PRIORITY 1: Tackling climate change and achieving carbon neutrality

The Council declared a climate emergency on 25 July 2019 and committed to carbon neutrality for its own operations by 2030. The declaration also recognised that the Council has a role to play in helping to facilitate the aspiration for the borough to be carbon neutral by 2030. The UK legal target is now net zero emissions by 2050. The Council's Becoming Carbon Neutral Action Plan identifies ways to use its powers to support the transition to a low carbon future.

Objectives:

- Design developments to address climate change, be thermally efficient and reduce energy consumption;
- Investment in sustainable travel networks to support active lifestyles and reduce car use;
- Deliver new strategic renewable energy schemes in the right place;

Key policies: S5, CC1, CC2, CC3, CC4, CC5, CC6, DD1, DD3, DD4, DD5, DD6, ST5, EC2 and EC3

PRIORITY 2: Protection and enhancement of the green, natural and historic environment

A fundamental, cross cutting priority protecting and enhancing the borough's existing green spaces recognises their value to residents, visitors and investors and their significance in supporting health and well being and the balanced growth of the borough. Significant erosion of green space will reduce the sustainability, climate resilience and liveability of the borough, and will be resisted. The boroughs network of green areas also provide access to a biodiverse rich natural environment, and support a growing network of pedestrian and cycleways. The Council's significant land holdings give control over many areas of green space and the designation of 'green guarantee' sites have already had an influential role in driving this priority.

Objectives:

- Ensure new developments are designed to reflect the boroughs role as a 'Forest Community';
- Provide access to green space for all residents;
- Protect Local Nature Reserves, urban green spaces and create new accessible green spaces;
- Invest in the quality and coverage of biodiversity on and around new developments; and
- Maximising greening developments to help address climate change and improve health and wellbeing.

Key policies: S1, S2, NE1, NE2, NE3, NE4, NE5, NE6, NE7, CI2, CI3, HE1, HE2, HE3, HE4, HE5, HE6, ~~and~~ HE7, ML1, ML2, ML3 and ML5

PRIORITY 3: Maximising inward investment and employment opportunities

Through the new Invest in Telford Strategy the Council is committed to supporting all existing businesses and to attract new inward investment, support job opportunities and to sustain and enhance the borough's strong economic performance. The Local Plan policies and site allocations can help accelerate delivery and support economic growth by planning for changing work patterns including home working, changes in travel patterns, increasing land available for employment development that is accessible to local communities and supporting leisure, retail and tourism sectors. The Local Plan will also help capitalise on further inward investment through new trading relations between the UK and other countries.

Objectives:

- Deliver a minimum 167 ha employment land up to 2040 to support investment and job creation;
- Invest in key infrastructure including transport, broadband and the natural environment;
- Invest in education, training and skills facilities to support a diversified and agile workforce;
- Diversification of the rural economy to support jobs and innovation; and Reduce youth unemployment.

Key policies: S3, S7, EC1, EC2, EC3, EC4, EC5, EC6, EC7, EC8, EC9, EC10, ST3, ST4, CI4, ~~and~~ CI5 and ML4

PRIORITY 4: Securing better homes for all

The Local Plan has a key role in housing delivery ensuring a range of homes that meet local needs and supporting regeneration and renewal that address the quality of existing housing stock. As well as delivering more affordable homes there is a need to ensure that housing is developed to more accessible standards that enable people to live at home for longer improving quality of life and life expectancy and reducing pressures on health and social care services.

Objectives:

- Meet the housing needs of the borough through delivery of 20,200 homes up to 2040 across a range of types and tenures including more affordable, supported, specialist and accessible housing;

- Ensure new developments deliver a mix of homes that meet local needs including homes built to higher accessibility standards;
- Deliver Sustainable ~~Communtie~~sCommunities to Telford that provide inter-generational housing opportunities creating new communities; and
- Homes designed to be energy efficient and climate ready that meet the Nationally Described Space Standards.

Key policies: S4, HO1, HO2, HO3, HO4, HO5, HO6, HO7, HO8, HO11, HO12~~, and~~ HO13 and DD2

PRIORITY 5: Delivering regeneration, renewal and stronger communities

Telford faces challenges – the legacy of the original New Town – with ageing infrastructure and the fabric of some of the town's estates, particularly in South Telford now requiring physical regeneration. While this will require major Government investment the Local Plan can support the regeneration and renewal of these areas to create stronger more cohesive communities that benefit from lower energy costs, better quality housing and improved health and wellbeing. The challenge of regenerating town and local centres is compounded by the impact of changing patterns of shopping and leisure time. This is evident in reduced demand for office space, vacant commercial properties such as pubs and reduction in demand for retail space in some areas. The Local Plan will help deliver new uses and investment into centres helping to revitalise key centres of the community, including rural communities.

Objectives:

- Support for mixed use (including residential led) development schemes and uses that will improve long term sustainability of Telford Town Centre, such as Station Quarter;
- Strengthen Newport and Wellington's role as key market towns in the borough and support the diversification of centres from retail to a greater mix of uses;
- Encouraging new uses including residential, leisure and employment that support footfall and create flexible adaptable places in the borough's centres as they evolve, adapt and renew; and
- Setting a positive policy approach to support the renewal and regeneration of housing estates.

Key policies: S6, S7, EC11, HO9~~, and~~ HO10 and CI1

PRIORITY 6: Improving health, wellbeing and tackling health inequalities

Planning can help to reduce health inequalities, promote better physical and mental health and wellbeing and improve educational attainment, productivity and economic

growth. Factors include property conditions, development design, and access to healthy food, opportunities for education, outdoor amenity space and employment. Obesity is a critical issue which planning can help address through the control of uses in town and local centres as well as the layout and design of developments to help increase levels of active travel. The borough has an ageing population and ensuring developments are designed to enable people to live at home longer will support independence and reduce pressures on health and social care. The Local Plan will help deliver the objectives of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)and the boroughs Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Objectives:

- Designing developments to meet the needs of a changing population, increasing independence and inclusion and reducing reliance on health and care services over the long term;
- Creating multi-generational communities through housing mix where people can live in their community for longer and lead more active lifestyles by investing in sustainable travel and green space;
- Investing in measures to improve mental health and wellbeing including dementia friendly developments;
- Tackling obesity through creating space for people to grow their own food and healthy eating environments in centres, and ensuring there is a diversity of food options in centres; and
- Improving the wider determinants of resident's health and welling as identified in the JSNA and Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Key policies: S6, S5, EC6, EC9, HO3, ST1, and ST2 and ML5