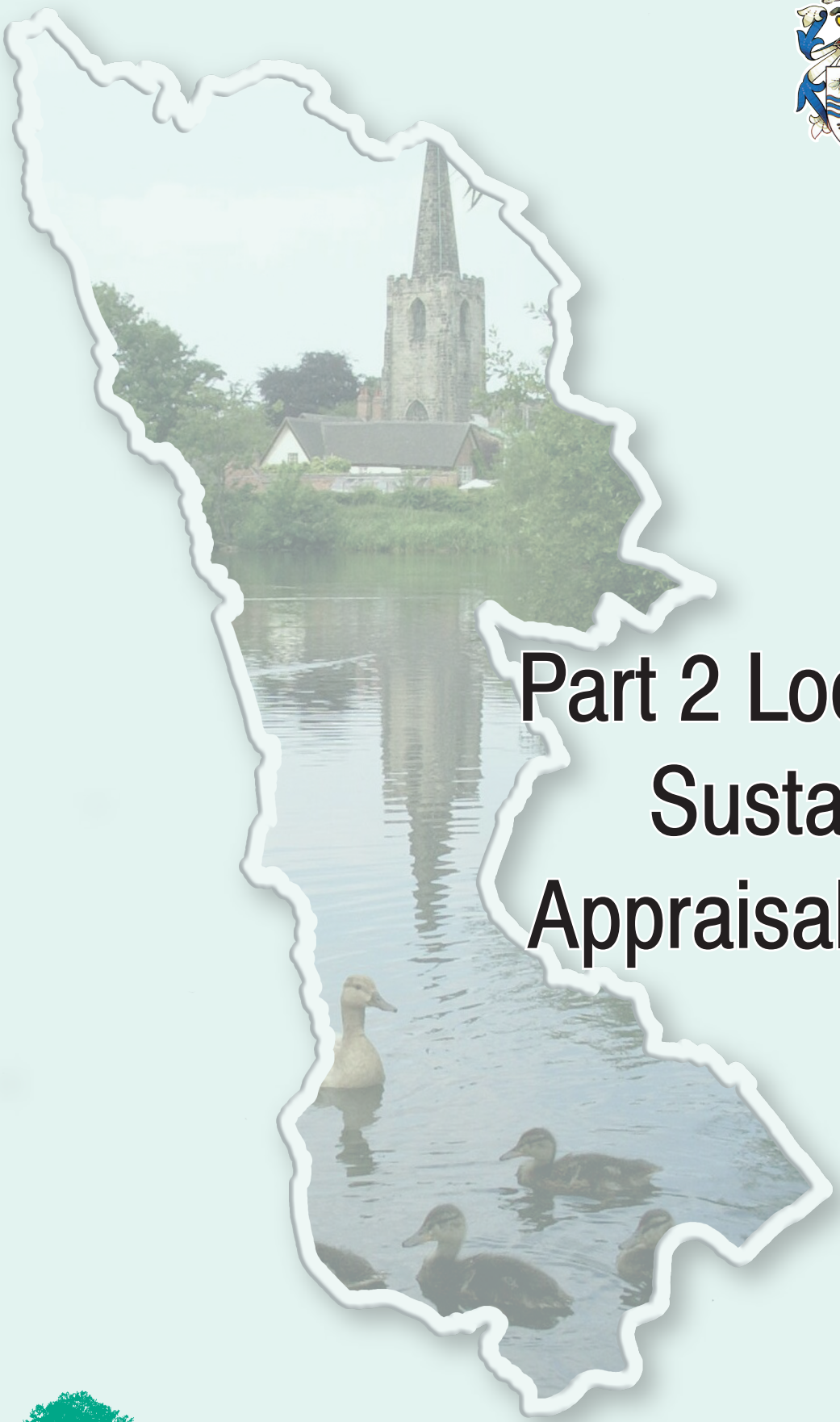
Broxtowe Borough COUNCIL



Part 2 Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Report

Publication Version September 2017

Contents

Non-technical Summary

Introduction to Sustainability Appraisal

0.1 The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process is a way of ensuring that all plans and programmes which relate to land use matters are compatible with the aims of sustainable development. This includes the Aligned Core Strategy (Part 1 of the Local Plan), and the Part 2 Local Plan which contains the site allocations and development management policies.

0.2 International and national bodies have set out broad principles of sustainable development. Resolution 42/187 of the United Nations General Assembly defined sustainable development as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The UK Sustainable Development Strategy Securing the Future set out five 'guiding principles' of sustainable development: living within the planet's environmental limits; ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; achieving a sustainable economy; promoting good governance; and using sound science responsibly.

0.3 The origins of the SA process lie with the European Union's Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive, which acts to ensure that all plans/policies with land use implications take into consideration environmental issues and impacts. The National Planning Policy Framework requires that; "*A sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors.*"

0.4 The SA process comprises a number of stages. The production of this final draft report covers stages C1 to D1 as outlined in the table on the following page.

Table 1: Stages of the SA

Stage A	Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	A1	Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
		A2	Collecting baseline information
		A3	Identifying sustainability issues and problems
		A4	Developing the SA framework
		A5	Consulting on the scope of the SA
Stage B	Developing and refining options and assessing effects	B1	Testing the Local Plan objectives against the SA framework
		B2	Developing the Local Plan options
		B3	Predicting the effects of the Local Plan
		B4	Evaluating the effects of the Local Plan
		B5	Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
		B6	Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
Stage C	Preparing the SA report	C1	Preparing the SA report
Stage D	Consultation on the Local Plan and SA report	D1	Public participation on the preferred options of the Local Plan and the SA report
		D2(i)	Appraising significant changes
		D2(ii)	Appraising significant changes resulting from representations
		D3	Making decisions and providing information
Stage E	Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan.	E1	Finalising aims and methods for monitoring
		E2	Responding to adverse effects

The Sustainability Appraisal Framework

0.5 The sustainability appraisal framework consists of a series of objectives and indicators. These have been devised with regard to national sustainability objectives and indicators, as well as to the environmental and sustainability issues assessed to be of key importance in Broxtowe Borough.

Sustainability Issues

0.6 In order to assess what options would be most sustainable for the future development of the Broxtowe Borough, the key sustainability issues that are affecting the area were identified. These have been separated into social, economic, and environmental, although there is inevitably overlap between them. For example, certain issues such as climate change have environmental, economic, social and spatial implications.

Social

0.7 Population growth has been high in the Borough and further population growth is projected. The Part 2 Local Plan will have major influence on ensuring that an appropriate number of new homes are developed in appropriate locations and at an appropriate time in line with the Aligned Core Strategy requirements. The Part 2 Local Plan will have major influence on accessibility to facilities by leading locational decision-making on housing in relation to those facilities.

0.8 The provision of employment and housing developments, with improved linkages to Eastwood, alongside improvements to facilities and the local environment, can help to address deprivation in the most deprived settlement in Broxtowe, especially Eastwood South.

Economic

0.9 The Part 2 Local Plan can ensure that an appropriate supply of good quality employment land is provided in appropriate locations to serve projected demands and ensure a range and choice of employment locations in the Borough; in accordance with the Aligned Core Strategy.

Environmental

0.10 Significant areas within the Borough are at risk from flooding. Through careful choices, the Part 2 Local Plan can ensure that sites at risk from flooding are not developed without appropriate mitigation.

0.11 There are a large number of sites which are important in landscape and biodiversity terms and should be conserved and enhanced where possible. The Part 2 Local Plan will look to protect and enhance biodiversity through networks, including green infrastructure.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

0.12 A range of SA objectives have been identified, primarily associated with the Aligned Core Strategy SA objectives but also taking into account the context review, baseline data and key sustainability issues identified for the Broxtowe Borough.

Table 2: The Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

Sustainability appraisal objectives
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the Borough.
2. To improve health and reduce health inequalities
3. To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy Broxtowe's heritage
4. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.
5. To promote and support the development and growth of social capital across Broxtowe
6. To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance Green Infrastructure.
7. To protect and enhance the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological/geological assets and the landscape character of Broxtowe.
8. To prudently manage the natural resources of the Borough including water, air quality, soils and minerals whilst also minimising the risk of flooding
9. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials
10. To minimise energy usage and to develop the Borough's renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable sources
11. To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to ensure that all journeys are undertaken by the most sustainable mode available
12. To create high quality employment opportunities
13. To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation.
14. To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure, including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies.

0.13 The indicators selected and included in this Report are intended to provide a measure of the degree to which the objectives are being achieved, and will be used to monitor the effects of the Part 2 Local Plan.

Table 3: The Sustainability Appraisal Decision Making Criteria and Indicators for each Objective

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the Borough	• Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups? • Will it reduce homelessness? • Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	Affordable housing House prices; housing affordability Homelessness Housing completions (type and size) Housing tenure Sheltered accommodation Vacant dwellings by tenure
2. Health To improve health and reduce health inequalities	• Will it reduce health inequalities? • Will it improve access to health services? • Will it increase the opportunities for recreational physical activity?	Adults taking part in sport Health inequalities Life expectancy at birth New/enhanced health facilities People killed/seriously injured in road accidents
3. Heritage To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy Broxtowe's heritage.	• Will it protect historic sites? • Will it help people to increase their participation in cultural heritage activities? • Will it protect/improve access to historic sites? •Will it protect and enhance the historical, geological and archaeological environment?	Number of visits to historic sites. Museums
4. Crime To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	• Will it reduce crime and the fear of crime? • Will it increase the prevalence of diversionary activities? • Will it contribute to a safe secure built environment through designing out crime?	Crimes – by category and total Fear of crime Noise complaints

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
5. Social To promote and support the development and growth of social capital across Broxtowe	• Will it protect and enhance existing cultural assets? • Will it improve access to; encourage engagement with and residents satisfaction in community activities? • Will it improve ethnic and intergenerational relations?	Community centres Gains/losses of community facilities Leisure centres Libraries/mobile library stops Participation in voluntary and community activities A place where people from different backgrounds get on well together Satisfaction with leisure facilities
6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance Green Infrastructure	• Will it help protect and improve biodiversity and avoid harm to protected species? • Will it help protect and improve habitats? • Will it increase, maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest? • Will it maintain and enhance woodland cover and management? • Will it provide new open space? • Will it improve the quality of existing open space? • Will it encourage and protect Green Infrastructure opportunities?	Local/National nature reserves Local wildlife sites SSSIs
7. Environment and Landscape To protect and enhance the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological/geological assets and the landscape character of Broxtowe	• Does it respect identified landscape character?	Ancient woodland Conservation Areas Historic Parks and Gardens Listed Buildings/ Buildings at risk/locally listed buildings Scheduled ancient monuments Woodland areas/new woodland

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
8. Natural Resources and Flooding To prudently manage the natural resources of the Borough including water, air quality, soils and minerals whilst also minimising the risk of flooding	• Will it improve water quality? • Will it improve air quality? • Will it lead to reduced consumption of raw materials? • Will it promote the use of sustainable design, materials and construction techniques? • Will it minimise Flood Risk? • Will it prevent the loss of high quality soils to development?	Greenfield land lost Carbon dioxide emissions Contaminated land Flood risk Households in Air Quality Management Areas Number of days moderate/high air pollution Employment and housing developed on Previously Developed Land, Density of dwellings Developments incorporating SUDS Planning applications granted contrary to advice of EA Biological/chemistry levels in rivers, canals and freshwater bodies Production of primary and secondary/recycled aggregates.
9. Waste To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	• Will it reduce household and commercial waste per head? • Will it increase waste recovery and recycling per head? • Will it reduce hazardous waste? • Will it reduce waste in the construction industry?	Controlled waste produced Capacity of new waste management facilities by alternative to landfill Household waste arisings composted, land filled, recycled, used to recover energy
10. Energy and Climate Change To minimise energy usage and to develop the Borough's renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable sources	• Will it improve energy efficiency of new buildings? • Will it support the generation and use of renewable energy? • Will it support the development of community energy systems? • Will it ensure that buildings are able to deal with future changes in climate	Energy use – renewables and petroleum products Energy use (gas/ electricity) by end user Renewable energy capacity installed by type

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
11. Transport To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to ensure that all journeys are undertaken by the most sustainable mode available	• Will it use and enhance existing transport infrastructure? • Will it help to develop a transport network that minimises the impact on the environment? • Will it reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging alternative modes of transport? • Will it increase accessibility to services and facilities?	Accessibility to education sites, employment sites, health care, leisure centres, open space, shopping centres Change in road traffic mileage Development of transport infrastructure that assists car use reduction Levels of bus and light rail patronage New major non-residential development with travel plans People using car and non-car modes of travel to work Railway station usage Road traffic levels
12. Employment To create high quality employment opportunities	• Will it improve the diversity and quality of jobs? • Will it reduce unemployment? • Will it increase average income levels?	Average annual income Benefit claimants VAT business registration rate, registrations, deregistrations Businesses per 1000 population Employment rate Jobs New floor space Shops, vacant shops Unemployment rate
13. Innovation To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation	• Will it increase levels of qualification? • Will it create jobs in high knowledge sectors? • Will it encourage graduates to live and work within Greater Nottingham?	15 year olds achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grade A* - C 19 year olds qualified to NVQ level 2 or equivalent 21 year olds qualified to NVQ level 3 or equivalent Working age population qualifications

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
14. Economic Structure To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies	• Will it provide land and buildings of a type required by businesses? • Will it improve the diversity of jobs available? • Will it provide the required infrastructure? • Will it provide business/university clusters?	Completed business development floorspace Land developed for employment Employment land lost Employment land allocated Profile of employment by sector

KEY

0.14 This key applies to all assessments in the rest of the document.

Number of squares coloured in the assessment tables	Symbol	
5	+++	Very major positive
4	++	Major positive
3	+	Positive
2	++	Minor positive
1	+	Very minor positive
-		Assessed as neutral
-	?	Unknown impact
1	-	Very minor negative
2	- -	Minor negative
3	-	Negative
4	- -	Major negative
5	- - -	Very major negative

0.15 The colour of an individual box indicates the significance of the effect on a sustainability appraisal objective. These are based on a traffic light system where greens indicate positive contributions and orange / red indicates negative ones. The darker the green, the higher the significance of the positive contribution. Within each colour, there are further gradations of significance noted by the number of plus signs (+) or the number of minus signs (-). Dark colours indicate significant effects and the lighter colours indicate not significant, for the purposes of SEA.

No Part 2 Local Plan Scenario

Table 4: Sustainability Appraisal of 'No Part 2 Local Plan' Scenario

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructures	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
'No Part 2 Local Plan' Scenario	- -	- -	- -		-	-	-		-	-	- -	-	-	-

0.16 The 'No Part 2 Local Plan' scenario has been assessed (in Section 12), as negative on the whole (with some neutral aspects for Natural Resources and Flooding and Crime). Health, Heritage, Housing and Transport have been assessed as particularly negative due to the risk of lack of infrastructure; unplanned development potentially harming designated and more likely non designated, especially as yet unlisted, heritage assets; not meeting housing targets; severe effects of no strategic transport infrastructure delivery; and a lack of control over employment distribution through the unplanned approach and the attendant risk of not enough jobs being created to meet the needs of our population.

0.17 The 2004 Broxtowe Local Plan is increasingly becoming out of date and the above assessment of the no local plan, or business as usual approach, shows that there are significant adverse implications of continuing to use this for decision making. In particular, where there is no five year housing land supply as currently in Broxtowe then housing land supply policies are 'out of date' in NPPF terms. The implementation of a new plan therefore provides significant benefits, for example in meeting the needs of the plan area over the life of the plan.

Appraising the Distribution

0.18 This section is a re-assessment of the strategic site allocation distribution options. The adopted Aligned Core Strategy (September 2014) Policy 2 set out the spatial strategy for local sustainable development based on urban concentration with regeneration. The table below shows its proposed distribution for Broxtowe:-

Table 5: The Aligned Core Strategy Spatial Strategy Housing Distribution

Location	Housing numbers
Main Built up area of Nottingham (Beeston, Chilwell, Attenborough, Bramcote, Toton, Stapleford and Nuthall east of the M1)	**3,800** (minimum)
Eastwood (including Giltbrook and Newthorpe in Greasley)	**1,250** (up to)
Kimberley (including Nuthall west of the M1 and Watnall)	**600** (up to)
Awsworth	**350** (up to)
Brinsley	**150** (up to)
Total	**6,150** (minimum)

0.19 Part 2 of the Local Plan now proposes site allocations with a distribution providing the following figures:-

Table 6: The Part 2 Local Plan Housing Distribution

Location	Housing supply
Main Built up area of Nottingham (Beeston, Chilwell, Attenborough, Bramcote, Toton, Stapleford and Nuthall east of the M1)	**4429** (includes 500 homes at Chetwynd during the plan period plus the Aligned Core Strategy allocations at Field Farm and Toton)
Eastwood (including Giltbrook and Newthorpe in Greasley)	**995**
Kimberley (including Nuthall West of the M1 and Watnall)	**500**
Awsworth	**374**
Brinsley	**148**
Total	**6446** (includes 1 rural)

0.20 Emphasising this spatial strategy through the site allocations in Part 2 of the Local Plan would have the following effects:-

Table 7: Site Allocations in Part 2 Local Plan

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7.Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Site allocations to reinforce urban concentration with regeneration	++	?	?	?	+	+	+				++	+	?	+
Aligned Core Strategy Key Settlements distribution	+	?	?	?	?		-							

Conclusion

0.21 In conclusion, the re-distribution of homes to within and adjacent to the main built up area is considered to have environmental benefits.

0.22 There are also considered to be socio-economic benefits. The economic benefits will particularly arise from links to the HS2 and Chetwynd sites, with links to the Stanton site in Erewash Borough helping.

Baseline Data and Characteristics

0.23 Section 4 of this report describes the social, economic and environmental characteristics of the Borough. The baseline data in the Scoping Report was published in 2013 and 2015. Where available, the baseline data has been updated and included in the Appendix part B .

