firstly, the neighbourhood forum is congratulated for reaching this milestone stage in the plan making process. We are aware of and appreciate the time and effort which has been put in to producing this plan.

The plan covers a broad range of topics, which have been identified as being of particular importance to the Stoneleigh and Auriol community. The plan does not propose to allocate any sites for development. Each section of the plan contains high level objectives, which are clearly linked to the policies and community proposals contained within the plan. This approach provides clarity as to what the plan is seeking to achieve.

The plan is somewhat lengthy, and it is suggested that a more concise version could be achieved through providing a separate evidence base and signposting within the plan where the relevant information can be found. This would also help to prevent the plan ageing prematurely should evidence be updated, or new evidence gathered. It would also make it clear to the reader what the suite of evidence is that has informed the Neighbourhood Plan.

Foreword

It would be useful to highlight in this section that once 'made' (adopted) by the local authority, the Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the statutory development plan and form the basis for decisions on individual planning applications. It may also be useful to provide a summary of the stages in the Neighbourhood Plan making process, identifying the current stage and the next steps.

Introduction

Para 1.53 – as per the comment above, change the text “when it is adopted” to “when the plan is ‘made’.”

Para 1.6.2.3 – this paragraph should acknowledge that the NPPF (December 2023) seeks to uplift the average density of residential development in town centres and other locations that are well served by public transport (para 129). This is also in accordance with Core Strategy policy CS8 which seeks to direct “higher density development to central locations, such as Epsom town centre and other local centres, close to existing services and facilities and accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. While it is acknowledged that the Public Transport Accessibility Level (PTAL) (TFL 2023) ratings which

are referred to later in the document, rate the Neighbourhood Forum area as 1b (very poor), it is noted that this is a London based assessment. The [Transport Assessment](#) which supported the Regulation 18 stage of the Local Plan, found the accessibility of a number of sites within the vicinity of Stoneleigh/Auriol to perform well in terms of accessibility to the majority of a number of key facilities/services.

2) Housing

High Level Objectives

The objectives are supported.

Overview

It is stated within para 2.22 that the “design principles within the Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Code document form the basis of this Neighbourhood Plan and should be considered in their entirety as part of any proposed development within the designated area.” This reads as if it is the intention of the Neighbourhood Forum to adopt the Design Guidance and Code as part of the local development plan. If this is the case, it is recommended that the Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Code be either included as a policy, or the Neighbourhood Plan includes a design policy which supports the Design Guidance and Code. Currently there is no specific reference to the Design Guidance and Code within any policy.

Policy SA-P-H-01 Consistency of Building Lines

While the objective of the policy is clear the wording could be modified to provide further clarity. Perhaps reword to say, “New developments and property modifications, should maintain a consistent building line, complementing the form, massing and roofscape of the existing properties in the same vicinity, while respecting the sloping topography of the area where relevant.”

The last part of this sentence would reflect the wording used in the Stoneleigh and Auriol Design Guidance and Codes which is a core piece of evidence base.

Reference should be made to Core Strategy policy CS5, which requires all development to “reinforce local distinctiveness and complement the attractive characteristics of the Borough”.

Policy SA-P-H-02 New Development Height and Character

Where there is an existing or anticipated shortage of land for meeting identified housing needs, the NPPF requires that developments “make optimal

use of the potential of each site.”¹ It is therefore welcomed that policy SA-P-H-02 allows for variations to the suggested heights, where it can be demonstrated a proposed development would not be detrimental to the existing character of the area. This is also reiterated in Community Recommendation SA-CR-H-01 Support for sympathetic higher density development.

It is suggested that Development Management policy DM 13 is not referred to as it is no longer considered to be consistent with the NPPF. A [report on the use of this policy](#) was considered by the Licencing and Planning Policy Committee on 8 May 2018.

Policy SA-P-H-03 Permitted Backland Development

The objective of this policy is clear although further detail would be beneficial in relation to some areas of the requirements, for example “Appropriate and proportionate Green Spaces to be made available”. Are the green spaces to serve the development and what would be proportionate.

3) Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community/Cultural Facilities

High Level Objectives

Objective i) is supported, while objective ii) is perhaps overly ambitious in its aim to ensure that development does not have a negative impact on parking in the immediate area.

Overview

This section of the plan should make reference to Core Strategy Policy CS15, which seeks to encourage measures which protect the role, function and needs of the local centres in the borough.

