



Breckland Local Plan Part 1 – Preferred Directions

Sustainability Appraisal

December 2015

(Regulation 18 consultation)

Consultation

How to Respond

Comments on the Sustainability Appraisal for the Breckland Local Plan Preferred Directions document are invited between **11th January and 4pm on 22nd February 2016**.

If you would like to send us your views on the Preferred Directions sustainability appraisal, you can do so using one of the following methods:

- Online on the Breckland Council Local Plan website: <http://consult.breckland.gov.uk/portal>
- Email to: planningpolicyteam@breckland.gov.uk
- By post to: Planning Policy Team, Breckland Council, Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, Norfolk, NR19 1EE

Hard copies of the consultation documents are available for viewing at the Breckland Council offices in Dereham and Thetford, local libraries and presence offices.

If you have any questions regarding any of the issues raised in this document, please contact the Planning Policy Team on 01362 656 873.

Please note that comments received on this document cannot be treated as confidential as all comments must be publicly available in accordance with government regulations.

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1 Non-Technical Summary

Introduction

1.1 The following non-technical summary is available as part of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report and as a standalone document. It informs consultees and the public about the process of Sustainability Appraisal in Plain English, avoiding the use of technical terms. The production of a non-technical summary is a requirement of the EU Directive known as the 'SEA Directive'.

1.2 This non-technical summary relates to the SA Report, which has been prepared by the Breckland District Council (the District), and represents a SA to support the Breckland Local Plan Preferred Options document.

Local Plan

1.3 In accordance with the Localism Act, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the Development Plan Regulations and as part of Breckland District Council's statutory duty it is preparing a Local Plan to guide future development across the District over the plan period to 2036. When adopted the Local Plan will:

- Set the settlement hierarchy for the District;
- Allocate Housing, Employment, Retail and Open Space;
- Provide area strategies for the District;
- Set the approach to the Environment, Economy, Infrastructure and the Community; and
- Provide detailed Development Management Policies.

1.4 National planning policy requires that Local Authorities should consider the inter-relationships between social, economic and environmental considerations. Therefore, Local Authorities should seek to support sustainable development through their Local Development Frameworks. The process of plan making has always relied on the choices between different options for the development and use of land through the planning system.

Sustainability Appraisal

1.5 The requirement to produce a Sustainability Appraisal Report (incorporating the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment) for the emerging Local Plan is a legal requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) which seeks to ensure that the decision-making process takes into account the key objectives of sustainable development. These are:

- Social progress which meets the needs of everyone;
- Effective protection of the environment;
- Prudent use of natural resources; and
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

1.6 Sustainability appraisal is a systematic process, and its role is to promote sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the emerging plan, when judged against reasonable alternatives, will help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives. Sustainability Appraisal is iterative which is a mandatory requirement of Local Plan preparation, and helps to ensure that sustainable development is treated in an integrated way at each step in the preparation of the Breckland Local Plan.

Character of the District

1.7 Spanning over 500 square miles Breckland is a geographically large rural District located in the heart of Norfolk. The District is characterised by a dispersed settlement pattern of market towns, villages and hamlets and is represented through 113 town and parish councils, and the District Council. The size and spread of the district

has a major impact on service delivery and presents significant challenges for the organisations that are delivering both community and economic support in the area in terms of access and engagement. Much of the area is rural, given over to agriculture, with the second major land usage being open space and heathland ('the Brecks').

1.8 The population is set to grow from the current 138,233 to 153,313 by 2036 (ONS Sub-national population projections 2012-2037). Breckland has a low population density with less than one person per hectare compared with an average for England and Wales of 3.4 people.

Key Sustainability Issues and Appraisal Objectives

1.9 A Scoping Report (2013) was required as part of the SA process which involved setting the context for the appraisal by considering environmental, social and economic baseline information, and relevant plans and programmes. These were refined in the interim SA Report (2014) and this included the identified key sustainability issues and characteristics and outlined the SA framework, which will be used in appraising the Local Plan. The SA framework consists of 19 objectives that aim to meet the key social, environmental and economic issues for the District. These key issues, characteristics and SA objectives are group under sustainability topics and listed below.

1.10 A Scoping Report (2013) was required as part of the SA process which involved setting the context for the appraisal by considering environmental, social and economic baseline information, and relevant plans and programmes. These were refined in the interim SA Report (2014) and this included the identified key sustainability issues and characteristics and outlined the SA framework, which will be used in appraising the Local Plan. The SA framework consists of 19 objectives that aim to meet the key social, environmental and economic issues for the District. These key issues, characteristics and SA objectives are group under sustainability topics and listed below.

SEA/SA Topic	Key Issues and Characteristics for the District	Sustainability Objective used in the SA
Land, water and Soil Resources	Limited stock of brownfield land (in the long term) means new development will inevitably result in the loss of agricultural land.	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.
	The principle is to direct development to the built up areas as the most sustainable locations. It is acknowledged in the Core Strategy that the need to identify sufficient deliverable and developable sites to meet current (and any new housing) requirements will result in the need to identify greenfield sites.	
	There may be conflicts between the priority to make the best use of brownfield land and the sustainability aim to ensure that soils in the built environment are able to fulfil various functions.	
	There will be a need to avoid development on, and otherwise minimise the impacts on, areas of nationally and locally important landscape and countryside designations.	
	High rates of development on previously developed land in future years may incrementally alter the character and quality of life in built up areas as well as increasing concerns about congestion and pressure on existing infrastructure.	
	Need to protect groundwater resources and aquifers.	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.

SEA/SA Topic	Key Issues and Characteristics for the District	Sustainability Objective used in the SA
	<p>New developments will make additional demands on water supply (for homes and industry etc) in an area where capacity of natural systems is limited.</p> <p>Much of Breckland is open countryside so new development could alter the natural drainage patterns.</p>	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.
Climate change and air pollution	Need to reduce waste and manage remaining waste in a sustainable manner.	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.
	Promote the usage of renewable energy and reduce contributions to climate change.	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.
	Breckland is a rural District with a wide geographical dispersal of housing, in some cases contributing to high levels of commuting. The lack of public transport in remote areas increases dependency on the use of the private car resulting in high levels of ownership and usage.	
	There will need to be a consideration of the location of development away from areas which may have emerging air quality issue; and which may also be susceptible to atmospheric pollution (SSSI'S,SAC,SPA).	
	Traffic congestion is an increasing issue in parts of Breckland and it is unlikely that there will be significant public funding available for new roads.	
Long term implications of climate change at a local level remain uncertain, but hotter drier summers, wetter winters and increased incidences of flooding and extreme weather events, are expected. Plans and strategies will need to have regard to this and especially the need to mitigate any impacts locally.	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	
Biodiversity	The quality and diversity of habitats in the District should continue to be protected and the quality of habitats should be improved, where possible, to increase biodiversity. This needs to be balanced with the needs of leisure and recreation and development requirements and with the vulnerability of important areas of biodiversity.	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.
	Protect and enhance areas covered by National and International designations.	
	The Brecks, from which Breckland takes its name is a unique, nationally protected landscape and the contains approximately one fifth of the East of England's SSSI's. This coupled with the	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.

SEA/SA Topic	Key Issues and Characteristics for the District	Sustainability Objective used in the SA
	predominantly rural nature of the District means that development may result in the loss or deterioration of local habitats, wildlife sites and Protected species.	
Cultural heritage and landscape	Uncontrolled or sympathetic development could harm local landscape and settlement character.	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.
	Actively promote the character and distinctiveness of the Conservation Areas.	
	Reduce possible impacts on the environment and character of Breckland whilst allocating sufficient land to provide for housing requirements.	
	Ensure the protection and enhancement of heritage assets through appropriate design and scale of new development.	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.
	Conservation designations and priorities may constrain development that would otherwise have sustainability benefits. Need to strike a balance between intensification of previously developed land and the need to safeguard the historic environment.	
Population and human health	Breckland's population is relatively healthy. However there is a national trend towards a more elderly population and also towards more sedentary lifestyles. These have implications for making provision for the health and well-being of the District's population now and in the future.	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.
	No key issues that relate to sustainability	12. Reduce and prevent crime
	Much of the area is rural, given over to agriculture, with the second major land usage being open space and heathland ('the Brecks').	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.
Inclusive communities	Increase in the population of the area will increase the demand for facilities. Against a back drop of an ageing population, this may include a significant degree of special needs access facilities and community transport schemes.	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.
	Rural locations can make it difficult to justify the business case for regular transport connections to major shopping, employment, entertainment and health facilities.	
	Encourage appropriate development of community facilities in rural locations.	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.

SEA/SA Topic	Key Issues and Characteristics for the District	Sustainability Objective used in the SA
	<p>Dependence on the private car for convenience, shopping, school run and commuting has a consequential effect on the support for public transport. The lack of support may mean that those without the benefit of having access to a car experience a degree of social exclusion.</p> <p>Increasing demand for housing.</p> <p>An increasing population and changing demographic structure will impact future household characteristics and will have implications for the provision of housing, employment opportunities and services. There will be issues of dependency and the specific needs of the older age groups in the future.</p> <p>Understanding the level of need for new housing requirement in light of the revocation of the East of England Plan and planning for the location of this housing is the critical issue to be addressed through the Local Plan process.</p> <p>There is a need for more affordable housing in both built-up and rural areas.</p> <p>There is a need to provide the right type of market housing (1, 4 & 5 bed room houses).</p> <p>There will be a need to have regard to the housing requirements of a more elderly population.</p> <p>Need to establish requirements for sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.</p>	<p>16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.</p>
Economic Activity	<p>Breckland needs to maintain and improve its standing as a tourism destination.</p> <p>Out-migration of young people and increase in the elderly has been exacerbated by demographic change and will have a major impact on the economy in the future, leading to skills gaps in the economy.</p> <p>The town has important shopping centres that need to be supported in order to keep them vital and viable.</p> <p>Higher order shopping centres outside of the District may impact upon the success of retail provision within the smaller centres within the District.</p> <p>There are pockets of deprivation particularly within the urban area. Economic regeneration is particularly important in these areas of the town to help alleviate poverty.</p>	<p>17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.</p> <p>18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.</p>

SEA/SA Topic	Key Issues and Characteristics for the District	Sustainability Objective used in the SA
	The economic activity rate is lower than the regional levels.	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
	Over reliance on manufacturing industries and certain employment sectors within the District and a lack of skilled labour.	

Table 1.1

Preferred Direction

1.11 The appraisals presented within this SA reflect the preferred policy directions. They all form part of the evidence base that underpins the emerging plan. It includes the assessment of the cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects of the plan. The SA findings help 'document the story' behind the plans preparation and present a trail of options throughout the plan-making process, regardless of subsequent choices or plan progression.

Strategic Vision

1.12 The Strategic Vision is aligned to sustainable development appropriate to the rural nature of the District. This means that it recognises that outside of the strategic urban extensions the approach needs to balance the capacity of services, opportunities for infrastructure improvement, the need for affordable housing and employment with the impact development can have on the character of an area and its tourist industry. In addition, the vision recognises the importance of community level decisions and linking development to neighbouring district's plans to provide synergistic impacts.

Strategic Objectives

1.13 The 18 strategic objectives give specific direction to the spatial strategy and core policies, and are grouped into five categories:

- development in the right place;
- meeting the housing need;
- a strong economy;
- a rich environment; and
- thriving communities.

1.14 As part of the sustainability appraisal, the strategic objectives were assessed against the 19 sustainability objectives. The assessment revealed that the strategic objectives cover almost all aspects of the sustainability objectives. Where they differ is that the strategic objectives do not explicitly reference developing housing in areas of no or low flood risk. However, any development will require flood risk assessment, which will identify risks and put forward management options. Where there is a contradiction, is in the strategic objective of encouraging use of A11 and A47 as part of economic growth. This will negatively affect air quality because of increases in traffic flow. Similarly, some increase in emissions is inevitable with increased residential and retail development within the District. What is important is that the District, public and business all ensure we implement measures to reduce this impact to an acceptable level.

Local Plan Policies

1.15 A review of international, national, regional, and local planning policy and guidance, and how it should influence the Local Plan and SA, has been undertaken. The Local Plan has taken this policy and guidance into account and reflects the aim's of these documents within its 40 policies.

1.16 PD01 Sustainable development in Breckland - The preferred option is a localised approach to sustainable development based around the key issues for the District, including the rural economy and emphasising the need to mitigate climate change. This approach scores more positively than the alternative option of following the National Planning Policy Framework approach.

1.17 PD02 Development Requirements (Minimum) - The preferred direction is for the 597 dwellings per annum (the lowest level). Due to the limited quantum of previously developed land within Breckland, the majority of this new housing growth is likely to be on greenfield sites. Developing additional houses is likely to score poorly against some sustainability objectives. However, the extent of the impact will be dependent upon the location of the proposed sites.

1.18 PD03 Locational Strategy - A local plan working group looked at locational strategies for the distribution of 14,925 new residential developments through plan led growth, directed at the five towns and 22 smaller urban areas known as Local Service Centres. The preferred direction is to include a balanced distribution of growth between the market towns and the local service centres rather than focused development on the large-scale urban extensions or construction of a new settlement. The positives of the preferred approach are access to improved services and facilities to a wider community in the district. All options will have negative impacts on the requirement to limit development on undeveloped or agricultural land.

1.19 PD04 Level and Location of Growth - The working group developed the preferred locational strategy into three alternative distributions of level and location of growth for housing on suitable land. Suitable land was identified in the Breckland Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) that took into account numerous factors including flood risk, availability of services etc.


1.20 The preferred option and first alternative option as compared to the second alternative option have more development recommended for smaller urban areas known as Local Service Centres (LSC). The first alternative option distributes development evenly within each tier of settlement type and the preferred option and second alternative option takes into account the Breckland SHLAA conclusions in defining specific numbers to each tier.

1.21 Overall development in Local Service Centres as opposed to large settlements will potentially have greater negative impacts from increased visual impacts and increased numbers of residents needing to commute to significant facilities like hospitals, senior schools and work opportunities. Conversely, development in LSC should increase the vitality and economy of these local areas and may stimulate new local employment opportunities.

1.22 Developments in key settlements and market towns have a greater risk of pressure on water resources, fluvial and sewer flood risk and reducing the percentage of local green belt and open space. The significant benefit of development in larger settlements is the reduction in commuting distances to facilities and services.

1.23 Where development in an area can be unpopular and cause a significant issue is where local day-to-day facilities like primary schools and doctors surgeries are at capacity already. The preferred option and second alternative option takes into account the quantity of suitable land (including capacity of existing facilities, flood risk and pressure on habitats) to accommodate development, in defining the quantity of development to each tier of settlement including Local Service Centres.

1.24 The preferred direction of distributing growth across the sustainable settlements in the District should provide the most sustainable development by taking into account the suitability of areas to accommodate development, offering opportunities to support the local economy in more rural areas and not reducing the easy access to open spaces in and around key settlements and market towns.



1.25 PD05 Rural Areas - This policy deals with the approach to rural areas outside of the locational strategy. The settlements within the location strategy are considered the most sustainable, and any new development outside of these areas is likely to impact upon the sustainability objectives. There is however a need for housing within some of these areas and the preferred approach of not restricting housing to the existing settlement boundaries scores positively against the sustainability objectives in relation to providing new dwellings.

1.26 PD06 Economic Development - The three options presented all look to increase the level of employment growth within Breckland. The preferred direction seeks to allocate employment growth in line with the policy on scenario set out within an employment growth study. All the approaches score well against the sustainability objectives related to the provision of employment land for the local economy. The employment growth scenario based on past take up rates will require a greater supply of land. This will have an impact upon development on undeveloped land, due to the limited levels of brownfield land in Breckland.

1.27 PD07 Town Centre and Retail Strategy - The preferred policy option has been developed having regard to the findings of a Retail and Town Centre Study. The approach takes into account the size of the town centres within Breckland's market towns and scores well against the economic objectives relating to the vitality and viability of these centres. The preferred direction also scores well against the social aspects of the sustainability appraisal relating to access to service and facilities.

1.28 The alternative option is rely on the impact assessment threshold within the NPPF. This is a higher threshold than recommended within the preferred policy. A significant proportion of retail development that comes forward within Breckland is below this level. Relying on a higher threshold may adversely affect the vitality and viability of the town centres.

1.29 PD08 Affordable Housing - the preferred direction and the second alternative option score more positively against the sustainability objectives concerning the provision of affordable housing. In order to meet the District's needs in different location the second alternative option seeks to vary the level of affordable housing based on housing need. However, this approach may lead to some developers being additionally burdened and reduce the level of contributions that can be sought for other types of services and facilities.

1.30 PD09 Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople - The preferred direction seeks to provide both a criteria based approach for dealing with planning applications and allocate sites to meet existing need. The alternative of allowing new gypsy and traveller sites to be met solely through planning applications may lead to an under supply of sites in comparison to demand, therefore scoring lower in the social sustainability indicator for redressing inequalities between different groups within the community.

1.31 PD10 Healthy Lifestyles - Including a policy on healthy lifestyles should ensure that the health impacts of a development are taken into account throughout the design stage of an application, and scores positively against the social sustainability objectives.

1.32 PD11 Development Requirements for the Attleborough Strategic Urban Extension - by following the preferred direction of having a policy it guides developers and planners to maximise positive sustainable objectives.

1.33 PD12 Attleborough Local Employment - providing a policy based on the findings of a local Employment Growth Study, Settlement Fringe Study and Landscape Character Assessment and focusing on gateway locations into the town rather than relying on NPPF to guide employment locations means the local economic and landscape preservation elements of sustainability are better served.

1.34 ENV01 Green Infrastructure - having a local policy about ensuring that the most valuable green spaces are preserved scores positively against the sustainability objectives and reliance on the NPPF scores negatively against the sustainability objectives.

1.35 ENV02 Sites of European, National and Local Nature Conservation Importance - all options protect international and national designated sites but the alternative option has a lower level of protection for local sites. A lower level of protection is likely to see these sites facing pressure for redevelopment, and it may diminish the weight that can be given to their protection through the planning process and therefore scores lower against the sustainability objectives.

1.36 ENV03 The Brecks Protected Habitats and Species - the Brecks are a large area of undeveloped arable land in the south west of the district that are designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA). The policy seeks to ensure that development does not adversely affect the SPA and consequently minimises loss of undeveloped open space and habitat, therefore meeting numerous other environmental and social sustainability objectives.

