



**Strategic Environmental Assessment
(SEA) / Habitats Regulations
Assessment (HRA) Screening Opinion
prepared in relation to the Submission
Policies of the Awsworth
Neighbourhood Plan (June 2019)**

**Prepared by Broxtowe Borough Council
June 2019**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This screening opinion has been prepared by Broxtowe Borough Council (BBC) on behalf of Awsworth Parish Council in relation to the Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Policies), a draft of which was provided to Broxtowe Borough Council on 17 June 2019 (version v5F).
- 1.2 As required by 'Basic Condition (f)' as set out in paragraph 8(2) of [Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#) (as amended), as applied to neighbourhood plans by [section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#) (as amended), Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan has been subject to a screening opinion.
- 1.3 To be 'made', a Neighbourhood Plan must meet certain Basic Conditions. Basic Condition (f) states that the Neighbourhood Plan '*does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations*'. One of these obligations is [Directive 2001/42/EC](#) '*on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment*'. This is often referred to as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (or SEA) Directive.
- 1.4 The SEA Directive '*seeks to provide a high level of protection of the environment by integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing plans and programmes.*' The SEA Directive is transposed into UK law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (the 'SEA Regulations') and it is these regulations that the plan will need to be compatible with.
- 1.5 A key stage in the neighbourhood planning process is determining whether or not a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is required. Further guidance on applying European Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment on the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment' is set out within a '[Practical Guide](#)', published by the former Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in 2006.

2.0 Screening Process

- 2.1 There are three steps to the screening process, these are:
 1. Prepare a screening report
 2. Request a screening opinion from the consultation bodies in light of this report
 3. In light of their responses, determine whether the plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment (and therefore requires an SEA).
- 2.2 When determining whether a neighbourhood plan requires an SEA, the SEA Regulations require that the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations be considered.

2.3 These are the criteria *‘for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment’*.

2.4 These criteria are split into two categories:

- those relating to the characteristics of the plan; and,
- those relating to the characteristics of the effects and area likely to be affected.

Plan Characteristics

- the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources
- the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy
- the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development
- environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme
- the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of [European] Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).

Effects and Area Characteristics

- the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects
- the cumulative nature of the effects
- the transboundary nature of the effects
- the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)
- the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)
- the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
 - o special natural characteristics or cultural heritage
 - o exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values
 - o intensive land-use
- the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.

2.5 The assessment of effects should be done in a proportionate way and it is acknowledged that at this stage there may be gaps in data. That should only be a problem if the gaps or uncertainties are such that it is not possible to reasonably assess the likely significant effects of the Plan. Enough information needs to be included so that the consultation bodies can take a view on the likely significant effects of implementing the Plan. The SEA Regulations set out a range of issues that could be addressed in the environmental report if an SEA is required.

- 2.6 The Awworth Neighbourhood Plan is in 'general conformity' with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area, the [Broxtowe Aligned Core Strategy \(ACS\)](#), which was subject to an SEA ([Sustainability Appraisal](#)) during its preparation. Many of the policies are similar to those proposed within the emerging Part 2 Local Plan, which was subjected to a full process of [Sustainability Appraisal](#) (including an SEA).

3.0 Key Information on the Emerging Neighbourhood Plan

Vision:

- 3.1 The Vision of the Awworth Neighbourhood Plan is:

'By 2030, Awworth Parish will be a safer and more attractive area. It will value the local community and their aspirations and provide people with a sense of pride and belonging. It will be a thriving and vibrant place, where everyone can be involved and contribute.'

Objectives:

- 3.2 The Objectives of the Awworth Neighbourhood Plan are to:

- Promote a level of housing growth to meet identified housing needs, that is proportionate to the size of Awworth, and retains its essential rural village character.
- Support future housing that is high quality, well designed and enhances the character of Awworth, ensuring that it is of a size, type and tenure that helps meet the needs of local people.
- Protect environmental assets and where possible enhance the network of green and blue infrastructure.
- Ensure that the Nottingham Canal and Bennerley Viaduct and their settings are maintained and enhanced for the benefit of people and wildlife.
- Protect and enhance Awworth Parish's remaining local landscape areas, particularly the largely intact traditional field pattern found immediately east of the village.
- Encourage, where both possible and viable, appropriate infrastructure including health and transport to support present demand and future needs.
- Retain and promote existing local community facilities and businesses, considered valuable community assets underpinning the vitality of the Parish.
- Provide an appealing and safe environment that supports people to use and appreciate the local amenities and facilities.
- Encourage traffic calming and control measures which address traffic flow and speed through the Parish and to actively explore and facilitate attractive sustainable means of travel.

- Ensure new housing development integrates well with the existing settlement pattern and community, maintaining and enhancing links to facilities and the surrounding countryside for walking and cycling.
- Support measures to mitigate current parking issues and ensure adequate off-road parking for residents and visitors in all future development.
- Ensure a sustainable outcome for the future use of Bennerley Coal Disposal Point and adjoining land.

Plan Area:

3.3 The Plan Area is the whole of Awsworth Parish. A plan of the Parish boundary is shown in Appendix 1. Further documents in relation to the Neighbourhood Area Designation are set out on the Borough Council's [website](#).

Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan Policies:

Housing

- H 1: New Homes on 'Land West of Awsworth (inside the bypass)'. This policy does not allocate houses for development but rather reaffirms and clarifies the development requirements set out with the Borough Council's Part 2 Local Plan Policy 4, which has been subjected to a detailed process of Sustainability Appraisal including SEA.
- H 2: Housing Mix
- H 3: Affordable Housing and Local Needs
- H 4: New Homes from Unallocated (or Windfall) Development

Built Environment and Design

- BED 1: Awsworth Character Buildings and Structures of Local Heritage Interest
- BED 2: Local Areas of Special Character
- BED 3: Design Principles

Green and Blue Infrastructure

- GI 1: Green and Blue Infrastructure Network
- GI 2: Local Landscape Character Areas
- GI 3: Biodiversity
- GI 4: Designated Local Green Spaces
- GI 5: Local Woodlands, Tree Belts and Hedgerows

Community Facilities and Shops

- CFS 1: Protection of Community Facilities
- CFS 2: New or Enhanced Community Facilities
- CFS 3: Protection and Enhancement of Local Shops
- CFS 4: Support for Additional Shops