The Sustainability Appraisal Framework

0.24 Section 6 of this Sustainability Appraisal report looks at the SA Framework that is used to assess the sustainability of the local plan. The SA Framework is based on the review of plans, policies and programmes, the analysis of the baseline data and the identification of sustainability issues. The Scoping Report explained that the SA Framework had been established for the Aligned Core Strategy, the issues have not changed significantly since and, therefore, it was viewed appropriate to use the same SA Framework to test the sustainability of this local plan. Responses from the consultation on the Scoping Report suggested a number of changes to the SA Framework. The SA Framework has been amended as the result of the consultation comments of the Scoping Report and also the comments received on the Sustainability Appraisal of the publication version of the Aligned Core Strategy.

0.25 The SA Framework was used to assess the reasonable alternative options for the site allocations policies and the development management policies in the local plan. The SA Framework and the SA matrix are included in the Appendix.

0.26 Table 13 in this Sustainability Appraisal Report shows the relationship between SA objectives and SEA Directive topics.

Appraising the Reasonable Alternatives for the Site Allocations

0.27 Section 8 of this Sustainability Appraisal report looks at the findings of the SA assessment of the reasonable alternatives for the site allocations.

0.28 Tables 23 and 24 summarise the appraisal results of the SA assessment of the reasonable alternatives considered for housing. The site sustainability schedules and detailed SA assessment for each site are provided in the Appendices Part A.

0.29 Table 22 in this Report identifies those which have been allocated for housing. A summary of the main points is as follows.

0.30 The 'Toton' site is confirmed as highly sustainable and benefits from, but also is a victim of, its size- it strategically meets the housing and health objectives, and, has major positive economic innovation and transport effects, the latter being of national significance. Minor negative effects mainly arise from the scale of the proposed development which will strategically change the green outlook and landscape but this may be mitigated by strategic green infrastructure to make the land newly accessible, with exemplary design of development.

0.31 The Chetwynd Barracks site too will have high positive effects on the housing and health objectives, and transport, with no negative effects, confirming the positive strategic Broxtowe Core Strategy assessment of the main built up area as a location for growth.

0.32 The 'Coventry Lane' sites have the highest housing and health objectives positive effects, and the only very minor negatives are for the loss of green space to built development, although this may be mitigated by enhancing green infrastructure and making it publicly accessible.

0.33 The Awsworth selected site has major positive effects on the housing and health objectives; and only a minor negative effect upon the green objective because of an existing drainage to a Local Nature Reserve issue, which may be mitigated by enhanced infrastructure as a development contribution.

0.34 The selected Brinsley site has significant positive housing and health objectives effects, with only minor negative effects on the landscape and economic structure objectives, because of the recreational and cultural value of the landscape, and poor location relating to the strategic road network.

0.35 A potential issue was identified by the Brinsley Parish Council and Historic England for the heritage objective during the previous consultation. The Councils commissioned evidence by OPUN identified the Parish Church of St. James the Great (Grade II listed) viewpoint, the Brinsley Headstocks non-designated heritage asset, and Vine Cottage (DH Lawrence literary heritage) as the detailed issues. Therefore, the proposed site allocation is reduced by area in order to mitigate the harm, with the Council's Conservation Officer confirming that this has been achieved.

0.36 The strategic allocation for Kimberley has significant positive housing and health objectives effects, and only one very minor negative effect on the landscape principally because it is partially in the Babbington/Swingate/Verge Wood Mature Landscape Area.

0.37 Beeston Maltings has significant positive effects on the housing, health and transport objectives, the latter particularly benefiting from the site's proximity to Beeston Rail Station, where higher density may be required, especially given the character of the former demolished building. It has one very minor negative effect on heritage because of the proximity of a number of non-designated assets but this may be mitigated by design.

0.38 The former Cement Depot in Beeston has significant health and transport objectives effects, the latter again because of the proximity of Beeston Rail Station; and no negative effects.

0.39 Both the latter sites are confirmation of the positive strategic Broxtowe Core Strategy assessment of the main built up area as a location for growth, especially around a rail hub. The Wollaton Road Beeston site also has significant health and transport objectives effects because it is on the edge of Beeston Town Centre, with only a very minor negative effect on green infrastructure because of the presence of a Tree Preservation Order which should be protected during development.

0.40 The Walker Street Eastwood site has major positive housing and health objectives effects because it would be tied into the District Centre; but it has minor negative effects because of the DH Lawrence literary heritage landscape and the potential presence of hazardous waste. The former objective may be mitigated by design and the latter by any required remediation work.

0.41 The land south of Eastwood Road Kimberley site has a significant positive health effect due to local open spaces; with no negative effects.

0.42 The Builders Yard site on the same street has several minor positive effects, limited by its scale, with no negative effects.

0.43 The selected Awsworth Site and Site 192 are closely matched on sustainability grounds except for the potential heritage benefit from the selected site of enabling a spacial link to the Bennerley Viaduct asset. The Green Belt review however recommends the selected site over the site west of Awsworth Lane/South of Newtons Lane.

0.44 All the other reasonable alternative sites, identified from the SHLAA because they are considered to be available and generally fit the spatial strategy established in the Broxtowe Core Strategy, generally have accumulations of and/or significant negative effects on objectives. The exceptions include site 414 at land behind Sisley Avenue Stapleford, which would only have a minor negative effect on the landscape but would only make a limited contribution to the housing objectives. Green Belt considerations are again a principle issue here.

0.45 There were several sites rejected from either the 'preferred' approach consultation in 2015, the additional sites consultation in 2016 and the Brinsley sites consultation in 2017; and some of the land in the consultation areas for the selected sites was also rejected as masterplanning the sites refined the requirements for land take in the key settlements. The Nether Green Eastwood site had an accumulation of minor negative effects across the heritage, green infrastructure, landscape and flooding objectives.

0.46 The site adjacent to Blenheim Industrial Estate has a significant negative effect on the heritage objective due to the setting of the New Farm non-designated asset, and minor negative effects across the social, landscape and natural resources objectives due to the relative inaccessibility of community facilities, valuable landscape character typical of its type, surrounded by built up areas, and high quality agricultural land.

0.47 The rejection of the remaining area of the Awsworth site reduces the negative effects on the heritage and landscape objectives due to archaeology and the openness created by the recreation use. It is also a less accessible part for the transport objective.

0.48 The rejection of the remaining area of the Kimberley site as an alternative is advantageous to the housing objective and reduces a negative effect on the landscape which includes a Mature Landscape Area. However, the rejected part of the site area is significantly more accessible for the transport objective.

0.49 The sites along the Bilborough Road corridor- 104, 298, 178 and 588- could contribute to the housing objective to the highest level but have, mostly significant, negative effects on the heritage and landscape objectives because of heritage assets, and coalescence between settlements in the area particularly the higher land which would cause visual intrusion of a new urban edge. Minor negative effects on the green and natural resources objectives for some are also noted including the occurrence of local wildlife sites, and flooding. Negligible positive effects on other objectives would accrue.

0.50 As elsewhere in Nuthall, the 107- Woodhouse Way- site would have negative effects on the heritage and green objectives because of archaeology and woodland on site, although it has significant housing and health benefits. Green Belt issues are of particular importance here.

0.51 The Bramcote alternatives also have significant negative effects, on the heritage and latterly the green and landscape objectives due to, principally, the Bramcote Conservation Area, and green infrastructure in a historic landscape.

0.52 The two sites around the Toton site, at Wheatgrass Farm and Bardills, have several negative effects on the environmental objectives, and the former significantly on the heritage objective because the Farm building itself is a non-designated heritage asset.

0.53 The rural rejected sites have significant heritage negative effects, Smithfield Avenue having two listed buildings on site.

0.54 The other Brinsley sites not promoted by the Council, at Clumber Avenue and the Robin Hood Inn, have several negative effects on objectives, significantly on the heritage objective for the latter due to potential harm to the Brinsley Conservation Area; neither site offering the capacity to meet the housing objective alone.

0.55 The 'Eastwood' alternatives in Giltbrook, Moorgreen, Newthorpe, Beauvale and at Cockerhouse Road, all have more or greater negative effects than the proposed allocation at Walker Street including the heritage objective at Beauvale and Cockerhouse Road due to the settings of listed buildings for the former, and similarly Hall Farm Buildings and Eastwood Hall for the latter.

0.56 As the allocated sites at Kimberley only have one very minor negative effect between them, they are more sustainable than the alternatives, especially in delivering on the housing objective. Sites 271, 285, 113, 116 and, especially, 610 all have significant landscape objective issues. The New Farm Lane Nuthall sites in the Kimberley housing area both have significant negative biodiversity objective effects due to local wildlife sites, notably Newlane Pastures.

Appraising the Development Management Policies

0.57 Section 8 of this Sustainability Appraisal Report looks at the findings of the SA assessment of the proposed development management policies in the local plan. Table 20 in this Report summarises the appraisal results of the SA assessment of the development management policies. The detailed SA assessments are provided in the Appendices Part A.

Section 1: Introduction

1.1 This report comprises the second stage of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Part 2 Local Plan. The Part 2 Local Plan, which forms part of the Local Plan for Broxtowe Borough Council, sets out proposals for allocation of sufficient housing and employment land to cover the period to 2028, in accordance with requirements, vision and spatial strategy set out in the Aligned Core Strategy; and development management policies to make future developments sustainable.

1.2 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced the requirement to carry out Sustainability Appraisals as an integral part of the preparation of new or revised local plans.

1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework states that; "*A sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors*."

1.4 European Directive 2001/42/EC (commonly referred to as Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA), which was translated into legislation in the UK on the 21st July 2004, requires that local authorities undertake an 'environmental assessment' of any plans and programmes they prepare that are likely to have a significant effect upon the environment.

1.5 European Directive 92/43/EEC – the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) requires that an appropriate assessment (AA) is made of the impacts of land-use plans on a specified list of sites.

Sustainability Appraisal

1.6 The purpose of SA is to assess the economic, social and environmental impacts of projects, strategies or plans, so that the preferred option promotes, rather than inhibits, sustainable development.

1.7 Identifying key sustainability issues and the ability to assess the likely effects through SA during the early stages of plan preparation ensures the plan or strategy contributes towards the aim of sustainable development.

1.8 SA is an ongoing process undertaken throughout the preparation of a plan or strategy. The aim of the appraisal process is to minimise or mitigate adverse impacts and resolve as far as possible conflicting or contradictory outcomes of the plan or strategy.

1.9 The SA helps to demonstrate the inter-relationships between social, economic and environmental issues.

1.10 This report demonstrates how the adopted Part 2 Local Plan has addressed the sustainability agenda and how the choices were made between alternative policies and proposals.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

1.11 The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive requires environmental appraisal to be undertaken on all plans and programmes likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

1.12 The objective of SEA is stated in Article 1 of the Directive: "*[to] provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of development plans … with a view to promoting sustainable development*". The requirement to undertake SEA applies to the Part 2 Local Plan.

1.13 SEA should consider the key likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.

Relationship between SEA and SA

1.14 SEA and SA are similar processes that involve a comparable series of tasks. The main difference is that SEA focuses on environmental effects, whereas SA covers, environmental, and social and economic matters.

1.15 SA goes further than SEA (which is primarily focused on environmental effects) requiring the examination of all the sustainability-related effects, whether they are social, economic or environmental. However, those undertaking the SA should ensure that in doing so they meet the requirements of the SEA Directive. Throughout this document, the term SA is used to refer to the joint SA/SEA process.

1.16 Appendix part A shows how the requirements of SEA are met in this report.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

1.17 The Habitats Directive requires that an appropriate assessment (AA) is made of the impacts of land-use plans that are likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site. Natura sites that are subject to AA are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and/or as Special Protection Area (SPAs) designated under the Birds Directive. The National Planning Policy Framework also requires sites designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites) to be treated as having equivalent status to Natura 2000 sites. Appropriate assessment should also cover these sites.

1.18 AA should be carried out on sites that are within and outside the plan area that could potentially be affected by the plan. There are no SPAs or SACs within the Part 2 Local Plan area. There is one prospective SPA in Sherwood Forest outside the Part 2 Local Plan area but within the Aligned Core Strategies plan area.

1.19 The original habitats regulations appraisal on the Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategies, including Broxtowe, was undertaken in accordance with the opinion of Advocate General Kokott given to the European Court of Justice in Case C-6/04 EC vs UK. Paragraph 49 states that "*adverse effects on areas of conservation must be assessed at every relevant stage of the procedure to the extent possible on the basis of the precision of the plan. This assessment it to be updated with increasing specificity in subsequent stages of the procedure"*. With three specific exceptions outside Broxtowe but within the Aligned Core Strategy plan area, the original HRA concluded that the ACS, including the overall level of growth, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site, alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.

1.20 Natural England noted that the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) record for the Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategies (GNACS) concluded that the ACS, including the overall level of growth, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site, alone or in-combination with other plans or projects except for three identified specific exceptions which do not affect Broxtowe district. It is therefore satisfied that the Plan would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European Site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, and Natural England, under the 'Regulation 18' consultation, stated that no further assessment is required at this stage.

Sustainable Development

1.21 International and national bodies have set out broad principles of sustainable development. Resolution 42/187 of the United Nations General Assembly defined sustainable development as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The UK Sustainable Development Strategy *Securing the Future* set out five 'guiding principles' of sustainable development: living within the planet's environmental limits; ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; achieving a sustainable economy; promoting good governance; and using sound science responsibly.

1.22 The Strategy's five guiding principles for sustainable development are defined as:

1.23 Living within Environmental Limits - Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity, to improve our environment and ensure that natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations.

1.24 Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society - Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal well-being, social cohesion and inclusion and creating equal opportunity for all.

1.25 Achieving a Sustainable Economy - Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is incentivised.

1.26 Using Sound Science Responsibly - Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.

1.27 Promoting Good Governance - Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society, engaging people's creativity, energy, and diversity.

1.28 These principles form the basis for policy within the UK and, for policy to be responsible, it must respect all principles. Broxtowe Borough Council has a vital role in supporting the aims of these principles and thus sustainable development. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development:

1.29 There are three dimensions to sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. These dimensions give rise to the need for the planning system to perform a number of roles:

- **an economic role** – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;
- **a social role** – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and
- **an environmental role** – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

1.30 These roles should not be undertaken in isolation, because they are mutually dependent. Economic growth can secure higher social and environmental standards, and well-designed buildings and places can improve the lives of people and communities. Therefore, to achieve sustainable development, economic, social and environmental gains should be sought jointly and simultaneously through the planning system. The planning system should play an active role in guiding development to sustainable solutions.

1.31 Pursuing sustainable development involves seeking positive improvements in the quality of the built, natural and historic environment, as well as in people's quality of life, including (but not limited to):

- making it easier for jobs to be created in cities, towns and villages;
- moving from a net loss of bio-diversity to achieving net gains for nature;
- replacing poor design with better design;
- improving the conditions in which people live, work, travel and take leisure; and
- widening the choice of high quality homes.

1.32 Plans and decisions need to take local circumstances into account, so that they respond to the different opportunities for achieving sustainable development in different areas.

Section 2: Methodology

Guidance for carrying out Sustainability Appraisal

2.1 The Council's approach to undertaking SA is based upon Planning Practice Guidance and the 2005 Practical Guide to Strategic Environmental Assessment where necessary.

2.2 The guidance is designed to ensure compliance with the requirements of the SEA Directive.

2.3 The SA has underpinned the preparation process since the early stages of the Plan development and follows on from the SA process which was undertaken for preparation and production of the Aligned Core Strategy. Some sites were filtered out at this early stage and therefore not subject to SA or consultation. Such sites include those less than 10 dwellings, and sites of most value in the Green Belt review.

Stages of SA

2.4 Guidance is contained in the Planning Practice Guidance produced by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

2.5 The guidance, based on the 2005 Practical Guide to Strategic Environmental Assessment, identifies 5 stages of carrying out an SA (stages A – E), used for the Aligned Core Strategy SA. These stages are explained in more detail in Appendix part A.

2.6 This report covers Stages C1 to D1 of the process.

The Nottinghamshire Partnership Approach to SA

2.7 In Nottinghamshire, a partnership was formed to carry out the work of the initial stage of SA. The partnership comprises all local planning authorities in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and the main objective of this joint approach to SA is to simplify the process of collecting baseline information. (Stage A - Tasks 1 and 2).

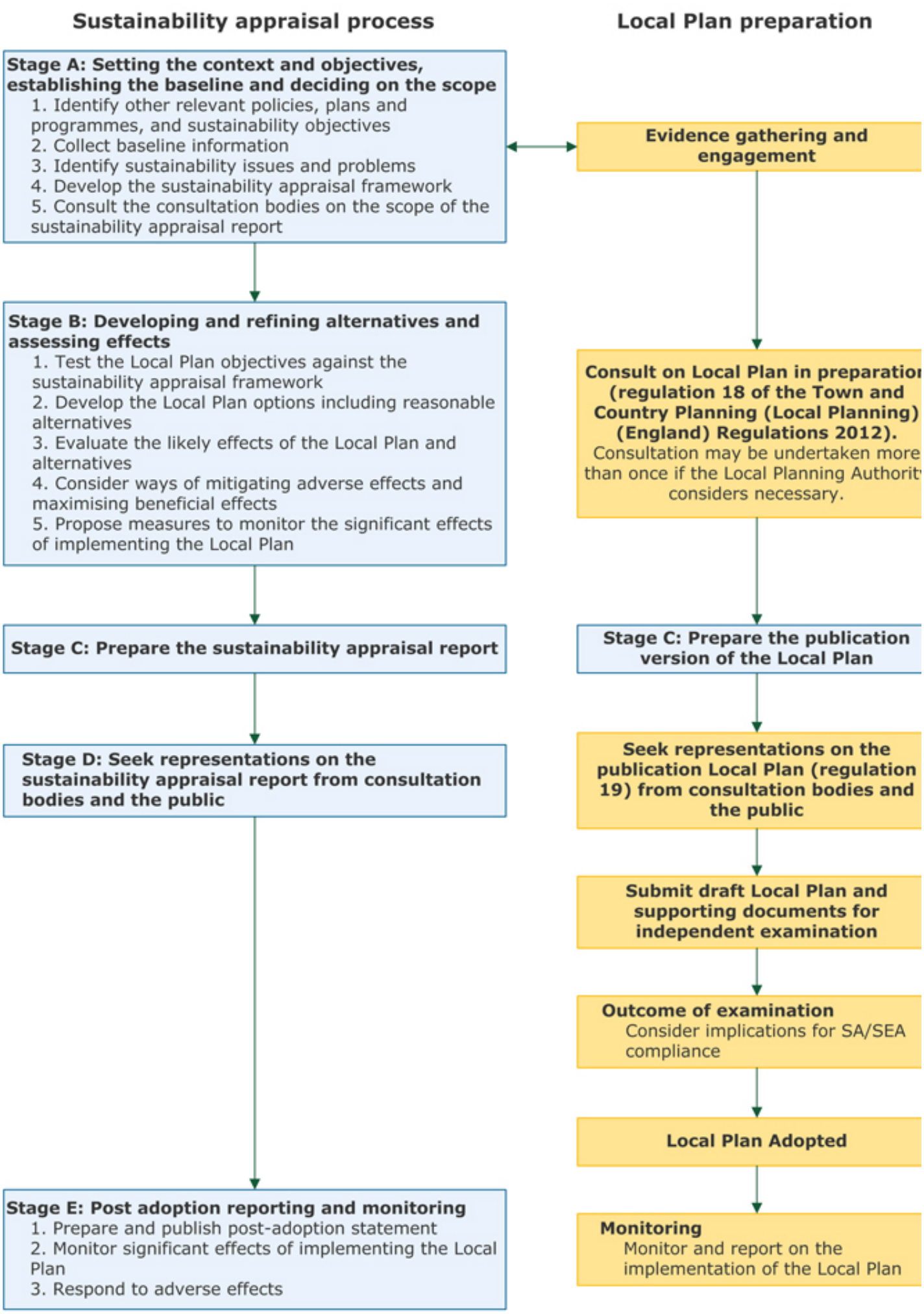
2.8 A common scoping report template was developed for use by each of the local planning authorities in the partnership, used in the preparation of this report on the Part 2 Local Plan.