1.37 ENV04 Open Space, Sport and Recreation - all new residential developments are required to provide open space and the preferred direction of providing onsite rather than offsite open space scores higher against the sustainability objectives as it ensures that it will be provided within the development that it is intended to serve.

1.38 ENV05 Protection and Enhancement of the Landscape - the landscape forms a key part of the character of the district and the preferred approach is to include a local plan policy on the protection and enhancement of the landscape. National and local policies both score positively against the sustainability objective but having a local policy based on the findings of a Landscape Character Assessment is preferable.

1.39 ENV06 Trees, Hedgerows and Development - having a specific policy on protection of trees and hedgerows could in some cases help protect open space, undeveloped land, habitats and character landscapes meeting all the relevant sustainability objectives.

1.40 ENV07 Designated Heritage Assets - the historic environment and designated heritage assets are an important part of the character of Breckland. The inclusion of a local policy on the historic environment within the Local Plan scores more positively against the sustainability objectives because it allows for additional information to be provided to inform planning application decisions and includes the guidance set out by Historic England.

1.41 ENV08 Non-Statutory Heritage Assets - these assets not only contribute towards the character of the landscape and townscape of the District but also impact upon the vitality of the town centre in a positive manner. A policy seeking the protection of those assets not nationally protected but which are listed on the Norfolk Historic Environment Record scores positively against the sustainability objectives relating to landscape and townscape and the historic environment.

1.42 ENV09 Flood Risk & Surface Water Drainage - Both the preferred and alternative option (of following the NPPF) score well against the sustainability objectives, as they seek to ensure that new developments are not placed in areas at risk of flooding. The preferred direction of a local policy that includes the Norfolk County Council Guidance on sustainable drainage systems, which can form part of a green infrastructure network, scores higher.

1.43 ENV10 Renewable Energy Development - The preferred direction of including a policy on renewable energy development will help to guide developers and planners on the criteria for suitable schemes and their locations. It is recognised that most will be on undeveloped or agricultural land a negative sustainability impact as well as potentially affect landscape and settings for heritage assets. The use of criteria to minimise the negative impact of the location and the positive impacts on climate change objectives make this a positive sustainable policy.

1.44 E01 General Employment Areas - The preferred direction is to protect general employment areas within Breckland for employment uses. This approach scores well against the sustainability objectives based around the economy and complies with an Employment Growth Study undertaken in 2013. However, restricting development on employment sites may be detrimental to the provision of facilities and services in settlements and lead to vacant land that could be used to provide homes.

1.45 E02 Employment Development Outside of General Employment Areas - The preferred direction seeks to locate employment development to general employment areas in the first instance; however, it acknowledges that this approach is not always suitable. The alternative would be to let employment development locate wherever it chooses to locate. The preferred option will guide development in the countryside, which supports agriculture and forestry. This option also allows a level of flexibility to ensure economic development is not overly restricted by lack of appropriately located, available land.

1.46 E03 Farm Diversification - Farm diversification is an important mechanism to support farming enterprises, securing their ongoing viability and can provide services to rural communities and scores well against the economic sustainability objectives. The policy scores less well in relation to the loss of undeveloped agricultural land and impacts on climate change from increased traffic attracted to the rural location.

1.47 E04 Tourism Related Development - Both the preferred direction and the alternative option recognise the importance of tourism for Breckland's economy and support its development, in this regard both policy options score well against sustainability objectives relating to the local economy. The preferred direction is more supportive of smaller scale developments within the rural area than the alternative option, which promotes hotel/motel accommodation near town centres and emphasised re-using existing buildings or previously developed land. Due to the limited levels of brownfield land within the District, particularly in rural areas, the preferred option scores negatively against the sustainability objectives relating to loss of undeveloped land as well as encourage car use to rural locations.

1.48 E05 Telecommunications - New telecommunications infrastructure is important for delivering and supporting a strong economy within Breckland, as such policies supporting the development of telecommunications infrastructure score well against the sustainability objectives for the economy. The alternative option of allowing telecommunication infrastructure wherever it chooses potentially has significant negative impacts in relation to landscape and townscape character, the historic environment, biodiversity, green infrastructure and geodiversity. The preferred direction by having criteria by which to assess the location scored higher.

1.49 E06 Developer Contributions - Developer payments contribute to the provision of infrastructure or refurbishment of existing provision to support the additional burden new development makes on both local and strategic infrastructure. The preferred direction is to include a policy on developer contributions but what can be secured as a developer contribution is set out within the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations. Having regard to the requirements of these regulations it is not considered that there is a reasonable alternative to the approach proposed within the preferred direction.

1.50 E07 Advertising and Signs - Advertisements and Signs can have a significant impact on the aesthetics of an area and a development. Including a positive local plan policy should help to ensure that the impact of signs on the districts environment, including landscape townscape character and also the historic environment are taken into account through the planning process. This approach scores positively against the sustainability objectives for the environment.

1.51 TR01 Sustainable Transport Network - The sustainable transport policy includes requirements for new dwellings to be located in areas with good public transport access. The alternative option of not including a policy does not mean that sites will not be sustainably located in areas with good access to public transport. However, it may diminish the weight that can be given to it through the planning application process.

1.52 COM01 Design - the design of a development is a key part of the planning process and should be considered at the very beginning of the scheme. Including a locally led set of design principles will help to achieve this goal and scores positively against the sustainability objectives. Not including a local policy does not mean that design would not be considered through the planning process, however it risks not being as responsive to the local area. Furthermore, it scores poorly around objectives to consider landscape and townscape character and the historic environment in design.

1.53 COM02 Protection of Amenity - consideration of amenity is a key part of the planning process. Without a specific local plan process, it does not mean that amenity will not be considered through the planning process. However, the level of weight that can be given to different amenity issues through the planning process may be diminished. Not including a policy within the local plan scores negatively against a number of the sustainability objectives, particularly those relating to the environment.

1.54 COM03 Principles of New Housing - the preferred direction supports new housing development inside existing settlement boundaries and aims to ensure that new developments make efficient use of land, which reflects the character of the area. This policy scores well against the sustainability objectives. Whilst not including a policy does not mean that these issues will not be addressed, the weight that can be attributed to them may be diminished and as such this scores negatively against the sustainability objectives.

1.55 COM04 Community Facilities - the preferred direction is to include a policy around the protection of community facilities through the Local Plan. This approach is carried forward from the Core Strategy and scores well against the social sustainability objectives. Local facilities provide access to facilities for people who may not be able to travel to higher order settlements. The alternative option is to not include a specific policy within the Local Plan and instead rely on policies within the NPPF. This approach scores negatively against a number of sustainability objectives and will lead to the need to travel further to services and facilities.


1.56 COM05 Specialist Housing - the strategic housing market assessment highlights the fact that Breckland's older population is increasing. In order to meet the needs of this group, the policy supports the development of specialist housing. The preferred policy approach scores positively against the sustainability criteria around redressing inequalities and the provision of new dwellings to meet the needs of the population. Whilst the NPPF is supportive of delivering a full range of house types, it is considered that the preferred direction scores better against the social requirements of the sustainability appraisal. The second alternative option is to allocate a specific site for specialist housing. This approach also scores well against the sustainability objectives, and should help to meet the requirements within the strategic housing market assessment. However any new allocation is likely to be on undeveloped greenfield land due to limited brownfield land availability within Breckland.

1.57 COM06 Technical Design Standards for New Homes - the requirements for adaptability and accessibility of dwellings should help to redress existing inequalities and allow people to stay within their homes for longer. Hence the preferred direction of having a policy scores positively against the sustainability objectives for ensuring access to new homes for all groups within society.

1.58 COM07 Residential Replacement, Extension and Alteration - dwellings within the countryside often form a key part of the traditional vernacular of the area. The strategic housing market assessment has demonstrated the need for different size dwellings including smaller dwellings. The inclusion within the policy of the requirements for replacement dwellings to be similar in scale to the original dwelling therefore scores positively against the sustainability objective.

1.59 COM08 Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside - agricultural buildings form a key characteristic of the countryside within Breckland. A local employment growth study highlighted the role of the rural economy and the use of small units to support Breckland's wider economy. The policy allowing the conversion of existing buildings within the countryside and retention of suitably constructed buildings scores well against the sustainability objectives. The preferred direction requires consideration of an economic reuse in the first instance.

1.60 COM09 Agricultural Workers Exceptions - Due to the nature of the businesses that they are intended to support agricultural workers dwellings are often located within isolated locations in the countryside and are developed upon undeveloped or agricultural land. The preferred direction requires consideration of whether there is a suitable site nearby or a building, which may be possible of conversion. This scores more positively against the sustainability objectives as the alternative option of following the NPPF does not include this consideration. Both the preferred and alternative approaches score well in the provision of new dwellings.



1.61 COM10 Affordable Housing Exceptions - The preferred direction to include a policy on affordable housing exception sites scores more positively against the sustainability objectives than not including a specific policy. Whilst the NPPF does support the role of exception sites, it is considered that a specific policy would be beneficial for housing delivery. In addition it also scores well in regards to redressing inequalities and supporting the local economy.

Cumulative, secondary and synergistic impacts

1.62 Cumulative, secondary or synergistic impacts on the local plan were identified to cover both the overlapping effect of other plans (inter-effects) on the Local Plan and the effects within the policies of the Local Plan (intra-effects). For example, at the inter-effect level, policies aimed at protecting open space and natural habitats also compliment plans to boost tourism in the District.

1.63 The Local Plans for districts around Breckland are all in production and cumulatively propose 69,500 new homes and associated infrastructure. Mostly impacts are local but where resources are shared (eg water, air and green infrastructure) the risk of cumulative impact is increased. As the local plans all promote policies for sustainable development and in compliance with best practice the risk of cumulative impact on shared resources are minimised.

1.64 At an intra-effect level, the majority of policies have an overall positive cumulative effect. In particular, there are very positive (++) cumulative effects associated with those sustainability objectives aimed at encouraging inclusive communities and economic activity at the local level. Importantly, the assessment revealed no overall negative cumulative effects.

Mitigation

1.65 The SA process has predicted the significant environmental and wider sustainability effects likely to occur as a result of the implementation of the Breckland Preferred Option Local Plan. Where possible, the process also identified opportunities to enhance the positive effects of the plan and mitigate the negative effects. This is in addition to the mitigation and enhancement measures already contained within the Local Plan and includes recommendations for the Local Plan submission document. However, the appraisal recognises the need to consider the wider policy and operational context of the implementation of plan policies, and hence wider recommendations that may be applied to further development plan documents and processes.

Next Steps and Monitoring

1.66 This SA report, alongside consultation responses received, will be used to inform the preparation of policies in the Local Plan Submission Document. Any significant changes made to the document will be subject to further SA, and a Revised SA Report will be published alongside the Local Plan Submission Document.

1.67 Within the Local Plan Submission Document should be indicators and targets to help monitor the sustainability effects of the Local Plan

2 Introduction

2.1 Breckland Council is in the process of preparing a Local Plan, which when adopted will guide future development across the District over the plan period to 2036. When adopted the Local Plan will:

- Set the settlement hierarchy for the District
- Allocate Housing, Employment, Retail and Open Space
- Provide area strategies for the District
- Set the approach to the Environment, Economy, Infrastructure and the Community
- Provide detailed Development Management Policies

2.2 Sustainability Appraisals are a fundamental part of plan making. This report forms the Sustainability Appraisal of the preferred options of the Breckland Local Plan. Sustainability appraisal is a systemic process, and its role is to promote sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the emerging plan, when judged against reasonable alternatives, will help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives. Sustainability Appraisal is an iterative which is a mandatory requirement of Local Plan preparation, and helps to ensure that sustainable development is treated in an integrated way in the preparation of development plans.

2.3 The sustainability appraisal process is governed by European and National legislation, supported by Government policy including:

- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) which requires sustainability appraisal of emerging plans.
- The requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC. This is often referred to as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive which requires the preparation of an environmental report that considers the significant environmental effects of a plan or programme. This Directive is transposed into UK law by The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004: Statutory Instrument 2004 No.1633 (SEA Regulations).

2.4 This sustainability appraisal incorporates the requirements of strategic environmental assessment (SEA). The SEA considers the effects of the Local Plan on the environment. The SA ensures that potential environmental effects are given full consideration alongside social and economic issues. The SA is consulted upon at the same time as the Local Plan, and receives the same level of scrutiny as the Local Plan.

Preferred Directions Report

2.5 This report represents the third iteration of sustainability appraisal, following the scoping report (2013) and the interim SA Report (2014). The recommendations and findings of these two previous SA's have fed into this document. Further (ongoing and new) SA work is anticipated to be presented in a SA Report, alongside the Pre-Submission publication. At this stage the SEA must be demonstrated. Following representations a final SA Report will be submitted alongside the Draft secretary of state for independent Examination by the Planning Inspectorate.

2.6 The appraisals presented within this SA reflect the preferred policy directions. They all form part of the evidence base that underpins the emerging plan. It includes the assessment of the cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects of the plan. The SA findings help 'document the story' behind the plans preparation and present a trail of options throughout the plan-making process, regardless of subsequent choices or plan progression.

3 Methodology

3.1 The SA is carried out in a series of stages, which include setting the context and objectives for the SA, developing and assessing the effects of policy options and carrying out consultation on a SA report. The stages of methodology are shown in Figure 3.1 'Sustainability Appraisal Process'

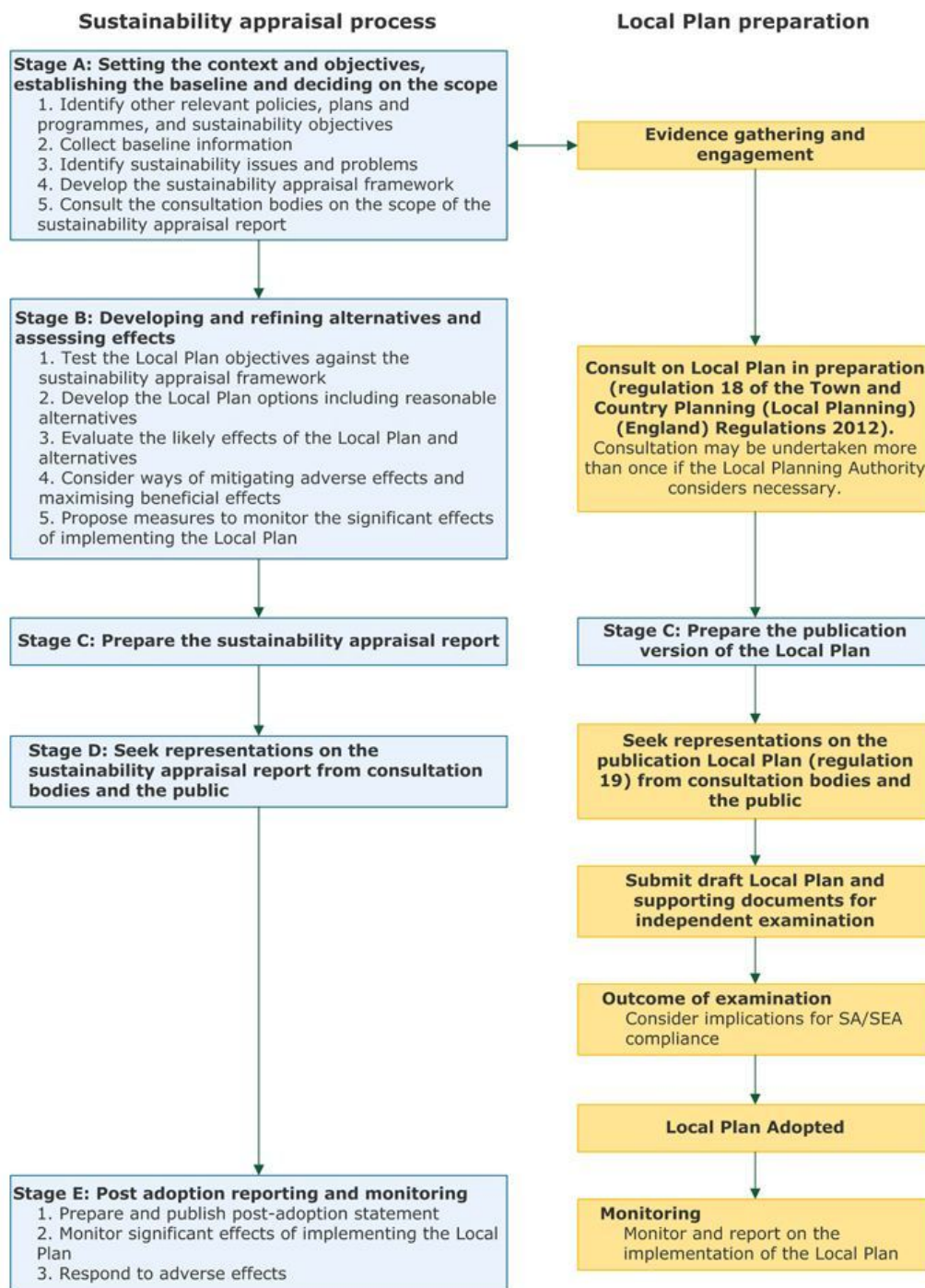


Figure 3.1 Sustainability Appraisal Process

3.2 A scoping report meeting the requirements of stage A was published in April 2013 and further updates in September 2014. These reports culminated in the production and updating of the sustainability appraisal framework and the setting of the sustainability appraisal objectives. This framework provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared, and forms the basis of the appraisal of the effects of the Local Plan.

Developing and Refining Reasonable Alternatives

3.3 The SEA Directive requires the assessment of the likely significant effects of implementing the plan and all of its reasonable alternatives. Developing options and alternatives is an important part of both plan-making and the sustainability appraisal process. For the Local Plan, the reasonable alternatives are the different options put forward during the preparation of the plan.

3.4 The SA has been involved from an early stage in the development of this preferred directions report to ensure that any adverse effects of proposals were identified as early as possible. Appraisals have been undertaken for all preferred directions policies.

Assessing the Significance of Effects

The SEA Directive requires..

...'an assessment of likely significant effects...taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme'

3.5 It is only necessary to assess those effects that are likely to be significant, not all possible effects. In the report, the social, environmental and economic effects of strategic have been predicted and evaluated for their significance. Prediction of effects involves identifying what changes might occur to the sustainability baseline over time - these changes are then evaluated for their likely significance, in terms of their probability, duration, frequency and the geographical area likely to be affected.