Employment

- E 1: Existing Employment Use
- E 2: Encouraging Small Businesses

Traffic and Transport

- TT 1: Traffic Management
- TT 2: Car Parking
- TT 3: Sustainable Transport

Bennerley Viaduct & Nottingham Canal

- BV 1: Bennerley Viaduct
- BV 2: Bennerley Viaduct Visual Setting
- BV 3: Nottingham Canal

Bennerley Coal Disposal Point

- BCDP 1: Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point Land

Developer Contributions

- DC 1: Developer Contributions from New Development in Awsworth

3.4 The full text of each of these policies is set out within Appendix 2.

4.0 SEA Screening Assessment

4.1 Broxtowe Borough Council, as the responsible authority, considers that the Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan is within the scope of the SEA Regulations since it is a plan that:

- is subject to preparation or adoption by an authority at national, regional or local level (Regulation 2)
- is prepared for town and country planning or land use and it is a plan that sets the framework for future development consent of projects generally (Regulation 5, para. 4)

4.2 A determination under Regulation 9 is therefore required as to whether the Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment.

4.3 The screening requirements set out in Regulation 9 and Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations include two sets of characteristics for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment:

- the characteristics of the plan itself, and,
- the characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected by the plan

4.4 This screening assessment is structured in the following table according to the criteria specified in Schedule 1 of the Regulations:

Criteria (Schedule 1 SEA Regulations)	Are significant environmental effects likely? Yes/ No Justification and evidence
1.The characteristics of plans, having regard, in particular, to:	
(a) the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	<p>No*</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate sites explicitly, but it does set development criteria for one of the sites allocated within emerging Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan Policy 4 ('Land to the West of Awsworth'). This allocation has the possibility for significant environmental effects, but this allocation has been the subject of a separate Sustainability Appraisal (including SEA) through the emerging Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan process. The Part 2 Local Plan is at the examination stage and has been subjected to examination hearings. No issues were raised in relation to Awsworth within the Inspector's Post Hearing Advice Note. The Borough Council is currently consulting on the Main Modifications to the Part 2 Local Plan. The Inspector's Report is expected in August 2019.</p> <p>*Development requirements are proposed for site allocated within Broxtowe Borough Council's emerging Part 2 Local Plan, which has been subjected to extensive processes of SA (including SEA). The Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan SA assessments, including for the allocation at Awsworth, can be found on the Borough Council's website.</p>
(b) the degree to which the plan influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	<p>No</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan is prepared by the local community to influence development at the parish level. It does not strongly influence strategic plans higher up in the spatial planning hierarchy.</p>
(c) the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable	<p>No</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan is a spatial/land-use plan that seeks to promote the objectives of sustainable development. It is not specifically relevant as a plan for integrating environmental considerations. Any development proposed must also be in</p>

development		accordance with the environmental protection policies in the adopted Broxtowe Aligned Core Strategy, 2004 Broxtowe Local Plan saved policies, emerging policies of the Part 2 Local Plan and the NPPF.
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan	No	There are no specific environmental problems relevant to this Plan that have not been identified and assessed through the higher-level Aligned Core Strategy and emerging Part 2 Local Plan and their accompanying processes of SA/SEA.
(e) the relevance of the plan for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	No	The Neighbourhood Plan is not relevant as a plan for implementing community legislation on the environment.
Criteria (Schedule 1 SEA Regulations)	Are significant environmental effects likely? Yes/ No Justification and evidence	
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:		
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	No	This has been tested through extensive SA/SEA at the Borough Council Local Plan level & strong mitigation measures through Aligned Core Strategy and emerging Part 2 Local Plan policies; any potential negative effects in relation to the development referred to within Policy H1, and to be allocated within the Part 2 Local Plan, will be mitigated such that there will be no significant residual negative environmental effects.
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects	No	There will be no cumulative effects as a result of any policies in the Neighbourhood Plan.
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects	No	There will be no trans-boundary effects as a result of the proposals.
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	No	No significant environmental effects are considered likely to risk human health or the environment.

(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	No	The geographical size and numbers of dwellings proposed by the Borough Council's emerging Part 2 Local Plan housing allocation that the Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan seeks to influence through Policy H1 are likely to have some environmental effects, although the allocation has been investigated through an extensive process of SA (as explained above in 1(a)) for the higher level emerging Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan.
(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to— (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use;	No	No significant environmental effects are considered likely. No Air Quality Management Areas cover any parts of the Neighbourhood Plan Area.
(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	No	No parts of the Neighbourhood Plan Area are within or adjacent to any internationally or nationally designated areas. There is no AONB nearby. There is no Conservation Area within the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

4.5 The following table provides a summary of likely impact of the Plan on the following SEA Issues:

- Biodiversity
- Population
- Human health
- Fauna
- Flora
- Soil
- Water
- Air
- Climatic factors
- Material assets
- Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage
- Landscape

4.6 The key for the following table is:

	Positive Impact
	Neutral / Insignificant or No Impact
	Negative Impact

SEA Issue	Likely Impact on the Issue	Comments
Biodiversity	Further Protection	Further protection as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan's environmental policies.
Population	None*	No significant impact upon this issue.
Human Health	Potential positive impact	Policies within the Neighbourhood Plan protect and promote land for sport and recreational use.
Fauna	Further protection	Further protection as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan's environmental policies.
Flora	Further protection	Further protection as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan's environmental policies.
Soil	None*	No significant impact upon this issue. Some additional protection as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan's environmental policies.
Water	Further protection	Further protection for the Nottingham Canal Local Nature Reserve and nearby Local Wildlife Sites as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan environmental policies. The village is outside of flood risk areas, according to Environment Agency flood risk mapping, although some parts of the wider Parish (the Neighbourhood Plan Area) adjacent to the River Erewash to the west of the Parish and along part of the north western boundary of the Parish are within Flood Zones 2/3. However, no development is proposed within any of these areas and it has been concluded that none of the Plan's policies will adversely impact upon flood risk.
Air	None*	There are no Air Quality Management Areas within any part

		of the Neighbourhood Plan Area. Some Neighbourhood Plan policies promote sustainable transport options, which will be likely to reduce congestion and air pollution.
Climatic factors	Insignificant	Support for sustainable transport measures may reduce dependence upon the private car, leading to reductions in pollution / use of fossil fuels.
Material assets	None	No significant effects.
Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage	Additional protection	Additional protection will be provided through the inclusion of a 'local list' of non-designated heritage assets. The policies of the Plan will not adversely impact any designated or non-designated heritage assets.
Landscape	Further protection	Further protection as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan's environmental policies.