Timetable

2.9 The timetable below sets out the schedule for the SA of the Part 2 Local Plan.

Table 8: Timetable for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Part 2 Local Plan

Date	Task
July 2013	Start of SA process
November 2013	Production of Scoping Report
November 2013	SA Scoping Report to the three statutory consultation bodies for five week consultation period
24 September 2013	Preparation of the Part 2 Local Plan discussion document Report
November 2013-January 2014	Informal and ongoing consultation on the Part 2 Local Plan discussion document report / plan (in accordance with Regulation 181)
February 2015	Preferred Approach to site allocations: Green Belt Review Consultation Development Management Policies Issues and Options Consultation Scoping Report
November 2015	Strategic Location for Growth at Toton consultation Sustainability (SA update) Draft Masterplan
February 2017	Brinsley Alternative Site Consultation
	Predicting sustainability effects of preferred proposals for the Part 2 Local Plan, and preparation of Publication Report
Summer 2017	Six weeks statutory consultation on the SA Report and the Part 2 Local Plan Publication Report (in accordance with Regulation 192)
	Consideration of consultation responses and appraisal of significant changes
Autumn 2017	Preparation of the final SA Report and preparation of the Part 2 Local Plan Submission Document
	Pre-examination meeting if needed
Spring 2018	Examination by independent Inspector
Summer 2018	Receipt of Inspector's Report
Autumn 2018	Adoption of the Part 2 Local Plan / publication of final SA Report


Sustainability appraisal process
Local Plan preparation
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope
1. Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
2. Collect baseline information
3. Identify sustainability issues and problems
4. Develop the sustainability appraisal framework
5. Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the sustainability appraisal report
Evidence gathering and engagement
Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects
1. Test the Local Plan objectives against the sustainability appraisal framework
2. Develop the Local Plan options including reasonable alternatives
3. Evaluate the likely effects of the Local Plan and alternatives
4. Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
5. Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
Consult on Local Plan in preparation (regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012).
Consultation may be undertaken more than once if the Local Planning Authority considers necessary.
Stage C: Prepare the sustainability appraisal report
Stage C: Prepare the publication version of the Local Plan
Stage D: Seek representations on the sustainability appraisal report from consultation bodies and the public
Seek representations on the publication Local Plan (regulation 19) from consultation bodies and the public
Submit draft Local Plan and supporting documents for independent examination
Outcome of examination
Consider implications for SA/SEA compliance
Local Plan Adopted
Monitoring
Monitor and report on the implementation of the Local Plan
Stage E: Post adoption reporting and monitoring
1. Prepare and publish post-adoption statement
2. Monitor significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
3. Respond to adverse effects

Section 3: Other Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes (Stage A1, Update)

Introduction

3.1 The first stage of SA involved reviewing relevant international, national, regional and local policy guidance, plans and strategies to identify their key requirements, and assessing their relationship to the Part 2 Local Plan. For this SA there is a need to have analysed the policy context in which the plan is being prepared – this includes policies, plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives (PPPSI) with an influence on the content of the plan.

3.2 The review made specific reference to any environmental protection objectives, targets or requirements established at the international, European or national level to comply with the SEA Directive.

3.3 Appendix part B sets out the review of all documents and strategies considered relevant to the Part 2 Local Plan. It establishes the environmental, social and economic situation and allows opportunities and synergies between the plans and the Part 2 Local Plan to be identified, as well as any potential conflicts. It contains issues and objectives, targets, the implications for the Part 2 Local Plan and the implications for the SA.

3.4 There is no definitive list of plans that must be reviewed, although current government guidance on SEA suggests a number that will commonly be reviewed in most SAs. A review of these and others that are deemed relevant to the Part 2 Local Plan have been included in Appendix part B. The list of relevant documents will be kept under review.

Issues Identified from Review

3.5 The detailed analysis or 'scoping' of sustainability objectives, targets and indicators derived from the above plans, policies and programmes provided in Appendix part B considered both the implications for the Part 2 Local Plan and for developing the SA Framework.

3.6 The following list contains the key messages from the reviews of plans, policies and programmes included in Appendix part B. It shows how each issue is related to the social, economic and environmental themes of SA and the SEA topics identified in paragraph 6.7.

Table 9: Key Messages

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Accessibility and transport • Embed accessibility in decisions affecting provision, location, design and delivery of services in both urban and rural areas • Improve social inclusion by making services more accessible • Improve the quality and safety of pedestrian and cycling networks • Improve public transport networks • Reduce impact of travel on the environment • Maximise the use of existing roads infrastructure and avoid inappropriate development • Reduce traffic and in particular journeys made by car • Improve public transport • Reduce traffic noise, pollution and congestion • Improve the freight network to reduce amount of road freight • Promote sustainable transport	• Planning Act 2008 • National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Planning Practice Guidance 2014 • Accessibility Planning Guidance • UK Climate Change Programme • Greater Nottingham Accessibility Strategy • Mobility Strategy for Nottinghamshire and Mobility Strategy Update - May 2013 • Nottinghamshire Integrated Passenger Transport Strategy 2015 • Accessible Settlements Study for Greater Nottingham • Greater Nottingham Bus Strategy • Nottinghamshire (Third) Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 • Nottingham Core HMA Transport Modelling Work • Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategies September 2014	Requires objectives to enable the development of a sustainable transport infrastructure that reduces overall levels of travel and ensures accessibility to key services (e.g. health services, education, employment sites, and leisure facilities), the provision of safe walking and cycling routes, and safe accessible public transport.
Air quality • Prevent and reduce the detrimental impact on human health, quality of life and the environment • Reduce pollution • Ensure that new development does not reduce air quality	• EC Air Quality Directive 2008/50/ ECUK Air Quality Strategy 2011 • A Breath of Fresh Air for Nottinghamshire - Nottinghamshire Air Quality Strategy (2008) • Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 air quality detailed assessment	Requires objectives to prevent pollution and protect air quality.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Biodiversity and habitats • Protect and promote biodiversity • Conserve threatened species • Ensure that land uses (including agriculture) does not threaten biodiversity • Protect, restore and improve habitats including woodland, and aquatic ecosystems • Create and integrate habitats in urban spaces and in the built environment • Protect and extend heathland	• EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna 92/43/EEC 1992 • EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 • National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Biodiversity 2020: • A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services • Directive 2009/147/EC Birds Directive (the codified version of Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC 1979) • Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 • Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) 1981 • Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 • Planning for a healthy environment - good practice for green infrastructure and biodiversity by the Town and Country Planning Association and The Wildlife Trusts (July 2012) • Benefits of Green Infrastructure, DEFRA / CLG • Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Nottinghamshire • Nottinghamshire Heathland Strategy • Greater Nottingham HRA screening report • Greater Nottingham HRA scoping report • Broxtowe Borough Council Corporate Plan • The Nature Conservation Strategy for the Borough of Broxtowe	Requires objectives to protect, enhance and improve biodiversity and habitats.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Business development and the economy • Consider the location of new business with regard to accessibility and the local environment • Ensure that the location of industry and commerce brings benefit and not harm to local communities • Support efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure and other sectors • Regenerate deprived areas through business development • Ensure location of development makes efficient use of existing infrastructure • Understand future demands for business land • Develop economic capacity and expertise • Increase economic diversity • Maximise economic benefit from tourism • Encourage growth in high value, high growth, high knowledge economic activities • Ensure that economic growth goes hand-in-hand with high quality environment • Develop flourishing local economies • Understand future demands for land including type of land and location • Encourage inward investment • Promote the vitality of town centres by promoting and enhancing existing centres	• National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Greater Nottingham Accessibility Strategy • Greater Nottingham Retail Study • Nottingham City Region Employment Land Study • Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Economic Assessment • Economic Development Strategy 2014-18, Nottinghamshire County Council • Broxtowe Jobs and Business Growth Delivery Plan 2015-18	Requires objectives to ensure there is sufficient land for business development; to ensure that businesses are located in the correct places and that local communities (especially deprived communities) benefit from them; to ensure that businesses do not cause harm to the communities in which they are situated; and to encourage diversity and high value, high growth, knowledge intensive economic activities, including tourism.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Climate change • Encourage low or zero carbon communities • Minimise the effects of climate change on human health and on the environment • Ensure that new development is able to cope with climate change • Spatial planning should contribute to sustainable communities and the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions	• Energy Act 2011 • Climate Change Act 2008 • UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) • Planning Act 2008 • National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • UK Climate Change Programme • UK Sustainable Development Strategy - Securing the Future Water for Life and Livelihoods- • Local Climate Impacts Profile (LCLIP) for Nottinghamshire • River basin management plans Part 2: River basin management planning overview and additional information • River Basin Management Plan Humber River Basin District 2015 • Future Water - Water strategy for England • Climate Change Framework for Action in Nottinghamshire • Broxtowe's Climate Change Plan Taking action to reduce our impact	Requires objectives to reduce carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to climate change; and to ensure that new development is able to cope with the effects of climate change.
Community safety • Reduce crime and the fear of crime • Design out crime	• National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership- Partnership Strategic Plan (Sept 2010) • Broxtowe Borough Council Corporate Plan	Requires objectives to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and change behaviour that is often linked with crime.
Education • Improve the quality of educational facilities • Improve educational attainment	• Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010-2020 • A Strategy for Closing the Educational Gaps (Nottinghamshire County Council, 2015) • Child Poverty Act 2010	Requires objectives that will improve educational attainment.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Employment • Reduce worklessness • Improve skills to help reduce unemployment and deprivation • Ensure supply of employment land	• National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • The Equality Act 2010 • Broxtowe's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010-2020 • Broxtowe Jobs and Business Growth Delivery Plan 2015-18	Requires objectives to improve employment skills and levels, and to ensure supply of employment land.
Energy • Seek secure, clean affordable energy • Reduce amount of energy consumed • Generate energy at local levels • Increase energy efficiency of homes and businesses • Increase the amount of renewable energy produced • Invest in the energy infrastructure • Recover energy from waste	• Energy Act 2011 • Planning and Energy Act 2008 • Zero Carbon homes • Climate Change Framework for Action in Nottinghamshire • Nottinghamshire Sustainable Energy Policy Framework • Broxtowe's Climate Change Plan Taking action to reduce our impact	Requires objectives to improve energy efficiency of new development and to encourage alternative ways of generating energy.
Flood risk • Safeguard land used to manage floodwater • Avoid inappropriate development on floodplains • Ensure new development does not afford risk elsewhere	• EC Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) • Flood and Water Management Act 2010 • National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Water for Life and Livelihoods- • River basin management plans Part 2: River basin management planning overview and additional information • River Basin Management Plan Humber River Basin District 2015 • River Trent Fluvial Strategy • Greater Nottingham Strategic Flood Risk Assessment • Strategic Flood Risk Assessment: Broxtowe Borough Council	Requires objectives to minimise flood risk by considering where development should take place, and by protecting floodplains.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Health • Improve health and access to quality health facilities • More opportunities for walking and cycling • Improve access to open space and leisure opportunities • Understand the economic benefits of better health in the community	• National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Equality Act 2010 • Greater Nottingham Accessibility Strategy • All to Play For in Broxtowe • Broxtowe Borough Sustainable Community Strategy • Nottinghamshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment November 2010 • Arts and Sports Development Strategy, Nottinghamshire County Council, Feb 2013 • Child Poverty Act 2010	Requires objectives to improve health by providing opportunities for walking, cycling, sport and leisure activities.
Historic Environment	• Heritage at Risk Register 2016 (Historic England) • Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment: Historic England Advice Note 8 (December 2016) • Nottinghamshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project	

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Housing • Reduce homelessness • Reduce the number of empty homes • Improve affordability across the housing market • Increase the supply of houses • Provide a supply of high quality, well designed, energy efficient housing appropriate to needs of the community including family homes, homes to meet the needs of the ageing population and social housing • New homes to be energy efficient, zero carbon by 2016 and able to cope with the effects of climate change • Provide adequate amount of land for gypsies and travellers	• National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015) • Housing and Planning Act 2016 • UK Climate Change Programme • Code for Sustainable Homes - Setting the Standard in sustainability for new homes • Equality Act 2010 • Nottingham Core HMA Dwelling Size Research • Nottingham PUA Sustainable Locations for Growth Study • Nottingham Core HMA Private Sector Housing Research 2010 • Nottingham Core Affordable Housing Viability Study • Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment for the Nottinghamshire Local Authorities of Ashfield, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood, Nottingham City, Rushcliffe • Nottinghamshire and Erewash Older Peoples Housing Needs Study • Broxtowe Borough Council Corporate Plan • Housing Strategy 2015 - 2020 • Nottingham Core HMA Housing Market Needs Assessment Update 2009 • Nottingham Core Affordable Housing viability report • Housing preferences for students at Nottingham's Universities • South Nottinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2014-2029 (2016)	Requires objectives to ensure that the housing stock is of a high quality and meets the requirements of all sectors of the community.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Land use • Increased density of housing • Maximise the use of brownfield land for housing, business and commercial development • Prioritise the re-use of existing buildings • Promote good design	• National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment • Broxtowe Local Plan Saved Policies • Broxtowe Borough Council Contaminated Land Strategy • Broxtowe Borough Sustainable Community Strategy • Broxtowe Borough Council Brownfield Land Register	Requires objectives to ensure that best use of land is made prioritising the re-use of land and buildings.
Landscape • Conserve and enhance the rural and built landscape • Preserve and enhance local landscape character • Protect, maintain and enhance geological diversity • Open up access to the countryside • Provide opportunities to value our heritage • Bring improvements to the physical environment through quality design • Protect historic buildings, Conservation Areas and the historic environment in general • Protect our archaeological and geological heritage • Mitigation against harm to the landscape	• European Landscape Convention 2006 • National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Greenwood Community Forest Strategic Plan (2000) • Landscape Character Assessment for Greater Nottingham, 2009 • Landscape and Visual Analysis of Potential Development Sites (Broxtowe Borough Council) • National Character Areas (NCAs) • 6Gs Green Infrastructure Study • Cultural Strategy 2011 – 2021, Nottinghamshire County Council • Green Estates Development Strategy and Plan 2013-2023 (Nottinghamshire County Council) • Broxtowe Green Infrastructure Strategy 2015 - 2030 • Broxtowe Green Spaces Strategy 2009 – 2019 including Broxtowe Green Spaces Audit 2008 • Benefits of Green Infrastructure report by Forest Research (October 2010)	Requires objectives to protect and enhance the natural and built environment; and to encourage people to enjoy their local heritage.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Resources • Promote development that minimises the use of resources • Prevent soil loss	• Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) • National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Planning Practice Guidance (Minerals) • UK Sustainable Development Strategy - Securing the Future • Safeguarding our Soils - A Strategy for England • Contaminated Land Strategy • Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Local Aggregates Assessment June 2016 • Minerals Local Plan (adopted 2005) • Nottinghamshire New Minerals Local Plan (emerging)	Requires objectives to promote development that minimises the use of resources.
Rural • Development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside	• National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) • Broxtowe Aligned Core Strategy	Requires objectives to ensure sustainable communities in the countryside.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Sustainable communities • Promote social cohesion and inclusion in both urban and rural communities • Support vulnerable groups • Reduce deprivation, focusing on most deprived areas • Tackle poverty in urban and rural areas • Increase social interaction • Improve social development of children • Improve quality of life • Create clean, attractive, quality, safe urban spaces • Access to quality health, education, housing, transport, shopping and leisure services • Ensure equality of opportunity in housing, employment and access to services • Recognise that different people have different needs	• Diversity and Equality in Planning good practice guide • Sustainable Communities- Building for the future UK Sustainable Development Strategy • Child Poverty Act 2010 • Water for Life and Livelihoods- • River basin management plans Part 2: River basin management planning overview and additional information • Equality Act 2010 • Broxtowe Borough Sustainable Community Strategy • Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2020	Requires objectives to create attractive, safe, sustainable communities.
Waste • Reduce amount of municipal and commercial waste produced • Recycle, compost or re-use waste • Minimise harm to the environment and human health from waste treatment and handling • Disposal of waste to be considered the last option	• EC Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) • Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Waste Core Strategy (Pt1 adopted 10 December 2013) • Permitted Waste Management Facilities (Environment Agency) • National Fly-Tipping Database –' Flycapture' (Environment Agency) • Catchment Data Explorer (Environment Agency)	Requires objectives to reduce or re-use waste, and to prevent harm to human health and the environment from waste.