3.6 Matrices have been prepared for each individual preferred policy direction. A significance score ranging from ++very positive impact to --very negative is given against each objective. Ultimately the significance of an effect is a matter of judgement, making best use of available evidence, and requires no more than a clear and reasonable justification. Where uncertainties exist or where it is considered that insufficient information exists to enable an accurate assessment to be made this has been noted. Where uncertainties exist or where it is considered that insufficient information exists to enable an accurate assessment to be made, this has been noted.

Consideration of Mitigation Measures

The SEA Directive requires..

...consideration of measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.

3.7 These measures are referred to as mitigation measures, and can include recommendations for improving beneficial effects. These measures have been considered within the cumulative, synergistic and secondary effects chapter.

Assessing Cumulative Effects

3.8 The assessment of effects of Local Plan Options includes potential secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects as required by the SEA Directive. Many sustainability problems result from the accumulation of multiple, small and often indirect effects, rather than a few large obvious ones and consideration of such effects will be included in further discussion of significant effects in this report.

4 Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Objectives

4.1 To provide context for the Local Plan this reports considers the relevant national, regional, local and international planning policy in relation to the implications on the Local Plan. These may contain objectives and policy requirements that need to be addressed in the document. The review of documents helps shape the sustainability objectives and decision making criteria and identifies the issues that need to be addressed by the plan.

4.2 The SEA Directive requires that the SEA covers:

'an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes' (Annex 1 (a)).

and

'the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation' (Annex 1 (e)).

4.3 A review of other plans and programmes that may affect the preparation of the Local Plan was undertaken in order to contribute to the development of both the SA and the Local Plan. This included:

- Identification of any external social, environmental or economic objectives, indicators or targets that should be reflected in the SA process.
- Identification of any baseline data relevant to the SA.
- Identification of any external factors that might influence the preparation of the plan, for example sustainability issues.
- Identification of any external objectives or aims that would contribute positively to the development of the Local Plan.
- Determining whether there are clear potential conflicts or challenges between other identified plans, programmes or sustainability objectives and the emerging Local Plan.

4.4 The review included documents prepared at international, national, regional and local scale. A brief summary of the documents reviewed and the main findings are summarised below with further details presented in Appendix A.

International Plans and Programmes

4.5 A review was undertaken of key International Conventions and European Directives that could potentially influence the development of the Local Plan and the SA. European Directives are transposed into national legislation in each individual Member State and, therefore, there should be a trickle-down effect of the key principles and an application to the relevant national, regional and local circumstances in other planning documents.

National Plan and Programmes

4.6 A review was undertaken of relevant White Papers, plans and strategies. One of the most important documents reviewed was the UK Sustainable Development Strategy which outlines the over-arching Government objective to raise the quality of life in our communities. Central Government establishes the broad guidelines and policies for a variety of different topics which are now brought together in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The NPPF streamlines national planning policy into a consolidated set of priorities to consider when planning for and deciding on new development. It sets national priorities and rules only where it is necessary to do so. It aims to ensure that planning decisions reflect genuine national objectives - such as the need to safeguard the natural

environment, combat climate change, and to support sustainable local growth - while allowing for local authorities and communities to produce their own plans, reflecting the distinctive needs and priorities of different parts of the country. The principle of sustainable development is at the heart of the NPPF.

Regional and Sub-Regional Level Planning

4.7 The Localism Act was granted Royal Assent on the 15th of November 2011. The Act seeks to revoke some regional planning documents. The East of England Plan (RSS) was formally revoked in January 2013.

Local Policy

4.8 Plans produced at the local level specifically address issues relating to housing, economy; health; safety; tourism; environment, sustainable communities and employment. The Local Plan and the SA should draw from these documents and transpose their aims in their policies and proposals. These plans should in theory have included the main influences of international, national, regional and county level plans through the 'trickle-down effect'. They should also provide more of a local focus for the Breckland area. It is, through identifying these themes and incorporating them into the Local Plan that synergies can be achieved with other relevant documents.

5 Baseline Information and Assessment

5.1 Baseline information provides a platform for predicting and monitoring any effects that a policy or proposal may have and can help to identify sustainability problems, emerging trends and possible solutions. The collation of social, environmental and economic information has helped to build a characterisation of the plan area. A number of indicators were devised for each objective, and potential indicators developed to allow comparisons between local and national data to provide a wider picture of the current situation.

5.2 However, indicators themselves are selective in the information they provide. The indicators that have been chosen are reflective of the various Sustainability Appraisal objectives; however it is inevitable that these only capture some aspects of Breckland's environmental, social and economic conditions. In particular, an indicators-based approach is not necessarily the best means of reporting qualitative information or spatial variations at the sub-District level. For this reason, the baseline assessment of this report supplements the indicators with a broader discussion of the area's characteristics, providing a more rounded basis for identifying key issues and problems.

5.3 The baseline table in Appendix A Chapter 9 lists the key indicators against their relevant appraisal objectives and shows the current situation, and any trends noted for each indicator. The characterisation is broken down into sub-objectives that are contained within the broader environmental, social and economic considerations. The table also highlights where any gaps in the data exist that need to be filled; the source of the data and an analysis of the current situation and any trends emerging. The written baseline assessment also supplements the table of indicators with a broader discussion of Breckland's environmental, social and economic characteristics. Combining both discussion and matrix provides a fuller analysis for identifying key sustainability issues and problems.

5.4 The baseline assessment highlights where data has been obtained and illustrates where information has not been able to be obtained. Much of the data collected has come from National data sets and may not be available at the appropriate spatial scale and as a result may not be suitable for direct comparison.

Characterisation of Breckland District

5.5 Breckland is a predominantly rural District containing five market towns of Attleborough, Dereham, Swaffham, Thetford and Watton. The District has a total of 112 parishes covering of an area of 1300 sq km (500 sq miles) and one of the largest District in the East of England. There is a dispersed settlement pattern across the District with approximately 56.2% of the population living within the five market towns and the other 43.8% spread across 107 rural parishes. The residents of Breckland tend to identify with one of the five market towns, which are an essential component of the economic and social structure, acting as service centres to their hinterlands.

5.6 The population of Breckland was 121,400 in the 2001 Census compared to 130,491 in 2011, illustrating a general growth trend in the District. The area is 130,512 hectares (the second largest District in Norfolk) and the population density is 1.0 persons per hectare, the lowest in the country.

5.7 The major trunk roads that travel through the District are the A47 Great Yarmouth to Peterborough and the A11 Norwich to London route. The A11, via Thetford to Cambridge and the M11, is recognised as the major strategic route between Norfolk and the South West where the provision of a dual carriageway was completed in December 2014. Breckland has railway stations at Thetford, Attleborough, Roudham and Eccles. Norwich airport is in easy reach of the District.

5.8 The size and spread of the district has a major impact on service delivery and presents significant challenges for the organisations that are delivering both community and economic support in the area in terms of access and engagement. Much of the area is rural, given over to agriculture, with the second major land usage being open space and heathland ('the Brecks'). It has the largest lowland pine forest in England and the second most popular forest attraction in the East of England.

Land, Water and Soil Resources

5.9 Data sources:

- BDC Annual Monitoring Report 2014/15
- Breckland adopted Core Strategy DPD (2009)
- Environment Agency
- UK Bap
- Anglian Water
- Defra
- Water Cycle Study (2010)

5.10 The District contains significant areas of high grade agricultural land (grades 1, 2 and 3a) that requires protection. Breckland contains 64.2% of grades 2 and 3 agricultural land whereas the East of England Region contains 58% of the Country's National resource of grades 1 and 2 land.

5.11 The Central Norfolk Strategic Housing Market Assessment (CNSHMA) 2015 identifies an Objectively Assessed Need for 70,483 dwellings over the 24-year period 2012-36 for the Housing Market Area. The CNSHMA set a target of 14,335 homes to be built in Breckland during this time period, 597 dwellings per year. The 2015 Annual Monitoring Report concludes that 491 homes were built during the 2014/15 financial year with the majority, 55.2%, on greenfield land. There are currently 2,180 dwellings with planning permission (this includes all sites with planning permission, including outline planning permission – as of 1st April 2015). Therefore, new land will have to be found for the 14,335 (up to 2036), indicating a pressure to use Greenfield land in the future. The Local Plan includes proposals two large sustainable urban extensions, one in Thetford for 5,000 dwellings and one in Attleborough for 4,000 dwellings. Due to the limited quantum of brownfield land within Breckland these developments are planned for on greenfield sites.

5.12 The Annual Monitoring Report 2014/15 identified that 44.8% of development was undertaken on Previously Developed Land.

5.13 East Anglia is the most water-stressed region in the country and has the lowest average rainfall in the UK. The annual rainfall (845mm) is only 71% of the national average for England. There are a number of nationally and internationally important wetlands and other water-dependent habitats. For example, the Rivers Nar and Wensum are SSSIs. Planned growth, increased water demand and climate change will put extra pressure on our limited resources. Groundwater is the largest available reservoir of water and provides three quarters of public water supply in the East of England. The Anglia region is estimated to receive a large population growth. This could potentially lead to water supply issues in the long term and the capability to limit water consumption to that supportable by natural systems.

5.14 There are a number of European sites residing within in Breckland which could be affected by water abstraction and discharges due to the combination of lack of available water and current over abstractions. In particular are the Swangey Fen, which is part of the Norfolk Valley Fens SAC, is to the south west of Attleborough and the SPA to the south west of the District. Furthermore, it appears that some of the aquifers are shared with other towns and may be affected by water abstraction outside Breckland District. If abstraction within the District might have an effect on the Broads SAC/SPA/Ramsar site, then extraction in the Norwich area could also have an effect. A fuller examination of the abstraction effects across the Region is now needed to consider the possible wide ranging in-combination effects.

5.15 Table 4.1 taken from the Habitat Regulations Assessment: Breckland Council Submission Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Document (2008) highlights that European sites which could be affected by abstraction and discharges.

Location	Factors	European Site
Thetford	Ground water Abstraction	Breckland SAC-East Wretham Heath Breckland SAC-Thetford Golf Course & Marsh Breckland SAC-Stanford Training Area Waveney and Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC/Ramsar-Redgrave and Lopham Fens
Dereham	Ground water Abstraction	Norfolk Valley Fens-Badley Moor Norfolk Valley Fens-Potter & Scarning Fens Norfolk Valley Fens-Buxton heath River Wensum SAC River Wensum SAC-Dillington Carr River Wensum SAC-Dereham Rush meadows The Broads SAC -Bure & Broad Marshes Broadland SPA/Ramsar- Bure & Broad Marshes
Attleborough	Ground water Abstraction	Norfolk Valley Fens-Swangey Fen Breckland SAC-Stanford Training Area Breckland SAC-East Wretham Heath
Swaffham	Ground water Abstraction	Norfolk Valley Fens-Great Cressingham Fen Norfolk Valley Fens-Thomson Water Norfolk Valley Fens-Foulden Common Breckland SAC-Cranberry Rough
Watton	Ground water Abstraction	Norfolk Valley Fens-Thomson Water Norfolk Valley Fens-Great Cressingham Fen Breckland SAC-Stanford Training Area Breckland SAC-Cranberry Rough

Location	Factors	European Site
Thetford	WWTW discharges via R Little Ouse	The Wash Ramsar/SAC/SPA
Dereham	WWTW discharges-Wensum	River Wensum SAC River Wensum SAC-Dillington Carr River Wensum SAC-Dereham Rush meadows
Swaffham	WWTW discharges-via R Wissey	The Wash Ramsar/SAC/SPA
Watton	WWTW discharges via R Wissey	The Wash Ramsar/SAC/SPA
Attleborough	WWTW discharges via R Thet	The Wash Ramsar/SAC/SPA

Table 5.1 The European sites which could be affected by abstraction and discharges:

5.16 The fluctuating meres in Breckland are directly connected to the underlying groundwater system and are periodically empty and are recharged. The water level in the meres reflects the height of the water table. A potential threat which may over-ride all the following factors for the Breckland meres, is climate change. A long term decrease in rainfall could alter groundwater regimes and may ultimately depress levels in the underlying aquifers to such an extent that these water bodies cease to fill with water. All efforts to remedy the situation may then be ineffective, because the delicate hydrological balance of these lakes is intimately related to the groundwater table. Furthermore, water abstraction from the aquifers for public supply or irrigation of crops along with the nitrate contaminations arising from the regions high agricultural intensities, is potentially very damaging to their characteristic flora and fauna.

5.17 As household growth predictions indicate there will be a greater number of dwellings in the District where the amount of water used could be expected to increase over time and will place increased pressure upon water resources.

5.18 The Stage 2 Water Cycle Study (2010) has indicated that whilst Dereham will require new groundwater resources to enable future growth within the town, both Watton and Swaffham have spare water capacity till 2026. The Council is currently updating its Water Cycle Study and the revised information will be used to inform the baseline.

5.19 The majority of development within the District will be on greenfield sites. Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS), can ameliorate the effects of water flows into existing drainage and river systems and reduce the use of water through recycling. An increasing proportion of new housing development incorporates some form of SuDS in order to manage water on site and reduce the amount released straight into the drainage system.

5.20 Information from the Anglian Water Services indicates that the average domestic property in 2009-10, used an average of 147 litres of water/day compared to the industry average of 146 litres/person/day. Overall, there is less water use than last two years (150 litres/person/day in 2007-08 and 149 litres/person/day).

5.21 Rivers and wetlands are important to the economy and biodiversity of the Anglian region. Biological river quality is an indicator of the overall health of rivers. Breckland has seen an increase in the percent of rivers rated as biologically good from 90.64% in 2006 to 92.81% in 2008. The chemical quality of a river is an indicator of

organic pollution in general. Again, Breckland has seen an increase in the percent of rivers rated as chemically good from 63.64% in 2006 to 70.74% in 2008 (Environment Agency have changed the way they monitor river quality and recent data sets are being sought).

What are the key sustainability issues and problems?

- Limited stock of brownfield land (in the long term) means new development will inevitably result in the loss of agricultural land.
- The principle is to direct development to the built up areas as the most sustainable locations. It is acknowledged in the Core Strategy that the need to identify sufficient deliverable and developable sites to meet current (and any new housing) requirements will result in the need to identify greenfield sites.
- High rates of development on previously developed land in future years may incrementally alter the character and quality of life in built-up areas as well as increasing concerns about congestion and pressure on existing infrastructure.
- New developments will make additional demands on water supply (for homes and industry etc) in an area where capacity of natural systems is limited.
- Need to protect ground water resources and aquifers.
- There may be conflicts between the priority to make the best use of brownfield land and the sustainability aim to ensure that soils in the built environment are able to fulfil various functions.
- There will be a need to avoid development on, and otherwise minimise the impacts on, areas of nationally and locally important landscape and countryside designations.
- Much of Breckland is open countryside so new development could alter the natural drainage patterns.

Climate Change, Air and Pollution

5.22 Data sources:

- 2011 Air Quality Progress Report
- Office National Statistics
- 2001 & 2011 Census
- District Monitoring (air quality and waste)
- Breckland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2007)
- Environment Agency
- Renewable Statistics

5.23 Climate change is one of the greatest global environmental threats. The full impacts of climate change are largely unknown. The District falls primarily within the heart of Norfolk, which due to its location is less vulnerable to some of the direct impacts of climate change than other areas in the region (i.e. flooding and coastal erosion).

5.24 Breckland completed a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) in 2007 which assessed the main rivers to impact Breckland to be the River Nar, River Wissey, Little Ouse River, River Thet, Watton Brook, Black Water River, River Tud, River Wensum, Wendling Beck. The entire District is underlain by chalk and receives very low annual rainfall. However, Breckland does have a high clay content that can cause inadequate drainage in some

areas. The risk of flooding is an important issue, however it is not a primary concern for Breckland due to a historic lack of flooding events. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) outcome concerns fluvial flooding only in certain areas of the District.

5.25 A further SFRA was undertaken in 2009 for the Thetford town centre to accompany proposals for development and regeneration of the Thetford Town Centre. The Council are aware of fluvial flooding issues within the town centre, and therefore flooding issues require further investigation before decisions on suitable development sites and development types can be made. A revised SFRA is currently being prepared for the District. Once this is completed it will be used to update the baseline data.

5.26 In respect to reduction in CO₂ emissions, The UK target is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% compared to the 1990 baseline as set out by the Kyoto Protocol. The Climate Change Act of 2008 established a long-term, legally-binding framework committing the UK to a reduction of at least 80% below the 1990 baseline by 2050 with an interim target of 34% by 2020.

5.27 Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the main greenhouse gas, accounting for about 83 per cent of total UK greenhouse gas emissions in 2011. In 2011, UK net emissions of carbon dioxide were estimated to be 458.6 million tonnes (Mt). This was around 7.9% lower than the 2010 figure of 497.8 Mt. There were notable decreases in emissions from the residential sector, down by 23.3% (20.2 Mt), and from the energy supply sector, down 6.7% (13.2 Mt). Again, emissions from the business, transport and public sectors were slightly down on 2010, but all other sectors were relatively unchanged.

5.28 In 2011, UK emissions of the basket of six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol were estimated to be 552.6 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e). This was 7.0% lower than the 2010 figure of 594.0 million tonnes. Between 2010 and 2011 the largest decreases were experienced in the residential sector, down 22.5% (20.2 MtCO₂e), and the energy supply sector, down by 6.5% (13.3 MtCO₂e). Emissions from the business, transport, industrial process and public sectors were also down slightly on 2010, but all other sectors were relatively stable compared to 2010 levels.

	2011	2012	2013	Change
Total greenhouse gas emissions	594.0	552.6		-7.0%
Carbon dioxide emission	497.8	458.6		-7.9%

Table 5.2 Emission of greenhouse gases (MtCO₂e)

5.29 The Government set the first three carbon budgets in May 2009, covering the periods 2008-12, 2013-17 and 2018-2022. The fourth carbon budget, covering the period 2023-27 was set in June 2011. The first of these budgets requires that total UK greenhouse gas emissions do not exceed 3,018 million tonnes CO₂ equivalent over the five-year period 2008-12, which is about 22 per cent below the base year level on average over the period. The fourth carbon budget was set so as to require a reduction in emissions of 50 per cent below base year levels over the period 2023-2027.