Policy SA-P-R-01 Safeguarding of Retail Facilities

The introduction of Use Class E (Commercial, Business and Service) to the Use Classes Order and changes to permitted development rights which allow for the conversion of various commercial premises without the need for planning permission. These changes occurred following the adoption of Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies DPD. Class E and Permitted Development rights will restrict what can be achieved by this policy, for example a reduction in retail floorspace, which needs to be recognised. It may be useful to refer to commercial, business and service uses within the policy in addition to retail to be in conformity with Use Class E.

¹ NPPF paragraph 129.

In the strategic policy context we recommend referring to the following policies: NPPF paragraph 90: Ensuring the vitality of town centres² and Core Strategy policy CS15 within the chapter 'Supporting Epsom Town Centre and Local Centres'

Policy SA-P-R-02 Safeguarding of Public Houses

While the intention of this policy is clear there needs to be a degree of flexibility, for example where a facility is unviable to retain when fully justified by evidence. An example of this type of policy approach is set out in The Development Management Policies document DM31.

Additionally, it may be that SANF may wish to consider nominating these facilities to the Council as 'Assets of Community Value'. Further information on this can be found on the relevant [RTPI Planning Aid](#) webpage.

In the strategic policy context, we recommend referring to the following policies: Core Strategy policy CS13 within the chapter Community, Cultural & Built Sports Facilities. Within the supporting text of this policy 'public houses' are included in the definition of a community facility.

Community Recommendation SA-CR-R-01 Support for retail diversity

It is noted that this is a recommendation, rather than a policy, however there is a risk that the community maybe under the false impression that they have more control over the loss/range of retail and commercial premises than is in fact possible given the changes to legislation. This should be highlighted in the supporting text.

Policy SA-P-R-03 Parking at Retail, Commercial, Hospitality & Community/Cultural Facilities

In line with [NPPF para 117](#), requiring a transport statement or transport assessment from applications which are expected to generate large number of vehicles will assist in the assessment of the potential impact of such applications and how they may be appropriately managed/mitigated. This is broadly covered by DM35: Transport and Development which requires Transport Assessments for major developments, the definition of which is provided by the development [Management Procedure \(England\) Order 2015](#) and Transport Statements for smaller developments. The policy could specify that parking is a particular issue in the area, which should be addressed within any Assessment/Statement and as part of the application.

Parking standards should be in line with those identified by [Surrey County Council](#) (the Highways Authority) for the various use classes unless justified.

² References to town centres in the NPPF also apply to local centres as set out in the glossary.

We note that paragraphs 3.6.21 and 3.6.23 refer to specific planning application that has not been implemented. Whilst the wording provides some content to the policy, we question the source of the assumptions made on the potential impacts of the proposal.

4) Green spaces and biodiversity

High Level Objectives

The objective is supported.

Policy SA-P-G-01 Protection of Local Green Spaces

The Council is supportive of the neighbourhood plan identifying areas of Local Green Space (LGS). The policy seeks to identify and protect the LGS from inappropriate development. There are nine spaces which are identified as LGS within the neighbourhood plan.

Paragraph 106 of the NPPF sets out the criteria which would justify LGS designation. This reads as *“The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:*

- a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
- c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.”*

The inclusion of the first three spaces, Auriol Park, a section of Nonsuch Park (Cherry Orchard Nursery site and Recreation Ground (Park Avenue West) as LGS is justified.

Sites four & five are Park Avenue West and Barn Elms allotments. Access to allotments is generally restricted to members only, which substantially reduces the value of these to the local community for those who are not plot holders. It is therefore considered that allotments on their own would not necessarily be enough to meet the criteria fully, although they may be included where they are either part of a wider green space or have a particular local significance. Their inclusion is therefore considered to require some further justification.

The inclusion of the ‘old school playing field, Salisbury Road’ is not recommended as the site now has planning permission for development. The planning application was determined by Surrey County Council and while objections to the scheme were raised by both Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and the Stoneleigh and Auriol Neighbourhood Forum, the principle of development has now been established. It is noted that the inclusion of this site as LGS was in relation to its biodiversity. In accordance with national

legislation the site will be required to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain, which is discussed in further detail under policy SA-P-G-03 below.