Key messages from review of relevant plans, policies and programmes	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
Water • Improve water efficiency • Reduce amount of water used by domestic properties • Lessen effects of flood and drought • Reduce water pollution • Enhance and protect aquatic water systems • Promote the use of SUDS where appropriate	• EC Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) • EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 • Flood and Water Management Act 2010 • Future Water - Water Strategy for England • Biodiversity 2020: • A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem • Water Resources Strategy Regional Action Plan for the Midlands Region, December 2009 • Lower Trent and Erewash Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS)	Requires objectives to improve water efficiency, protect water systems, and to lessen the effects of flood and drought.

Section 4: Baseline Data and Characteristics of Broxtowe Borough (Stage A2)

Characteristics of Broxtowe Borough

General Characteristics

4.1 Broxtowe has a population of 112,300 (Office of National Statistics Mid-2015 estimate) and covers an area of some 80 square kilometres. It is characterised by a more urban south with the separate settlements of Attenborough, Chilwell, Beeston, Bramcote, Stapleford, Toton and part of Trowell together comprising over 60% of the Borough's population and forming part of the western side of the built up area of Greater Nottingham.

4.2 The north is more rural with the largest settlements at Eastwood (population approximately 11,000) and Kimberley (population approximately 6,200). All of the rural parts of the borough are within the defined Nottingham–Derby Green Belt, which comprises 64.4% of the total borough area.

4.3 Broxtowe adjoins five other local planning authority areas- Nottingham City, Rushcliffe Borough, Erewash Borough, Amber Valley Borough and Ashfield District.

4.4 Beeston is the Town Centre, with Eastwood, Kimberley and Stapleford District Centres.

4.5 Beeston is a major location for new investment and employment opportunities. Broxtowe has the major ambition to secure the redevelopment of Beeston Square, as expressed in the adopted Beeston Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document, and the tram route is a key part of this redevelopment, which has brought significant additional inward investment. Other centres at Eastwood, Kimberley and Stapleford are smaller in scale but still perform an important role in underpinning the local economy. Boots remains a major employer, and Beeston Business Park provides a wide choice of employment buildings and land, both with the advantage of excellent rail links, being close to the train station. The Boots campus has the further advantage of being declared an Enterprise Zone by the government in March 2011.

4.6 Many of the former coal-mining areas are subject to successful regeneration, with significant financial investment and landscape remediation.

4.7 In addition, the Enterprise Zone designation was extended to Beeston Business Park in March 2012 and, being immediately adjacent to the train station, is well placed to attract new enterprises.

4.8 The Borough has excellent access to the motorway network, and good access to East Midlands Airport, via junction 24 of the M1; together with excellent rail connections at Beeston and Attenborough stations, and the close by stations of Nottingham and East Midlands Parkway. The M1 bisects the Borough, with junction 26 within the Borough at Nuthall, while junction 25 is just outside the borough, with links to this, and the City Centre, via the A52.

4.9 The accessibility of the Borough was further improved with construction of the Nottingham Express Transit (NET 2) tram route, which serves many of the most densely populated areas in the south of the Borough and includes a park and ride site near the A52 at Toton. This supplements the already regular and extensive bus services connecting the settlements in the south of the Borough with Nottingham City Centre, and there is also a high frequency bus service from Nottingham through Beeston to Derby. Transport links, including public transport, connecting the north with the south of the Borough are less extensive.

4.10 Beeston is a popular and successful centre that has benefited from investment in recent years, including the The Square redevelopment. The tramline extension has improved accessibility to the town centre and will further enhance the attractiveness of the centre to shoppers and investors.

4.11 Eastwood district centre clearly has an important role in the local community and benefits from good accessibility as well as a large food-store within the town centre. Physical constraints within the centre including disconnect between the food-store and the rest of the town centre reducing the potential for linked trips, while the existing traffic network and historic environment limit the potential to support physical expansion.

4.12 Opportunities to improve the centre include promoting the leisure/evening economy to encourage dwell times and footfall in the centre.

4.13 Kimberley district centre is generally healthy and popular within its immediate catchment area. The size of the centre and competing opportunities means its main aim will be to meet the day-to-day shopping needs of local residents and it appears to be doing that well.

4.14 Stapleford is a relatively healthy centre and has attracted investment from new retailers in recent years. However, a concentration of vacancies was recorded along Nottingham Road.

Social Characteristics

4.15 The Government uses the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) to measure how deprived local communities are. This index takes into consideration the following domains:

- Income
- Employment
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Education, Skills and Training
- Barriers to Housing and Services
- Living Environment
- Crime

4.16 Broxtowe is ranked 218th out of all 326 local authority districts according to the overall IMD measure for 2015 (where rank 1 is the most deprived authority and rank 326 is the least deprived). This is a decline by 1 place of a smaller pool from when the previous IMD was conducted in 2010. The 'Study of Social Need in Nottinghamshire' found that the area of Eastwood in the wider conurbation experiences serious social need.

4.17 In 2011, 15.81% of the borough's population was aged 0 – 14. This was very low by national standards. By comparison, the Nottinghamshire figure was 16.89%, the East Midlands 17.26% and England 17.68%.

4.18 In Broxtowe, 12.04% of the population was aged 15 – 24. This was comparable with Nottinghamshire (11.76%), but lower than the East Midlands (13.31%) and England (13.08%).

4.19 The percentage of the borough's population in the 25 – 44 age group, 26.21%, was consistent with that for the county (25.35%) and the East Midlands (25.90%), but lower than that for England (27.53%).

4.20 At the time of the Census, 27.59% of the borough's population was aged 45 – 64, similar to the county figure of 27.87%, but higher than that for the East Midlands (26.48%) and England (25.37%). Finally, the percentage of the borough's population aged 65 and over was 18.35% at the time of the Census, comparable with the figure for Nottinghamshire (18.13%), but higher than that for the East Midlands (17.05%) and England (16.34%).

4.21 The slight propensity toward older people in Broxtowe is reflected in the borough's mean age of 41.4 years at the time of the Census, which was higher than that for the county (41.1 years), the East Midlands (40.0 years) and England (39.3 years).

4.22 Life expectancy for men living in the least deprived areas is almost 8 years higher than for men living in the most deprived areas. The difference for women is 6 years.

4.23 Ethnicity is important to monitor from the point of view of community cohesion. National Insurance Number Registrations in respect of non-UK Nationals from 2009/10, by Local Authority and country of origin, show that Broxtowe in 09/10 had 520 such registrations, which is a rise of 21% over figures in 2001. In Broxtowe, only 6% of registrations were from people originating from Poland while 8% were from China, 12% from India and 17% from Hungary. The figures show that of all the Districts in Nottinghamshire, Broxtowe had the highest number of such migrant workers (21% of the total). Other ethnic groups were present but distributed in groups of 20 or less. Migration pattern is therefore an increasingly important issue to maintain awareness of. This may suggest areas to target community cohesion initiatives, and require a better understanding of the implications of this for service delivery. Migration is becoming an increasingly important factor and is also changing the ethnic make up of the Borough.

4.24 81.6% of Broxtowe residents believe people from different backgrounds get on well together locally (England 75.8%). 59.3% feel they belong to their immediate neighbourhood (England 57.81%). 31.2% agree that they can influence decisions in the local area (England 29.06%). 83.5% are satisfied with Broxtowe as a place to live (England 79.11%). 85.6% of residents aged 65 and over are satisfied with both home and neighbourhood (England 82.84%).

4.25 There are approximately 48,500 dwellings in Broxtowe, providing homes to the 112,000 residents. Broxtowe has more homes in owner occupation, 76%,than the national average of 69%. The latest average house price (Quarter 2, 2013) is £158,700; compared to £161,155 in Nottinghamshire; and £165, 759 in England (Land Registry of England and Wales, Crown copyright.)

4.26 Social housing makes up approximately 12% of all homes. The local authority owns and manages over 4,600 homes, 2,000 of which are either sheltered housing or other housing designated for older people. Since 1980 more than 5,000 general needs homes have been sold under the right to buy scheme. Registered Providers of Social Housing manage 1,012 homes within Broxtowe.

4.27 12% of Broxtowe housing is private rented and Registered Providers provide 2% of housing.

4.28 The Nottingham Core HMA Strategic Housing Market Needs Assessment Update 2009 identifies the level of need for each authority based upon current and future projections and the development targets. The need levels are estimated to be 445 net affordable homes per annum and 535 in the 2012 update- 1845 for monitoring (*Source: Nottingham Core Strategic Housing Market Assessment Needs Update 2009 n.b.: potential levels of affordable housing need and does not take into account viability considerations and other policy factors.)*

4.29 Broxtowe has nearly 4 per cent of households in overcrowded housing, 2001; compared to 3½ % in Nottinghamshire and 7% in England.

4.30 36.5% of housing is detached, 36.3% semi-detached, 16.6% terraced, 8.4% purpose-built flats, 1% flats in converted or shared houses, 1% flats in commercial buildings and 0.2% in a caravan or other mobile or temporary home.

4.31 Male life expectancy at birth (2008-2010) in Broxtowe is 80.7 compared to 78.5 in Nottinghamshire and 79.4 in England; the female equivalents are 83.6, 82.3 and 83.1.

4.32 All crime fell by 18% between 2010-2014.

4.33 National data reveals that qualification levels in the borough are generally higher than the county and national averages. Compared to the national level, the most significant difference is in the percentage of people who have a level 1 qualification and above, with Broxtowe's level more than 4% above the national average. The percentage of people with no qualifications in Broxtowe is significantly lower than the county or national averages.

4.34 32.5% of Broxtowe's population has National Vocational Qualifications level 4 and above compared to 28.2% in Nottinghamshire and 31.3% in Great Britain; 84.6% has NVQ1 and above compared to 81.5% in Notts. and 80.2% in GB. 7.2% has other qualifications, compared to 8% in Nottinghamshire and 8.5% in GB. 8.3% has no qualifications, compared to 10.5% in Nottinghamshire and 11.3% in Great Britain.

4.35 Accessibility to open spaces and its relationship to health and well being issues is well understood and considered in the Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Green Spaces Strategy to 2019.

Economic Characteristics

4.36 Broxtowe is a relatively affluent area with low unemployment, good quality housing and high levels of skills and educational attainment . This relative affluence masks a number of localised pockets of deprivation in the borough. Parts of the Eastwood South and Chilwell West wards are in the to 20% of the most deprived areas in the country. This contrasts sharply with equally concentrated areas of relative affluence in other parts of the borough, including Bramcote, Chilwell East, Greasley, Beeston West and Toton and Chilwell Meadows.

4.37 The proportion of people employed in Broxtowe is higher than the national level. Unemployment has been relatively low in Broxtowe in recent years. However, in some wards, particularly Eastwood South and Chilwell West, unemployment has been persistently higher than the Broxtowe average. Unemployment in Broxtowe stood at 1.6% in February 2016. This compared favourably with the unemployment figures for the whole of Nottinghamshire (1.4%) and the United Kingdom (1.6%).

4.38 Although relatively low in the borough as a whole, unemployment is higher than the district average (1.6% in February 2016) in the following wards:

- Eastwood South 2.2%
- Stapleford North 2.0 %
- Beeston Rylands 1.7%
- Stapleford South West 1.8%
- Beeston North 1.9%

4.39 Job density is low relative to the county and the country as a whole.

4.40 Manufacturing and construction jobs in Broxtowe are higher than the national average, while service industry jobs are generally lower.

4.41 Self-employment is high relative to the national average.

4.42 In 2015, job density was 0.56 according to the ONS. For example, a job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job in the borough for every resident aged 16 – 64. The total number of jobs comprises employee jobs, self-employed, government-supported trainees and H.M Forces. For comparison, the figures for Nottinghamshire is 0.64 and for Great Britain 0.82.

4.43 The figures demonstrate that Broxtowe is significantly below the average for the county and the country as a whole. Given the above data, it is reasonable to assume that Broxtowe's relatively poor jobs density is countered by its proximity to Nottingham and the good transport links, enabling people to travel into the city to work. There nevertheless remains a challenge for Broxtowe to attract inward investment and new employers, and thus raise the number of opportunities for people in the local area to get jobs without having to travel outside the area.

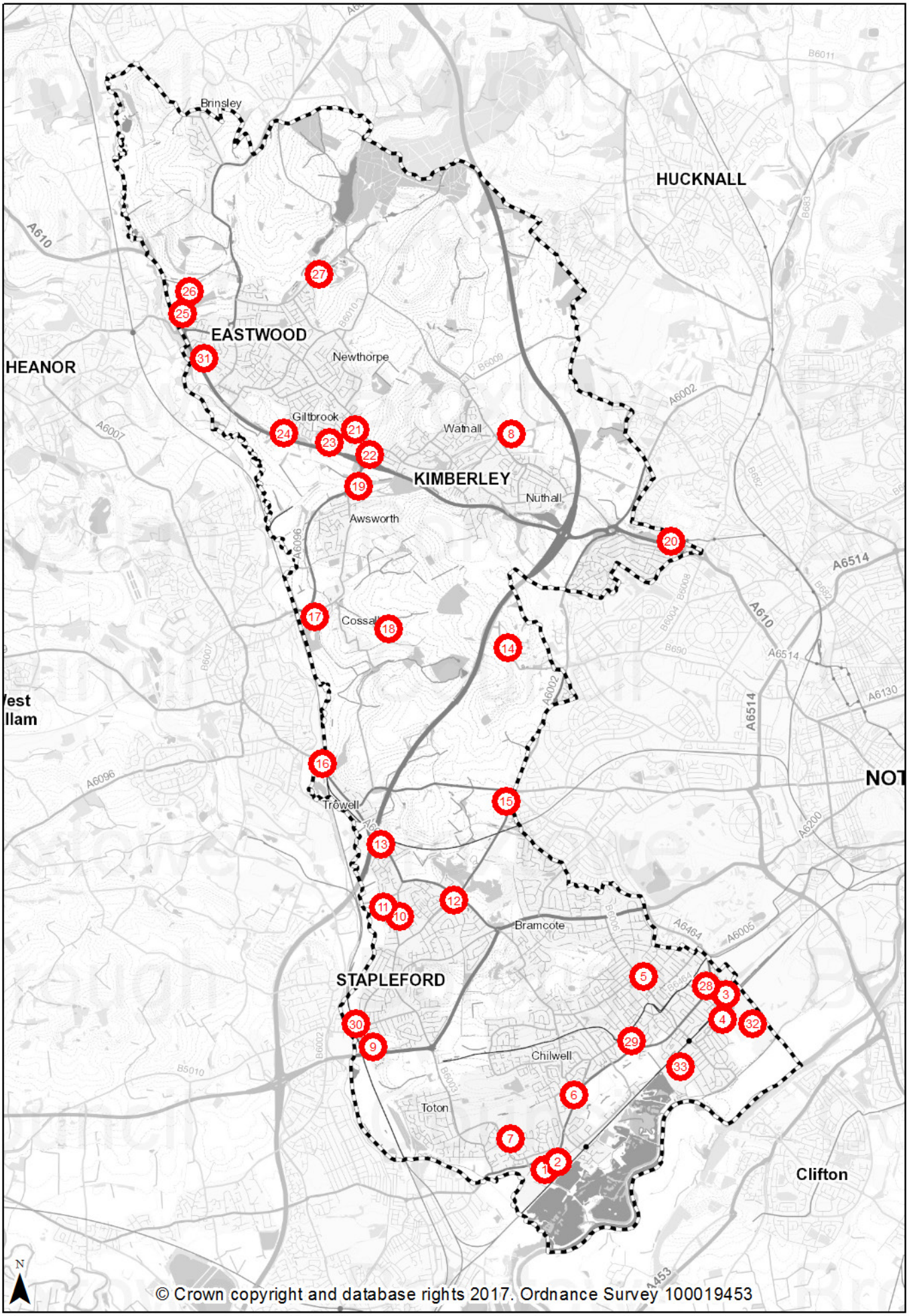
4.44 Broxtowe saw a 1.24% growth in enterprises between October 2008 and October 2009, the last available figures, with 40 more 'births' than 'deaths'; out of 3,220 enterprises. But this compares to 2.26% growth in England.

4.45 Employment sites in the Borough are listed below and shown on the plan on the following page.

1. Chilwell Meadows Business Park Brailsford Way Attenborough
2. Eldon Road Business Park Attenborough
3. Padge Road Boulevard Industrial Park Beeston
4. Lilac Grove Beeston
5. The Poplars Beeston
6. Simplex Knitting Co 164 Bye Pass Road Chilwell
7. Chetwynd Business Park Regan Way Chilwell
8. Main Road,Fernwood Drive, Common Road and British Bakeries Ltd Watnall
9. Palmer Drive and Bessell Lane Stapleford
10. Pasture Road and Silicone Altimex Stapleford
11. New Road Industrial Estate Stapleford
12. Hickings Lane Stapleford
13. Stapleford Road Trowell
14. Strelley Hall Strelley
15. Balloon Wood Industrial Estate Coventry Lane Bramcote
16. Eagle Mill Ilkeston Road Trowell
17. Cossall Industrial Estate Soloman Road Cossall
18. Robinettes Lane Cossall
19. Gin Close Way Awsworth
20. Phoenix Park Nuthall
21. Giltbrook Industrial Park Giltway Giltbrook
22. Amber Trading Estate Giltbrook
23. Essentra Giltbrook Industrial Park Giltway Giltbrook
24. Birch Park Halls Lane Giltbrook
25. Meadowbank Court Meadowbank Way Eastwood
26. Nottingham 26 Eastwood
27. Moorgreen Colliery Site Engine Lane Moorgreen Industrial Park Newthorpe
28. Evelyn Street Beeston
29. Factory Lane,Wilmot Lane and Holly Lane Chilwell
30. Former Dyeworks Site West End Street Stapleford
31. Microlise Engineering Ltd Farrington Way Eastwood
32. Boots Campus Lilac Grove Beeston
33. Beeston Business Park Technology Drive Beeston

4.46 Beeston Weir on the River Trent is the largest hydropower installation in the East Midlands.

Map 1: Employment Sites in Broxtowe



Environmental Characteristics

- Conservation Areas: 16
- Listed Buildings: 153
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments: 6
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest: 5
- Mature Landscape Areas: 1181 ha
- Local Wildlife Sites: 140

4.47 Most of Broxtowe lies on the urban fringe and the pressures of urban living make open spaces and wildlife significant in maintaining quality of life.