	Base years (actual emission)	Budget 1 (2008-12)	Budge 2 (20013-17)	Budget 3 (2018-22)	Budget 4 (2023-27)
Budget Level (MtCO _e)		3018	2782	2544	1950
Equivalent average annual emissions (MtCO _e)	774.3	603.6	556.4	508.8	390.0

	Base years (actual emission)	Budget 1 (2008-12)	Budge 2 (20013-17)	Budget 3 (2018-22)	Budget 4 (2023-27)
Percentage reductions below base year levels		22%	28%	28%	50%

Table 5.3 Carbon budgets 2008-2027

5.30 Road traffic is a significant source of air pollution. Within Breckland, there is a higher level of commuting by car resulting in significant levels of congestion at peak times in the market towns. The 2011 census shows that Breckland has a higher level of car ownership (43.8%) (ie 1 car/van per household), when compared to regional (42.9%) and national levels (42.2%). However, it is slightly less than the 2001 census which was 46% and the second lowest in Norfolk.

5.31 The census indicates in 2001 that 63.6% of Breckland residents travelled to work by car/van where this has fallen to 44.8% in 2011. When looking at general travel to work patterns, whilst the use of train and bus to get to work has marginally increased from the 2001 census, cycling has increased from 4.1% in 2001 to 14.4% in 2011.

5.32 The 2011/12 figures illustrate that the proportion of waste recycled in Breckland (37%) was better than the national average (43%). This is also a reduction in the 2010/11 figures where the 40.6% was recycled. These figures still exceed the Breckland target of 33% by 2015. The amount of waste collected is decreasing and in 2011/12, Breckland, collected some 371kg of waste was collected per head (compared with 413kg for England).

5.33 Local authorities in the UK have statutory duties for managing local air quality under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995. The air quality objectives applicable to Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) in England are set out in the Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 (SI 928), and the Air Quality (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002. The concentrations of 38.74, 37.58 and 40.03ug/m³ as the annual means for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) have been monitored at two areas in Swaffham and are very close to an exceedence of the annual objective of 40 ug/m³.

What are the key sustainability issues and problems?

- Promote the usage of renewable energy and reduce contributions to climate change.
- Breckland is a rural District with a wide geographical dispersal of housing, in some cases contributing to high levels of commuting. The lack of public transport in remote areas increases dependency on the use of the private car resulting in high levels of ownership and usage.
- Traffic congestion is an increasing issue in parts of Breckland and it is unlikely that there will be significant public funding available for new roads.
- There will need to be a consideration of the location of development away from areas which may have emerging air quality issue; and which may also be susceptible to atmospheric pollution (SSSI'S, SAC, SPA).
- Long term implications of climate change at a local level remain uncertain, but hotter drier summers, wetter winters and increased incidences of flooding and extreme weather events, are expected. Plans and strategies will need to have regard to this and especially the need to mitigate any impacts locally.
- Need to reduce waste and manage remaining waste in a sustainable manner.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

5.34 Data sources:

- Natural England
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan
- RSPB

5.35 Breckland contains a variety of different natural areas. A natural area is identified by a unique combination of physical attributes such as geology, plant and animal species, land use and culture. The natural areas of Breckland are based on those put forward by the Countryside Agency/English Nature 1996 in 'The Character of England: Landscape, wildlife and natural features'. Each Natural Area has a unique identity resulting from the interaction of wildlife, landforms, geology and land use. Natural areas are not a designation and the natural area concept does not recognise administrative boundaries nor attempts to classify those areas that are rare or common. It therefore allows the rare and unusual to be conserved alongside the widespread and typical, thus contributing to the overall concept of biodiversity, conservation and enhancement.

5.36 Breckland is home to three National Nature Reserves, Redgrave and Lopham Fen, Weeting Heath and Brettenham Heath. The District is also home to three Local Nature Reserves (LNR's); Litcham Common, Great Eastern Pingo Trail (Thompson) and Barnham Cross Common.

5.37 Breckland is also home to four sites of International importance for biodiversity known as SAC's (Special Area of Conservation), which are the most important sites for wildlife in the country. These are the Norfolk Valley Fens, River Wensum and Waveney and Little Ouse Valley Fens.

- Norfolk Valley Fens is one of two sites in Eastern England where the main concentration of lowland fens occur. Also, one of several sites in East Anglia to home the Narrow Mouth and Desmoulin Whorl Snail.
- Wangford Warren and the adjoining RAF Lakenheath have one of the best-preserved systems of active inland sand dunes in the UK and the only occurrence of this type of habitat. The Breckland Meres represent the only natural eutrophic lakes in the East of England as well as having the most extensive surviving area of semi natural dry grasslands in East Anglia.
- River Wensum is home to sub-type 1 lowland and the White Clawed Crayfish.
- Waveney and Little Ouse Valley Fens are home to rare Molinia grassland and calcareous fens and the Desmoulin Whorl Snail.

5.38 Breckland contains 39,017 ha of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the District which is the largest statutory designations protecting the country's very best wildlife and geological sites. A number of these sites are also internationally important for their wildlife and designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) or Ramsar sites. Many SSSIs are also National Nature Reserves (NNRs) or Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).

5.39 The majority of SSSI's within Breckland are either within a favourable condition, or if they are in an unfavourable condition, they are recovering.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
% of SSSI's in favourable condition	81	50	55	46	46	45	45	44	44
% of SSSI's in an unfavourable condition recovering	13	4	24	36	42	42	44	46	48

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
% of SSSI's in an unfavourable condition declining	0.5	15	3	3	3	3	3	5	2
% of SSSI's in an unfavourable condition with no change	5.5	31	18	15	9	10	8	5	6

Table 5.4 % of SSSI's in favourable or recovering condition

5.40 Breckland contains one of only four sites within Norfolk designated under the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands of International Importance. This is located at Redgrave and South Lopham Fen, which houses the endangered species of the Great Raft Spider.

5.41 Breckland is acknowledged to be of European importance for its three renowned bird species; the Stone Curlew, Woodlark and Nightjar. These species have qualified for Special Protection Areas (SPA's) under the EC Birds Directive due to their globally threatened/ declining status.

5.42 About 65% of the British Stone Curlew population nest in Breckland, half of these on heathlands in the District, and is on the shortlist of species of globally threatened/ declining status. The Stone curlew is a rare and declining species with numbers falling by 85% in the past 50 years and more than 50% since 1960. The species is now largely restricted to two areas in the Country, Breckland and Wessex, emphasising the importance of the heathlands within the District.

5.43 The Nightjar has been declining in numbers and range for much of this century reaching a low point of 2100 males in 1981, with a decline in range of 52% between 1968-72 and 1992. There had been a partial recovery in the size of the population which had reached 3400 males in 1992. The species now breeds mainly in Southern England (223 in Norfolk), but there are scattered populations as far north as central Scotland. There has also been a 14% increase in the number of Nightjars since 1981 (present survey in progress to get up to date figures).

5.44 Biodiversity Action Plan targets for these species was revised in 2006 and were to increase the numbers of Nightjar to 4800 churring males by the year 2016 (an 18% population in 12 years) and increase the Nightjar to at least 311 sq km by the year 2016. The apparent population trend since 1992, based on County and site level monitoring data, is upwards. This was confirmed by the 2004 SCARABBS survey which estimated a population of 4606 churring males across England, Scotland and Wales – exceeding the original UK BAP target of 4000 males. This represents a 35% increase in numbers since the previous survey in 1992 (with the largest increases occurring in Dorset and Hampshire). However, this recovery still depends on the work of the dedicated recovery project.

5.45 The 2005 breeding season saw an increase in breeding stone-curlews confirmed in Breckland on sites monitored by the RSPB and Elveden Estate, with the total population in Breckland now standing at around 200 pairs. Stone-curlew numbers are also doing extremely well from a national perspective; the UK population in 2005 having reached the Biodiversity Action Plan target of 300 breeding pairs by 2010 five years early. National stone-curlew population increased from 150-160 pairs in 1985 to over 370 pairs in 2009. In Eastern England the population has increased from fewer than 100 pairs 1985 to 250 pairs in 2009.

5.46 The District contains large areas of Norfolk Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and species that need to be protected and encouraged, along with a number of target areas for habitat creation.

What are the key sustainability issues and problems

- The quality and diversity of habitats in the District should continue to be protected and the quality of habitats should be improved, where possible, to increase biodiversity. This needs to be balanced with the needs of leisure and recreation and development requirements and with the vulnerability of important areas of biodiversity.
- The Brecks, from which Breckland takes its name is a unique, nationally protected landscape and the contains approximately one fifth of the East of England's SSSI's. This coupled with the predominantly rural nature of the District means that development may result in the loss or deterioration of local habitats, wildlife sites and protected species.
- Protect and enhance areas covered by National and International designations.

Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Townscape

5.47 Data Sources:

- Historic England
- Breckland Landscape Character Assessment (2007) - District Wide and Settlement Fringe
- Brecks Character Assessment 2013
- Thetford Area Action Plan (Historic Environment Survey and Historic Environment Assessment)
- Norfolk Historic Landscape Characterisation (NHLC)

5.48 The District has a rich and diverse architectural heritage which is much valued. There are some 50 Conservation Areas totalling some 1700 ha. Breckland also contains a great variety of buildings of architectural and historic interest including 1540 Listed Buildings (113 of which are grade I), 9 registered parks and gardens and over 100 Scheduled Monuments designated by the Government that are of proven national importance. There are also wider areas of known archaeological interest detailed within the County sites and monuments records.

5.49 Historic England maintains a Heritage at Risk Register which brings together information on a wide range of heritage assets such as Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, battlefields, protected wreck sites and Conservation Areas known to Historic England to be 'at risk' through neglect and decay, or vulnerable to becoming so. The Heritage at Risk Register contains 20 listed buildings, 6 scheduled monuments and 2 Conservation Areas in Breckland deemed 'at risk'.

5.50 Breckland has a number of historic landscapes which are particularly valuable for the tourism industry as they add interest and variety to the rural countryside. A long history of settlement has left a wealth of historical and archaeological features. These individual features, such as Peddars Way (Roman Road association with the apparent Boudicca) and Stone Age flint mines (Grimes Graves), are obvious in the parklands, waterways, field patterns, woodlands and wetlands of this District.

5.51 There are a number of river valleys that provide key landscape settings and natural habitats for biodiversity. The most important of these are the River Wensum, River Nar, River Little Ouse, River Tud and River Thet.

5.52 Villages contain many open space and open frontages allowing views out to the countryside, which make important contributions to the character, amenity and function of those villages. While these include commons, recreation grounds, parks, playing fields, and open areas, they may also be semi-enclosed areas, including areas of private ownership.

What are the key sustainability issues and problems?

- Ensure the protection and enhancement of heritage assets through appropriate design and scale of new development.

- Conservation designations and priorities may constrain development that would otherwise have sustainability benefits. Need to strike a balance between intensification of previously developed land and the need to safeguard the historic environment.
- Actively promote the character and distinctiveness of the Conservation Areas.
- Uncontrolled or sympathetic development could harm local landscape and settlement character.

Population and Human Health

5.53 Data sources:

- NHS Norfolk Health Report (2011)
- 2011 Census

5.54 Breckland has a low population density with less than 1 person per hectare compared with an average for England and Wales of 3.4 people. The 2011 Census indicates that the District's population is now 130,491, an increase of 7.4% over the 2001 figure of 121,408. This is slightly lower than the predicted rise of 8.7 % between 2001 and 2010. By gender the population is broken down into approximately 49.5% males and 50.5% females. This follows a similar trend for the East of England and Great Britain.

	Breckland	East of England	England and Wales
All People	130,491	5,846,965	56,075,912
Increase 2001-2011	+7.47%	+7.9%	+7.1%
Males	49.5%	49.2%	49.2%
Females	50.5%	50.8%	50.8%

Table 5.5 Population change in Breckland, regional and national levels between 2001-2011

5.55 In 2011, Breckland has a higher proportion of young people under the age of 15 (17.6%) than Norfolk as a whole (16.8%) but is still less than regional (19.0%) and national levels (18.8% England). The District's population over 65, at (21.5%) is significantly higher than the national average of 16.6% (England & Wales).

	Breckland	East of England	England and Wales
Populations aged 0-15	17.6%	19%	18.8%
Populations aged 16-24	10.1%	10.8%	11.9%
Populations aged 25-44	23.5%	26.4%	27.3%
Populations aged 45-64	27.2%	17.5%	25.4%
Populations aged 65+	21.5%	22.2%	16.6%

Table 5.6 Age distribution of population in Breckland, regional and national levels 2011

5.56 60% of the population is broadly of working age from 16-64, with 18% of school age and 22% pensioners. This is likely to have a gradual, but noticeable, effect on the housing market. An ageing population brings a need for smaller accommodation – as older households are typically smaller households. A high proportion of older people also increases the need for suitable dwellings, such as bungalows, or adaptable accommodation within the market.

5.57 Population projections suggest that growth to 2031 will be significant in the district. Indeed, population will increase by almost 41,000 people between 2006 and 2031 or 32%. This compares to growth of 27% in Norfolk, 25% in the East of England and 19% in England. Larger proportional increases in the district are expected in all five year periods to 2031, although growth is thought to slow down as time goes on. The population aged 65 and over as a proportion of the Breckland population is projected to continue to grow over the next 20 years, from a projected 21.6% in 2010 to 30% in 2030. Over the same period, the population aged 85 and over is expected to rise from three per cent to six per cent of the Breckland population.

5.58 Breckland has a predominantly White British population, at around 90%. The largest other ethnic group in both is Other White, which would include most migrants from southern and eastern Europe. Groups other than these make up a very small proportion of the total. In comparison, both the regional and national comparators have lower percentages of White British and Other White residents. White Irish, Asian, Black, Mixed, and Other residents form noticeably higher populations in the East of England than in Breckland. This is increased again in England and Wales, with the non-White British population at approximately twice the numbers seen in Breckland

5.59 Breckland has a smaller proportion of population not born within the UK than region and nation. Around 9% of both Breckland were born outside the UK, compared to 11% of the East of England's population, and 13% of England and Wales' population. Inward migration is recognised as another factor increasing demand for housing and services in the region. However, the lower than average levels of inward migration in Breckland means this pressure will not be as high in these areas.

5.60 Life expectancy in Breckland is slightly higher for men (79.7%) than woman (83.1%) when compared to the national average (78.3% male and 82.3% female). The 2011 census indicates the Breckland's population is relatively healthy with 79.5% saying that their health is 'very good' or 'good'. However, this is slightly lower than the national average of 81.5%.

What are the key sustainability issues and problems?

- Increase demand for housing.
- An increasing population and changing demographic structure will impact future household characteristics and will have implications for the provision of housing, employment opportunities and services. There will be issues of dependency and the specific needs of the older age groups in the future.
- Breckland's population is relatively healthy. However there is a national trend towards a more elderly population and also towards more sedentary lifestyles. These have implications for making provision for the health and well-being of the District's population now and in the future.

Inclusive Communities

5.61 Data sources:

- Draft Central Norfolk Strategic Housing market Assessment (2015)
- 2011 Census
- Indices of Deprivation

- Norfolk Insight
- Annual Monitoring Report (2011/12)

5.62 Breckland is predominantly a rural district, with the major centres that serve residents being the five main towns of Thetford, Attleborough, Watton, Swaffham and Dereham. Accessing these major service centres requires transport and for many residents without a car this is a considerable problem. Rural areas can therefore be expected to have higher figures for car ownership because people are often not able to rely on the availability of public transport. In some areas, particularly many smaller villages, public transport services are very limited. A lack of mobility can impact widely on people’s health and quality of life by reducing access to health care facilities, social and leisure activities.

5.63 Rural deprived areas exhibit many of the same statistical characteristics as their urban counterparts. However the percentage of no car ownership households is significantly lower than the UK as a whole (25.6%) compared to (18%). What this means is that those most in need of services and support are among the least able to access them. Breckland has a significantly lower percentage of people with access to hospitals for GP Services by all modes of transport (walking, cycle, public transport) than the regional or national average.

5.64 According to the English Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2010, Breckland is ranked 129th (the lower the rank, the higher the deprivation) of the 326 local authorities in England, (according to which of the six summary measures is taken), and so has a middle to low incidence of deprivation.

5.65 In the month of April, 2011, crime occurred at the following rates in the towns of Breckland:

Crime (Oct-Dec 2012)	Breckland	Norfolk
Burglary	0.98	0.98
Criminal Damage	2.02	2.06
Violence against the person	2.30	2.74
Theft from motor vehicles	0.48	0.57
Drug	0.61	0.66

Table 5.7 Crime rates within Breckland (per 1000 population)

5.66 Hard to reach groups may include young people, homeless, lone parents and gypsies and travellers. The County’s ethnic composition has changed significantly since the 2001 Census recorded a minority ethnic population of 30,000 (3.8 per cent of the total). By 2011 this is estimated to have risen to 64,800 (7.6 per cent). Similarly, numbers in ethnic groups other than White rose from 1.5 per cent of the population in 2001 to around 3.5 per cent in 2011. The largest other ethnic group in both is Other White, which would include most migrants from southern and eastern Europe. These groups make up a very small proportion of the total and include Poland, Portugal, Lithuania and Latvia.

5.67 As of April 2015, Breckland can only identify some 3.72 years of deliverable housing supply against the national requirement to maintain a 5 years supply. The District requirement will need to be assessed in light of advice contained within the NPPF. This is calculated using the sedgefield methodology.

5.68 The draft Central Norfolk Strategic Housing Market Assessment shows that there is a need for 5,100 affordable dwellings in Breckland over the plan period to 2036. This equates to 35.7 of all housing development in required in Breckland up to 2036.

5.69 The recent growth in foreign workers belonging to visible ethnic minorities is not a local phenomenon restricted to Breckland; it is part of a wider change in the population and employment structure of the County. A significant wave of Portuguese and Eastern Europe citizens migrated to the area over the last few years, centred primarily on the towns of Swaffham, Thetford and Dereham.