**The development site referred to within Policy H1 and allocated within the Borough Council's emerging Part 2 Local Plan will result in some impacts, although these have been assessed and mitigated against within the [Part 2 Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal](#) (including SEA).*

4.7 The below schedule shows the likely environmental impacts (positive, negative or neutral) of each policy within the Neighbourhood Plan. The key for the following schedule is:

	Very Positive Likely Impact
	Positive Likely Impact
	Neutral / Insignificant or No Impact
	Negative Likely Impact
	Very Negative Likely Impact

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN POLICY	ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	COMMENTS
H 1: New Homes on 'Land West of Awworth (inside the bypass)'.	Neutral / Insignificant Positive Likely Impact	The development site that is referred to within Policy H1 and allocated within the Borough Council's emerging Part 2 Local Plan will result in some environment impacts, although these have been assessed and mitigated against, within the Part 2 Local Plan

		Sustainability Appraisal (including SEA). The Environmental impact of Neighbourhood Plan Policy H1 is, overall, therefore likely to be neutral. There may however be insignificant positive impacts through improved design and landscaping.
H 2: Housing Mix	Neutral Likely Impact	The policy does not propose any additional development.
H 3: Affordable Housing and Local Needs	Neutral Likely Impact	The policy does not propose any additional development.
H4: New Homes from Unallocated (or Windfall) Development	Insignificant Positive Likely Impact	The development proposed by the policy would, in any case, otherwise be permitted, but the Policy includes additional environmental safeguards, thus potentially resulting in an insignificant positive likely impact.
BED 1: Awworth Character Buildings and Structures of Local Heritage Interest	Very Positive Likely Impact	The policy helps to identify and protect many historic assets within the village which are currently less well protected by local policy.
BED 2: Local Areas of Special Character	Positive Likely Impact	The Policy is likely to help protect parts of the local environment and help to promote sustainable transport options in and around the village.
BED 3: Design Principles	Insignificant Positive Likely Impact	No new development is proposed; the Policy is likely to lead to improved design and possibly conservation of the built heritage of the village.
GI 1: Green and Blue Infrastructure Network	Very Positive Likely Impact	The policy seeks to preserve and enhance environmental resources (including land and wet resources) within the Parish.
GI 2: Local Landscape Character Areas	Positive Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to protect and enhance certain areas of landscape.
GI 3: Biodiversity	Very Positive Likely Impact	The Policy provides protection and enhancement to biodiversity in and around the village and requires mitigation measures in the case of the potential loss of biodiversity.
GI 4: Designated Local Green Spaces	Very Positive Likely Impact	The Policy provides an additional layer of protection from development for several areas of the Parish which it deems to be 'very special' to the local community.

GI 5: Local Woodlands, Tree Belts and Hedgerows	Positive Likely Impact	The Policy provides a number of features including local woodlands, tree belts and hedgerows with additional protection from loss or development. The Policy also supports the enhancement of these features and the creation of additional features.
CFS 1: Protection of Community Facilities	Positive Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to protect important community facilities (including recreation grounds) from development. Although not the direct intention of this specific Policy, it will also help to protect the heritage and local environment of the village.
CFS 2: New or Enhanced Community Facilities	Insignificant Likely Impact	The policy provides support for the enhancement of existing local community facilities and, potentially, support for additional facilities, should they be required, albeit that this would be subject to stringent conditions, especially in relation to the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable transport options.
CFS 3: Protection and Enhancement of Local Shops	Positive Likely Impact	This Policy seeks to protect local shops from redevelopment. It also seeks to encourage sustainable transport options (including footpaths and cycleways) and improved local signage. It also seeks to improve the quality of parts of the local environment.
CFS 4: Support for Additional Shops	Insignificant Likely Impact	This Policy allows for limited, new shops to serve local needs only, subject to meeting stringent criteria designed to protect the environment and promote sustainable transport options (such as walking and cycling).
E 1: Existing Employment Use	Neutral Likely Impact	This Policy seeks to protect existing employment premises from redevelopment; no new development is proposed.
E 2: Encouraging Small Businesses	Insignificant Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to encourage local, small-scale, small business development, subject to conditions including those which seek to protect the environment. The use of residential premises for live / work use is supported subject to a number of conditions, including conditions to

		protect the environment and local amenity.
TT 1: Traffic Management	Positive Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to promote safety improvements to sustainable transport options including footpaths and cycleways.
TT 2: Car Parking	Insignificant Likely Impact	The Policy does not propose new development. It reiterates that parking standards will be set by the local Highways Authority, Nottinghamshire County Council.
TT 3: Sustainable Transport	Very Positive Likely Impact	The Policy supports the development and enhancement of sustainable transport measures such as footpaths and cycleways.
BV 1: Bennerley Viaduct	Positive Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to protect and enhance the Grade II* Listed Bennerley Viaduct, including by bringing it back into productive use as a footpath / cycleway. A small-scale visitor centre is also considered within the Policy, subject to meeting stringent criteria to protect the environment and accord with the Green Belt designation of this part of the village.
BV 2: Bennerley Viaduct Visual Setting	Very Positive Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to protect the visual setting of the Bennerley Viaduct.
BV 3: Nottingham Canal	Very Positive Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to protect the environment of the Canal and its environs, both as a natural resource and also as a recreational and sustainable transport option (walking of the towpath etc.). The Policy is likely to also have a positive impact upon 'human health'.
BCDP 1: Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point Land	Very Positive Likely Impact	The Policy seeks to protect the site from development and to encourage the use of this resource by the village for recreation (walking etc.), which will also have a positive impact upon 'human health'.
DC 1: Developer Contributions from New Development in Awsworth	Insignificant Positive Likely Impact	This Policy reiterates higher level policy in relation to developer contributions from Policy 32 of the emerging Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan.

4.8 As can be seen from the above schedule, out of the 26 Neighbourhood Plan policies, the Borough Council considers that 9 are likely to have a 'very positive'

impact upon the environment, and a further 6 are likely to have a 'positive' impact upon the environment. The balance will be likely to have a 'neutral' or 'insignificant' impact upon the environment.

- 4.9 The Borough Council has not identified any policies within the Neighbourhood Plan which it considers would be likely to have a 'negative' or 'very negative' impact upon the environment.

