

Climate Change

- 12.24 The Plan aims to future proof all development from the impact of climate change, by supporting the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking account of the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity, landscape and visual impacts, the risk of extreme winter and summer temperatures, and overheating from rising temperatures. This should underpin both plan-making and decision-taking (NPPF, 2021, Para. 20). The Plan seeks to meet these aims through a combination of climate change policies, including issues on sustainable construction, design, energy, flood risk and water management.
- 12.25 Approaches to mitigate and adapt to climate change include sustainable construction techniques that regulate building temperatures, tree planting and shelter in public realms including public transport nodes and stops, and biodiversity net gain.
- 12.26 Mitigation means to reduce or delay the impact of climate change, by reducing the flow of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, either by reducing the burning of fossil fuels or enhancing stores that accumulate and store gases such as oceans, forests and soil. Adaptation means to adjust to life in a changing climate with the goal to reduce vulnerability to harmful effects of climate change.
- 12.27 The Plan recognises that both Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils support the County-wide aim for a zero carbon/ carbon neutral future by 2030, and the policies within provide the framework to achieve this aim.

SP10 - Climate Change

- 1. The Councils will require all development to mitigate and adapt to climate change by:**
 - a. Adopting a sequential risk-based approach taking into account future-proofing measures for impacts of flooding;**
 - b. Conforming to the principle of Holistic Water Management;**
 - c. Applying existing and innovative approaches to sustainable design and construction; and**
 - d. Identifying opportunities, where appropriate, to deliver decentralised energy systems powered by a renewable or low carbon source and associated infrastructure, including community-led initiatives.**