5.70 It is worth noting that Breckland had a higher proportion of Gypsies and Travellers at 0.2% compared to the 0.1% average seen across Norfolk. Breckland has one of the only 5 publicly managed sites in Norfolk, as well as one of the two permanent traveller sites. While many Travellers are less nomadic than they have been in the past, as seasonal work opportunities have diminished or changed, they continue to need homes which allow them to travel at times, and to maintain their preferred lifestyle. If their legitimate needs are not appropriately catered for it means they face the continual disruption of moving from one unsuitable site to another. This also has an impact on 'settled communities'. There are currently 36 authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches within the District (June 2012). Of these 36 pitches, 26 are located on 2 publicly funded sites and approximately 8 pitches are located on privately owned sites. Additionally, there are a number of unauthorised encampments without planning permission (but tolerated). A site for 15 pitches was yet to be found as identified within the adopted Core Strategy, although an up to date Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) is currently being undertaken to establish appropriate figure to plan for within the emerging Local Plan.

What are the key sustainability issues and problems?

- Understanding the level of need for new housing requirement in light of the revocation of the East of England Plan and planning for the location of this housing is the critical issue to be addressed through the Local Plan process.
- Reduce possible impacts on the environment and character of Breckland whilst allocating sufficient land to provide for housing requirements.
- There is a need for more affordable housing in both built-up and rural areas.
- There is a need to provide the right type of market housing (1, 4 & 5 bedroom houses).
- There will be a need to have regard to the housing requirements of a more elderly population.
- Need to establish requirements for sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- Increase in the population of the area will increase the demand for facilities. Against a backdrop of an ageing population, this may include a significant degree of special needs access facilities and community transport schemes.
- Rural locations can make it difficult to justify the business case for regular transport connections to major shopping, employment, entertainment and health facilities.
- Encourage appropriate development of community facilities in rural locations.
- Dependence on the private car for convenience, shopping, school run and commuting has a consequential effect on the support for public transport. The lack of support may mean that those without the benefit of having access to a car experience a degree of social exclusion.

Economic Activity

5.71 Data sources:

- Labour Market Statistics

- Norfolk Local Economic Assessment (2010)
- Annual Monitoring Report (2014/15)
- 2011 Census
- Norfolk Insight
- East of England Forecasting Model (2012)

5.72 Currently the vacant retail premises are lower than the national average. All of Breckland markets towns come under the catchment of Norwich and are within the top ten retail centres within the country. Therefore, 60% of all available non food retail expediter is lost to Norwich and other centres such as Bury St Edmunds. Retail vacancy levels have decreased across all market towns, with the exception of Watton, over the monitoring year 2013/2014.

5.73 Thetford is the principal retail, service and employment centre in the south of the district. The town has been identified as a key centre for large scale and long-term sustainable regeneration and growth, making provision for development that will deliver new jobs, new homes and improved provision for learning. Thetford has currently the highest housing and employment allocation of the whole of the District. Dereham and Attleborough are the second and third largest towns in Breckland district, which serve as administration and service centres and are also a focus for retail and employment. Swaffham and Watton are similarly sized market towns and provide a good range of services for residents' and visitors' daily needs.

5.74 The top five employment sectors in the district are manufacturing, retail, health, business administration and education. Breckland has the highest proportion of people employed in manufacturing of any of the county's districts, although the proportion of employees in the health sector is almost a third lower than the county average. Both wholesale and transport and storage are more dominant employment sectors in Breckland than in any other Norfolk district, regionally and nationally, employing a third higher than their combined proportions at county level. Agriculture, forestry and fishing is a more dominant employee sector in Breckland than it is in Norfolk overall, although a much smaller proportion of Breckland's population is employed in the public sector than the county, regional and national averages. Sectors that are under-represented in terms of employees in Breckland compared with county and regionally include public administration; finance and insurance; and professional, scientific and technical.

5.75 Almost a third of all Breckland's jobs are located in Thetford. The second biggest town in terms of employment is Dereham with 19% of the district's jobs. Attleborough, Watton and Swaffham each have similar levels of employment ranging between 7 and 10%. Outside the market towns of the district it is estimated that the rural parts account for just over 13,000 of the district's jobs (32% of all jobs in Breckland).

5.76 The top ten employers in Breckland consist of;

- Jeyes Holdings - Thetford
- Baxter Healthcare - Thetford
- Banham Poultry - Attleborough
- Flagship Housing - Dereham
- Jark Plc - Dereham
- Cranswick County Foods - Watton
- Peddars WayCare - Dereham
- Multiyork Furniture - Thetford

- Trox UK Ltd - Thetford
- Falcon Crane Hire Ltd – Shipdham

5.77 The Districts economic activity rate compares favourably with the regional and national levels. For the period of Oct 2011 to Sept 2012, the economic activity rate in Breckland was 77%, compared to 79.9% in the region and 76.7% nationally. Between the same period, employment rates were 73.1% in Breckland compared to 73.5% in the regional and national 70.3%. However, GVA per capita varies substantially by district across the County. Breckland and North Norfolk have the lowest GVA per capita at £11,600 and are forecast to continue having the lowest GVA per capita values in the County to 2031. Broadland and Norwich have the highest GVA per capita figures at £19,900 and £21,000 respectively with Broadland forecast to overtake Norwich in terms of GVA per capita in 2021.

5.78 Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants rates in Breckland (Feb 2013) have tended to be considerably below that of the regional (3.3%) and national levels (4%) at a rate of 3.1%. In the same period from last year there has been a decrease of 6.6% in JSA claimants Breckland.

5.79 The proportion of people employed in higher paid occupations (professionals, managers and senior officials) in Breckland has been increasing but is still below county levels. Currently, Breckland is (36.9%) which is lower than regional (44.7%) and national (43.7%) levels. The proportions of people employed in administrative, secretarial and skilled trades in the district (21.4%) have risen in recent years, and are on par with regional levels (22.4%). However, the District (23.2%) has a higher than average operative and elementary occupations that the national average (17.3%).

5.80 The 2012 median weekly earnings in Breckland (£449) was less than the East of England (£531) by approximately £80, although approximately £60 when compared to Great Britain (£508). However, Breckland has one of the lowest district workplace based earnings in the county (with the exception of North Norfolk) and one of the lowest district residence based earnings (with the exception of Great Yarmouth).

5.81 Educational attainment in the district is slightly below average. In 2011/12, 49% of pupils leaving school obtained five GCSE passes grades A* to C (including Maths and English) compared with 59% regionally and 58% nationally. The proportion of Breckland's working age population without any qualifications has consistently been above county, regional and national levels.

5.82 The proportion of working age people in Breckland qualified to at least NVQ level 2 or equivalent (equivalent to five higher grade GCSEs) is lower (58%) than the regional (68%) and national rates (69%), although the rate for the district has improved since 2001. Fewer people of working age in the district (42%) are qualified to NVQ level 3 (equivalent to two A level passes) than the regional (49%) and national rates (52%), and where these comparator areas have improved at level 3, Breckland's performance has declined since 2001. Breckland has a lower proportion of working age population who are qualified to at least NVQ level 4 (degree level or higher) than the county.

5.83 2% of the commuters travel to work by public transport which is below the average of regional (8.15) and national levels (11%), where 44% of residents travel to work by car.

5.84 There is a growing Portuguese/Eastern European community (Polish, Latvian, Lithuanian) working in the low-paid agriculture, food processing and manufacturing sectors in and around both Thetford and Dereham. Data on the numbers of migrant workers in Breckland, their jobs, length of stay in the area and homes, is limited. The 2011 census identified total registration of 8760 of Adult Overseas Nationals entering the UK from 2002-2011 when compared to 45050 in the UK as a whole.

What are the key sustainability issues and problems?

- The economic activity rate is lower than the regional levels.
- Over reliance on manufacturing industries and certain employment sectors within the District and a lack of skilled labour.
- Breckland needs to maintain and improve its standing as a tourism destination.
- Out-migration of young people and increase in the elderly has been exacerbated by demographic change and will have a major impact on the economy in the future, leading to skills gaps in the economy.
- There is a need to control levels of commuting.
- There are pockets of deprivation particularly within the urban area. Economic regeneration is particularly important in these areas of the town to help alleviate poverty.
- The town has important shopping centres that need to be supported in order to keep them vital and viable.
- Higher order shopping centres outside of the District may impact upon the success of retail provision within the smaller centres within the District.
- Pressure of a change of use of employment land due to current economics and changes in National Policy

6 Cumulative, Secondary and Synergistic Impacts

Inter effects

6.1 A review of the plans and policies in Appendix B, that influenced the Local Plan, for cumulative, secondary or synergistic impacts on the local plan highlighted a number of effects:

- Local Plan objectives and other policies to protect open space, natural habitats, heritage assets and environmentally designated areas compliment plans to boost tourism in the District (*The Good Practice Guide to Planning for Tourism* and *Government Tourism Policy*) as these natural areas are a tourist attraction asset for the District.
- The framework outlined in *Getting the measure of fuel poverty* will have secondary impacts on local plan policies regarding climate change and air quality emissions from domestic heating.
- Measures proposed in *The Portas Review An independent review into the future of our high streets* and subsequent government response by promoting and improving the success of local high street will indirectly reduce the need/desire to commute to seek day-to-day facilities.
- *Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England* by promoting sustainable housing and development will have secondary impacts on Local Plan policies regarding waste reduction, climate change and air quality emissions from reduced energy and resource requirements.
- Designs proposed in *Manual for Streets* will provide streets that reduce the risk of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Plans to improve public transport like *Green Light for Better Buses*, *Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen* and *Railways for All* will have secondary and synergistic impacts on sustainability objectives for access to jobs, improved health and well being, access to essential services and facilities.
- Policies for sustainable homes like *The Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future* and *Green Guide Specification* has a secondary impact of improving access to affordable homes through reduced running costs.
- Regional and local plans to promote economic growth eg *Delivering Economic Growth in Norfolk' The strategic role for Norfolk County Council* and *Employment Land Review* by providing local employment opportunities reduces the distances people commute and therefore reduces secondary impacts from emissions and allows walking or cycling to work with associated health benefits.

6.2 Under the Duty to Cooperate, Breckland District Council, in conjunction with Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council, commissioned a new Strategic Housing Market Assessment, which will provide up to date evidence in relation to housing need and demand in the District up to 2036. This is likely to be published in the autumn of 2015 and will necessitate reconsideration of the scale of planned housing growth in the District beyond the current plan period.

6.3 The surrounding districts are developing their own Local Plans and are at different stages of development:

- North Norfolk District commenced the production of a new Local Plan in 2015 with the intention of adopting one covering the period 2016-2036 towards the end of 2018. No specific policies have been developed in the Local Plan but the Site Allocations Development Plan was adopted in 2011 and allocates land for around 3,500 dwellings. Although delivery rates are behind target at this point in the plan cycle, mainly as a consequence of recession the local authority expects to deliver close to the required local plan target of 8,000 dwellings by 2021, and approximately 10,000 by 2026.
- The Joint Core Strategy (2011), developed by the Greater Norwich Development Partnership sets out the over-arching strategy for 37,000 new homes and 27,000 new jobs across Norwich City Council, Broadland District Council and South Norfolk Council by 2026. Broadland District has undertaken consultation on its Site Allocation Development Plan and is proposing about a 12,500 units increase in housing. Norfolk has adopted a site allocations plan for 8,592 new dwellings between 2008 and 2026. The Site Allocations and

Policies Document part of the South Norfolk Local Plan was adopted on 26 October 2015 and is now subject to a six week legal challenge period. It proposes about 15,500 new homes over the period.

- The Bury St Edmunds Vision 2031 and Core Strategy propose that the town will grow by at least 5,740 new homes between 2012 and 2031. Most new housing will be located in five strategic areas of growth located around the town.
- The Forest Heath Core Strategy Development Plan is the principal document that provides the overall strategic vision for the future of Forest Heath to 2026 and looks ahead to 2031 for residential growth. Following a legal challenge the number of market and affordable houses is being consulted on and will be between 5300-6000 in the District in the remaining plan period 2014 - 2031.
- The King's Lynn and West Norfolk Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Pre-Submission Document (January 2015) has been submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination. The supporting Core Strategy (2011) outlines 10,770 new houses within the area.

6.4 These plans outline a total of 69,510 new homes and supporting infrastructure between now and 2031 around Breckland District. All of these local plans' aims include sustainable development and take into account the availability and suitability of land for development. Where there are cumulative impacts is where resources are shared across boundaries, such as water resources, green infrastructure and air quality.

6.5 Below is an assessment of the potential for cumulative impacts between local plans on sustainability aspects and appropriate mitigation within the wider area around and including Breckland:

- Land resources - for development on agricultural land, the local plans have regard to national planning policies, including policies to protect the best and most versatile land to support food production and minerals exploration. Providing compliance to these policies we would expect no cumulative impact on loss of quality land resources within Breckland or regionally.
- Water resources - This is one of the highest risks of cumulative negative impact. Along side of the local plans, joint and partnership working between the Environment Agency, water industry bodies, local authorities and others is undertaken in order to deliver water efficiency, management and infrastructure benefits. Statutory requirements under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) will continue to apply and be implemented principally in accordance with the Anglian River Basin Management Plan, supported by national planning policy. Breckland should work co-operatively with other authorities, the Environment Agency and water companies to ensure the spatial planning aspects of the Anglian River Basin Management Plans are applied and the distribution and scale of growth have regard to the capacity of waste water treatment works and WFD requirements.
- Flood risk - to minimise the cumulative risk of flooding regionally local flood authorities have a duty (under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010) to co-operate to develop strategies for managing local flood risk provisions. Breckland has developed a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (updated in 2008) and the Partnership of Norfolk District Councils (Broadland, North Norfolk, Broads Authority, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk) produced a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in January 2008. In addition, the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 impose a duty on the Environment Agency and lead local flood authorities to take steps to identify and prepare for significant flood risk.
- Soil resources - soil impacts are local and appropriately considered at the local level without cumulative impact.
- Air pollution - National planning policies, including those on air quality, sustainable development and transport, will continue to apply and inform local plan policies. The benefits of more sustainable transport provision and infrastructure and sustainable locations for development should reduce the risk of a cumulative impact on local air quality within Breckland. In addition Breckland is mostly a rural district and does not have any air quality management areas which a cumulative impact could adversely affect and push the District above a threshold.
- Climate change - climate change is recognised as a global threat caused by cumulative local impacts. Hence national planning policy expects local authorities to plan for new development in locations and ways that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and minimise future vulnerability in a changing climate. Breckland along

with the surrounding local authorities support the delivery of renewable and low-carbon energy and energy efficiency measures including minimising the need for commuting. The local authorities work together across administrative boundaries and with the Environment Agency to plan development that properly minimises the effects of climate change, particularly from flooding.

- Biodiversity - while significant effects are unlikely due to existing legislation and policies (eg local biodiversity action plans) to protect biodiversity/wildlife there remains some potential for significant adverse effects, because of the cumulative level of housing and employment growth proposed focused in and around the District. Natural England as a statutory consultee for developments within the impact risk zone of a designated habitat/s as well as the requirement to screen and if necessary for local authorities to undertake an Appropriate Assessment will identify any cross border cumulative impacts on habitats supporting vulnerable biodiversity.
- Cultural heritage - The most important cultural heritage sites are subject to statutory protection. In developing the local plan all local authorities have drawn on available information on the historic environment, including data from partners, to identify sensitive area. Breckland will need to co-ordinate with the neighbouring local authorities to address cross boundary issues.
- Landscape - There are a number of river valleys that provide key landscape settings within Breckland. National planning policies provide for countryside protection, including protections for valued landscapes and nationally designated areas (which are also subject to statutory protection). Current policy in Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts and the draft National Planning Policy Framework contain strong policies protecting the Green Belt from inappropriate development.
- Population - There is no reason why cumulative positive effects cannot ensue through a combination of local authority intervention, third sector action and responses from the market outside the District's scope. Local authorities are expected to work collaboratively with neighbouring authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships to determine the regeneration needs of their areas.
- Human Health - national policies relevant to health and wellbeing, which underpins the concept of sustainable development are reflected in the policies for local plan's for Breckland and surrounding Districts.
- Inclusive communities - as impacts are local there should be no cumulative impact on inclusive communities from the developments proposed in the local plans.
- Economic Activity - as power is shifted away from central government to local communities, citizens and independent providers decisions should be made locally, meaning impacts are local. Partnerships like the Greater Norwich Development Partnership have formed to produce joint or aligned local plans to maximise opportunities for positive impact. Breckland needs to continue to communicate with the surrounding local authorities to identify opportunities for synergistic economic impacts.

Intra effects

6.6 The table in Appendix B outlines an assessment of potential secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects within the policies of the Local Plan, as required by the SEA Directive. Many sustainability problems result from the accumulation of multiple, small and often indirect effects, rather than a few large obvious ones, and consideration of such effects are discussed in this section.

6.7 A summary of the intra-plan cumulative, secondary or synergistic impacts table in Appendix B is below

Policy	SA Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction																			
Cumulative Effect	0	+/-	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	++	++	++	++

Table 6.1

6.8 As the above table shows, when combined, the majority of policies have an overall positive cumulative effect. In particular, there are very positive (++) cumulative effects associated with those sustainability objectives aimed at encouraging inclusive communities and economic activity at the local level. In this context, economic, social and employment related policies all complement each other, reinforcing that the local community is essential component in achieving sustainable development. Furthermore, these policies are supported by the overall transport policy, which aims to improve local access through sustainable uses of transport (TR01 Sustainable Transport Network) which will help support growth by improving access to local amenities and employment areas.

6.9 The cumulative assessment (appendix B) also reveals that biodiversity, cultural heritage, landscape and population, and human health achieve an overall positive cumulative (+) score. Economic and environmental policies recognise that there will be the inevitable loss of greenfield land associated with the designated housing sites. Nevertheless, both areas of policy state that this will be limited to specific areas, and above all designated areas will be protected. There are positive cumulative interactions therefore between both areas of policy. For instance, expanding green infrastructure will not only benefit from preserving and enhancing biodiversity, but will lead to improvements in air quality associated with the increase in open space; attract more local visitors and encourage tourism; and improve the landscape and tranquillity. The Brecks will be protected and thus continue to attract visitors. Similarly, the retail strategy aims to improve the quality and range of services, which will again add to the attractiveness of the area, and potential for tourism.

6.10 The assessment (appendix B) illustrates that there are no overall negative scores against any of the sustainability objectives. Although both 'limiting water consumption to the natural capacity of natural processes and storage systems' and 'minimising the production of waste and supporting the recycling of waste' are partially in conformity, there are likely to be negative intra-cumulative effects associated with both these objectives. It is anticipated that with the development of multiple affordable housing sites, the cumulative effects of an increase in production of waste and limits to water consumption will need to be considered.