4.48 Whilst the plan area contains a number of nationally designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest, such as Attenborough Gravel Pits, there are no currently designated European sites.

4.49 Examples of strategies to manage habitats include improving wetland along the Nottingham Canal, and woodland and grassland conservation at Bramcote Hills.

4.50 The soils of the Magnesian Limestone landscape character area support calcareous grassland and ash dominated woodland, both Nottinghamshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) priority habitats.

4.51 The Trent Washland terraces of clay, silts, sands and gravels laid down in river floods support wide ranging wetland habitats which in Broxtowe is complemented by water bodies formed through mineral extraction. The soils are well-draining, fine loamy brown and alluvial supporting lowland wet grassland, wet woodland and eutrophic standing water, all LBAP priority habitats.

4.52 Virtually all areas of Broxtowe have important wildlife corridors which, in urban areas, provide a green “lung” but also allow wildlife to move throughout the borough and beyond. Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats occurring in Broxtowe:

- Canals
- Ditches
- Eutrophic and mesotrophic standing waters
- Farmland: Arable farmland, arable field margins and improved grassland
- Fens, marshes and swamps
- Hedgerows: Including ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows
- Lowland calcareous grassland
- Lowland dry acid grassland
- Lowland heathland
- Lowland wet grassland
- Mixed ash-dominated woodland
- Oak-birch woodland
- Parkland and wood pasture
- Planted coniferous woodland
- Reedbed Rivers and streams
- Unimproved neutral grassland
- Urban and post-industrial habitats
- Wet broadleaved woodland

Section 5: Identifying Sustainability Issues (Stage A3)

5.1 Through the analysis of the baseline data and officer knowledge, a number of sustainability issues have been identified. These issues are a review of those for the Broxtowe Aligned Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal.

5.2 Where possible the following table sets out the role of the Part 2 Local Plan in tackling identified issues. The key issues are set out under the four themes used by the East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy (February 2008) to group the regional sustainability objectives, although some will be cross-cutting issues. The key issues are listed in no particular order of importance.

5.3 SEA requires that consideration is given to the likely evolution of each of the issues without the implementation of the Part 2 Local Plan.

Table 10: Sustainability Issues

Key issue	Potential influence of the Part 2 Local Plan	Possible role of the Part 2 Local Plan
Social		
Population growth has been high in the Borough and further population growth is projected. Broxtowe's population density averages 1,345 people per square kilometre	Major	The Part 2 Local Plan can ensure that an appropriate number of new dwellings are developed in appropriate locations and at an appropriate time in line with the Aligned Core Strategy requirements. The Part 2 Local Plan should also make provision for appropriate employment opportunities and deliver adequate physical and social infrastructure for existing and future residents of Broxtowe.
Urbanisation	Major	The Part 2 Local Plan can ensure that through design policies the harm from built development replacing open land is reduced.

Key issue	Potential influence of the Part 2 Local Plan	Possible role of the Part 2 Local Plan
Older than average age profile and an ageing population. Broxtowe also has the lowest live births per 000 population in Nottinghamshire, 2007 and proportion of population aged 0-14, 2007.	Minor/Moderate	The Part 2 Local Plan will have a role in ensuring the right type of housing, services and facilities are delivered to suit the needs of an aging population. In order to balance, it will have a role in ensuring the same needs provision for the lowest age profile - 0-14.
House prices are high within the Borough and there is a significant need for affordable housing provision	Moderate/Major	Whilst the level of new housing only represents a small proportion of the overall housing stock in the Borough, the Part 2 Local Plan will set out a selection of sites to include delivery of an appropriate level of affordable housing in order to meet local needs; alongside the local standard in the Aligned Core Strategy
Access to facilities	Major	Accessibility to Beeston as a town centre for food and essential services is a priority. Another priority is Health Services, including; GP Surgeries/Health Centres in the district centres. For Leisure, Culture and Tourism, accessibility to local County libraries, and visitor and tourist attractions, including the DH Lawrence Museum and Attenborough Nature Reserve, is a priority.
Parts of Eastwood, especially Eastwood South, have relatively high deprivation	Moderate/Major	The provision of employment and housing developments with improved linkages to existing communities alongside improvements to facilities and the local environment can help to address deprivation.

Key issue	Potential influence of the Part 2 Local Plan	Possible role of the Part 2 Local Plan
Economic		
There is a need to maintain the Borough's employment base while recognising Broxtowe's general role within the Greater Nottingham area as a net exporter of workers An affordable quality of life is a key asset in attracting and retaining the workers. Land use and planning can do the same for businesses, and drive further development in the face of strong local competition.	Moderate/Major	The Part 2 Local Plan can ensure that an appropriate supply of good quality employment land is provided in appropriate locations to serve projected demands and ensure a range and choice of employment locations in the Borough; in accordance with the Aligned Core Strategy. Allocating employment land to ensure that the needs of high technology and knowledge based industries are provided for; will aid retention of graduates from the local university, who are usually exported out of the area.
Environmental		
A high proportion of land within the Borough is Green Belt. There is therefore potential for conflict between the need to protect Green Belt from inappropriate development and the need to provide sufficient land for housing in line with the Aligned Core Strategy requirements	Major	The Part 2 Local Plan needs to balance the need to provide sufficient land for housing growth with the need to protect the Green Belt wherever possible. This achieved as a result of work with neighbours on the Green Belt Review.

Key issue	Potential influence of the Part 2 Local Plan	Possible role of the Part 2 Local Plan
Significant areas within the Borough are at risk from flooding	Moderate/Major	Through careful choices, the Part 2 Local Plan can ensure that sites at risk from flooding are protected from development (if appropriate mitigation measures are not proposed).
There are a large number of sites which are important in landscape and biodiversity terms and should be conserved and enhanced where possible	Moderate/Major	The Part 2 Local Plan will look to protect and enhance biodiversity through networks, including green infrastructure.
There are 2 Air Quality Management Areas within the Borough, where air quality problems need to be addressed where possible	Moderate	The Part 2 Local Plan can help to reduce pollutants arising from traffic through reducing the need to travel by locating sites in areas well served by public transport and close to local services and facilities. It could also help by locating potentially polluting development away from sensitive locations.
Broxtowe scores less well than the northern parts of Nottinghamshire on the 'tranquillity index' (measured by population density) and is below the national average.	Minor	The Part 2 Local Plan can only generally affect the impact of development on future tranquillity, not existing issues. Potentially, concentration of development will reduce the diminution of tranquil areas.
There is a need to improve energy efficiency and reduce contributions to climate change.	Moderate	The Part 2 Local Plan can help by minimising the need to travel by locating new developments to be well served by public transport and close to local services and facilities.

Key issue	Potential influence of the Part 2 Local Plan	Possible role of the Part 2 Local Plan
Spatial		
There is a need to maintain high rates of brownfield development.	Moderate	There will be limited scope for the Part 2 Local Plan to locate sites on brownfield land due to the need to locate the large proportion of the housing requirement in or adjacent to the main built up area, where the number of brownfield sites is very limited. Consequently, the provision of development land to meet projected increases in population is likely to involve significant releases of greenfield land.
There is a need to reduce the reliance on the private car and increase the use of alternative transport modes, including public transport	Moderate	Whilst not having a direct influence on the provision of public transport, the Part 2 Local Plan can help reduce the need to travel by locating sites in areas well served by public transport.
There is a need to conserve and enhance Broxtowe's distinctive character and contribute towards creating a sense of place within new developments	Major	The Part 2 Local Plan will help to set out the design of new developments

Section 6: Developing the SA Framework (Stage A4)

6.1 Following the review of plans, policies and programmes, and taking into account the analysis of the baseline data and the identification of sustainability issues, a series of sustainability objectives have been devised. Indicators are taken from these objectives in order to test the sustainability of the Part 2 Local Plan. This framework is a review of the framework for the Aligned Core Strategy.

6.2 The objectives are based on those in the regional SA framework but have been adapted to address the key sustainability issues most relevant to the Part 2 Local Plan

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Table 11: Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

Sustainability appraisal objectives
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the Borough
2. To improve health and reduce health inequalities
3. To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy Broxtowe's heritage
4. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime
5. To promote and support the development and growth of social capital across Broxtowe
6. To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance green infrastructure
7. To protect and enhance the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological/geological assets and the landscape character of Broxtowe
8. To prudently manage the natural resources of the Borough including water, air quality, soils and minerals whilst also minimising the risk of flooding
9. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials
10. To minimise energy usage and to develop the Borough's renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable sources
11. To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to ensure that all journeys are undertaken by the most sustainable mode available
12. To create high quality employment opportunities
13. To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation
14. To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure, including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies

6.3 Each of the SA objectives has been matched with detailed decision making criteria. These criteria comprise the key questions that will be asked to ascertain whether or not a proposal or option works towards the SA objective. The justification for selecting the SA objectives is set out in Appendix part B.

6.4 During Stage B of the SA (appraising the effects of the plan), the SA framework for the Aligned Core Strategy allowed the potential impacts of each of the options in the Part 2 Local Plan to be assessed against the SA objectives.

Table 12: The Sustainability Framework

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the Borough	• Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups? • Will it reduce homelessness? • Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	Affordable housing House prices; housing affordability Homelessness Housing completions (type and size) Housing tenure Sheltered accommodation Vacant dwellings by tenure
2. Health To improve health and reduce health inequalities	• Will it reduce health inequalities? • Will it improve access to health services? • Will it increase the opportunities for recreational physical activity?	Adults taking part in sport Health inequalities Life expectancy at birth New/enhanced health facilities People killed/seriously injured in road accidents
3. Heritage To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy Broxtowe's heritage	• Will it protect historic sites? • Will it help people to increase their participation in cultural heritage activities? • Will it protect/improve access to historic sites? •Will it protect and enhance the historical, geological and archaeological environment?	New and enhanced open space Satisfaction with open space Museums
4. Crime To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	• Will it reduce crime and the fear of crime? • Will it increase the prevalence of diversionary activities? • Will it contribute to a safe secure built environment through designing out crime?	Crimes – by category and total Fear of crime Noise complaints

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
5. Social To promote and support the development and growth of social capital across Broxtowe	• Will it protect and enhance existing cultural assets? • Will it improve access to; encourage engagement with and residents satisfaction in community activities? • Will it improve ethnic and intergenerational relations?	Community centres Gains/losses of community facilities Leisure centres Libraries/mobile library stops Participation involuntary and community activities A place where people from different backgrounds get on well together Satisfaction with leisure facilities
6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance Green Infrastructure	• Will it help protect and improve biodiversity and avoid harm to protected species? • Will it help protect and improve habitats? • Will it increase, maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest? • Will it maintain and enhance woodland cover and management? • Will it provide new open space? • Will it improve the quality of existing open space? • Will it encourage and protect Green Infrastructure opportunities?	Local/National nature reserves Local wildlife sites SSSIs
7. Environment and Landscape To protect and enhance the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological/geological assets and the landscape character of Broxtowe	• Does it respect identified landscape character?	Ancient woodland Conservation Areas Historic Parks and Gardens Listed Buildings/ Buildings at risk/locally listed buildings Scheduled ancient monuments Woodland areas/new woodland

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
8. Natural Resources and Flooding To prudently manage the natural resources of the Borough including water, air quality, soils and minerals whilst also minimising the risk of flooding	• Will it improve water quality? • Will it improve air quality? • Will it lead to reduced consumption of raw materials? • Will it promote the use of sustainable design, materials and construction techniques? • Will it minimise Flood Risk? • Will it prevent the loss of high quality soils to development?	Greenfield land lost Carbon dioxide emissions Contaminated land Flood risk Households in Air Quality Management Areas Number of days moderate/high air pollution Employment and housing developed on Previously Developed Land, Density of dwellings Developments incorporating SUDS Planning applications granted contrary to advice of EA Biological/chemistry levels in rivers, canals and freshwater bodies Production of primary and secondary/recycled aggregates
9. Waste To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	• Will it reduce household and commercial waste per head? • Will it increase waste recovery and recycling per head? • Will it reduce hazardous waste? • Will it reduce waste in the construction industry?	Controlled waste produced Capacity of new waste management facilities by alternative to landfill Household waste arisings composted, land filled, recycled, used to recover energy
10. Energy and Climate Change To minimise energy usage and to develop the Borough's renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable sources	• Will it improve energy efficiency of new buildings? • Will it support the generation and use of renewable energy? • Will it support the development of community energy systems? • Will it ensure that buildings are able to deal with future changes in climate	Energy use – renewables and petroleum products Energy use (gas/ electricity) by end user Renewable energy capacity installed by type

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
11. Transport To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to ensure that all journeys are undertaken by the most sustainable mode available	• Will it use and enhance existing transport infrastructure? • Will it help to develop a transport network that minimises the impact on the environment? • Will it reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging alternative modes of transport? • Will it increase accessibility to services and facilities?	Accessibility to education sites, employment sites, health care, leisure centres, open space, shopping centres Change in road traffic mileage Development of transport infrastructure that assists car use reduction Levels of bus and light rail patronage New major non-residential development with travel plans People using car and non-car modes of travel to work Railway station usage Road traffic levels
12. Employment To create high quality employment opportunities	• Will it improve the diversity and quality of jobs? • Will it reduce unemployment? • Will it increase average income levels?	Average annual income Benefit claimants VAT business registration rate, registrations, deregistrations Businesses per 1000 population Employment rate Jobs New floor space Shops, vacant shops Unemployment rate
13. Innovation To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation	• Will it increase levels of qualification? • Will it create jobs in high knowledge sectors? • Will it encourage graduates to live and work within Greater Nottingham?	15 year olds achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grade A* - C 19 year olds qualified to NVQ level 2 or equivalent 21 year olds qualified to NVQ level 3 or equivalent Working age population qualifications

SA Objectives	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
14. Economic Structure To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies	• Will it provide land and buildings of a type required by businesses? • Will it improve the diversity of jobs available? • Will it provide the required infrastructure? • Will it provide business/university clusters	Completed business development floorspace Land developed for employment Employment land lost Employment land allocated Profile of employment by sector

6.5 The relationship between SEA topics and SA objectives is shown in the table below.

Table 13: Relationship Between SEA Topics and SA Objectives

SEA topic	SA objective
Biodiversity	6, 7
Population	1, 2, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14
Human health	2, 9
Fauna	6, 7
Flora	6, 7
Soil	8, 7, 9
Water	8, 7
Air	8, 9
Climatic factors	1, 6, 7, 8, 11
Material assets	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14
Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage	3, 7
Landscape	7

6.6 The relationship between SA objectives and the three SA themes is shown in the table below.

Table 14: Relationship Between SA Objectives and SA Themes

SA Objective	SA theme S = Social, Ec = Economic Env = Environmental		
	S	Ec	Env
To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the Borough	✓	✓	×
To improve health and reduce health inequalities	✓	×	×
To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy Broxtowe's heritage	✓	✓	✓
To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	✓	✓	×
To promote and support the development and growth of social capital across Broxtowe	✓	×	×
To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance green infrastructure	×	✓	✓
To protect and enhance the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological/geological assets and the landscape character of Broxtowe	✓	✓	✓
To prudently manage the natural resources of the Borough including water, air quality, soils and minerals whilst also minimising the risk of flooding	×	✓	✓
To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	×	✓	✓
To minimise energy usage and to develop the Borough's renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable sources	×	✓	✓
To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to ensure that all journeys are undertaken by the most sustainable mode available	✓	✓	✓
To create high quality employment opportunities	✓	✓	×
To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation	×	✓	×
To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure, including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies	×	✓	×

6.7 The internal compatibility of the SA objectives has been tested to identify any particular tensions or inconsistencies.

6.8 A number of SA objectives have been identified as having a potential impact on each other. Even though potential incompatibilities exist, it is not necessary to re-write the SA objectives on these grounds. As stated in the Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive; "*There may be tensions between objectives that cannot be resolved; the compatibility assessment should clarify these so that subsequent decisions are well based, and mitigation can be considered*".

Table 15: Internal Compatibility of the SA Objectives

Key
- ✓ Compatible
- × Incompatible
- \- No link / insignificant

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1														
2	✓													
3	-	-												
4	✓	-	✓											
5	✓	✓	✓	✓										
6	-	-	✓	-	-									
7	×	-	✓	-	✓	✓								
8	×	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓							
9	×	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓						
10	×	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓					
11	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓				
12	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓			
13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	✓		
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	×	×	×	✓	-	✓	✓	

6.9 As Table 15 indicates, most of the SA objectives are internally compatible or have no significant impact on each other.

Section 7: Appraising the Distribution

7.1 This section is a re-assessment of the strategic site allocation distribution options. The adopted Broxtowe Core Strategy (September 2014) Policy 2 set out the spatial strategy for local sustainable development based on urban concentration with regeneration. The table below shows its proposed distribution for Broxtowe:-

Table 16: Core Strategy Distribution

Location	Housing numbers
Main Built up area of Nottingham (Beeston, Chilwell, Attenborough, Bramcote, Toton, Stapleford and Nuthall east of the M1)	**3,800** (minimum)
Eastwood (including Giltbrook and Newthorpe in Greasley)	**1,250** (up to)
Kimberley (including Nuthall west of the M1 and Watnall)	**600** (up to)
Awsworth	**350** (up to)
Brinsley	**150** (up to)
Total	**6,150** (minimum)

7.2 Part 2 of the Local Plan now proposes site allocations with a distribution providing the following figures:-

Table 17: Part 2 Local Plan Distribution

Location	Housing supply
Main Built up area of Nottingham (Beeston, Chilwell, Attenborough, Bramcote, Toton, Stapleford and Nuthall east of the M1)	**4429** (includes 500 homes at Chetwynd during the plan period plus the Core Strategy allocations at Field Farm and Toton)
Eastwood (including Giltbrook and Newthorpe in Greasley)	995
Kimberley (including Nuthall West of the M1 and Watnall)	500
Awsworth	374
Brinsley	148
Total	**6446** (includes 1 rural)

7.3 The distribution proposed through the site allocations in Part 2 of the Local Plan would have the following effects:-

Table 18: The Part 2 Local Plan Housing Distribution

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Site allocations to reinforce urban concentration with regeneration	++	?	?	?	+	+	+				++	+	?	+
Broxtowe Core Strategy Key Settlements distribution	+	?	?	?	?		-							

7.4 The environmental objectives are highlighted first in accordance with the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape).