5.0 SEA Screening Decision

- 5.1 Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations requires that the responsible authority shall determine whether or not a plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

- 5.2 The responsible authority shall:

- (a) take into account the criteria specified in Schedule 1 to these Regulations, and:
- (b) consult the consultation bodies.

- 5.3 Where the responsible authority determines that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects (and, accordingly, does not require an environmental assessment), it shall prepare a statement of its reasons for the determination.

- 5.4 Broxtowe Borough Council considers that the Submission Draft Awworth Neighbourhood Plan (June 2019) is unlikely to have significant environmental effects and thus does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This decision has been made for the following key reasons:

- The Awworth Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate any sites for development. Policy H1 refers to the Borough Council's 'Land West of Awworth' allocation for housing within the Borough Council's emerging Part 2 Local Plan. The likely significant effects on the environment were identified at an early stage of plan development during initial investigations for the Part 2 Local Plan, and were all subjected to SA, incorporating SEA. Mitigation measures for any negative effects have been developed and delivery is certain through policy requirements (Policy 4) in the Part 2 Local Plan. The Part 2 Local Plan has been tested at examination hearings and the Council is currently consulting on [Main Modifications](#).
- The other policies of the Plan will not lead to development which would be harmful to the environment.
- The emphasis of policies within the Plan is towards the conservation, protection and enhancement of the environment and protection of the heritage of the village and parish.

6.0 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening

- 6.1 The Borough Council has also 'screened' to determine whether the Neighbourhood Plan requires a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in accordance with Article 6(3) and (4) of the [EU Habitats Directive](#) and with Regulation 63 of the [Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017](#) in order to fulfil the requirements of the Basic Conditions of the [Neighbourhood Planning \(General\) Regulations 2012](#), (as amended, including most recently by the [Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning \(Various Amendments\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2018](#)).
- 6.2 A Habitats Regulations Assessment is required when it is deemed that likely adverse significant effects may occur on protected European Sites (Natura 2000 sites or 'Habitats Sites') as a result of the implementation of a plan / project, including cumulatively with the policies of other plans.
- 6.3 There are no Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Ramsar sites within the Awwsworth Neighbourhood Plan boundary.
- 6.4 A [Habitats Regulations Assessment](#) accompanied the Broxtowe Borough Aligned Core Strategy, for the period until 2028.
- 6.5 An updated [Habitats Regulations Assessment](#) was undertaken and published in November 2018, in relation to the Submission Version of the Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan. This was produced following the European Court of Justice ruling on the '[People Over Wind](#)' case, which provided a new interpretation of when and how mitigation measures should be considered.
- 6.6 The Habitats Regulations Assessment that accompanied the Broxtowe Borough Part 2 Local Plan for the period until 2028, concluded that the development proposed in the Part 2 Local Plan will not lead to likely significant effects either alone or in-combination with other plans or programmes.
- 6.7 The HRA took a precautionary approach and assessed the prospective [Special Protection Area \(SPA\) of Sherwood Forest](#) (which does not represent a formal European site (defined by Regulation 8 of the Habitats Regulations)) as though fully classified. The SPA extends across a wide expanse of land to the north of the borough (located within the Gedling Borough and Ashfield District Council administrative areas).
- 6.8 This HRA (for the Part 2 Local Plan) assessed the impact of the allocations for 7,249 new homes (across the entire Borough) over the plan period and whilst this has increased to 7,512 overall (including a 300 dwelling windfall allowance) following the Main Modifications, the broad locations and distribution for new housing remain unaltered from those in the Aligned Core Strategy. There has been an increase in the urban south of the Borough (Main Built up Area of Nottingham) and a decrease of dwellings proposed for the Key Settlements in the north of the Borough.

- 6.9 This HRA update concluded that the conclusions in the HRA remain valid and are further strengthened through the Main Modifications, including from the fact that numbers for the three (Part 2 Local Plan) allocations within 5km of the only vulnerable site, Sherwood Forest prospective SPA, have actually fallen. Awsworth is located outside of this area.
- 6.10 In consideration of the small geographical area of the Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan, and its significant distance from the one (unconfirmed) European site well outside the Neighbourhood Plan boundary, the HRA screening concludes that the Awsworth Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have significant effects on EU designated sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

Broxtowe Borough Council
June 2019

APPENDIX 1

PLAN SHOWING AWSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL BOUNDARY (THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA)



**APPENDIX 2:
FULL TEXT OF THE POLICIES OF THE AWSWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
(DRAFT SUBMISSION VERSION)**

6.0 HOUSING

POLICY H 1: New Homes on 'Land west of Awworth (inside the bypass)'

The site known as **'Land west of Awworth (inside the bypass)'**, (approximately 10.1 Hectares as shown at Figure 8) is allocated through the Broxtowe Local Plan (Submission Version) for housing development to provide **250 new homes**.

Awworth Neighbourhood Plan supports development for around 200 homes on that part of the allocation site **within Awworth Parish (approximately 8.2 Hectares as shown on the Policies Map & Figure 8)** subject to the following:

a) In overall terms the development incorporates a **'master plan'** approach and high quality design to respect the existing settlement form and character of Awworth and to ensure that functionally and physically it is well connected to and integrates with Awworth village;

New Homes

b) The development provides for a mix of housing sizes and types (including adequate provision of high quality affordable homes in accordance with Broxtowe Borough Council standards) taking into account the most up to date assessment of housing need and site characteristics;

c) All homes should be built to meet **'Building for Life 12'** criteria (see xxxx);

d) The layout of new homes and gardens should not unacceptably impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties by way of privacy, daylight, noise and visual intrusion;

e) New homes should generally be no more than 2 to 3 storeys in height (including any 3rd storey utilising the roof-space wherever possible) with all new homes, especially higher ones, located an appropriate distance from each other and from existing properties;

Traffic & Transport

f) A **Transport Plan** should be submitted addressing the need to:

(i) ensure the proposal does not result in an unacceptable adverse direct or residual cumulative impact on congestion or road and pedestrian safety. Primary vehicular access to the site via the A6096 Shilo Way to the north west and secondary more limited

vehicular access via Newtons Lane, Cossall, to the south (providing a link to Awsworth village via The Lane) is supported. There should be no vehicular access via Park Hill or Barlow Drive North;