6.11 Another potential negative cumulative effect arises from the rural areas policy. Although improving the access of facilities and employment is encouraged in rural areas, this may also increase single occupancy car use, as public transport will not be develop in rural areas. Therefore, there may be a slight increase in emissions as a result.

7 Prediction, Evaluation and Mitigation of the Effects of the Plan

7.1 Predicting the effects of the Local Plan is necessary in order to consider the potential changes to the identified baseline conditions, with or without strategic actions. In the context of this document, the strategic actions are the preferred directions policies. The prediction of effects seeks to consider the direct and indirect effects of the policies against the baseline and considers the scale, probability and impact of them. The effects have been identified through the appraisal and cumulative appraisal in 12 'Assessment of Local Plan Policies' and 13 'Cumulative Assessment of Local Plan Policies'

SA Objective 1: Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Loss of greenfield land across the District	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD05, PD06, PD09, PD11, PD12, ENV10, E02, E03, E04, COM09, COM10	Negative	District Wide	Long term	Permanent	Certain
<p>Assessment: The greatest cause of loss of undeveloped land within the Local Plan is due to the housing requirements. The housing target has been defined within the Central Norfolk Strategic Housing Market Area and is based around the need to meet the Districts full objectively assessed housing need as required within through the National Planning Policy Framework. There is limited brownfield land availability within Breckland, and as such the delivery of housing and employment sites will require the loss of greenfield land.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The loss of greenfield land to development across the District will be mitigated through the controlled release of land for development to ensure that the best use of brownfield land is made. Also, thorough, requirements to ensure the most efficient use of available land ensuring development is built at appropriate densities. Releases will also be made in line with identified development needs to ensure that excessive land is not allocated resulting in loss of undeveloped land.</p>						

SA Objective 2: Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Water conservation methods are encouraged, resulting in more limited consumption	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD09, ENV09, E04, COM05, COM09	Positive	District Wide	Long term	Permanent	Uncertain

SA Objective 2: Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>Assessment: New development (both residential and economic) will have a requirement for increased water resources. The baseline information shows that Breckland is one of the driest Districts in England is relatively dry in terms of annual rainfall and that the aquifer that underlies the District serves other areas as well as the District itself. The impact on water resources is being assessed as part of the Water Cycle Study which is currently being updated. The previous Water Cycle Study indicated that there was sufficient water capacity to meet the development levels over the plan period.</p>						
<p>Mitigation Proposal: General support is given to the principles of water conservation through policies within the preferred directions Local Plan, hence the overall positive score. The inclusion of more water saving measures within the policies is restricted however through revisions to the national planning policy guidance.</p>						
SA Objective 3: Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Sustainable reuse of water limiting consumption	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD08, PD09, E04, COM05, COM09	Positive	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: This sustainability objective has been included following comments from the Environment Agency. The policies within the document have been informed by the Water Cycle Study, and any revised information will be included within policies taking into account the findings in the updated Water Cycle Study and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.</p>						
<p>Mitigation Proposal: See mitigation comments for sustainability objective 2</p>						

SA Objective 4: Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Landfill capacity exhausted through increased development	PD02, PD03, PD06, PD07, PD09	Negative	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: New development will lead to an increased amount of waste, which will need to be dealt within the County. Norfolk County Council are the Minerals and Waste Authority for Norfolk and have produced a Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Site Allocations DPDs.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: There is limited options for mitigating against an increase in waste through the Local Plan. The sustainability appraisal for the site allocations includes reference to the proximity of recycling centres to the sites.</p>						
SA Objective 5: Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Increased levels of air pollution	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD05, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD09, PD11, ENV04, ENV05, ENV06, ENV10, E02, E03, E04, TR01, COM04, COM05, COM09	Positive	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: Climate change is a significant issue on a number of different scales, it is a global issue effecting world wide natural processes, national in terms of its wider ranging effects on biodiversity or risk of flooding, whilst also being a local problem.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The policies around the location of housing, employment and retail sites focus the majority of the development planned for Breckland on the market towns and local service centre villages. This approach helps to mitigate against increased levels of car use by placing development in areas where there is access to public transport.</p>						

SA Objective 6: To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Reduce risk of flooding to new and existing developments	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD11, ENV02, ENV04, ENV05, ENV09,	Positive	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: The evidence base for water and flood risk is included within the Water Cycle Study and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, this is currently being updated. The previous Strategic Flood Risk Assessment noted that there was enough land within the District to accommodate the growth levels proposed without the need to develop in areas at risk of flooding. However, significant growth across the District could still present problems in the form of localised flooding from surface water run-off.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The preferred approach within the Local Plan is to provide a specific policy setting out the requirements for planning applications in relation to flood risk. In addition to this, it also requires development to mitigate against surface water flooding on-site through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems.</p>						
SA Objective 7: Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Number of sites protected for biodiversity and geodiversity. Expansion of habitats of importance to biodiversity.	PD02, PD04, PD06, PD08, PD09, PD11, ENV01, ENV02, ENV03, ENV04, ENV05, ENV06, E02, E03, E05, COM02	Positive and Negative Effects	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: Breckland contains a high number of important, European, National and Local sites, which have been protected for their biodiversity or geodiversity importance. The impact of the Local Plan on this objective is currently unclear. The development requirements</p>						

SA Objective 7: Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>outlined in PD02 and PD04 are likely to put pressure on undeveloped land for housing and employment development. However other policies within the plan including ENV02 seek to protect these features.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The approach to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity in the context of the Local Plan has been assessed through the Habitats Regulations Assessment. The approach set out within the Local Plan seeks to protect and enhance designated biodiversity sites, however recognises that there will be loss of undeveloped land which is not subject to a European, national or local designation.</p>						
SA Objective 8: Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Number of sites which contribute to Green Infrastructure within the District.	PD02, PD04, PD06, PD08, PD09, PD11, ENV01, ENV02, ENV03, ENV04, ENV05, ENV06, E02, E05, COM02	Positive and Negative Effects	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: Breckland includes a number of sites which contribute towards biodiversity within the District. The impact of the Local Plan on green infrastructure is unclear. The green infrastructure policy supports the delivery of green infrastructure through the planning process and attempts to mitigate against the loss of these sites.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The mitigation approach to green infrastructure is to include a specific policy within the Local Plan, to ensure that it is fully considered through planning applications, protected from development on and enhancement are sought where possible.</p>						

SA Objective 9: Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
New development provides quality environments that respond to local landscape townscape character	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD09, PD10, PD12, ENV01, ENV02, ENV03, ENV04, ENV05, ENV06, NV07, ENV08, E03, E05, E07, COM01, COM02, COM03, COM05, COM07, COM08, COM09	Positive	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain

Assessment: Breckland has a diverse landscape and locally distinctive patterns of development. This diversity is an important characteristic of the area and has been assessed through the Landscape Character Assessment and also the Settlement Fringe Study.

Mitigation Proposal: New development has the potential to impact upon the landscape and townscape of the District. In order to mitigate against the potential impact upon the landscape and townscape, this should be considered through the planning process. There is specific policies such as Design, which look at this, but a number of other policies also include a reference to it in the criteria for the assessment of applications. By embedding it into individual policies it is considered that this will increase the weight which can be given to it in the determination of planning applications.

SA Objective 10: Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
The character of the historic environment is conserved and enhanced. Buildings with a historic value are conserved and enhanced.	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD09, PD10, PD12, ENV01, ENV04, ENV06, ENV07, ENV08,	Positive	District Wide	Medium to Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain

SA Objective 10: Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
	E05, E07, COM01, COM02, COM03, COM05, COM08					
<p>Assessment: The district has 50 conservation areas and over 1500 listed buildings. These historic features contribute greatly to the character of the District. New development in the form of residential, employment, tourism or infrastructure has the potential to impact upon Breckland's historic environment.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The preferred directions includes two specific policies relating to the protection of the historic environment, one of which relating to designated heritage assets, and the other to non-designated heritage assets. The inclusion of localised policies will help to mitigate against proposals coming forward which could harm the historic environment. In addition to this a number of policies also include reference to the need to protect the historic environment, and add to the weight which can be given to the issue through the determination of planning applications.</p>						
SA Objective 11: Improve the health and well being of the population						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Growth is located in areas where there is convenient access to healthcare and social facilities.	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD10, PD11, ENV01, ENV04, COM01, COM02, COM03, COM05, COM08	Positive	District Wide	Medium to Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: New development has the potential to impact upon the health and well being of the population in a number of different ways. Not only does the increase in population have impacts upon the capacity at local surgeries, new housing can impact upon health. Developments area also able to built in features such as pedestrian and cycle links which can improve health.</p>						

SA Objective 11: Improve the health and well being of the population						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>Mitigation Proposal: Central to the Local Plan is ensuring that the population has good access to essential services and facilities. In general this takes the form of promoting significant development in areas which have these services in existence already, but also can include requiring provision to be made for those services in response to new development. Therefore the significance of this effect is relatively high and essential to improving peoples health and well being across the District.</p>						

SA Objective 12: Reduce and Prevent Crime						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Reduction in the fear of crime through design quality	PD02, PD08, PD09, COM01	Positive	Local	Medium Term	Permanent	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: Whilst crime rates are not high in Breckland, this is something which is monitored through the baseline survey. The design of new developments can have an important role to play in both reducing crime and reducing the fear of crime within the District.</p>						
<p>Mitigation Proposal: Design quality will be assured through the development management function of the Council, in conjunction with the Police's Architectural liaison Officer. The inclusion of a specific design policy within the Local Plan will help to achieve this aim. It will also be achieved through the approach to infrastructure which will include ensuring that public open space and transport routes are well lit and surveyed.</p>						

SA Objective 13: Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Open space is provided and protected in the District through new developments	PD02, PD03, PD04, PD05, PD06, PD08, PD09, PD10, PD11, ENV01, ENV02, ENV04,	Positive	District Wide	Short to Long Term	Permanent	Certain

SA Objective 13: Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
	ENV06, E06, COM0, COM08, COM09					
<p>Assessment: The evidence base for open space is provided through the Open Space Assessment and the parish Schedule. This shows that there is a significant deficit in open space within Breckland in relation to the size of the population. The assessment is based on the Fields In Trusts space standards for children's play areas and outdoor sports facilities.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The preferred directions includes a specific policy on open space and requires all net new dwellings to contribute towards open space. Sites of 25 dwellings or more will be required to provide on-site open space, whilst those for less than 25 will need to provide a financial contribution. This will be secured through a planning obligations, in accordance will the requirements of the Community Infrastructure Levy regulations. In addition to this the preferred directions policy also seeks to protect existing open spaces from redevelopment.</p>						

SA Objective 14: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Levels of service provision in rural settlements are maintain or improved. Essential services become more accessible Healthy and vibrant town centres to serve the needs of the District	PD01, PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD09, PD11, ENV04, E01, E03, E06, COM04	Positive	District Wide	Short to Long Term	Temporary	Uncertain
<p>Assessment: Maintaining access to services and facilities is an essential part of creating sustainable development within Breckland. Due to the size of the District and the limited levels of public transport provision, it is important to maintain existing services and facilities from re-development pressures. Furthermore, it is also important to direct development in areas where there is good public transport links.</p>						

SA Objective 14: Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>Mitigation Proposal: The preferred directions Local Plan includes a specific policy on the protection of community facilities. It requires applications for the change of use of these facilities, to demonstrate that the use is no longer viable, this includes through the marketing of facilities at an appropriate value. This approach will be particularly important in the rural areas and local service centre villages.</p> <p>The preferred directions Local Plan also supports the role of town centres within Breckland through policies allocating new development in these areas. In addition to this the policy also recommends a lower impact assessment threshold, which should secure the majority of retail developments towards the town centre. This is important not only in maintaining the vitality and viability of the District, but also in directing development to areas where there is public transport accessibility.</p>						

SA Objective 15: Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>Sufficient housing is secured for all in need</p> <p>Income inequalities are reduced by providing affordable housing</p> <p>Encouraged diversity of employment</p> <p>Essential services become more accessible</p>	<p>PD01, PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD09, PD10, PD11, ENV04, COM04, COM05, COM06, COM10</p>	<p>Positive</p>	<p>Local/District Wide</p>	<p>Medium to Long Term</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Uncertain</p>

Assessment: There are a number of inequalities within the District which the Local Plan can seek to address. Inequalities, can include access to housing (both private and affordable) for different groups within the community. It can also include access to essential services and facilities, for instance those on lower incomes are likely to find it harder to access services and facilities in the rural area. The Local Plan includes a range of policies which will help to tackle these issues.

SA Objective 15: Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>Mitigation Proposal: The housing target for Breckland has been set based on the findings of the Central Norfolk Strategic Housing Market Assessment. This has assessed the housing needs for all groups within Breckland and has been used to set the annual housing target. In addition to this it has also provided the affordable housing requirement.</p> <p>The preferred directions Local Plan includes a specific policy on the protection of community facilities. It requires applications for the change of use of these facilities, to demonstrate that the use is no longer viable, this includes through the marketing of facilities at an appropriate value. This approach will be particularly important in the rural areas and local service centre villages.</p>						

SA Objective 16: Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>Sufficient housing is secured for all in need</p> <p>Increased stock of affordable homes</p> <p>Greater provision of affordable housing in rural areas</p>	<p>PD01, PD02, PD03, PD04, PD05, PD06, PD08, PD09, PD10PD11, ENV03, ENV05, ENV08, ENV09, E01, E06, COM0,1COM02, COM05, COM06, COM07, COM08, COM09, COM10</p>	Positive	District Wide	Long Tern	Permanent	Certain
<p>Assessment: The Central Norfolk Housing Market Assessment has assessed the affordable housing requirement within Breckland, based on the level of need of the population within the housing market area. There are a number of preferred directions within the Local Plan which will have an impact on affordable housing provision, with all new developments for five or more dwellings being expected to provide affordable housing. Some of the environmental policies have the potential to have a negative impact on the achievement of this sustainability objective as they restrict the area where new housing can be developed.</p>						

SA Objective 16: Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
<p>Mitigation Proposal: The preferred approach is to secure affordable housing on-site for all applications of five or more dwellings. This will help to meet the affordable housing need identified through the Central Norfolk Strategic Housing Market Assessment. In the rural areas, the Local Plan also includes a preferred policy around the delivery of rural affordable housing exception site. These sites have an important role in delivering affordable housing to areas outside of the locational strategy.</p>						

SA Objective 17: Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
The vitality and viability of town centres is sustained and enhanced	PD01, PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD11, ENV01, ENV07, E01, E03, E04, E07, COM01	Positive	Local	Medium Term	Permanent	Uncertain

Assessment: The approach to town centres has been informed by the Retail and Town Centre Study 2014, which has included providing new convenience and comparison requirements for the plan period within the Districts market towns. In addition to new developments, improving the vitality and viability of the market towns also includes consideration of the aesthetics of the town centre, making it a more attractive area where people want to spend time.

Mitigation Proposal: Town centre growth should be supported through policies within the preferred directions Local Plan, This will be delivered through the development management process and needs to be coupled with new housing growth.

SA Objective 18: Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
A better range of employment opportunities	PD01, PD02, PD03, PD04,	Positive	District Wide	Long Term	Permanent	Uncertain

SA Objective 18: Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Strong economic growth resulting from diversification of employment opportunities Housing of an appropriate affordability in terms of size, type and tenure to help enable employment opportunities,	PD06, PD07, PD08, PD11, PD12, E01, E02, E03, E04, E05, COM08					
<p>Assessment: The policies around employment provision have been informed by the Employment Growth Study 2013. This has assessed the level of employment growth required within the District over the plan period. In addition to this it has also looked at the existing general employment areas within Breckland and consider whether they remain fit for purpose going forward. The document has recommended the need for further employment land within the District over the plan period. It also shows the role the rural areas plays in supporting the economy.</p> <p>Mitigation Proposal: The preferred direction is to secure employment growth through the allocation of general employment land. The preferred directions seeks to protect these sites for B class uses. It does also recognise the need in certain instances for employment development to be located outside of general employment areas, this supports the issues noted within the employment growth study.</p>						
SA Objective 19: Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy						
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence
Strong economic growth resulting from diversification of employment opportunities Sustained employment growth	PD01, PD02, PD03, PD04, PD06, PD07, PD08, PD11, PD12, ENV01, ENV05, ENV08,	Positive	District Wide	Medium term	Permanent	Uncertain

SA Objective 19: Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy							
Effect	Policy	Positive/Negative Impact upon Baseline	Spatial Extent	Duration (Short/Medium/Long term)	Is the effect temporary or permanent	Probability of Occurrence	
	E01, E02, E03, E04, E05, COM08, COM09, COM10						
<p>Assessment: The policies around employment provision have been informed by the Employment Growth Study 2013. This has assessed the level of employment growth required within the District over the plan period. In addition to this it has also looked at the existing general employment areas within Breckland and consider whether they remain fit for purpose going forward.</p>							
<p>Mitigation Proposal: The preferred directions supports the delivery of employment development throughout the District. It seeks to focus the majority of employment development on the market towns, where there are opportunities for people to access employment through means other than car use. The preferred directions also recognises the role of the rural economy, including tourism and supports this.</p>							

8 Proposals for Monitoring

8.1 The current baseline data table in 10 'District Wide Baseline Data' includes a significant number of indicators defined in national, regional and local indicators developed to aid the appraisal of the Local Plan. Each of these indicators has been used to build up a picture of the District's social, environmental and economic characteristics. Although each of these are valuable in expressing the Districts performance, the annual assessment of each indicator would result in considerable, effort, resources and substantial new monitoring. In addition many of these indicators cannot be monitored annually as they are only available from external sources, such as the census.