Health = ?

7.5 Dependent upon the existing health and social care infrastructure; more likely available in the main built up area but not guaranteed if pressure on densely populated service framework.

Heritage = ?

7.6 Depends upon the distribution of designated and non- designated heritage assets relative to sites.

Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure = Very minor positive

7.7 Resources more likely in areas outside the main built up area so less impact developing in the latter but may lead to pressure for development of open spaces within urban areas, plus less opportunity for Green Infrastructure enhancement and creation.

Environment and Landscape = Very minor positive

7.8 Urban landscape less sensitive than elsewhere (hence no detailed study for this local plan). Landscape outside the main built up area was already acknowledged to be at greater risk.

Natural Resources and Flooding = Neutral

7.9 The risks are considered to be equal within and outside the main built up area.

Waste = Neutral
7.10 Considered to be no variable impact across the local plan area.

Energy and Climate Change = Neutral
7.11 Considered to be no variable impact across the local plan area.

Housing = Major positive
7.12 Placing a further 202+ homes in the main built up area, although only about 3% of the total, may have a significant impact on the donating Key Settlements in terms of limiting environmental effects whilst boosting the number of homes where the majority of people already live closer to support services.

Crime = ?
7.13 Limited implications as planning applications will continue to be assessed against the existing planning framework which includes crime prevention measures.

Social = Very minor positive
7.14 More strategic framework in terms of emphasising the spatial strategy for the main built up area will provide more opportunity for creation of good quality and sufficient facilities due to planned nature of development, and support/use of existing urban social infrastructure.

Transport = Major positive
7.15 Further concentration of the housing distribution in the conurbation will emphasise the benefit of the main built up area concentrated transport infrastructure. The strategic framework will increase the opportunity for major transport improvements which could be secured through large development schemes (site allocations). There would also be planned growth with land use/transport integration.

Employment = Very minor positive
7.16 Less pressure to release employment land for residential uses in the main built up area. Questionable benefit to high quality employment dependent upon the attraction of employers and supportive incomers.

Innovation = ?
7.17 Questionable benefit to culture of enterprise and innovation dependent upon the attraction of suitable employers; including for office floor space, science and technology; and supportive incomers.

Economic Structure = Very minor positive
7.18 Homes will increase the infrastructure within the area where productivity is already high.

Conclusion

7.19 In conclusion, the re-distribution of homes to within and adjacent to the main built up area is considered to have environmental benefits.

7.20 There are also considered to be socio-economic benefits. The economic benefits will particularly arise from the HS2 and Chetwynd sites, with links to the Stanton site in Erewash Borough helping.

Section 8: Appraising the Policies (1)

8.1 This section includes the assessment of one of the development management policies and a summary of the assessments for the sites options.

8.2 Article 5 (1) (f) of the SEA Directive requires assessment of the key likely significant effects on the environment; including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These positive or negative effects should include permanent or temporary; short, medium and long-term; secondary, cumulative and synergistic.

8.3 Policies were drafted and shared with technical experts for their initial comments. All of the responses received through this process have been used to inform the development management policies for the local plan.

SA Assessment of the Development Management Policies

8.4 The following table summarises the appraisal results of the SA assessment of the development management policies. Note the development management policies have been abbreviated in the left column of the table.

8.5 The detailed SA assessments are provided in the Appendices Part A.

KEY:

Number of squares coloured in the assessment tables	Symbol	
5	+++	Very major positive
4	++	Major positive
3	+	Positive
2	++	Minor positive
1	+	Very minor positive
-		Assessed as neutral
-	?	Unknown impact
1	-	Very minor negative
2	- -	Minor negative
3	-	Negative
4	- -	Major negative
5	- - -	Very major negative

Table 19: Sustainability Assessment Summary of the Development Management Policies in the Part 2 Local Plan

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11 Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
1. Flood Risk	+										+			
2. Site Allocations (see separate tables)														
8. Development in the Green Belt	+	++			+									+
9. Retention of good quality existing employment sites												+	+	++
10. Town Centre and District Centre uses	++	+			+			+		+		+		
11. The Square Beeston	++	++			++						+++	+	+	
12. Edge-of-centre A1 Retail in Eastwood			- -								++			+
13. Proposals for main town centre uses in edge-of-centre and out-of-centre locations			++				++	++		+	+			-
14. Centre of Neighbourhood Importance (Chilwell Road / High Road)	+	+	++	+	++		+				++	+		+
15. Housing size, mix and choice	+	++			++							?		
16. Gypsies and Travellers	++	++				?		?						
17. Place-making, design and amenity		++	++		+	+	+				+			
18. Shopfronts, signage and security measures			++	+										+
19. Pollution, Hazardous Substances and Ground Conditions		++	+			++	++	++						
20. Air Quality	-	++	+			+		++			++			-
21. Unstable Land	-	++	?			++								-

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11 Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
22. Minerals	+													++
23. Proposals affecting designated and non-designated heritage assets			++	-	++		++	+						-
24. The health impacts of development		+			+									
25. Culture, tourism and sport		++	+		++	+	+				-	+		
26. Travel Plans		++			+			++			+			
27. Local Green Space	-	+			+	+	++				+			
28. Green Infrastructure assets	- -	+	++		+	+++	+	++			+			
29. Cemetery Extensions			++		+	+	++				+			
30. Landscape					++	++	+++	+		+	+			
31. Biodiversity Assets	-	++	+		+	++	++	+						-
32. Developer Contributions	-	++		-	+		+	- -		- -	-			-

Policy 1: Flood Risk

8.6 Paragraph 100 of the National Planning Policy Framework states that Local Plans should be supported by a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and develop policies to manage flood risk from all sources, taking account of advice from the Environment Agency and other relevant flood risk management bodies including lead local flood authorities. The SA assessment looks at the options whether to permit minor residential developments in flood risk areas protected by Environment Agency compliant flood defences.

8.7 Options relating to flooding have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

8.8 Whether to include a policy

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy to permit minor developments in areas at risk from any form of flooding subject to criteria.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and the aligned Core Strategy.

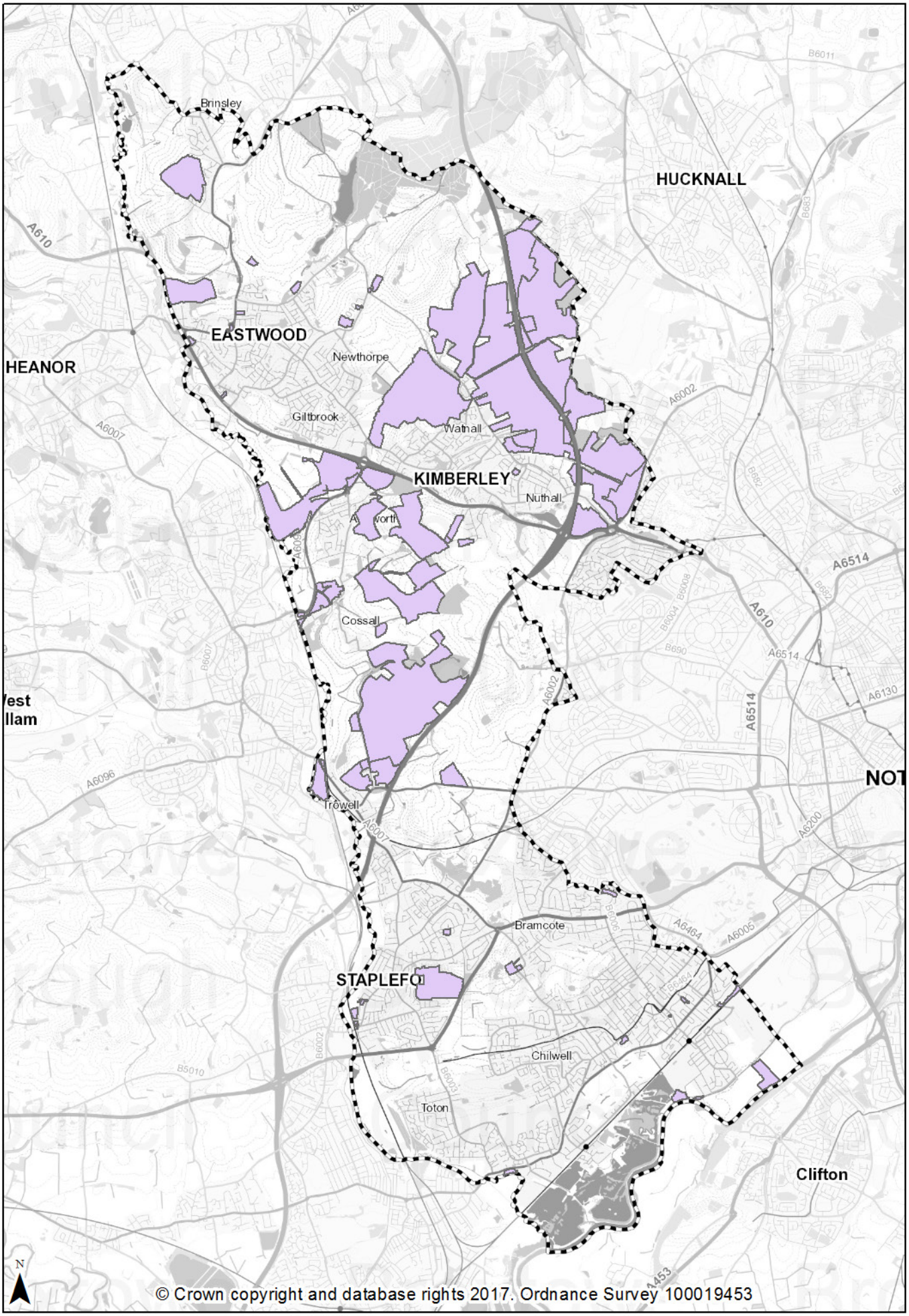
Table 20: Flood Risk

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage and Design	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	+										+			
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	-										-			

8.9 Option A has minor positive effects on the housing and transport objectives; whilst Option B has the converse effects.

8.10 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on permitting minor residential development in flood risk areas with appropriate flood defences.

Map 2: showing sites which have not been assessed in detail through the Sustainability Appraisal as they are not considered to be 'reasonable alternatives'



Policies 2 to 7: Appraising the Site Options

8.11 This section includes the summary of the assessments of the site allocation options; both the sites which are allocated and the reasonable alternatives which were assessed but are not being allocated.

8.12 This is an important part of both the plan-making and SA process as Article 5 (1) (h) of the SEA Directive requires an outline of the reasons for selecting the appraised alternatives and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical) encountered in compiling the required information.

8.13 The role of the Sustainability Appraisal is to assist decision making in highlighting the sustainability implications of each option and choice. The assessment of the reasonable alternative options was a continual process, starting from the options in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) for the issues and options consultation, through to the selected options being worked into the draft Local Plan for publication. Certain options or sites may come out of the SA process as appropriate but are not being taken forward for other reasons.

8.14 Article 5 (1) (f) of the SEA Directive requires assessment of the key likely significant effects on the environment; including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These positive or negative effects should include permanent or temporary; short, medium and long-term; secondary, cumulative and synergistic.

Site Sustainability Schedules

8.15 Site sustainability schedules have been produced to give background evidence on each site and to assist in the SA assessment.

Limitations or Uncertainties Related to the Data and Difficulties Encountered During the SA Process

8.16 For assessing accessibility, distances were map-based, as the crow flies. It was considered that attempting to take account of topography and transport made considerations, would introduce too many subjective judgements.

8.17 The heritage objective inevitably involves some uncertainties due to the absence of design details. However the Council has obtained heritage advice from OPUN, Historic England and out in house heritage advisors and is therefore confident that none of the proposals will have significant adverse heritage impacts.

8.18 The data from Natural England was unable to distinguish between Grade 3a and 3b agricultural land to assess the sites against SA objective 8.

8.19 It was difficult to assess the sites against three of the SA objectives, namely objectives 4 (crime), 9 (waste) and 10 (energy and climate change), so a standard approach was used for the following reasons:

- SA objective 4 (crime) – all sites considered neutral as the impact of development upon crime is dependent upon design and a series of secondary factors not related to site allocation;
- SA objective 10 (waste) – all sites will result in increased household and commercial waste; and
- SA objective 11 (energy and climate change) – housing sites considered neutral as the impact of development upon energy and climate change is dependent upon opportunities for either renewable energy provision or energy efficiency measures.

8.20 The sites shown on the plan on page 84 were not considered to be reasonable alternatives and therefore have not been assessed in detail through the Sustainability Appraisal. This is because the aligned Broxtowe Core Strategy provides the spatial strategy for development to be directed within or adjacent to the urban areas of the Borough. Sites within the urban areas are considered to be sustainable, those which are adjacent to an urban area have been considered as a 'reasonable alternative' and all other sites which do not adjoin an urban area have not been considered. Some sites adjoin the urban are but are not considered reasonable alternatives for other reasons in Flood Zone 3, access, etc.

8.21 It should be noted that for the landscape objective, assessments are partially based on landscape areas identified by the Council's consultants, AECOM. This is because valued components of landscapes outside the sites boundaries may be harmed by inappropriate new features.

8.22 The remainder of the sites were assessed in detail and the summary of the assessments are shown in the following tables as those which have been allocated in the Part 2 Local Plan and those which have been rejected.

KEY:

Number of squares coloured in the assessment tables	Symbol	
5	+++	Very major positive
4	++	Major positive
3	+	Positive
2	++	Minor positive
1	+	Very minor positive
-		Assessed as neutral
-	?	Unknown impact
1	-	Very minor negative
2	- -	Minor negative
3	-	Negative
4	- -	Major negative
5	- - -	Very major negative

8.23 The colour of an individual box indicates the significance of the effect on a sustainability appraisal objective. These are based on a traffic light system where greens indicate positive contributions and orange / red indicates negative ones. The darker the green, the higher the significance of the positive contribution. Within each colour, there are further graduations of significance noted by the number of plus signs (+) or the number of minus signs (-).

Table 21: Sustainability Appraisal Summary of Sites Allocated in the Part 2 Local Plan

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7.Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Chetwynd Barracks	+++	++	++		+	-		+			+	+	+	
Land in the vicinity of the HS2 Station at Toton*	+++	++	- -		+	-	- -	-			+++	+	+	+
Bramcote (east of Coventry Lane)	+++	+	+		++	-					++	+		
Stapleford (west of Coventry Lane)	+++	+			+	-					++	+		
Severn Trent, Beeston	++	+			++	- -		+			+		+	
Beeston Maltings	+	+++	-		++						+	+	++	
Cement Depot, Beeston	++	+			++			+			++		++	
Land fronting Wollaton Road, Beeston	++	+			++	-		+			+		+	
Land West of Awsworth (within the bypass)	+++	+	+ +		++	- -					+	+		
East of Church Lane, Brinsley	++	+			++		- -				+	+		-
Walker Street, Eastwood	++	+++			++		- -	+	-		++	+		
Land South of Kimberley including Kimberley Depot	++	++			++		-	+			++	+		
Land south of Eastwood Road, Kimberley	++	+			++						++	+		
Builders Yard, Eastwood Road, Kimberley	++	++			++			+			+			

* This assessment includes the land safeguarded for growth beyond the plan period.

Table 22: Sustainability Appraisal Summary of Sites that were Included as part of the 'Preferred Approach to Site Allocations' or 'Additional Sites' Consultations which are now Rejected

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
203:Nether Green East of Mansfield Road, Eastwood	+++	+	- -		+	- -	-	-			++	+		
683: South of Blenheim Industrial Estate, Nuthall	++	+	-		-	- -	- -	-			+	++	+	
Awsworth rejected	+	+	-		++	- -		+			+	+		
198: East of Church Lane, Brinsley (2016 original SHLAA site)	++	+	- -		++		- -				+	+		-
197: Cordy Lane, Brinsley (as proposed by Brinsley Parish Council)	++	+			++		--				+	+		-
Kimberley rejected (215 and 411)	++	+++			++	-	-				+	+		
197: Cordy Lane, Brinsley (2016 original SHLAA site)	++	+			++		- -				+	+		-
376: Land opposite 28 Church Lane, Brinsley	+	+	- -		++		- -				+	+		-

Table 23: Sustainability Appraisal Summary of the Rejected Sites (In order of site capacity)

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
104: Land off Coventry Lane, Trowell Moor	+++	+	- -		+	- -	-				++	+		
298: Spring Farm Nottingham Road, Trowell Moor	+++	+	-			-	-	-			+	+	+	
178: North of Nottingham Road, Trowell Moor	+++	+	- -		+		-				+	+	+	
588: Land to the West of Bilborough Road, Strelley	+++	++	- -		+		- -	-			+	+		
107 Land off Woodhouse Way, Nuthall	+++	+++	-		+	-		-			++	+	+	
407: Land between A52, Stapleford and Chilwell Lane, Bramcote	++	+	- -		++	-	- -	-			+	+		
111: Land off Moss Drive, Bramcote	++	+	- -		++	-	-	-			+	+		
132: Land at Wheatgrass Farm, Chilwell	++	+	-		+	-	- -	-			+	+		
403: Bardills Garden Centre, Toton Lane, Stapleford	++	+			++	-	-	-	-		+	+		
414: Land behind Sisley Avenue, Stapleford	+	++			+		- -				+	+		

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
410: Land south of 45 Baulk Lane, Stapleford	+	++			+		- -				++	+		
412: Chilwell Lane, Bramcote	+	++	- -		++		- -				+	+		
189: Land at Smithfield Avenue, Trowell	+	++			++	- -		- -			++	+		
415: Ashlands Bilborough Road, Trowell	++	++			+		-	-			++		+	
602: The Gables Strelley Lane, Strelley	++	+			+		-	-			++			
192: West of Awsworth Lane/ South of Newtons Lane, Cossall	+++	+			++	- -		+			+	+		
190: North of Barlow's Cottages Lane, Awsworth	+	+	-		++	-		+			++	+		
681: land to the rear of Clumber Avenue, Brinsley	++	+			+		-				+			-
128: Land to the rear of the Robin Hood Inn, 17 Hall Lane, Brinsley	++	++	- -		++		- -				+			-
206: East of Baker Road/North of Nottm Road, Giltbrook	+++	++			++	- -	-	- -			++	+	+	
208: West of Moorgreen	+++	++	- -		++	-	-				+	++	+	
3: Wade Printers, Baker Road, Newthorpe	++	++			++	- -	-	+			++	-		

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
204: North of 4 Mill Road, Beauvale	+	+	- -		++	-	-				+	+	+	
514: Hall Farm Cockerhouse Road, Eastwood	++	+	- - -		++	- -	- -				+		+	
513: Land belonging to Stubbing Wood Farm Watnall Road, Watnall	+	+			+	-	- -				+	+	+	
271: Gilt Hill Farm Gilt Hill, Kimberley	++	++			+	- -	-				+	+	+	
285: Land north of Alma Hill/west of Millfield Road, Kimberley	++	+					-				+	+		
105: Land west of New Farm Lane, Nuthall	+	+					-	-			++	+		
234: Land at New Farm Lane, Nuthall	+	+			+	-	-	-			++	+		
113: Land north of Alma Hill, Kimberley	++	+			+		-				+	+		
116: Land north of 38 Alma Hill, Kimberley	++	+			+		-				+			
610: Land off High Spannia, Kimberley	++	+			+		- -				++			
103: Land east of New Farm Lane, Nuthall	++	++			+	-	-	-			++			
146: Chewton Street, Eastwood	+	+++			++	-		+			+	+		

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
473: Home Farm Nottingham Road, Nuthall	++	++	- -		++			+	+		+			

Table 24: Summary of Other Allocations

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Beeston Square	++	++			++						+++	+	+	
Edge-of-centre A1 Retail Eastwood			- -								++			+
Bramcote School and Leisure Centre Redevelopment Area		+++	-		+	-	- -		-		++	+		

Section 9: Appraising the Policies (2)

9.1 This section provides assessments for the remainder of the development management policies on the overall sustainability of the different alternatives, including those selected as the preferred approach in the Local Plan; and any assumptions used in assessing the significance of effects of the Local Plan.

