

Report Title	Validation Requirements for Planning Applications
Meeting	Executive
Meeting Date	28 th May 2026
Report Author	Zareen Liaquat/Neil Watson
Directorate	Place
Lead Executive Member(s)	Strategic and Local Planning and Infrastructure
Wards Affected	All
Public. Part Exempt, or Fully Exempt	Public
Appendices (if any)	Validation Checklist

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 There is a national list of minimum requirements for the validation of planning applications as set out in the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015. If a Council wishes to add to that list to require further details to be able to assess an application, a local validation list has to be adopted.
- 1.2 Pendle has adopted and updated a local list. This requires updating every 2 years. The proposed list is attached at Appendix A.
- 1.3 The planning system is going through significant change at the moment and there will be amendments to be made for matters such as changes to biodiversity exemptions. This report recommends delegating these procedural changes to provide an efficient way of keeping the Validation List relevant and fit for purpose.

2. Recommendations

For the reasons set out in this report, Executive is recommended to:

- 2.1 Recommend that the Council adopts the Validation List as set out at Appendix A.
- 2.2 Approve that the Assistant Director for Planning, Building Control & Regulatory Services be given delegated authority to amend the list to reflect forthcoming legislative and planning policy changes.

3. Information: the Rationale & Evidence for the Recommendations

- 3.1 The Council has had a validation checklist in place that was last updated in March 2024. That update was to reflect the new requirements for Biodiversity Net Gain.
- 3.2 The check list at Appendix A reflects the content of the previous check list. The additional requirement highlighted at page 16 of Appendix A relates to the requirement for a ball strike assessment for the development of or development next to facilities that involve activities that could be dangerous such as cricket and golf.
- 3.3 The list also adds a note to developers at page 26 to make them aware of likely future requirements that have been identified in the recently published consultation National Planning Policy Framework. There are also changes in relation to Biodiversity Net Gain that are anticipated.

4. Link to Council Plan Priorities: (Providing High Quality Services and Facilities, Proud and Connected Communities and Places, Good Growth and Housing and Healthy Communities)

- 4.1 The report adds clarity to what is required for applicants using planning services.

5. Implications

5.1 Financial Implications

None.

5.2 Legal and Governance Implications

The report sets out the requirements for applicants to lawfully submit planning applications.

5.3 Climate and Biodiversity Implications

None.

5.4 Human Resources Implications

None.

5.5 Equality and Diversity Implications

The report does not raise any equality impact issues.

6. Consultation

6.1 No consultation is required on the validation list.

7. Alternative Options Considered

None. It is a national requirement without any alternative option.

8. Statutory Officer Sign off (please put an x in the relevant box below)

Section 151 Officer	X
Monitoring Officer	X

9. Background Documents

None.

Contact Officers

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