

## Request

I would like to ask for any information you have regarding what Wigan Council considers to constitute "harm" in terms of planning matters.

## Response

Planning applications are considered in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Wigan Council considers each planning application on its own merits. Most proposed developments are likely to result in some level of harm, but it is for planning officers to consider to what degree on a case-by-case basis. This is factored into the planning balance when determining planning applications.

The adopted development plan in Wigan consists of:

- [Wigan Local Plan Core Strategy \(2013\)](#)
- Saved policies of the [Wigan Replacement Unitary Development Plan \(2006\)](#)
- [Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan \(2012\)](#)
- [Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan \(2013\)](#)
- [Standish Neighbourhood Plan \(2019\)](#).

The National Planning Policy Framework is a material consideration that must be taken into account where it is relevant to a planning application. Wigan Council also has a range of planning guidance, which may be relevant depending upon the location and type of development proposed. [Planning guidance \(wigan.gov.uk\)](#)

Further information on issues relevant to planning decisions can be found at: [Consideration of Planning Applications \(wigan.gov.uk\)](#)