9.2 This is an important part of both the plan-making and SA process as Article 5 (1) (h) of the SEA Directive requires an outline of the reasons for selecting the appraised alternatives and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical) encountered in compiling the required information.

9.3 The role of the Sustainability Appraisal is to assist decision making in highlighting the sustainability implications of each option and choice. The assessment of the reasonable alternative options was a continual process, starting from the options in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) for the issues and options consultation, through to the selected options being worked into the draft Local Plan for publication. Certain options or sites may come out of the SA process as appropriate but cannot be taken forward for other reasons.

Policy 8: Green Belt

9.4 The National Planning Policy Framework protects Green Belt land (paragraphs 79-82). The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open and the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and their permanence.

9.5 Paragraph 87 is clear that inappropriate development is harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances with the exceptions listed in paragraph 89. There is no clear definition in paragraph 89 on "disproportionate additions" in relation to extensions or alterations to a building. The SA assessment looked at whether to include a policy restricting the size of extensions or alterations to specified limits.

9.6 Options relating to "disproportionate additions" in the Green Belt have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows (note: the other criteria in the policy are not considered to have sustainability implications and have been assessed under the SA of Policy 3 of the aligned Broxtowe Core Strategy):

9.7 How to define "disproportionate additions" in relation to extensions or alterations to a building.

Option A – include a policy:
Allow for extensions up to 30% of the original volume. Extensions beyond this are deemed to be disproportionate and therefore inappropriate in the Green Belt and unsustainable development under the NPPF definition.

Option B – include a criteria based policy:
Set out a series of criteria against which extensions or alterations can be assessed. Decision makers will need to make a judgement about whether an extension is disproportionate taking account of the criteria.

Option C – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy 3 of the Broxtowe Core Strategy.

Table 25: Green Belt

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	+	++			+									+
Option B – include a criteria based policy	+													+
Option C – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	-	-	-					-						-

9.8 Option A is considered likely to have a minor positive effect against the housing and economic structure objectives as it could possibly diversify the mix of housing, and provide a flexible approach for extensions to agricultural and commercial buildings. It has an uncertain effect against the heritage and landscape objectives depending upon locations. Option B is considered likely to have a minor positive effect against the housing objective as it could also possibly diversify the mix of housing but gives more uncertainty due to user discretion with how criteria are used. Option C is considered likely to have minor negative effects against the housing, health, heritage, natural resources and flooding, and economic structure objectives as there would be uncertainty and reliance on other policies for mitigation.

9.9 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a guided policy on extensions to buildings within the Green Belt.

Policy 9: Retention of Good Quality Existing Employment Sites

9.10 Options relating to the management of employment sites have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.11 Employment protection.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy to manage employment uses on selected sites.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy 4 of the Core Strategy.

Table 26: Retention of Good Quality Existing Employment Sites

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy												+	+	++
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)												- -	-	- -

9.12 As one would hope, Option A has significant positive effects on the employment, innovation and especially economic structure objectives. On the contrary, Option B has converse negative effects on the same objectives, but especially the innovatory objective because having no policy would preserve the status quo at the expense of enterprise in economic development.

9.13 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on the positive management of employment sites.

Policy 10: Town Centre Uses

9.14 Options relating to the consideration of proposals for shops and other main town centre uses, including upper floors of buildings, have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.15 Town Centre uses.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy relating to the consideration of proposals for shops and other main town centre uses, including upper floors of buildings.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy 6 of the Core Strategy.

Table 27: Town Centre Uses

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	++	+			+			+		+		+		
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	-	-								-		-		

9.16 The policy option has several minor positive effects with one less negative effect.

9.17 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on, in town centres, promoting shops and other main town centre uses, including in upper floors of buildings.

Policy 13: Proposals for Main Town Centre Uses in Edge-of-centre and Out-of-centre Locations

9.18 Options relating to the consideration of proposals for main town centre uses which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to Broxtowe's town centres have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.19 Out-of-centre retail.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy relating to the consideration of proposals for main town centre uses which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to Broxtowe's town centres.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy 6 of the Core Strategy.

Table 28: Proposals for Main Town Centre Uses in Edge-of-centre and Out-of-centre Locations

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy			++				++	++		+	+			-
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	-		- -	-			-	-		-	- -	-		++

9.20 The options have most effects upon the transport objective, Option A has a significant positive effect because development would be guided towards Town Centre transport hubs, whereas Option B has a more significant converse negative effect because generally out of centre sites are highly accessible by car but not by other modes, contributing greatly to congestion, social exclusion, and environmental degradation. Generally, the options have less significant opposing effects on other objectives, favouring a policy, except on the economic structure objective, as no further policy making may free up locational choices for retail investors.

9.21 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on setting a threshold for permissive retail development and constrain retail development out of town centres.

Policy 14: Centre of Neighbourhood Importance (Chilwell Road/High Road)

9.22 Options relating to the allocation of a Centre of Neighbourhood Importance in Beeston/ Chilwell, in order to consider proposals for main town centre uses including upper floors of buildings and residential use, have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.23 Centre of Neighbourhood Importance.

Option A – include a policy allocation:
Include an allocation relating to the consideration of proposals for main town centre uses including upper floors of buildings and residential use.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework.

Table 29: Centre of Neighbourhood Importance (Chilwell Road/High Road)

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	+	+	++	+	++		+				++	+		+
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	- -	-	-	-	- -		-				-	-		-

9.24 The allocation policy option has a major positive effect on the housing objective and many minor positive effects, with many minor negative effects.

9.25 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include an allocation policy for a Centre of Neighbourhood Importance at Chilwell Road/High Road promoting main town centre uses including in upper floors of buildings and residential use.

Policy 15: Housing Size, Mix and Choice

9.26 Options relating to the consideration of proposals for affordable housing have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.27 Housing size, mix and choice.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy relating to the consideration of affordable housing.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy 8 of the Core Strategy.

Table 30: Housing Size, Mix and Choice

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	+	++			++							?		
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	-	-			?							?		

9.28 The options have significant effects upon, as would be expected, the housing objective with corresponding positive and negative impacts, and the health objective where the benefit of affordable housing in a sustainable residential environment even outweighs relying upon current policy. Equally, the policy provides a very significant benefit by facilitating local social interaction.

9.29 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on housing size, mix and choice.

Policy 16: Gypsies and Travellers

9.30 Options relating to the consideration of proposals for gypsies and travellers accommodation needs have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.31 Gypsies and Travellers.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy relating to the consideration of gypsies and travellers accommodation needs.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework, "Planning policy for traveller sites" and Policy 9 of the Core Strategy.

Table 31: Gypsies and Travellers

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	++	++				?		?						
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	- -	- -				?		?					-	

9.32 The options have significant effects upon, as would be expected, the housing objective with corresponding negative impacts because the unconformity with the current Core Strategy policy has equal effect to having no further policy; and the health objective where the unconformity has the same significant negative effects as no further policy, for a vulnerable group. Not allocating for housing sites and associated facilities misses an opportunity to plan for the economic sustainability of this protected characteristics group.

9.33 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on gypsies and travellers accommodation needs.

Policy 17: Place-making, Design and Amenity

9.34 Paragraph 56 of the National Planning Policy Framework states that good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning, and should contribute positively to making places better for people. There is support for the use of design codes but there should be no imposition of architectural styles or particular tastes. However, it is appropriate to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness and guide the scale, density, massing, height, landscape, layout and materials of new development.

9.35 The SA assessment considered options whether to include a policy to require good design including the quality that will be expected for Broxtowe Borough. It assesses the connections between people and places, and the integration of new development into the natural, built and historic environment.

9.36 How to ensure that development functions well and is safe, accessible and inclusive.

Option A – include a criteria based policy:
Include a policy that supports the use of Building For Life or similar standard, along with the general criteria which includes non–residential development.

Option B – include a policy requiring a supplementary planning document:
Strategically, rely upon NPPF and Aligned Core Strategy policy.

Option C – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Aligned Core Strategy Policy 10.

Table 32: Place-making, Design and Amenity

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6.Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a criteria based policy		++	++		+	+	+				+			
Option B – policy requiring SPD		-	-		- -	- -	+	+		++	+			- -
Option C – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)					- -	-	+	- -		++	++			

9.37 Option A has significant benefits over existing ACS policy for social and environmental reasons; and would be only slightly improved by adding natural resources and economic structure criteria. Option B would be less sustainable on more objectives, in particular on social and biodiversity objectives. No additional policy misses several objectives and is significantly silent on the biodiversity and green infrastructure objective.

9.38 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a criteria based policy so that such issues can be addressed at the planning application stage.

Policy 18: Shopfronts, Signage and Security Measures

9.39 Options relating to the consideration of proposals for shopfronts, signage and security measures have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.40 Shopfronts, signage and security measures.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy relating to the consideration of proposals for shopfronts, signage and security measures.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policies 6, 10 and 11 of the Core Strategy.

Table 33: Shopfronts, Signage and Security Measures

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy			++	+										+
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)			- -											

9.41 The options have most effects upon the heritage objective, Option A has a positive effect because development would be managed by design, whereas Option B has a converse negative effect because commercial shopfronts will be lesser managed.

9.42 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on shopfronts, signage and security measures.

Policy 19: Pollution, Hazardous Substances and Ground Conditions

9.43 The National Planning Policy Framework states that the planning system has an environmental role in minimising pollution.

9.44 Paragraph 120 of the NPPF states that;

"*to prevent unacceptable risks from pollution and land instability, planning policies and decisions should ensure that new development is appropriate for its location. The effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, the natural environment or general amenity, and the potential sensitivity of the area or proposed development to adverse effects from pollution, should be taken into account.*

9.45 *121. Planning policies … should also ensure that:*

- *the site is suitable for its new use taking account of ground conditions and land instability, including from natural hazards or former activities such as mining, pollution arising from previous uses and any proposals for mitigation including land remediation or impacts on the natural environment arising from that remediation;*
- *after remediation, as a minimum, land should not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990; and*
- *adequate site investigation information, prepared by a competent person, is presented.*

9.46 *122. In doing so, local planning authorities should focus on whether the development itself is an acceptable use of the land, and the impact of the use, rather than the control of processes or emissions themselves where these are subject to approval under pollution control regimes. Local planning authorities should assume that these regimes will operate effectively.*

9.47 *123. Planning policies … should aim to:*

- *avoid noise from giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life as a result of new development;*
- *mitigate and reduce to a minimum other adverse impacts on health and quality of life arising from noise from new development, …;*
- *recognise that development will often create some noise and existing businesses wanting to develop in continuance of their business should not have unreasonable restrictions put on them because of changes in nearby land uses since they were established; and*
- *identify and protect areas of tranquillity which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason.*

9.48 *124. Planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas.*

9.49 *125. By encouraging good design, planning policies … should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.*"

9.50 This SA assessment considers whether to have policies on light, groundwater, contaminated land, hazardous substances and unstable land or whether to rely on current policy guidance.

9.51 Options relating to minimising pollution have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.52 Whether to include a policy

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy to minimise pollution.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on planning practice guidance.

Table 34: Pollution, Hazardous Substances and Ground Conditions

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy		++	+			++	++	++						
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	- -	-	-			-	- -	-						- -

9.53 Option A has significant positive effects on the heritage and natural resources objectives; whilst Option B has the converse effects. No local plan policy also will have significant negative effects on health and biodiversity.

9.54 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on minimising pollution.

Policy 20: Air Quality

9.55 The National Planning Policy Framework states that the planning system has an environmental role in minimising pollution.

9.56 Paragraph 109 and 124 of the NPPF states that; "*109. The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:…preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of …air, … pollution or land instability;…*

9.57 *124. Planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas."*

9.58 This SA assessment considers whether to have a policy on air quality or whether to rely on current policy guidance.

9.59 Options relating to air quality have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.60 Whether to include a policy

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy on air quality.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the NPPF.

Table 35: Air Quality

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	-	++	+			+		++			++			-
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)		-	- -			- -		-			- -			- -

9.61 Option A has significant positive effects on the green and natural resources objectives; whilst Option B has significant negative effects on the health and natural resources objectives.

9.62 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on air quality.

Policy 21: Unstable Land

9.63 The National Planning Policy Framework states that;

> "*109. The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: remediating and mitigating … unstable land, where appropriate.*"

9.64 This SA assessment considers whether to have a policy on unstable land or whether to rely on the NPPF.

9.65 Options relating to unstable land have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.66 Whether to include a policy

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy on unstable land.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the NPPF.

Table 36: Unstable Land

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	-	++	?			++								-
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)		- -	?			- -								- -

9.67 Option A has positive effects on the health and green objectives; whilst Option B has the converse negative effects on these objectives.

9.68 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on unstable land.

Policy 22: Minerals

9.69 Options relating to Minerals have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.70 Minerals.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy requiring consultation with the Minerals Planning Authority on potentially sterilising development within consultation areas and safeguarding minerals areas.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework.

Table 37: Minerals

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	+													++
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)														- -

9.71 Option A has a positive effect on the economic structure objective but only supports the Minerals Planning Authority in decision-taking. This option has a potentially insignificant effect on housing; Option B has the converse negative effect on economic structure, but would not constrain housing locally.

9.72 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on requiring consultation with the Minerals Planning Authority on potentially sterilising development within consultation areas and safeguarding minerals areas.

Policy 23: Proposals Affecting Designated and Non-designated Heritage Assets

9.73 Paragraphs 132-134 of the National Planning Policy Framework provide guidance on how to consider the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset. Historic England recommended further local policy to protect designated heritage assets in the local plan. The SA assessment looks at whether to include a policy in the local plan or rely on national policy and the aligned Core Strategy.

9.74 Historic England further recommended policy in the local plan on the significance of non-designated heritage assets to allow more certainty. The SA assessment looks at whether to include a policy or identify non-designated heritage assets on an informal basis and, rely on national policy and the aligned Core Strategy.

9.75 There were no other matters considered that were not appraised.

9.76 Options relating to the historic environment have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.77 How to identify and protect designated and non-designated heritage assets:

Option A – include a policy:
Include policy to assess development against;

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and the aligned Core Strategy;
Identify assets on an informal basis.

Table 38: Proposals Affecting Designated and Non-designated Heritage Assets

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy			++	-	++		++	+						-
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)			-				-							+

9.78 As was hoped, Option A is considered likely to have a very major positive effect against the heritage objective. This could be only improved by further detail as set out in the ACS. It has a significant positive effect against the natural resources objective because it is positive towards conserving assets rather than using raw materials. It has minor negative effects on the crime and economic objectives because heritage protection could be seen as a constraint to development. In the absence of a policy (option B), it is considered that protection of heritage assets, including the historic landscape, will be weaker; although it is considered to reduce a minor constraint to economic development.

9.79 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy to control development in respect of heritage assets.

Policy 24: The Health Impacts of Development

9.80 Options relating to health have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.81 Require health impact assessments for significant applications.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy requiring an health impact assessment for significant applications.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework.

Table 39: The Health Impacts of Development

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy		+			+									
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)		-			- -									

9.82 Option A has significant positive effects on the health and social objectives; whilst Option B has converse effects, although socially there is slightly more to gain than lose through policy making.

9.83 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on requiring an health impact assessment for significant applications.

Policy 25: Culture, Tourism and Sport

9.84 Paragraphs 70 and 73 of the National Planning Policy Framework provide guidance on how to consider proposed cultural and sport development;

9.85 "*70. To deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:*

- *plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;*
- *guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs;*
- *ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community; and*
- *ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.*

9.86 *73. Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.*"

9.87 The SA assessment looks at whether to include a policy in the local plan or rely on national policy and policy 13 of the aligned Core Strategy.

9.88 Options relating to culture, tourism and sport have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.89 Delivering culture, tourism and sport development:

Option A – include a policy:
Include policy to deliver culture, tourism and sport development;

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and policy 13 of the aligned Core Strategy.

Table 40: Culture, Tourism and Sport

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy		++	+		++	+	+				-	+		
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)		- -	- -		- -	-	-				+	-		

9.90 Option A is considered likely to have significant positive effects against the health and landscape objectives, and several minor benefits against others.

9.91 Option B is considered likely to have a significant negative effect on the landscape objective, and minor negative effects on other objectives.

9.92 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy to deliver culture, tourism and sport development.