- (ii) where feasible, provide for the integration of adequate but sympathetically designed traffic-calming measures into any through-route provided between Shilo Way and Newtons Lane to deter 'rat-running';
- (iii) incorporate adequate measures to mitigate any adverse effects caused by any increase in traffic through Awsworth village and along the A6096 Shilo Way;
- (iv) the relationship between the proposed road layout and existing or new homes should ensure that the impact of new roads on both new and existing homes is acceptable;
- (v) provide for adequate parking that is well designed and integrated into the development;
- (vi) enable bus access through the site, to facilitate provision of conveniently accessible public transport services, (which can provide links to the main nearby urban centres, as well as Ilkeston Station); and
- (vii) ensure safe, convenient and integrated, high quality walking and cycling routes through the site and enhance links that connect to Awsworth village and to important community facilities, (especially Awsworth School, Bennerley Viaduct and Ilkeston Station) to support their patronage and facilitate active means of transport;

Community Facilities & Assets

- g) Provide for an appropriate range of recreational and community facilities to meet existing and future needs, either on-site or by means of contributions to allow provision elsewhere in Awsworth Parish;
- h) Incorporate appropriate (based on Broxtowe Borough Council standards) on-site open space to provide at least 1.85 hectares of additional amenity green space and children's play facilities for the new homes and existing homes nearby, and which links to the wider green network;
- i) Provide a landscaped buffer, including tree planting with a particular emphasis on native species, of at least 25 metres depth between the A6096 Shilo Way and the new housing, to provide a soft landscaped edge to the development and opportunities for informal and formal recreation, as well as minimising noise and other disturbance from traffic movements on the A6096 Shilo Way for occupiers of the dwellings;
- j) Incorporate sustainable urban drainage, where possible, including balancing ponds within the landscaped buffer designed to encourage wildlife and biodiversity;
- k) Retain, and where possible, improve existing important boundaries and features such as trees and hedgerows of good amenity or arboricultural / biodiversity value. Where features are

unavoidably lost they will be replaced by suitable new planting;

l) Incorporate design features, which will increase biodiversity and encourage wildlife to live within and easily pass through the development, including: green corridors; porous boundaries; bat and bird boxes; and native plant species;

m) Ensure that development protects and mitigates any negative impact on Common Toads or other protected species should they be found on site;

n) Ensure that development maintains or enhances the setting of heritage assets including the Grade II* Listed Bennerley Viaduct and where possible contributes towards its conservation or enhancement;

o) Provide a locally themed piece of public artwork to add lasting value to the development; and,

p) Provision of a neighbourhood shop would be supported (small local convenience store with floorspace of 100 - 150 square metres, excluding any form of hot food takeaway, provision subject to viability).

(see Policy DC1 'Developer Contributions' which may apply to some of the above criteria)

POLICY H 2: Housing Mix

Housing development proposals should meet the existing and future housing needs of the residents of Awsworth. They should provide for a mix of housing types, sizes, price and tenures specifically to meet identified local need.

New housing development, where possible, will be required to demonstrate how it reflects:

a) the priority need identified in **Background Report 1** for smaller homes (less than 3 bedrooms), suitable for those entering the housing market (such as young people and small families), and older people who wish to downsize; or,

b) the needs identified in more up to date published evidence of housing need at a local or borough level.

POLICY H 3: Affordable Housing and Local Needs

The Plan supports provision of affordable housing that clearly reflects and meets a local housing need and which is in line with local and national affordable housing policies. In legal and other agreements connected to planning consents that deliver affordable housing, nomination rights will normally be expected to give priority to applicants with a local

connection to Awsworth Parish.

POLICY H 4: New Homes from Unallocated (or Windfall) Development

Small-scale residential windfall development proposals will be supported subject to the following:

- a) Incorporate Design Principles set out in **Policy BED 3**;
- b) Convenient access to public transport;
- c) Protection of habitat and, where possible, incorporation of features to encourage wildlife and biodiversity (such as porous boundaries, bat and bird boxes, native plant species) and sustainable urban drainage systems;
- (d) Any local amenity considerations and mitigation in relation to existing and future residents, and;
- e) Any other provision or mitigation required in the local circumstances of the site.

7.0 Built Environment and Design

POLICY BED 1:

Awsworth Character Buildings and Structures of Local Heritage Interest

The Plan identifies the buildings and structures listed below as Awsworth Character Buildings and Structures of Local Heritage Interest.

Development proposals that harm the historic significance and setting of Awsworth Character Buildings and Structures, **as identified in the Schedule (Table 1) & shown on the Policies Map & Figure 9 (& see Background Report 3)**, will not be supported.

Development proposals will be required to take into account the character, context and setting of these locally important assets including important views towards and from them. Development will be required to be designed appropriately, taking account of local styles, materials and detail.

Designation of the buildings and structures as a 'Local List' by Broxtowe Borough Council is supported.

Table 1: Awsworth Character Buildings and Structures of Local Heritage Interest

Ref	Item	Comments
H1 & H2	St Peter's Church & Churchyard, Main Street	c1746 (with later additions) including churchyard and boundary walls. Note – Churchyard also contains Grade II Listed War Memorial (erected 1920)
H3	Manor House, The Lane	c1777 former manor house/farm (private house). Note - Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record HER (M9959)
H4	Old Junior School, Main Street	c1878 [date stone] former Awsworth Board School.
H5	Old School House, 3 Old School Lane	Former schoolhouse to rear of the old Junior School (former Board School)
H6	'Woodlands', The Lane	1843 former vicarage with Tree Preservation Orders covering trees within large grounds & tree-lined driveway (private house). Note - Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record HER (M11652)
H7	Old Methodist Church (former United Methodist Free Church), 81A The Lane	1884 [date and name stone] former United Methodist Free Church. Known as 'Top Chapel' closed 2015 (converted to a private house). Note - Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record HER (MN11)
H8	Nisa Convenience Store & Post Office, 51/52 The Lane	c1903 Originally Aldercar & Langley Mill Co-operative Society building (now includes Awsworth Post Office)
H9	50 The Lane	c1903 Private house adjoining Nisa store to the north. Seen as an integral part of the adjacent former Co-op.
H10	27 The Lane	Believed to be former brickyard manager's house & later used as a police station (private house)
H11	'Barlow's Cottages', 2,3,4,5 Barlows Cottages Lane	1874 [date stone] Row of 5 railway workers cottages (now contains 4 private dwellings).
H12	'Station House', The Meadows	1892 former Awsworth Station House (private house)
H13	'Rose Cottage', 50 Park Hill	1904 [date stone] (private house)
H14	'Vine House', 22 Park Hill	c1900 (private house)
H15	1 Station Road	1854 [date stone] former Primitive Methodist Chapel (private house)
H16	'Glebe Farm House', Barlow Drive South	c1900 former farmhouse (after which Glebe Farm Estate c1967-69 was named) (private house)
H17	'The Limes' 71 / 72 The Lane	Late 19 th Century semi-detached private houses in local building style with good brickwork detailing
H18	'The Laurels' 73 / 74 The Lane	Late 19 th Century semi-detached private houses in local building style with good brickwork detailing
H19	'Naptha House', Shilo Way	c1860-70 Located west of Shilo Way formerly associated with Naptha & Ammonia Sulphate works (private house)
H20	Four Lanes End crossroads fingerpost waymark sign	Located at the southern limit of the parish at northeast corner junction of The Lane / Newtons Lane / Awsworth Lane / Westby Lane.