8.2 Therefore in order to provide a more manageable monitoring requirement, a reduced number of indicators have been selected to provide monitoring of the 19 SA objectives. These will be updated annually and included with the production of the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The findings of these indicators will help to measure how well the plan contributes to sustainable development and inform future reviews of plans and policies. The following table illustrates these indicators against their relevant SA objectives:

No.	SA Objective	Headline Monitoring Indicator
1	Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of on site resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for future generations	% of dwellings completed on previously developed land
		Density of new developments
		% of employment use development completed on previously developed land
		% of retail use development completed on previously developed land
2	Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality	Levels of water abstracted
3	Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality	Average household water consumption (ltr/head/day)
4	Minimise waste production and support the recycling of waste	% of household waste which is recycle and composted
5	Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution	Average distance travelled to work
6	To adapt to climate change and avoid , reduce and manage flood risk	Ha of new development permitted in areas at risk of flooding.
		Number of new developments permitted contrary to Environment Agency advice
7	Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity	Condition of SSSI (% of sites in favourable condition)

No.	SA Objective	Headline Monitoring Indicator
8	Protect, enhance and increase green infrastructure within the District	Ha of green infrastructure provided
9	Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character	Ha of development within the Conservation Area
10	Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment	Permissions granted contrary to the advice of Historic England/Conservation Officer
11	Improve the health and well being of the population	Access to essential services and facilities
12	Reduce and prevent crime	Recorded crimes per 1000 population
13	Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space	Area of open space provided through the planning system
14	Improve the quality and quantity of accessible services and facilities	A class floorspace
		Access to essential services and facilities
15	Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income	Number of affordable dwellings built
		New community facilities built
16	Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs	Net number of new houses built
		Net new affordable houses built
		Number of gypsy and travellers pitches delivered
17	Increase the viability and vitality of existing town centres	Number of vacant retail units
18	Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence	Employment by place of residence %
		Number of people on the claimant count
17	Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy	Employment land available
		Employment land developed
		Economic activity rate

Table 8.1 Objectives and Indicators for Monitoring

9 Next Steps

9.1 This sustainability appraisal assess the preferred and alternative options within the Local Plan preferred directions document. The process of assessing the Local Plan policies and site allocations will continue at the pre-submission stage and will reflect the comments received during this consultation. These findings will be published in the next stage of the SA that will accompany the Local Plan Pre-Submission document. This will also include any additional appraisal work in relation to significant amendments that may be made to the Local Plan.

9 Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Programmes

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
The Rio Earth Summit, 1992	<p>Five separate agreements made at the Summit;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The Convention of Biological Diversity. *The Framework Convention on Climate Change. *Principles of Forest Management. *The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development - 27 key principles. *Agenda 21 - an action plan for developing the planet sustainably in to the 21st Century. <p>Particular issue include - systematic scrutiny of patterns of production - particular the production of toxic components, such as lead in gasoline, or poisonous waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Alternative sources of energy to replace the use of fossil fuels which are linked to global climate change. *New reliance on public transportation systems in order to reduce vehicle emissions, congestion in cities and the health problems caused by polluted air and smog. *The growing scarcity of water. 	None.	<p>Promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency.</p> <p>Promotion of sustainable development.</p> <p>Patterns and public transport.</p> <p>Promotion of water efficiency.</p> <p>Promotion of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.</p> <p>Limit or reduce contributions and vulnerability to climate change.</p> <p>Provide for sustainable sources of water supply and improve water quality.</p> <p>Contribution to use of renewable energy.</p>
The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, 2002	<p>Reaffirmation of international commitment to Sustainable Development and 10 year framework of action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Reverse trend in loss of natural resources. *Urgently and substantially increase (global) share of renewable energy. *Significantly reduce loss of Biodiversity by 2010. 	Significantly reduce loss of biodiversity by 2010.	<p>Encouragement of sustainable development patterns.</p> <p>Development and innovation in renewable energy.</p> <p>Protection and enhancement of opportunities for Biodiversity.</p>	<p>Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.</p> <p>Limit or reduce contributions and vulnerability to climate change.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Kyoto Protocol and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992	International commitment sought to achieve a stabilisation of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere to levels that are stabilised and considered safe. Targets have been established to which signature Countries must work towards based on 1990 emission levels. There is a strong consensus that these targets are a minimum level required to avert climatic crisis.	Reduce gas emission of 5% of 1990 levels, 2008 to 2012. UK has an agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emission by 12.5% less than the 1990 output emission levels and a national goal of of a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emission below 2990 levels by 2010.	The Local Plan should seek to encourage a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions that will contribute to an overall national reduction. To promote the use of energy that is considered sustainable and does not rely on greenhouse gas emitting forms.	A general global stabilisation of greenhouse gas output should be achieved in order to allow vital ecological adaptation, food production, and economic development to continue in the future.
European Air Quality Framework Directive 1996 (96/62/EC).	Maintain air quality where it is good, and improve where it is not.	None.	Avoid detrimental impacts on air quality and help to mitigate those areas that have been designated Air Quality Management Areas.	Ensure that that the requirements of the Directive are reflected in the SA framework.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>The Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna Directive (92/43/EC)</p>	<p>Aim of the Directive is to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and flora and fauna. Measures should maintain and restore, to a favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna, accounting for socio-economic and cultural requirements and local characteristics. Requirement for 'appropriate assessment' to consider effects on sites of European importance.</p>	<p>To contribute to the maintenance of ecological development of special areas of conservation relevant to Breckland.</p>	<p>Local Plans have a significant role to play in the protection and management of biodiversity and areas of significant habitat and ecological importance. Local Plans can also consider their role in achieving these objectives in line with wider requirements.</p>	<p>Encourage development to avoid areas of particular importance. Plans must address this as a high priority. Impact on habitats and species. Particular consideration of SAC's and SPA's.</p>
<p>Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of international importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971)</p>	<p>The Convention's Mission Statement is 'the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international co-operation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world'. The general objectives of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2003-2008 are: 1. The wise use of wetlands: To stimulate and assist all Contracting Parties to develop, adopt and use the necessary and appropriate instruments and measures to ensure the wise use of all wetlands within their territories. 2. Wetlands of International Importance: To stimulate and support all Contracting parties in the appropriate implementation of the Strategic Framework and</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Protection and enhancement of opportunities for Biodiversity.</p>	<p>Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance, including the appropriate monitoring and management of listed sites as a contribution to sustainable development.</p> <p>3. International co-operation: To promote international co-operation through the active application of the Guidelines for international co-operation under the Ramsar Convention and in particular to mobilise additional financial and technical assistance for wetland conservation and wise use.</p> <p>4. Implementation capacity: To ensure that the Convention has the required implementation mechanisms, resources and capacity to achieve its mission.</p> <p>5. Membership: To progress towards the accession of all countries to the Convention.</p>			
Directive on Conservation of Wild Birds (1979)	<p>The main provisions of the Directive include:</p> <p>*The maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species across their distributional range (Article 2) with the encouragement of various activities to that end (Article 3).</p> <p>*The identification and classification of Special Protection Areas for rare or vulnerable species listed in Annex I (PDF 106KB) of the Directive, as well as for all regularly occurring migratory species, paying particular attention to the protection of wetlands of international importance (Article 4). (Together with</p>	None	Protection and enhancement of opportunities for Biodiversity	Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's) designated under the Habitats Directive, SPA's form a network of pan-European protected areas known as Natura 2000.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The establishment of a general scheme of protection for all wild birds (Article 5). *Restrictions on the sale and keeping of wild birds (Article 6). *Specification of the conditions under which hunting and falconry can be undertaken (Article 7). (Huntable species are listed on Annex II.1 (PDF 29KB) and Annex II.2 (PDF 73KB) of the Directive). *Prohibition of large-scale non-selective means of bird killing (Article 8). *Procedures under which Member States may derogate from the provisions of Articles 5-8 (Article 9) — that is, the conditions under which permission may be given for otherwise prohibited activities. *Encouragement of certain forms of relevant research (Article 10). *Requirements to ensure that introduction of non-native birds do not threatened other biodiversity (Article 11). 			
<p>Directive on the Promotion of Biofuels and other Renewable Fuels for Transport (2003/30/EC)</p>	<p>Creating a European Wider Framework for the adoption of biofuels in transport fuels.</p>	<p>National targets of 5.7% by 2010 and 10% by 2020.</p>	<p>Consider infrastructure requirements for expansion in biofuels (farming, manufacture, delivery etc.).</p>	<p>Contribution to use of biofuels.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)	Across the Regions of the EU; *Economic and social cohesion. *Conservation and management of natural resources and the cultural heritage. *More balanced competitiveness.	None.	Management of economic, social and environmental matters.	Balancing of potentially conflicting economic, social and environmental issues.
European Renewable Energy Directive (2001/77/EC)	Promotion of development of renewable energy sources and their use.	None.	Promotion of renewable energy.	Contribution to use of renewable energy.
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)	The Convention aims to ensure conservation of wild flora and fauna species and their habitats. Special attention is given to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species specified in appendices. The Parties undertake to take all appropriate measures to ensure the conservation of the habitats of the wild flora and fauna species. Such measures should be included in the Parties planning and development policies and pollution control, with particular attention to the conservation of wild flora and fauna. The Parties undertake to promote education and disseminate general information concerning the need to conserve species of wild flora and fauna and their habitats. The aims of the convention are threefold: • to conserve wild flora and fauna and natural habitats • to promote co-operation between States • to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species	None.	Protection and enhancement of opportunities for Biodiversity	Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>There is a general obligation for each Contracting Party to take action individually, with respect to the conservation of wild flora and fauna and all natural habitats in general, through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promotion of national policies for the conservation of wild flora, wild fauna and natural habitats; 2. Integration of the conservation of wild flora and fauna into national planning, development and environmental policies; 3. Promotion of education and disseminate information on the need to conserve 			
<p>Bonn Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (1979)</p>	<p>Particular objectives set out for the involved Parties are that they shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Promote, co-operate and support research relating to migratory species; b) Endeavour to provide immediate protection for migratory species included in Appendix I; and c) Endeavour to conclude Agreements covering the conservation and management of migratory species included in Appendix II. <p>The Convention was agreed based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition that wild animals in their innumerable forms are an irreplaceable part of the earth's natural system which must be conserved for the good of Mankind <p>Awareness that each generation of man holds the resources of the earth for future generations and has an obligation to ensure that this legacy is conserved and, where utilised, is used wisely</p>	None	Protection and enhancement of opportunities for Biodiversity	Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consciousness of the ever-growing value of wild animals from environmental, ecological, genetic, scientific, aesthetic, recreational, cultural, educational, social and economic points of view • Concern particularly with those species of wild animals that migrate across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries • Recognition that the States are and must be the protectors of the migratory species of wild animals that live within or pass through their national jurisdictional boundaries • The conviction that conservation and effective management of migratory species of wild animals require the concerted action of all States within the national jurisdictional boundaries of which such species spend any part of their life cycle 			
EC Council Directive 85/337/EEC & 97/11/EC , on the Assessment of the Effects of certain Public and Private Projects in the Environment (1985)	<p>This Directive shall apply to the assessment of the environmental effects of those public and private projects which are likely to have a significant effect on the environment.</p> <p>The direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Human beings, fauna and flora; *Soil, water, air, climate and the landscape; *Material assets and the cultural heritage; *The interaction between the factors mentioned in the first, second and third incidents. 	None	Local Plans to have significant role in the wider protection and enhancement of social and environmental issues.	Maintain and enhance Social and environmental characteristics of an area.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
EC Council Directive 99/31/EC, on landfill of waste (1999)	The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.	None	Need to ensure that new developments make adequate provision for recycling facilities	Plan to support the reduction of waste to landfill.
European Water Framework Directive, EC Directive 2000/60/EC (2002)	Reduce pollution of groundwater, enhance waterways and wetlands, use water in a sustainable way, lessen the effects of floods and droughts, protect and restore aquatic ecosystems.	Environment Agency to prepare River Basin Management Plans by 2009 to promote sustainable water management. All inland and coastal waters to reach good ecological status by 2015.	Plan policies to support overall objectives and requirements.	The requirements of the Framework should be incorporated into the appraisal.
European Landscape Convention	In 2006 the United Kingdom signed and ratified the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention (ELC), the first international convention for the management and protection of landscape. It provides a basis for recognising the importance of landscapes and sharing experience across Europe. The ELC aims to encourage public authorities to adopt policies and measures at local, regional, national and international level for protecting, managing and planning landscapes throughout Europe. Landscape is defined as "an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human	None identified.	Plan policies to support overall objectives and requirements.	Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>factors". The ELC applies this definition to all parts of a country's territory, urban as well as rural areas, to both outstanding and ordinary landscapes, to degraded as well as well-preserved places. It is relevant to the Area Action Plan (AAP) given the inevitable landscape impacts associated with development in Attleborough and Snetterton Heath.</p>			
<p>European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention (2000))</p>	<p>Introduces a Europe wide concept entering on the quality of landscape protection, management and planning covering the entire territory and not just outstanding landscapes.</p> <p>In the context of sustainable development landscape is an essential consideration in striking the balance between preserving the natural and cultural heritage and using it as an economic resource.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>	<p>Plan policies should support the overall objectives and requirements of the convention. In particular the need to assess the quality of landscapes and to set quality objectives.</p> <p>Need to identify landscapes and their characteristics and the dynamics and pressures which affect them.</p> <p>The need to frame policies on landscape in terms of protection, management and planning so as to maintain and improve landscape quality; and the balance of these three types of activity depending on the character of the area.</p>	<p>Maintain and enhance landscape, biodiversity, habitats and species</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Valetta Convention (the European Convention on the protection of Archaeological heritage) (2001)</p>	<p>Contains provisions for the identification and protection of archaeological heritage, its integrated conservation, the control of excavations, the use of metal detectors and the prevention of illicit circulation of archaeological objects, as well as for dissemination of information.</p>	<p>To provide for the maintenance of an inventory of the country's archaeological heritage (article 2l);</p> <p>To provide for archaeological participation in planning policies designed to ensure well-balanced strategies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of sites of archaeological interest (article 5ia);</p> <p>To ensure that in development schemes affecting archaeological sites, sufficient time and resources are allocated for an appropriate scientific study to be made of the</p>	<p>Plan policies to support overall objectives and the requirements of the Convention.</p>	<p>To maintain, protect, enhance and conserve archaeological heritage.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
United Nations Convention on Human Rights	Details the basic civil and political rights of individuals and nations.	<p>site and for its findings to be published (article 5iib);</p> <p>To make provision for conservation in situ when feasible (article 5iv).</p>	Ensure that the Local Plan does not violate any human rights.	Ensure that the human rights are not violated.
		<p>The rights of an individual to:</p> <p>Legal recourse when their rights have been violated, even if the violator was acting in official capacity.</p> <p>The right to privacy and protection of privacy by law.</p> <p>Freedom of opinion and expression.</p> <p>Freedom of assembly and association.</p>		

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
European Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC)	To promote the improvement of the energy performance of buildings within the Community, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost-effectiveness.	None identified.	Plan policies to support overall objectives and requirements of the Directive.	Plan to support energy performance of buildings. Reduce contributions to climate change.
European Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)	Ensure that environmental consequences of certain plans and programmes are identified and assessed during their preparation and before their adoption.	None identified.	Plan policies to support overall objectives and requirements of the Directive.	Plan to reduce environmental consequences.
European Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)	Requires assessment of the effect of certain public and private projects on the environment.	None identified.	Plan policies to support overall objectives and requirements of the Directive.	Ensure that appropriate assessments are carried out for sites in locations where development could adversely impact on the environment/.

Table 9.1 Literature Review - International

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (CLG, 2012)</p>	<p>The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government's requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.</p> <p>The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The policies in paragraphs 18 to 219, taken as a whole, constitute the Government's view of what sustainable development in England means in practice for the planning system.</p> <p>At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking.</p> <p>For plan-making this means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area; ● Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or — specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted. 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>The Local Plan needs to be prepared in accordance with the NPPF and its contents need to be in line with the NPPF.</p>	<p>Deliver sustainable communities.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2012)	<p>Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning; • to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites; • to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale; • that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development; • to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites; • that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective; • for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies; • to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply; • to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions; • to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure; • for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment. 	<p>Does not set targets, rather states that local planning authorities should make an assessment of their own need.</p>	<p>Gypsy and Traveller provision needs to be considered.</p>	<p>Improve the quality of where people live. Deliver sustainable communities. Provide a decent home for all.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
National Planning Policy for Waste	<p>Positive planning should play a pivotal role in delivering the Country's waste ambitions through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying need for waste management facilities • Identifying suitable sites and areas • Determining planning applications • Monitoring implications 	Does not set targets.	<p>Whilst BDC are not a waste authority, the Council works closely with NCC who are. Locally, the Norfolk Waste and Minerals Core Strategy and the Site Allocations documents for Waste and Minerals are also of relevance.</p>	<p>Deliver sustainable communities. Encourage sustained economic growth</p>
National Planning Practise Guidance	The government has produced an online web resource which includes all guidance in support of the national planning policy framework.	Does not set targets	The Local Plan needs to be prepared in accordance with the planning practise guidance.	Deliver sustainable communities
Securing the Future - UK Sustainable Development Strategy (March 2005)	<p>The revised strategy places a higher priority on living within environmental limits compared to the 1999 strategy. The following principles have been agreed across UK government. The two overarching principles are:</p> <p>Living within environmental limits.</p> <p>Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society.</p> <p>-These goals will be achieved by:</p> <p>-Achieving a sustainable economy.</p> <p>Promoting good governance.</p>	<p>The strategy lists 68 indicators and targets, many of which have already been reflected in the Scoping Report. Cross reference to these indicators will be essential to future joint SA working within Breckland.</p>	<p>The priority areas should help to inform the key issues and options evolving in the Local Plan:</p> <p>-Helping people make better choices - focus on measures to enable and encourage</p>	<p>The principles and priorities presented in this document will need to be reflected within the structure and emphasis of the Scoping Report.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Using sound science responsibly. Priority areas for action that are relevant to the Local Plan and SA are: -Sustainable consumption and production. -Climate Change and energy. -Natural resource protection and -environmental enhancement. -Sustainable communities. 		<p>behaviour change, measures to engage people.</p> <p>-Confronting the greatest threat: Climate Change and Energy- moving to a low carbon economy at the heart of its energy strategy, and set out a long term goal of reducing carbon dioxide emissions by some 60 per cent by about 2050, with real progress to be shown by 2020.</p> <p>-A future without regrets: protecting our natural resources and enhancing the environment - need for better understanding of environmental limits, the need for environmental enhancement where the environment is</p>	

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
			<p>most degraded, the need to ensure a decent environment for everyone, and the need for a more integrated policy framework to deliver this.</p> <p>-From local to global: creating sustainable communities and a fairer world - At the national level, the strategy sets out the framework for changing people's lives through improvements in public services and providing opportunity for all. At the global level, we look at how we will apply the principles of good governance, democracy and partnership and how to work effectively to meet locally identified priorities so that</p>	