Policy 26: Travel Plans

9.93 Planning practice guidance mentions travel plans.

9.94 This SA assessment considers whether to have a policy on travel plans or whether to rely on current national planning practice guidance and the support of the aligned Core Strategy.

9.95 Options relating to travel plans have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.96 Whether to include a policy

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy on travel plans.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on Planning Practice Guidance.

Table 41: Travel Plans

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy		++			+			++			+			
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)		- -	- -		- -	- -		-			-			

9.97 Option A has significant positive effects on the transport objective and benefits several other objectives; but has a significant negative effect on the economic structure objective by excluding commercial development; whilst Option B has significant negative effects on the transport and natural resources objectives, and minor negative effects on several other objectives.

9.98 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on travel plans.

Policy 27: Local Green Space

9.99 Paragraphs 76-78 of the NPPF state that;

9.100 "*76. Local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them.*

9.101 *By designating land as Local Green Space local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances.*

9.102 *Identifying land as Local Green Space should therefore be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.*

9.103 *77. The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:*

- *where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- *where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
- *where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.*

9.104 *78. Local policy for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts*."

9.105 Options relating to Local Green Space (LGS) have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.106 Whether to include a policy on LGS

Option A – include a policy:
Include designations.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on other designations.

Table 42: Local Green Space

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	-	+			+	+	++				+			
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	+	-	-		- -	- -	- -				-			

9.107 Option A has significant positive effects on the health, social, biodiversity and green infrastructure, and transport objectives; whilst Option B has converse effects. Having a policy may only negatively affect one objective, option A for the housing objective through Green Belt consistent control.

9.108 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on designating Local Green Spaces.

Policy 28: Green Infrastructure Assets

9.109 Options relating to Green Infrastructure (GI) and open space have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.110 Green Infrastructure corridors; developer contributions for, and protection of, green spaces; natural environment designations; recreational routes; trees; and design for biodiversity.

Option A – include policies:
Include policies enhancing Green Infrastructure corridors; requiring contributions for green spaces; conserving green spaces; protecting natural environment designations; protecting recreational routes; protecting trees; and enhancing biodiversity through design.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and the aligned Core Strategy.

Table 43: Green Infrastructure Assets

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	10. Waste	11. Energy and Climate Change	12. Transport	13. Employment	14. Innovation	15. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	- -	+	++		+	+++	+	++			+			
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)		-			- -	+	+	-			-			

9.111 Option A has significant positive effects on the health, social, landscape and especially the biodiversity and green infrastructure objectives; whilst Option B has significant converse effects except on the social objective because existing social capital may be retained incidentally. Having a policy may only negatively affect, insignificantly, option A for the housing objective through constraints in order to manage GI and open space in non-residential use.

9.112 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include policies on managing Green Infrastructure and open space.

Policy 29: Cemetery Extensions

9.113 Options relating to cemetery extensions have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

Option A – include policy:
Include a policy allocating land for cemetery extensions and protecting it.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework .

Table 44: Cemetery Extensions

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. . Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy			++		+	+	++				+			
Option B – no policy (do nothing)			-		--	+	+	-			-			

9.114 Option A has significant positive effects on the social and biodiversity green infrastructure objectives; whilst Option B has significant converse effect on biodiversity and green infrastructure, and landscape.

9.115 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on cemetery extensions.

Policy 30: Landscape

9.116 Paragraphs 109 and 113 of the National Planning Policy Framework provides that;

9.117 "*109. The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:…protecting and enhancing valued landscapes;*

9.118 *113. Local planning authorities should set criteria based policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting protected … landscape areas will be judged.*"

9.119 The SA assessment looks at whether to include a policy in the local plan or rely on national policy, and Policies 16 2. e) and 10 2. i) of the aligned Core Strategy.

9.120 Options relating to landscape have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.121 How to protect landscape:

Option A – include a policy:
Include policy to assess development against;

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policies 10 and 16 of the aligned Core Strategy.

Table 45: Landscape

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy					++	++	+++	+		+	+			
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)			-		-	-	- -	-		-	-			

9.122 Option A is considered likely to have major positive effects against the social, biodiversity, natural resources, climate change and obviously landscape objectives, with converse significant effects for no policy to a slightly lesser extent.

9.123 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy to protect, conserve and enhance landscape.

Policy 31: Biodiversity Assets

9.124 Paragraphs 109, 113 and 117 of the National Planning Policy Framework provides that;

9.125 "*109. The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:…*

- *recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;*
- *minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures…*

9.126 *113. Local planning authorities should set criteria based policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting protected wildlife or geodiversity sites or landscape areas will be judged. Distinctions should be made between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites, so that protection is commensurate with their status and gives appropriate weight to their importance and the contribution that they make to wider ecological networks.*

9.127 *117. To minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity, planning policies should:*

- *plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries;*
- *identify and map components of the local ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them and areas identified by local partnerships for habitat restoration or creation;*
- *promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations, linked to national and local targets, and identify suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity in the plan;*
- *aim to prevent harm to geological conservation interests; and*
- *where Nature Improvement Areas are identified in Local Plans, consider specifying the types of development that may be appropriate in these Areas.*"

9.128 The SA assessment looks at whether to include a policy in the local plan or rely on national policy and Policy 17 of the aligned Core Strategy.

9.129 Options relating to biodiversity assets have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.130 How to protect biodiversity assets:

Option A – include a policy:
Include policy to assess development against;

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy 17 of the aligned Core Strategy.

Table 46: Biodiversity Assets

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	-	++	+		+	++	++	+						-
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	+	- -	-		-	- -	-	-						+

9.131 As was hoped, Option A is considered likely to have a major positive effect against the green objective and a significant positive effect against the natural resources objective, with converse significant effects for no policy. It has minor positive effects on other objectives with roughly converse negative effects on the same objectives for option B. Any unconstrained growth in homes and economic development will have opposing effects on those objectives.

9.132 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy to conserve biodiversity assets.

Policy 32: Developer Contributions

9.133 Planning Practice Guidance states that Policies for seeking planning obligations should be set out in a local plan to enable fair and open testing of the policy at examination. Planning obligations assist in mitigating the impact of development which benefits local communities and supports the provision of local infrastructure. Local communities should be involved in the setting of planning obligations policies in a local plan.

9.134 The SA assessment looks at whether to include a policy in the local plan or rely on Policy 19 of the aligned Core Strategy.

9.135 Options relating to the consideration of developer contributions have been subject to SA assessment and the findings are as follows:

9.136 Developer Contributions.

Option A – include a policy:
Include a policy relating to the consideration of Developer Contributions.

Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy):
Rely on Policy 19 of the Broxtowe Core Strategy.

Table 47: Developer Contributions

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	7. Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
Option A – include a policy	-	++		-	+		+	- -		- -	-			-
Option B – no policy (No Part 2 local plan policy)	- -	-		-	-		-	- -		- -	-	-		

9.137 Option A has a significant positive benefit to the social objective, which should be expected from developer contributions which would make development unacceptable without them. Subject to viability which is another decision-taking guide, there were other options for developer contributions supporting other objectives, by omission leading to significant negative effects on some objectives.

9.138 Option B has significant negative effects on the social, health and transport objectives, as the absence of a policy would make development unacceptable.

9.139 Through the local plan process, it has been decided to include a policy on developer contributions because, although the list of infrastructure for which developer contributions can be sought could be added to, there are more significant negatives which would make development unacceptable without a policy.

Section 10: Assessment of 'No Part 2 Local Plan' Scenario

10.1 The SEA Directive requires an assessment to be made of the 'do nothing' or 'business as usual' approach in the plan area without the implementation of the new local plan;- "*relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme" and "the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected*" (Annex I (b), (c)) . The baseline indicators and data established in the SA Scoping Report detailed the current picture in the plan area. The baseline indicators and data have been updated for this SA report and included in Appendix part B.

10.2 The business as usual approach has been considered by projecting forward the existing planning framework over the life of the plan taking into account the likely planning decisions that would be made in the absence of a local plan.

10.3 The precise impacts of the policies will in practice vary by location and are dependent on how local communities respond to the opportunities provided by the local plan.

10.4 Where applications accord with the plan, there is likely to be some impact on the speed with which decisions are made. As a result, with an up-to-date plan adopted, the speed of obtaining planning permission (and therefore completing sustainable development) should be improved; even modest improvements in scheme delivery times as a result of the certainty provided by up-to-date plan could produce significant effects in terms of the efficiency by which the plan is delivered and substantial benefits to the community as a result of development taking place sooner.

10.5 Promoting an ambitious Local Plan that reflects Broxtowe community interests could result in much more far reaching beneficial environmental impacts, since by doing this the local plan could put all baseline development on a more sustainable footing. Minor improvements to the design and location of the dwellings that may be built over 10 years, regardless of the local plan, could have large positive environmental impacts.

10.6 It is for Broxtowe Borough council, working with its community, to identify the amount of development needed in its local areas, and how this can be accommodated within the environmental constraints of and aspirations for an area. The community is best placed to understand its environment and identify suitable locations for development – minimising adverse impacts on the natural environment and proactively seeking to enhance ecosystems services. The Council is also required to work together on cross boundary strategic issues, including the natural environment.

10.7 The council should continue to plan for and address water infrastructure implications of development through policies in its Local Plan, reflecting local circumstances.

10.8 The council is to identify sites with the least environment value for development, and encourage the effective use of land by reusing previously developed brownfield land.

10.9 Environmental impacts are often context specific though, meaning they are best considered at a more local level, using more detailed evidence.

10.10 It is clear the Local Plan making can contribute to healthy ecosystem services by ensuring that local planning decisions will promote net environmental gain. This environmental gain can be achieved by guiding development to the best locations, encouraging greener design and enabling development to enhance natural networks for the benefit of both local communities and the environment.

10.11 The council will continue to plan for and address water infrastructure implications of development through these policies, reflecting local circumstances and priorities and actively engage with interested parties.

10.12 Vegetative cover plays an important role in soil retention and in the prevention of land erosion. The new Local Green Space designation will protect locally significant green areas reflecting the importance of these areas to the health and happiness of local communities. The Local Plan also includes an objective to conserve and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting valued landscapes and minimising impacts on biodiversity. The council has considered the impacts on the natural and local environment when developing Local Plan policies and will do so when taking decisions on planning applications.

10.13 Local policies and decisions should ensure that new development is appropriate for its location, having regard to the effects of pollution on health, the natural environment or general amenity. Local policies should also take account of the potential sensitivity of the area or proposed development to adverse effects from pollution.

10.14 Environmental gain can be achieved by guiding development to the best locations, encouraging greener design and enabling development to enhance natural networks for the benefit of both local communities and the environment.

10.15 Local plan making can contribute to achieving the water recycling objective by having an integrated approach to planning for the natural environment, guiding development to the best locations, encouraging greener design and enabling development to enhance natural networks for the benefit of both local communities and the environment as part of sustainable development.

10.16 Where a council increases the amount of housing development there can be an adverse impact on the environment in terms of the additional natural resources utilised for development and carbon impacts during the construction and lifespan of the housing. There are however opportunities through the planning system to ensure that the new housing incorporates sustainable design and renewable energy. The council being allowed to make decisions on the most appropriate locations for development allows it to consider wider sustainability issues. Developments can be located taking account of their accessibility to shops and services by means other than the private car. Developments of a sufficient scale can be designed to encourage use of public transport, walking and cycling and can integrate sustainable waste management systems. Smaller sites for example in rural areas can be beneficial supporting the viability of local shops and services which might be vulnerable to closure leading residents to make longer journeys. Land allocated for housing development on the edge of towns and villages is often lower grade agricultural land and may be of lower biodiversity value than other sites such as garden land or previously developed land that has been restored to nature. Environmental and biodiversity considerations should be taken into account at site selection stage and in planning decisions on individual applications. Designated areas of special environmental importance will continue to be given very strong protection.

10.17 Green Belt is not an environmental designation, it is a policy to manage the patterns of urban development. Allowing the consideration of local transport infrastructure in the Green Belt gives the council more flexibility in allocating the most sustainable sites for this use. This will provide more optimal outcomes in terms of reducing the overall environmental impact of transport movements.

10.18 The local plan policy should also lead to opportunities to enhance green infrastructure, for example through the creation of the green corridors linking natural habitats or urban green spaces, and, where a need is identified, the designation of the additional land in the plan to contribute to green infrastructure networks.

10.19 Preserving green space within both rural and urban areas through the Local Green Space designation could have benefits for the environment. There is significant evidence on the importance attached by the public to green space within urban areas.

10.20 The Council has many tools at its disposal, including the use of travel plans, to ensure that heritage assets are visited in sustainable ways which minimise the impact of tourism on the local environment.

10.21 The sustainability appraisal objectives have been used to structure this description of the business as usual approach as shown in Table 49 and the associated commentary below.

Table 48: Sustainability Appraisal of 'No Part 2 Local Plan' Scenario

	1. Housing	2. Health	3. Heritage	4. Crime	5. Social	6. Environment, Biodiversity and Green Infrastructures	7.Environment and Landscape	8. Natural Resources and Flooding	9. Waste	10. Energy and Climate Change	11. Transport	12. Employment	13. Innovation	14. Economic Structure
'No Part 2 Local Plan' Scenario	--	--	--		-	-	-		-	-	--	-	-	-

10.22 The environmental objectives are highlighted first in accordance with the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape).

Health = Major negative
10.23 Lack of Local Plan planned development will produce less opportunity for creation of best quality and sufficient facilities due to potential ad hoc nature of development which could lead to housing in areas not well served by health and social care infrastructure.

Heritage = Major negative
10.24 Without part 2 Local Plan Development Management Policies and new allocations there may be added pressure to build on land that would have an impact on designated and non designated heritage assets.

Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure = Very minor negative
10.25 Lack of a local framework may lead to pressure for development of open spaces within urban areas and greenfield land outside of these areas which could have negative impacts on biodiversity. Less opportunity for Green Infrastructure enhancement and creation.

Environment and Landscape = Very minor negative
10.26 Without a Part 2 Local Plan development would mostly be concentrated within the urban framework and settlement boundaries. However, there would be pressure to develop Greenfield sites outside of these areas (National policies would limit development in the Green Belt).

Natural Resources and Flooding = Neutral
10.27 National policies will still seek to prevent development in high flood risk areas. Other Natural Resources such as minerals, air quality and soils will not be unduly affected by the lack of a local framework.

Waste = Very minor negative
10.28 Without a local plan there is potential that waste capacity may not be available to deal with ad hoc development.

Energy and Climate Change = Very minor negative
10.29 National standards will still be applied but local standards will not be applied. Opportunities for low carbon/renewable energy generation schemes on new allocations will not be secured.

Housing = Major negative
10.30 The lack of a planned approach to homes could mean that the ability to meet housing targets could be adversely affected, particularly later in the plan period. Although more importantly Councils through the imposition of the National Planning Policy Framework would lose control over the distribution of housing which might end up being developed in more unsustainable locations.

Crime = Neutral
10.31 Limited implications as planning applications will continue to be assessed against the existing planning framework which includes crime prevention measures.

Social = Very minor negative
10.32 Lack of strategic framework will provide less opportunity for creation of good quality and sufficient facilities due to ad hoc nature of development.

Transport = Major negative
10.33 Lack of a local framework will limit the opportunity for major transport improvements which could be secured through large development schemes (allocations). There would also be a lot of unplanned growth with a general lack of land use/transport integration.

Employment = Very minor negative
10.34 Lack of long term framework to provide local planning of employment locations in sustainable locations. There will also be pressure to release employment land for residential uses. Less housing being developed will not meet the needs of our population and will result in not enough jobs being provided to meet the needs of our population.

Innovation = Very minor negative
10.35 There will be a lack of larger employment sites to meet business needs in the longer term including for office floor space, science and technology.

Economic Structure = Very minor negative
10.36 Lack of larger employment sites will limit the scope for the economy to diversify (lack of office floor space, science and technology).

Conclusion

10.37 In conclusion, the 'No Part 2 Local Plan' scenario has been assessed as negative (with some neutral aspects for Natural Resources and Flooding and Crime) on the whole. Health, Heritage, Housing and Transport have been assessed as particularly negative due to the risk of lack of infrastructure; unplanned development potentially harming designated and more likely non designated, especially as yet unlisted, heritage assets; not meeting housing targets; severe effects of no strategic transport infrastructure delivery; and a lack of control over employment distribution through the unplanned approach and the attendant risk of not enough jobs being created to meet the needs of our population.

10.38 The 2004 Broxtowe Local Plan is increasingly becoming out of date and the above assessment of the no local plan, or business as usual approach, shows that there are significant adverse implications of continuing to use this for decision making. In particular, where there is no five year housing land supply as currently in Broxtowe then housing land supply policies are out of date in NPPF terms. The implementation of a new plan therefore provides significant benefits, for example in meeting the needs of the plan area over the life of the plan.

Section 11: Response to Representations including Regulation 4 Consultation Bodies[1]

11.1 The Environment Agency made various comments at previous stages of the SA. Concerns included the details of the SA indicators and the need to recognise the importance of flood risk issues.

11.2 In response, the SA indicators have been amended and a policy on flood risk has been agreed with the Environment Agency. Flood risk has been a major issue when assessing all site allocation options.

11.3 Historic England (formally English Heritage) also made various comments at previous stages of the SA. Concerns included shortcomings in the baseline data and the need to recognise the importance of heritage issues.

11.4 In response, the baseline data has been updated and a policy on heritage assets has been agreed with Historic England. The historic environment has been a major issue when assessing all site allocation options and other development management policies.

11.5 Natural England asked for sufficient attention to be paid, in the baseline data and the policies, to issues such as National Character Areas and Green Infrastructure.

11.6 In response, the Plan and the SA have been amended accordingly and the Plan includes development management policies on Green Infrastructure assets and biodiversity assets. These considerations have also been major issues when assessing all site allocation options and other development management policies.

11.7 The Coal Authority urged consideration of issues including mineral resources and the coal mining legacy. Nottinghamshire County Council also emphasised the importance of avoiding the sterilisation of mineral resources.

11.8 In response, the Plan and the SA have been amended accordingly. The Plan includes a development management policy on minerals.

[1] Regulation 4 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

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