H21	‘Bonner’s Road’ (also known as Bonner’s Lane)	From junction with The Lane former access road to Glebe Farm runs west. Now Public Bridleway No7, much-used pedestrian / cycle route from The Glebe & Glebe Farm Estate. Remnant verge and hedgerow at western end
H22	Link from Park Hill to Shilo Way	From bottom end of Park Hill former access road to Naptha House. Now a much-used pedestrian / cycle access to By-Pass & Canal beyond
H23	Crossing Gate site, Shilo	Adjacent to Station House (marked by field gate). Northern-most of former Awsworth Station’s level-crossing gates
H24	‘Crown Inn’, 8 Croft Crescent	c1860 (Built as a dwelling. Public House since 1868)
H25	10 Croft Crescent	1858 [date hand-etched on brickwork]
H26	Old Off-Licence, known as Keeling’s Corner, 16 The Lane	c1880 with unusual cast-iron lintels and sills
H27	Whisgills Farm	Located at eastern limit of Parish. Prominently located at the highest eastern end of the Plan area and a long-established agricultural worker’s dwelling shown on a map dating from 1690 so one of the oldest surviving buildings in the Parish
H28	Old Mine Tubs, Shilo Way / Gin Close Way Road Island	Located on roundabout, north end of Shilo Way. Prominent valuable feature at main ‘gateway’ to the village and an important link to the area’s coal mining heritage. Used for floral displays
H29	Rail bridge brick support pillar, former ‘Bod Tod’ pit tip, Shilo Way	c1887. Located in scrap yard north of Shilo Way. Industrial remnant and important link to the area’s coal mining heritage. Note - Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record HER (M18347)

POLICY BED 2: Local Areas of Special Character

Within the **Awsworth Historic Core and Great Northern Line Local Areas of Special Character**, as shown on the Policies Map & Figure 10, development proposals should be of high quality and must be designed to respect and enhance the specific characteristics of the Character Area.

Opportunities to create, maintain or enhance high quality walking and cycling routes along the Great Northern Line corridor will be supported. Improved directional signage to help walkers and cyclists will be encouraged.

POLICY BED 3: Design Principles

Development proposals should respect the local character of Awsworth, having regard to scale, density, massing, height, landscaping, layout, materials, architectural detailing and access, as appropriate.

The layout, building form and design should have regard to nearby dwellings and the new buildings should normally be no more than 2 storeys high. Where a 3rd storey is proposed this should make use of the roof-space wherever possible.

Where appropriate, development proposals should provide attractive, safe and accessible public and private spaces, that are easy to get around for all, including those with disabilities.

Policy BED3 applies to all housing development proposals including Policy H1 – ‘Land West of Awsworth (inside the bypass)’. Where applicable, non-residential development proposals should also accord with the design principles of **Policy BED 3**.

8.0 Green and Blue Infrastructure

POLICY GI 1: Green and Blue Infrastructure Network

Development proposals should ensure that existing Green Infrastructure is protected and, where appropriate, enhanced to provide a high quality and accessible network of well-connected multi-functional spaces for the benefit of wildlife, residents and visitors. This includes having regard to the aims of the Greenwood Community Forest.

Development proposals will be supported where it can be demonstrated that they maintain the integrity of the Green and Blue Infrastructure network, and where appropriate, enhance, restore or create areas that contribute to the network. Where appropriate, this includes the creation of buffer zones, to protect existing habitats on or near the site.

Where new Green Infrastructure is proposed, the design should reflect and enhance the area's local character, including landscapes, ~~and~~ habitats and the use of local plant species.

Development proposals within or adjacent to the 4 **Green Infrastructure Corridors**; Erewash Valley; Nottingham Canal; Nuthall Cutting & Kimberley Railway; Kimberley Cutting (**shown indicatively on the Policies Map & Figure 11**) must maintain and enhance functionality and connectivity of the corridor.

POLICY GI 2: Local Landscape Character Areas

All development proposals within or affecting the setting of the Parish's local landscape character areas **listed below (and shown on the Policies Map & Figure 12)** should make a positive contribution to the quality and local distinctiveness of the landscape **(to accord with Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan - Policy 30: Landscape)**:

1. **'Erewash River Corridor' (NC01)** – the floodplain and fringe areas in the western part of the Parish along the east side of the River Erewash and south of the Gilt Brook, and;
2. **'Babbington Rolling Farmlands' (NC02)** – 2 areas **(a)** mostly comprising open farmland in the eastern part of the Parish but also **(b)** land west of A6096 Shilo Way, including Nottingham Canal, Naptha Wood and open land northwards towards the A610.

Development proposals should therefore be consistent with the 'landscape actions' for the area concerned (NC01 and NC02), as set out in the Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (GNLCA) and in Appendix 7 of Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan.

POLICY GI 3: Biodiversity

The biodiversity of Awsworth Parish shall be protected and enhanced to achieve an overall net gain in biodiversity. Development proposals should include sufficient information on biodiversity, including a wildlife survey where appropriate and promote preservation and restoration of important wildlife sites **(shown on the Policies Map & Figure 13)** including local and national priority habitats and local wildlife sites and the protection and recovery of priority species populations where applicable. ~~mote~~ preservation and restoration of important wildlife sites **(see Figure 13)** including local and national priority habitats and local wildlife sites and the protection and recovery of priority species populations where applicable.

Development proposals that cannot avoid (through, for example, locating to an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigate, or as a last resort, compensate for the loss of a locally or nationally identified site or priority species, should not be permitted.

