

Procedure Note

Assessment of Local Green Space (LGS) Nominations

This procedure sets out the methodology used to assess Local Green Space nominations in accordance with NPPF requirements and Planning Practice Guidance.

1. Purpose

To provide a consistent, transparent and evidence-based approach to assessing Local Green Space nominations.

2. Policy Context

Assessments are undertaken against NPPF Local Green Space provisions and relevant PPG. All designation criteria must be met cumulatively.

3. Information Required

Review nomination forms, plans, evidence, ecological information, heritage data, open space studies, planning history and Local Plan evidence.

4. Assessment Methodology

Stage 1: Site identification. Stage 2: Assessment against the three NPPF tests. Stage 3: Strategic policy review.

Test 1 – Proximity

Assess whether the site is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves, considering practical accessibility and physical barriers.

Test 2 – Demonstrably Special

Assess evidence of beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquility, wildlife value and community significance.

Test 3 – Local in Character

Assess whether the site is local in character and not an extensive tract of land.

5. Strategic Review

Consider whether designation would undermine Local Plan objectives, allocations or identified development needs.

6. Reporting

Prepare a written assessment with conclusions and a recommendation.

7. Decision Making

Record outcomes within the Local Plan evidence base and retain supporting evidence.

Key Principle

All NPPF tests must be met, and designation should not undermine sustainable development objectives.

Assessment Template

Site and Application Details	
Site Reference	
Site Address	
Ownership where known	
Application details	
Relevant national policy	NPPF 2024 paragraphs 105-107 <i>*Reference any relevant evidence used here</i>
NPPF Tests – all must apply	
Test 1 – Proximity: in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves	Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Partially met ☐ <u>Reasons:</u> <i>*Insert reasons here</i>
Test 2 – Demonstrably special: to a local community and holds a particular significance e.g. its beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquility or richness of its wildlife	Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Partially met ☐ <u>Reasons:</u> <i>*Insert reasons here</i>
Test 3 – local in character and not an extensive tract of land	Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Partially met ☐ <u>Reasons:</u> <i>*Insert reasons here</i>
Other considerations	<i>*Insert any other considerations that have been used to inform this assessment here.</i>
Conclusion	<i>*Summarize assessment here</i>

**Delete once completed*