

Oldham

Local Plan

**Publication Plan Integrated Assessment
Appendix 8: IA of Natural Environment and
Open Land Policies**

January 2026



Oldham
Council

Policy OL1 – Consideration for the Peak District National Park

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	<p>Policy will have a positive effect due to ensuring development does not conflict with purposes of the PDNP, which includes its natural beauty, wildlife and enjoyment of the Peak District.</p> <p>In the long term the policy may have significant positive effects as text has been added to state opportunities to further the purposes must be considered, where possible.</p> <p>The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is</p>	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						anticipated from the operation of this policy.		
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect the purpose of the PDNP which includes the enjoyment of its natural beauty which will include open spaces. It doesn't address quality and accessibility of open spaces however as this is a matter for the PDNPA.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	<p>The policy will protect the character and appearance of the PDNP as it will take into account cultural heritage and natural beauty. There may sometimes be opportunities to replace detracting features with better designed development /landscapes.</p> <p>In addition, in the long term the policy may contribute to</p>	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						enhancing landscapes, sense of place and distinctiveness as text has been added to state opportunities to further the purposes must be considered, where possible.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	<p>The policy will protect cultural heritage, ensuring development does not conflict with the PDNP purposes.</p> <p>In the long term the policy may contribute to enhancing the historic environment, including cultural heritage as text has been added to state opportunities to further the purposes must be considered, where possible.</p>	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy isn't seeking to explicitly set out design requirements but by definition by ensuring	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
design expectations						development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP and seeking opportunities to further the purposes this will promote a higher quality of design.	JP-P1 address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that whilst development may be more constrained towards the PDNP the policy does not in itself ensure the effective and efficient use of brownfield land.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy does not relate to the provision of supporting infrastructure other than the enjoyment of the PDNP.	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy will ensure development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP and seek opportunities to further the purposes which includes the understanding and enjoyment of the Peak District. This links to health and well-being and promoting understanding can be promoted within different communities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact as it is not addressing flood risk specifically.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact as development within Oldham's planning boundary will have limited influence of the quality of water bodies	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
water resources						and river corridors within the PDNP.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy cannot control development within the planning boundary of the PDNP therefore its impact will be limited.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	x	x	x	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy could constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the PDNP.	It is not considered that mitigation is needed as this area is unlikely to be acceptable for wind turbines. In addition, PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy cannot control development within the planning boundary of the PDNP therefore its impact will be limited.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change							that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy cannot control development within the planning boundary of the PDNP therefore its impact will be limited, although development is more likely to be limited close to the PDNP boundary.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy will indirectly have a positive impact through ensuring that development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP, and where possible seeks opportunities to further the purposes, including its natural beauty and enjoyment.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy does not in itself contribute to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network							Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on regenerating areas of deprivation. It seeks to maintain or further the purposes of the PDNP.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will help protect or further the purposes of the PDNP which may link to sustainable growth, however it will not in itself promote growth and job creation.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	There is no link between the policy and this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	++	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a positive impact through ensuring development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP and possibly a significant positive effect over time as the purposes are furthered	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						where opportunities arise. This will help ensure that the gateway into the PDNP is enjoyed which promotes tourism and leisure.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not influence this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not influence this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact however it is noted that the PDNPA would be a consideration in the determination on applications for	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						minerals within close proximity to the PDNP.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not have a strong impact on this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of positives and neutrals. There was one potentially negative impact in relation to IA12 'To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy' as the policy could constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy where it conflicts with the purposes of the Peak District National Park. However, it is not considered that mitigation is needed as this area is unlikely to be acceptable for wind turbines and this objective can be met in other ways. Policy CC1 also addresses energy.

IA1, IA3, IA4 and IA21 have been amended since the Draft Plan to score significantly positive in the long term. This is to reflect changes to the policy which now require development where possible to consider furthering the purposes of the national park which could relate to wildlife, cultural heritage and as such tourism.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy OL2 –Oldham’s Green Belt