Biodiversity improvements will be actively pursued in accordance with opportunities for enhancement identified in the Broxtowe Borough Council Green Infrastructure Strategy 2015 - 2030. Proposals for enhancement, enlargement, creation and reconnection of wetland habitats in the Erewash Valley, including Bennerley Coal Disposal Point Site in particular, will be supported.

vements will be actively pursued in accordance with opportunities for enhancement identified in the Broxtowe Borough Council Green Infrastructure Strategy 2015 - 2030. Proposals for enhancement, enlargement, creation and reconnection of wetland habitats in the Erewash Valley, including Bennerley Coal Disposal Point Site in particular, will be supported.

POLICY GI 4: Designated Local Green Spaces

The following areas **shown on the Policies Map & Figure 15 (& see Background Report 2)** are designated as Local Green Spaces. Development proposals that would harm the openness or special character of a Designated Local Green Space or its significance and value to the local community will not be supported unless there are very special circumstances which outweigh the harm to the Designated Local Green Space.

- G1** The Lane Recreation Ground (The Rec).
- G2** Shilo Recreation Ground and Shilo Pocket Park.
- G3** Former GNR embankment north side of Meadow Road.
- G4** The 'Donkey Piece' – junction of Main Street/ Gin Close Way.
- G5** Highway verge at Four Lanes End & east of The Lane.
- G6** Highway verge along north side of Station Road.
- G7** Amenity area to east of Glebe Farm House.
- G8** 'Curly Wurly' link – Chesterman Close and Barlow Drive South.
- G9** Linear area between Naptha House and Newtons Lane.
- G10** Grass field to north side of The Lane Recreation Ground.
- G11** Haddon's Field south of ('Lower') Main Street.
- G12** End of former GNR embankment near Gate Inn.
- G13** Glasshouse Yard Grassland.
- G14** Naptha Wood.
- G15** Awsworth Primary and Nursery School playing field area.
- G16** St Peter's Churchyard and adjacent site of old Mission Room.

Opportunities will be sought from new development in the vicinity of Designated Local Green Spaces to improve walking and cycling access to green space.

POLICY GI 5: Local Woodlands, Tree Belts and Hedgerows

The areas of woodland* tree belts* and hedgerows **listed below** (* trees shown where possible on the Policies Map & detailed in Figure 16) are important because they are a UK Priority Habitat, Local Priority Habitat, provide an integral part of a Green Infrastructure Corridor or contribute to the landscape character of the Parish. Development proposals that would result in the loss, damage or deterioration of these assets will not be supported unless the harm is outweighed by the benefits of the development and appropriate mitigation can be provided.

- W1** Nottingham Canal & Awsworth Bypass Creative Conservation Area
- W2** 'Naptha Wood'
- W3** Shilo Recreation Ground and & Shilo Pocket Park
- W4** Trees along course of Gilt Brook & River Erewash
- W5** Northern part of landscaped bund west of 'Naptha Wood'
- W6** North east end of Bennerley Viaduct & southern part of adjoining landscaped bund
- W7** Tree belt along south east side of the Concrete Road
- W8** Scrub woodland west end of GNR embankment near Gate Inn
- W9** Field hedgerows & trees in area east of Awsworth to Whisgills
- W10** Field hedgerows & trees at Glass House Yard Grasslands
- W11** Trees and hedgerows at Land Off Newtons Lane

Opportunities for the creation, restoration, extension and enhancement of hedgerows and field margins will be supported. Plant selection should use native species that are normally found in the locality and which make a positive contribution to the landscape character and biodiversity of the site and surrounding areas.

An appropriate buffer zone, where appropriate of semi-natural habitat, should be established between any development and any area of ancient woodland. A minimum buffer of 15 metres will normally be required between the development and ancient woodland or veteran trees.

9.0 Community Facilities and Shops

POLICY CFS 1: Protection of Community Facilities

Development proposals that would result in the loss or detriment to the existing community use of an important community facility **identified below (and shown on the Policies Map & Figure 17)**, will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that:

- a) the operation of the facility is no longer viable for community uses, through a process of community engagement and active marketing of the facility for a period of no less than 12 months; or,
- b) that a replacement facility of an equivalent or better standard is provided in an equally accessible location.

C1 Awsworth Village Hall

C2 Awsworth Youth Centre

C3 Awsworth Parish Office

C4 St Peter's Church

C5 'Crown Inn' Public House

C6 'The Lodge'

C7 Awsworth Chemist

C8 Awsworth Primary & Nursery School

C9 Awsworth School House Schoolhouse Day Nursery

C10 Shilo Sports Pavilion

C11 The Lane Sports Pavilion

C12 The Lane Bowls Pavilion

POLICY CFS 2: New or Enhanced Community Facilities

Development proposals to enhance the provision of community facilities that meet an identified need in the Parish will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:

- a) there will not be an unacceptable adverse impact on the local road network (including on-road parking);
- b) adequate car and cycle parking facilities will be provided;
- c) development integrates well with existing walking and cycling infrastructure and enables convenient walking and cycling accessibility; and,
- d) the amenity of nearby residents will not be adversely affected by the nature of the use, including noise or traffic generated.

Proposals that seek to co-locate community facilities and that are located conveniently for public

transport and are conveniently accessible by walking and cycling will be considered favourably.

POLICY CFS 3: Protection and Enhancement of Local Shops

Development proposals which would result in the loss of an existing retail use will only be supported if it can be demonstrated that the on-going use for this purpose is no longer viable, and that the premises have been actively marketed for a minimum of 12 months for shopping purposes.

Proposals to ensure the long-term viability and vitality of the retail areas will be encouraged. These might include, but are not limited to:

- a) increased parking and cycling provision in the vicinity of the retail areas;
- b) improvements to the quality and accessibility of walking and cycling facilities to and from local shops;
- c) improvements to the presentation of the parade of shops at Lawrence Avenue and the immediate environs; and,
- d) improved directional signage particularly for people on foot and cycle.

Proposals that remove, replace or adversely affect shop fronts by poor or unsympathetic design, will not be supported.

The installation of solid, or almost solid, external roller shutters and external shutter boxes on shopfronts will not be supported. External perforated roller shutters with a high proportion of 'open' lattice to solid shutter will normally be supported, especially those appropriately painted to match the colour of the shopfront. External lattice, 'brick bond' and open chain link grilles will normally be supported subject to the grille thickness and colour being appropriate.

