

# Appendix 12.1: Legislation Framework and Guidance

## **National Planning Policies**

### **National Planning Policy Framework, 2019**

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development; and that the planning system must meet interdependent overarching objectives summarised as: an economic objective, a social objective and an environmental objective.

There are no policies or statements that are directly related to the wind microclimate, although the promotion of high-quality built environments was emphasised in the NPPF. For instance, paragraph 128 states the following: "[...] f) Create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with high standard of amenity for existing and future users".

## **Local Planning Policies**

### **Liverpool Local Plan, 2018**

Policy UD2 Development Layout and Form, states that:

*"Development proposals should demonstrate that the layout and form of the proposal ensures that [...] The design has been considered [...] with adequate responses to issues of [...] scale, relationship to existing structures, function, amenity, and its relationship to the public realm"*

Policy UD5 New Buildings, states that:

*"Design proposals for new buildings must demonstrate that [...] Orientation and micro-climate [...] issues that may impact on existing structures or neighbouring plots have been considered"*

Policy UD6 Tall Buildings, states that:

*"The City Council will expect the submitted proposal to contribute to the sustainability of Liverpool now and in the future [...] Ensuring that [...] there has been a robust assessment of the proposals impact on its surroundings that demonstrates the building will not result in an adverse impact in terms of microclimate, wind turbulence"*

### **World Heritage Site SPD, 2009**

*Specific Design Criteria for High-Rise Buildings, design section, states that:*

*"Ensure new tall buildings do not have a negative impact on local microclimate, in particular on key pedestrian routes and public spaces, through [...] uncomfortable wind conditions."*

## **Guidance**

### **Guidance on tall buildings, 2007**

English Heritage and the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) produced a revised and updated version of their joint guidance on tall buildings. The final version was released in July 2007 and in section Criteria for evaluation, state that:

- *“... planning permission for tall buildings should ensure therefore that the following criteria are fully addressed: [...] The effect on the local environment, including microclimate”.*

#### **National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), 2019**

The NPPG was published in November 2016 to support the NPPF and was updated in October 2019. There is no guidance within the NPPG related to tall buildings and wind microclimate issues.

#### **Historic England Advice Note 4: Tall Buildings, 2015**

The Historic England Advice Note 4: Tall Buildings (2015) states in Section 4.7:

- *“Planning applications for tall buildings are likely to require an environmental impact assessment (EIA), which would be expected to address matters in respect of both the proposed building and its cumulative impact, including: [...] e. Other relevant environmental issues, particularly sustainability and environmental performance, eg the street level wind environment.”*