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	<p>The policy will protect and conserve Oldham’s Green Belt which is part of the multi-functional GI network and includes nature designations and geodiversity (RIGS).</p> <p>The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.</p>	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	<p>The policy will protect and conserve Oldham’s Green Belt which includes open spaces.</p>	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The Green Belt is part of Oldham's distinctiveness and sense of place and the landscape features within it. The policy will ensure that only appropriate development will be approved, except in very special circumstances, therefore ensuring that this objective is achieved.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect Oldham's Green Belt, which by its nature has a strong role within Oldham's historic environment and is one of the Green Belt purposes to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns. Through protecting the openness of Oldham's Green Belt and only allowing appropriate developments, unless	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						there are very special circumstances, this will ensure that the historic environment is protected to a strong degree, particularly where the Green Belt forms part of the settings to heritage assets.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Indirectly developments having to ensure that they protect the openness of the Green Belt will drive a higher quality of design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. In doing so this will contribute to the first three green belt purposes on preventing sprawl of large built-up areas, preventing neighbouring towns from merging into one	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						<p>another and assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. This ensures that the spatial strategy for growth and development is directed towards the urban area, with most development being on brownfield land and in doing so ensures that land is used efficiently through other policies on density etc.</p> <p>The policy also reflects amendments to NPPF which allows development on grey belt and previously developed land within the Green Belt.</p>		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not particularly address this objective. There may be some secondary / indirect impact through the implementation of the	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
development needs						policy such as extensions to PROW / walking and cycling infrastructure where the Green Belt is enhanced but this is likely to be limited to strategic allocations identified in PfE.	used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	<p>Through protecting Oldham's Green Belt this will have a positive impact on health as the Green Belt provides space for recreation, including tranquillity.</p> <p>It is appreciated that some of the more deprived wards do not have Green Belt within them.</p>	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Through protecting Oldham's Green Belt this will have a positive impact on flood risk as land can be used for sustainable drainage, and the Green Belt (greenfield parts)	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						offers greenfield run off rates.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Through protecting Oldham's Green Belt this will have a positive impact on water resources as the Green Belt overlaps with water catchment areas and water safeguard zones and so generally these will be protected and only limited development permitted, which will be controlled where necessary with appropriate measures.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Protecting Green Belt will consequently protect soil and agricultural land through limiting development and there may be instances where contaminated land, is redeveloped and remediated within the Green Belt.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise	X /?	X/?	X/?	Permanent	Local	The policy could constrain the	It is not considered that mitigation is needed as it may	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy						development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the Green Belt.	not be acceptable for renewable schemes, particularly wind turbines, to be permitted and proposals needs to be determined on their own merits. In addition, PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is recognised that the Green Belt can provide functions that link to climate change resilience.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Indirectly by protecting the Green Belt this ensures spatially development is directed towards urban areas where there is better public transport infrastructure and opportunities for active travel and access to services. The Green	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						Belt offers a role in terms of carbon storage and wildlife enhancements.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The Green Belt is considered to offer local environmental quality in most cases. Protecting this in line with NPPF will ensure that local environmental quality is maintained and/or enhanced.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Protecting the Green Belt will protect the existing walking / cycling infrastructure, which can be enhanced further through PfE policies on Green Belt enhancement and other plan policies.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. This ensures that the spatial strategy for new growth and development is directed towards the urban area, and in doing so ensures that development is directed towards areas in close proximity to key services.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. In doing so this will help serve green belt purpose five - to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						and other urban land. This ensures that the spatial strategy for growth and development is directed towards the urban area, which in turn promotes the regeneration of areas and land within the urban area. The secondary impact of this is that new development within the urban area then contributes towards reducing levels of deprivation and disparity.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy allows development where it accords with NPPF, which may allow development linked to job creation or employment development on grey belt land. However, the policy isn't seeking to achieve this in itself.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. This ensures that the spatial strategy for new growth and development is directed towards the urban area, which includes centres. Whilst there may be an argument to say the policy will help achieve this it is felt that the score should be neutral as it isn't directing development specifically to centres in itself.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The Green Belt is part of Oldham's identity, with the special qualities of the landscape types being part of Oldham's tourism offer and the functions that the Green Belt provides,	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						such as those related to recreation.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not influence this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Whilst some housing may be granted planning permission within the green belt, including on grey belt land, in line with NPPF, the policy is not seeking to achieve this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Protecting the Green Belt will indirectly ensure that the minerals within the minerals safeguard areas within the borough are protected in line with the GM Minerals Plan, including any development proposals on grey belt land. Areas of search in Oldham for minerals are also within the Green Belt and would	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						be determined in line with NPPF and the GM Minerals Plan.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not have a strong impact on this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutrals, positives and significantly positives. A potentially negative / unsure score was given against IA 12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy as the policy could constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the Green Belt. It is not considered that mitigation is needed as it may not be acceptable for renewable schemes, particularly wind turbines, to be permitted and proposals needs to be determined on their own merits.

Between Draft Pan and Publication Plan stage text referring to enhancing the Green Belt was removed as to not duplicate PfE. As such the score in IA1 was reduced from ++ to +.

IA16 had previously scored unsure / positive and has been amended to positive. This is to reflect that text on Green Belt enhancements has been removed from the policy as it is already referenced in PfE and so the uncertainty score is not relevant as to where these enhancements may be.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy OL3 – Extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 to 10 years)	LT (10 years +)	T or P	Local or Cross Boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	<p>The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.</p> <p>The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.</p>	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy is seeking to ensure that disproportionate	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt does not take place, thereby protecting the openness and therefore character and appearance of place.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that the design is required to be sympathetic in keeping with the character of the original building and surrounding vernacular. This will ensure the protection and enhancement of the historic environment, where relevant. In addition, ensuring that disproportionate extensions and alterations do not	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						take place will preserve the openness of the Green Belt and its purposes, including to preserve the special character and setting of historic towns.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that the design is required to be sympathetic in keeping with the character of the original building and surrounding vernacular and sets out detail one ensuring that developments are no disproportionate to the original building. This will help promote high quality, beautiful design.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy does not particularly relate to this although it may help ensure that	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						homes can be altered to suit changing occupiers needs, ensuring continued use of existing buildings in an appropriate manner in line with Green Belt policy in NPPF.	Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	NA	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although ensuring extensions / alterations to existing buildings are not disproportionate may help reduce the footprint of new build on greenfield land it is considered that its contribution will be limited.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change							Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	By ensuring extensions / alterations are not disproportionate to the original building this will ensure that local environmental quality is protected. Occasionally extensions are replacing a previous addition and sometimes the new development is an enhancement which contributes towards an improved local environmental quality by way of improved appearance.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective although it is noted that the policy may be applicable to proposals related to the tourism industry.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective as it is not the main aim of the policy. It is noted however that the policy may help to provide larger	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						family homes for example which may meet a local need.		
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not have a strong impact on this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy mostly scored neutral, with some positives, as it is a very specific policy not particularly impacting on many of the IA objectives.

No changes were required to mitigate or enhance the policy as a result of the IA process. The policy is considered to have local impacts, very close to where the development takes place.

No changes to scores have been made between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage IA as despite an amendment to the volume, the scores are still considered appropriate.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.