POLICY CFS 4: Support for Additional Shops

Development proposals for new shops or services outside of the current retail areas (**shown on the Policies Map & Figure 17**) will be supported provided that it can be demonstrated there is a local need for the use in a location outside the defined retail areas and this complements that which is provided by the existing shops and services within the village.

The location must be demonstrated to be appropriate in terms of traffic, access (including convenient walking and cycling), servicing, cycle and car parking and amenity.

10.0 Employment

POLICY E 1: Existing Employment Use

Employment land and buildings shall be retained for employment use, unless it can be demonstrated that the site is no longer viable for employment use and that the premises have been suitably marketed for employment purposes for a period of 6 months.

POLICY E 2: Encouraging Small Businesses

Development proposals to combine living and small-scale employment space and/or new small-scale business premises will be supported, provided that:

- a) it will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on residential amenity or nearby occupiers;
- b) it does not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the local road network including parking;
- c) the scale, design and form is in keeping with the character of the area; and,
- d) the operation of the business can be contained in the curtilage of the premises.

11.0 Traffic and Transport

Policy TT 1: Traffic Management

Traffic management measures including in conjunction with new development that improve highway, cyclist and pedestrian safety along roads within the Parish will be encouraged, particularly where road safety issues have been identified locally, especially The Lane, Main Street as well as Station Road and Park Hill.

Policy TT 2: Car Parking

Development proposals should incorporate sufficient, safe and convenient car parking provision in accordance with agreed local standards. Generally, this provision should accord with the standards set by Nottinghamshire County Council for new development.

Development proposals that result in a reduction in car parking provision in Awsworth village will only be supported where:

- a) it can be demonstrated that the loss of parking will not have a severe adverse effect on parking provision and road safety in the village; or,
- b) adequate and convenient replacement car parking provision will be provided on the site or a nearby location in the village.

Policy TT 3: Sustainable Transport

The Policies Map (& Figure 21) shows Awsworth Parish's existing network of walking and cycle paths. Development proposals will be supported where they enhance the existing network and demonstrate:

- a) opportunities within and adjoining the development to prioritise non car-based means of transport including walking and cycling are maximised; and,
- b) convenient and high quality walking and cycling infrastructure which integrates well into the existing walking and cycling network.

12.0 BENNERLEY VIADUCT & NOTTINGHAM CANAL

Policy BV 1: Bennerley Viaduct

Development proposals that protect and particularly those which enhance the structure and setting of Bennerley Viaduct (**shown on the Policies Map & Figure 22**) will be supported. This includes proposals on, under and adjacent to the structure, proposals for the walking and cycling trail across the viaduct, together with necessary connections to the local area network of footpaths and cycle trails.

Development proposals to provide appropriate explanation and education facilities for visitors to the viaduct will be supported, including an appropriately sited and designed visitor centre of suitably modest scale. However, such a proposal should have special regard to the sensitive location in the Green Belt and floodplain in addition to minimising the impact on this Grade II* Listed Building. In particular, any proposal should fall within the definition of appropriate development in the Green Belt.

Any proposal should minimise loss of and disruption to wildlife and maximise opportunities to

protect and enhance wildlife in this part of the Erewash Valley floodplain.

Policy BV 2: Bennerley Viaduct Visual Setting

Any development proposals within the visual setting (**shown on the Policies Map & Figure 22**) of Bennerley Viaduct must protect the open setting of the Grade II* Listed Building including in relation to location, orientation, scale, mass, height, materials, colour and landscaping.

Policy NC 1: Nottingham Canal

Development proposals that protect and particularly those which enhance the structure and setting of the Nottingham Canal (**shown on the Policies Map & Figure 14**) will be supported.

This includes proposals adjacent to the old canal, including those affecting the existing conservation grasslands, walking, cycling and horse riding trails and paths, together with necessary connections to the local area network.

Any proposal should:

- a) have special regard to the sensitive location in the **Green Belt**;
- b) not cause harm to the status of the Nottingham Canal which is designated as a **Local Nature Reserve**;
- c) minimise loss of and disruption to wildlife and maximise opportunities to protect and enhance wildlife in this part of the Erewash Valley;
- d) have regard to **Policy GI 4: Designated Local Green Spaces (particularly G9 - Linear area between Naptha House & Newtons Lane)**; and,
- e) enhance the local walking, cycling (and where possible horse riding) infrastructure.

13.0 BENNERLEY COAL DISPOSAL POINT

Policy BCDP 1: Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point Land

The Plan supports that land at the former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point site and access road (**shown on the Policies Map & Figure 22**) remains open in use and character. Development proposals that harm the openness of the former Coal Disposal Point and 'Concrete Road' access area will be resisted. Its use for recreational purposes such as a 'Country Park' (or informal public open space) will be supported providing proposals do not detract from its open character and Green Belt designation.

The Parish Council will work in partnership to actively progress its use as a 'Country Park' for the benefit of parishioners and visitors, including improved non-vehicular linkages with the adjoining settlements, provided that any proposals:

- a) accord with **Green Belt purposes**;
- b) protect and enhance the structure and open setting of the **Grade II* Listed Bennerley Viaduct** (in accordance with **Policies BV 1 and BV 2**);
- c) maintain the functionality and connectivity of the **Green Infrastructure Corridors** (in accordance with **Policy GI 1**); and,
- d) do not cause harm to the status of the area as a **Local Wildlife Site** (in accordance with **Policy GI 3**).

14.0 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

Policy DC 1: Developer Contributions from New Development in Awsworth

Developer contributions will, where appropriate, be sought through Section 106 and similar agreements from new development in Awsworth Parish (**in accordance with Broxtowe Part 2 Local Plan – Policy 32: Developer Contributions**) and will have regard to the following:

Financial contributions may be sought from **major developments** (that is, for **housing** development of 10 or more homes or the site has an area of more than 0.5 hectares, and, for **non-residential** development of 1,000 square metres or more additional floorspace or a site of 1 hectare or more) for provision, improvement or maintenance, where relevant, of:

- a) Affordable housing;
- b) Health;
- c) Community facilities;
- d) Green Infrastructure Assets;
- e) Biodiversity;
- f) Education;
- g) Highways, including sustainable transport measures;
- h) Cycling, footpaths and public transport services and associated infrastructure;
- i) The historic environment, heritage assets and/or their setting; and
- j) Flood mitigation measures, including Sustainable urban Drainage Systems (SuDS).