The inclusion of school playing fields at Cuddington Community School, Auriol and Mead School and the Meadow/Nonsuch Primary School, which are currently in use is queried. School playing fields can generally only be utilised by those at the school or where organised events are held with the permission of the school. This is a significant limiting factor in weighing up these spaces as being demonstrably special to the local community. School playing fields are protected through national planning policy and the Department for Education (DfE) has a presumption against the disposal of publicly funded school land, particularly playing field land. There is a very high threshold for it to be demonstrated that a school playing field is no longer required. Therefore, given the protections that exist and the relatively limited value outside of its use by the schools it is recommended these are not designated.

Policy SA-P-G-02 Protection of Notable Green Spaces

For clarity, it would be useful to include a map to show the Notable Green Spaces, which are to be protected by the policy.

Policy SA-P-G-03 Managing the Impact on Biodiversity

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is a requirement under a statutory framework, introduced by Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (inserted by the Environment Act 2021). Under the statutory framework for BNG, subject to some exceptions, every grant of planning permission is deemed to have been granted subject to the condition that the biodiversity gain objective is met. The objective is for development to deliver at least a 10% increase in biodiversity value relative to the pre-development biodiversity value of the onsite habitat. This increase can be achieved through onsite biodiversity gains, registered offsite biodiversity gains or statutory biodiversity credits.

Additionally, Core Strategy policy CS3 states that “development that is detrimental to the Borough’s biodiversity will be minimised, and where it does take place, adequate mitigating measures should be provided. Wherever possible, new development should contribute positively towards the Borough’s biodiversity”.

Therefore, while the objective of policy SA-P-G03 is supported it is considered the policy adds little to the national requirement.

Policy SA-P-G-04 Protection of Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows

This policy is largely repetitive of policy DM5.

Where works are likely to affect mature trees on or adjacent to development sites (including street trees, TPO and conservation area protected trees and

veteran trees, hedges, or orchards) or where the site has a sylvan character an Arboriculturally Impact Assessment would be required to support a planning application. The requirement for this is set out in the Council's Local Validation Requirements List.

5) Environmental Sustainability

High Level Objectives

Objective i) is more relevant to building control than planning.

Policy SA-P-S-01 Certainty of Water Supply and Foul Water Drainage

This policy addresses an issue which outside the remit of the planning system and is dealt with via building control regulations.

In terms of water supply, Development Management policy DM12 Housing Standards requires new development to comply with the higher water efficiency standards G2 as set out in building regulations.

We recommend that the policy is deleted from the next iteration of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy SA-P-S-02 Minimising Flood Risks

The policy requires all developments, of any size, to minimise excess water run-off into the street "through the use of soak-aways or ponds, retain as much green space as possible." The methods suggested are prescriptive and the policy would benefit from providing flexibility through the inclusion of additional wording such as "or other suitable sustainable methods."

While the aim of the second part of the policy is supported, the use of water butts may not be practicable for every development. The wording could be amended to encourage water harvesting methods, such as the use of water butts, which would provide greater flexibility.

In the strategic policy context refer to the following policies: Core Strategy CS6 – Sustainability in New Developments.

The supporting text in paragraphs 5.4.11 and 5.4.12 reference the 2008 and 2018 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The Council has recently published an updated SFRA as part of the Local Plan evidence base, which incorporates the latest modelling data. It should be noted that the areas within the SANF area, which were previously identified as being in fluvial flood risk zone 3a are no longer within this zone. The SFRA identifies that surface water flooding poses the greatest risk of flooding within the SANF area, the extent of

which are shown on the supporting maps. It is recommended the supporting text is updated to reflect the updated SFRA.

The Development Management policy DM19 identifies that development within area at medium of high risk from other sources of flooding (which would include surface water flooding) would not be supported unless a site Flood Risk Assessment demonstrates that a proposal “would, where practicable, reduce risk both to and from the development or at least be risk neutral.”

Policy SA-P-S-03 Sustainable Drainage

This policy is repetitive of Development Management policy DM19 which requires the incorporation of SuDS at a level appropriate to the scale and type of development.

We therefore recommend that the policy is deleted from the next iteration of the neighbourhood plan.

Policy SA-P-S-04 – Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Whilst we are supportive of the policies aspirations, we consider that criteria 1 of the policy should be amended to provide flexibility for circumstances when ‘new development’ may not be able to incorporate renewable and low energy (e.g. a minor residential extension). We note the use of ‘should’ rather than must in the policy which does provide a degree of flexibility, however we would suggest that the wording is amended to state that ‘new developments are encouraged to’....

