

Eye and Dunsden Neighbourhood Development Plan

Implications of Sections 98 and 99 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023

Context

Sections 98 and 99 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act were brought into effect on 25 March 2026. The transitional arrangements in the associated Regulations do not apply to the revised basic conditions for neighbourhood plans or to the other elements relating to neighbourhood plans in the Act.

Work Required

In these circumstances, I ask that the Parish Council produces an addendum to the Basic Conditions Statement (or updates the Statement). Once prepared the addendum (or revised Statement) should then be the subject of a further focused consultation by the District Council inviting comments solely on this matter.

The next steps

Plainly this issue may introduce a slight delay in the examination timetable. However, as the overall process is in its early stages the delay should be minimal. In addition (as set out in the Examination Arrangements note) I am pressing on with the examination whilst this matter is addressed.

For clarity I will take account of the revisions to the Basic Conditions Statement and any comments received in due course and then send a draft report to the two councils for fact-checking (as set out in the earlier Examination Arrangements note).

Andrew Ashcroft

Independent Examiner

10 April 2026