In terms of criteria 2, building regulations Part L ‘conservation of fuel and power’ set the standards that new development should be constructed to in terms of thermal efficiency. This policy could be amended to ‘encourage opportunities to integrate passive design principles, including orientation, glazing and shading with regard to the winter and summer sun and natural ventilation’.

Policy SA-P-S-05 – Electric Car Charging

Whilst we are supportive of the general aims of the policy to encourage the uptake in electric vehicle usage by enabling residents to charge their vehicles at home, the building regulations (Approved Document S) details when residential and non-residential developments should provide electric vehicle charge points.

Approved Document S applies to new residential and non-residential buildings; buildings undergoing a material change of use to dwellings; residential and non-residential buildings undergoing major renovation; and mixed-use buildings that are either new or undergoing major renovation.

We therefore question the need for the policy.

6) Transport

High Level Objectives

The objective is supported.

Policy SA-P-T-01 – Assessment of Transport Impact

Whilst we understand the general thrust of the policy is to ensure that the transport impacts of development are appropriately considered, we consider that the policy is too prescriptive.

The neighbourhood forum has no role in the determination of planning applications in the neighbourhood forum area, therefore criteria 2 of the policy should be deleted. The forum will however be consulted on planning applications in the forum area and will be able to respond to consultations.

We consider criteria 1 and 3 could be combined, with the policy requiring development being required to mitigate transport and parking impacts and supported by a Transport Assessment and / or Travel Plan in accordance with SCC good practice guidance.

Policy SA-P-T-02 – Motor Vehicle and Cycle Storage

Criteria 1 – consider more flexibility needs to be provided for developments that may come forward in highly accessible locations (i.e. in close proximity to Stoneleigh Station) but that cannot satisfy the parking standards.

The Council's current car parking standards for the borough states that 'clear justification should be provided where the minimum level cannot be met on-site'.

This above would support making efficient use of land in the urban area as promoted by Strategic Policy CS5 of the Core Strategy.

As noted above, electric vehicle charging points are now required as part of building regulations (Approved Document S).

As the focus of the policy is on residential standards, it may be better to amend the title of the policy to 'residential parking standards', that way by default non-residential developments will consider the policies in the adopted Local Plan and criteria 2 and 4 can be deleted.

In terms of criteria 3, we consider cycle parking requirements could be specified here for residential schemes. For any residential scheme cycle storage should be secure, easy to use and conveniently located.

In the strategic policy context, we recommend referring to Core Strategy policy CS5.

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URGENT DECISION

Head of Service:	Justin Turvey, Head of Place Development
Report Author	Andrew Bircher
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
Appendices (attached):	None

Summary

To report to the committee the decisions taken by the Chief Executive and Directors on the grounds of urgency, in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the urgent decision taken and the reason for that decision, since the last meeting of the committee.

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To report to the committee the decisions taken by the Chief Executive and Directors on the grounds of urgency, in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

2 Background

- 2.1 The scheme of delegation sets out that the Chief Executive and Directors are authorised to take decisions on grounds of urgency regarding matters which would otherwise be reserved for determination by a Committee or Council. A matter can be deemed urgent if, in the reasonable opinion of the officer concerned, a delay would seriously prejudice the interest of the Council or of the public and it is not practicable to convene a quorate meeting of the relevant decision-making body in sufficient time to take the decision.

2.2 Since the last meeting of the Committee, one urgent decision has been taken by the Director of Environment, Housing and Regeneration in consultation with the Chair, Cllr O'Donovan, and published in Member News in line with the Council's Constitution, Appendix 2, Paragraph 3.1. iii. The decision is set out below:

2.2.1 **Decision 139** – Response to the London Borough of Sutton's Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan Options Consultation

2.2.2 **Urgency reason for decision 139** – Insufficient time for response to be agreed by committee before the consultation closes.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 None arising directly from this report.

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 None arise from this report.

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None arise from this report.

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None arise from this report.

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** Finance are consulted as part of the urgent decision-making process.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 **Legal Officer's comments:** Legal are consulted as part of the urgent decision-making process.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- N/A

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations –** None.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** - None.

6.5 **Partnerships:** N/A

7 **Background papers**

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- None.

Other papers:

- None.

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