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>The Future of Food and Farming: Challenges and choices for global sustainability (Government Officer for Science, 2011)</p>	<p>Project aim: to explore the pressures on the global food system between now and 2050 and identify the decisions that policy makers need to take today, and in the years ahead, to ensure that a global population rising to nine billion or more can be fed sustainably and equitably.</p> <p>The global food system will experience an unprecedented confluence of pressures over the next 40 years. On the demand side, global population size will increase from nearly seven billion today to eight billion by 2030, and probably to over nine billion by 2050; many people are likely to be wealthier, creating demand for a more varied, high-quality diet requiring additional resources to produce. On the production side, competition for land, water and energy will intensify, while the effects of climate change will become increasingly apparent. The need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate will become imperative. Over this period globalisation will continue, exposing the food system to novel economic and political pressures.</p> <p>The five challenges, outlined further in Sections 4 – 8, are:</p> <p>A. Balancing future demand and supply sustainably – to ensure that food supplies are affordable.</p> <p>B. Ensuring that there is adequate stability in food supplies – and protecting the most vulnerable from the volatility that does occur.</p> <p>C. Achieving global access to food and ending hunger. This recognises that producing enough food in the world so that everyone can potentially be fed is not the same thing as ensuring food security for all.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>this country helps meet Millennium Development Goals.</p> <p>An issue to consider as the Local Plan is produced.</p>	<p>Deliver sustainable communities.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>D. Managing the contribution of the food system to the mitigation of climate change. E. Maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services while feeding the world.</p> <p>These last two challenges recognise that food production already dominates much of the global land surface and water bodies, and has a major impact on all the Earth's environmental systems.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substantial changes will be required throughout the different elements of the food system and beyond if food security is to be provided for a predicted nine billion people. 2. Addressing climate change and achieving sustainability in the global food system need to be recognised as dual imperatives. Nothing less is required than a redesign of the whole food system to bring sustainability to the fore. 3. It is necessary to revitalise moves to end hunger. Greater priority should be given to rural development and agriculture as a driver of broad-based income growth, and more incentives provided to the agricultural sector to address issues such as malnutrition and gender inequalities. It is also important to reduce subsidies and trade barriers that disadvantage low-income countries. Leadership in hunger reduction must be fostered in both high-, middle- and low-income countries. 4. Policy options should not be closed off. Throughout, the Project's Final Report has argued the importance of, within reason, excluding as few as possible different policy options on a priori grounds. Instead, it is important to develop a strong evidence base upon which to make informed decisions. 5. This Report rejects food self-sufficiency as a viable option for nations to contribute to global food security, but stresses the importance of crafting food system governance to maximise the benefits of globalisation and to ensure that they are distributed fairly. For example, it is important to avoid the 			

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	<p>introduction of export bans at time of food stress, something that almost certainly exacerbated the 2007 – 2008 food price spike.</p> <p>Key priorities for action for policy makers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spread best practice. 2. Invest in new knowledge. 3. Make sustainable food production central in development. 4. Work on the assumption that there is little new land for agriculture. 5. Ensure long-term sustainability of fish stocks. 6. Promote sustainable intensification. 7. Include the environment in food system economics. 8. Reduce waste – both in high- and low-income countries. 9. Improve the evidence base upon which decisions are made and develop metrics to assess progress. 10. Anticipate major issues with water availability for food production. 11. Work to change consumption patterns. 12. Empower citizens. 			
<p>Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (DEFRA, 2011)</p>	<p>This new, ambitious biodiversity strategy for England builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how we are implementing our international and EU commitments. It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea.</p> <p>It builds on the successful work that has gone before, but also seeks to deliver a real step change. The mission for this strategy, for the next decade, is: to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people. action in four areas:</p>	<p>No real targets, rather commitments.</p>	<p>Biodiversity will be an important consideration as the Local Plan is produced.</p>	<p>Have regard to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Breckland</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea • putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy • reducing environmental pressures • improving our knowledge 			
<p>The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (HM Government, 2011)</p>	<p>We will mainstream the value of nature across our society by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitating greater local action to protect and improve nature; • creating a green economy, in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other, and markets, business and Government better reflect the value of nature; • strengthening the connections between people and nature to the benefit of both; and • showing leadership in the European Union and internationally, to protect and enhance natural assets globally. <p>We want to promote an ambitious, integrated approach, creating a resilient ecological network across England. We will move from net biodiversity loss to net gain, by supporting healthy, well-functioning ecosystems and coherent ecological networks. We will publish a new Biodiversity Strategy for England, responding to our international commitments and setting a new direction for policy over the next decade.</p> <p>We will establish a clear institutional framework to achieve the recovery of nature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will establish Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) to strengthen local action. LNPs will enable local leadership and may operate across administrative boundaries. They will raise awareness about the services and benefits of a healthy natural environment. They will contribute to the green economy and complement Local Enterprise Partnerships, with which we are encouraging them to form strong links. 	<p>No real targets, rather commitments.</p>	<p>Biodiversity will be an important consideration as the Local Plan is produced.</p>	<p>Have regard to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Breckland</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will create new Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs) to enhance and reconnect nature on a significant scale, where the opportunities and benefits justify such action. Local partnerships will come together to form NIAs. We will set up a competition to identify 12 initial areas and will provide £7.5 million to support this. Through reforms of the planning system, we will take a strategic approach to planning for nature within and across local areas. This approach will guide development to the best locations, encourage greener design and enable development to enhance natural networks. We will retain the protection and improvement of the natural environment as core objectives of the planning system. We will establish a new, voluntary approach to biodiversity offsets and test our approach in pilot areas. <p>More broadly we will achieve a better quality natural environment by taking and promoting concerted action across our farmed land, woodlands and forests, towns and cities, and rivers and water bodies. We will press ahead with our ambitious commitments for the marine environment.</p> <p>We will put natural capital at the centre of economic thinking economic thinking and at the heart of the way the way we measure economic progress nationally. We will include natural capital within the UK Environmental Accounts. We will establish an independent Natural Capital Committee to advise the Government on the state of natural capital in England.</p> <p>We need to make enhancing nature a central goal of social action across the country. We want to make it easier for people to do the right thing, with action in the health and education systems and in our communities.</p>			

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<p>UK National Ecosystem Assessment Understanding nature's value to society. Synthesis of the Key Findings. (Coordinating Lead Authors: Robert Watson and Steve Albon, 2011)</p>	<p>Key Findings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The landscape of the UK has changed markedly during the last 60 years with the expansion of Enclosed Farmlands, Woodlands and Urban areas, and the contraction and fragmentation of Semi-natural Grasslands, upland and lowland Heaths, Freshwater wetlands and Coastal Margin habitats. ■ Changes in the extent and condition of habitats has significantly altered the ecosystem services they provide. ■ Within Enclosed Farmland, crop and livestock production has increased significantly, but accompanied by a loss of landscape diversity, an increase in soil erosion and reduced soil quality, and a reduction in farmland birds and pollinators, in particular. However, there have been a number of recent improvements, including a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, due to both reduced fertiliser application and lower livestock numbers, and improved chemical quality of water. ■ The expansion of Woodlands has contributed to both improved climate regulation, through greater carbon sequestration, and air quality, while at the same time increased timber supply. More recent changes in forest policy and woodland management have enhanced general amenity value and wild species diversity. ■ Expansion of Urban areas has degraded regulating services for climate, hazards, soil and water quality, and noise. ■ Fragmentation and deterioration of wetlands, and in particular the separation of rivers from their floodplains, has compromised hazard (flood) regulation and many other ecosystem services. ■ Across all habitats apparent reductions in soil quality and continuing declines in the diversity of many wild species, including the variety and abundance of pollinators, is of particular concern. 	<p>Does not set targets, rather appraises issues.</p>	<p>Biodiversity will be an important consideration as the Local Plan is produced.</p>	<p>Have regard to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Breckland</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The primary drivers of change in UK ecosystem services during the past 60 years have been i) conversion and intensification of natural habitats to farmland; ii) exploitation of natural resources, especially marine fish; iii) air and aquatic pollution, especially nitrogen, sulphur and phosphorus; and to a lesser extent iv) climate change, and v) invasive species, including plant pests and animal diseases. ■ These direct drivers have largely been influenced by an increasing and ageing population, the economic liberalisation of trade, increased mechanisation and use of agrochemicals, policy changes and reform and behavioural changes, especially consumption patterns. Collectively, these changes in indirect drivers have placed a greater demand on the services provided by UK ecosystems, and have ultimately influenced the way we manage our natural resources. ■ The emphasis placed on provisioning services to meet the increased need for food (crops and livestock), and to a lesser extent fibre, water and energy, for an increasing and wealthier population during the last 60 years, has resulted in the unintended degradation of many UK ecosystems and the delivery of many regulating services, supporting services and cultural services. ■ The Rural Development Programme, in particular the agri-environment schemes of the European Union Common Agricultural Policy, has had some successes, while other European Union environmental directives, such as the Water Framework Directive, have led to significant improvements in ecological status in the past 10–15 years. ■ Changes in the intensity of land management, as well as a reduction in diffuse and point-source pollution and an expansion of protected areas, are likely to have contributed to slowing the decline of many species, including birds used to monitor trends in ecosystem quality. 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Air and water quality have improved significantly over the past 50 years, largely due to direct regulatory interventions, resulting in reduced emissions and improving condition of ecosystems. ■ Society in general benefits from the full range of provisioning, regulating and cultural services. Examples include, i) the increase in the production of crops and livestock has resulted in a wider selection of food at a reduced cost; ii) carbon sequestration by soils and woodlands limits human-induced climate change; and iii) ecosystems influence both physical and mental health, and the quality of life in general. ■ Changes in ecosystem services have both positive and negative impacts on human well-being. For example, the conversion of saltmarshes and dunes to farmland results in increased agricultural output, but locally leads to loss of habitat for recreation and potential implications for coastal defence against storm surges. ■ However, the evidence base linking changes in ecosystems to human well-being is incomplete, and tends to be biased towards assessments based on economic value, particularly where there are markets for goods, and may largely ignore less well quantified health values and un-quantified shared social values. ■ The distribution of beneficiaries of ecosystem services is not evenly spread. For example, carbon sequestration in woodlands benefits society at large, while access to woodlands for recreation and leisure primarily benefits those in close proximity or with transport access, while loss of urban green space has often impacted most severely on lower income households. ■ The management of ecosystem services tends to be localised, whereas the beneficiaries may be widely distributed. For example, much of the regulation of water quality happens in upland ecosystems, while the beneficiaries are downstream 			

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	<p>to those ecosystems. This disconnect between the providers and beneficiaries of the service requires regulatory and/or incentive schemes for land and water management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Where beneficiaries are local to the source of ecosystem services, and are able to influence the ecosystems from which services flow, this will affect the way that these ecosystems are valued and managed. For example farmers working the soil are directly dependent upon good soil quality on site, and should value and manage it accordingly. ■ Human well-being and quality of life is a function of both satisfying individual needs, including social and health-related aspects, and cultural and wider, collective needs. Thus, there is an emerging view that there are shared values for ecosystem services, conditioned via networks of people and institutions, and elicited through participatory activities, including focus groups, local forums and citizen juries. ■ The UK is not self-sufficient in meeting its food, fibre, water (embedded in products) and energy needs, and consequently depends significantly on non-UK ecosystem services, thus exporting a substantial environmental footprint. ■ The annual biomass flow from agriculture, forestry and fisheries through the UK economy is 150 million tonnes, based on domestic production of approximately 100 million tonnes, imports of 50 million tonnes and exports of 20 million tonnes. Therefore, approximately one-third of the biomass used by the UK is sourced from overseas. ■ Approximately 66% of the UK's annual water demand of 102 billion cubic metres is met by overseas sources through embedded (virtual) water, three-quarters of which is due to production of agricultural biomass. ■ Depending upon future policy choices, the UK dependence on provisioning services from non-UK ecosystems could increase or decrease: for example, a storyline which focuses on national self-sufficiency would reduce our dependence on 			

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	<p>non-UK ecosystems and their services, whereas one that emphasises local preservation of ecosystems could increase our dependence on non-UK ecosystems and their services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The UK is dependent upon a wide range of other non-UK ecosystem services, for example climate control, but these have not been analysed in this assessment. ■ A recent survey suggests that in the UK, ecosystem services are not a meaningful framework of interpretation of human-environment relations for the vast majority of people, although the term has gained traction in science and policy. Culturally the concepts which have most meaning are those of nature, place and landscape. ■ The diverse groups of participants in the study shared a common language and understanding of nature, that is the sky, seas, hills, mountains, forests, woodlands, rivers, streams, lakes, beaches, and countryside, characterised by the presence of many different species of mammals, birds, insects, and fish. They associated nature with greenery, such as leaves, trees, grass, plants and fruit, and fresh air, clean air and cleanliness. ■ The increasing membership of organisations such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), which has increased from 10,000 members in 1960 to over 1 million today, and the UK's 45 Wildlife Trusts with 800,000 members, illustrates an increasing appreciation and awareness of environmental issues. ■ Even though the public does not relate to the concept of ecosystem services per-se, they do appreciate the benefits of provisioning services, for example the supply of food and clean water, regulating services such as sequestration of carbon to mitigate climate change, and cultural services, including recreation and urban greenspace. ■ The economic, human health and social benefits that we derive from ecosystem services are critically important to human well-being and the UK economy, and each should be considered when evaluating the implications of changes in 			

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	<p>ecosystems and their services. Effective conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems are critical for human well-being and a future thriving and sustainable green economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The values of most ecosystem services are currently omitted from national economic frameworks and local decision making. However, a conceptual framework is now available to account for most of their market values and some of their non-market values. ■ Failure to include the valuation of non-market values in decision making results in a less efficient resource allocation; however, a major challenge is to develop systems to capture the values of non-market ecosystem services to land managers. ■ The values of some ecosystem services are spatially independent. For example, the value of reduced greenhouse gas emissions or carbon sequestration. While others are highly spatially, including the recreational value of woodlands, which is dependent on its proximity to high population centres. ■ Integration of the spatial dimensions of ecosystem services within local decision making would increase the potential for the true value of ecosystem services to be recognised. ■ Past and future policy choices can have dramatic impacts on ecosystem services and human well-being. ■ Land use change and pollution continue to be major drivers of change for biodiversity and ecosystem services, although by 2060 climate change is also predicted to be a significant driver of ecosystem services and of losses and gains of species throughout the UK. 			

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<p>Summary of the Key Findings from the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2012 (DEFRA 2012)</p>	<p>This publication outlines some of the most important risks and opportunities that climate change may present. It provides an indication of their potential magnitude, when they might become significant and the level of confidence in each finding. As well as the overall picture, specific findings are presented for five complementary themes: Agriculture & Forestry, Business, Health & Wellbeing, Buildings & Infrastructure and the Natural Environment.</p> <p>The findings presented in this summary therefore reflect potential risks and opportunities and are not a prediction of what the future consequences of climate change will be.</p> <p>The global climate is changing and warming will continue over the next century. The UK is already vulnerable to extreme weather, including flooding and heatwaves. Flood risk is projected to increase significantly across the UK.</p> <p>UK water resources are projected to come under increased pressure.</p> <p>Potentially, there are health benefits as well as threats related to climate change, affecting the most vulnerable groups in our society.</p> <p>Sensitive ecosystems are likely to come under increasing pressure.</p> <p>Potential climate risks in other parts of the world are thought to be much greater than those directly affecting the UK, but could have a significant indirect impact here.</p> <p>Some changes projected for the UK as a result of climate change could provide opportunities for agriculture and other businesses, although not outweighing the threats.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will have to consider Climate Change accordingly.</p>	<p>Encourage sustainable growth. Maintain and enhance biodiversity. Reduce the impact of climate change. Mitigation for effects of climate change.</p>

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	<p>Despite the uncertainties related to future climate change and its impacts, the evidence is now sufficient to identify a range of possible outcomes that can inform adaptation policies and planning.</p> <p>Significant gaps in evidence still exist.</p>			
<p>A Code for Sustainable Homes – setting the standard in sustainability for new homes (February 2008) and its supplementary technical guidance (2010).</p>	<p>A standard for key elements of design and construction which affect the sustainability of new homes.</p> <p>Give home owners better information about the running costs of their homes.</p> <p>The code is intended for a single national standard to guide industry in the guide and construction of sustainable homes.</p> <p>The code measures sustainability against categories, rating the whole home as a package; energy, water, materials, surface water run off, waster, pollution, health and well being, management and ecology.</p>	<p>The code will compliment the system of energy performance certificates being introduced in 2007 under the energy performance of buildings directive (EPBD)</p>	<p>Local Plans have a significant role to play in the development of sustainable homes.</p> <p>Requirement for polices in Local Plans address sustainability through the design of new homes.</p> <p>Higher involvement of buildings regulations in the planning process.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change.</p>

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<p>Sustainable Energy by Design (TCPA, 2006)</p>	<p>Provision of sustainable energy provision integrated in to the design and development of new and existing communities. *Secure a decent, well designed home for everyone, in a human-scale environment combining the best features of town and country. *Empower people and communities to influence decisions that affect them. *Improve the planning system in accordance with the principles of sustainable development.</p>	<p>Does not set targets. Is guidance/</p>	<p>Encourage sustainable patterns of development. Development and innovation in renewable energy.</p>	<p>Provide a decent home for all. Reduce contributions to climate change and reduce the vulnerability to climate change.</p>
<p>Delivering Sustainable Low Carbon Travel: An Essential Guide for Local Authorities (DfT and DoH, 2009)</p>	<p>By 2020 the UK must meet a 34% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions on 1990 levels whilst supporting economic growth, improving health and quality of life. And all in a budget-constrained world. Transport has a crucial role to play in meeting these challenges and sustainable travel initiatives offer an opportunity to make a real contribution, not only in decarbonising transport, but also in delivering local objectives around health, congestion, air quality, education, housing, economic development and social inclusion. Sustainable travel initiatives have the potential to add real value to the next round of Local Transport Plans (LTP). This guide seeks to complement statutory LTP Guidance by providing support for developing a sustainable travel business case based on the latest evidence and good practice from around the country. The sustainable travel approach rests on three pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● creating positive choices for travellers; ● a holistic package of measures, which 'lock-in' the benefits; and ● local application tailored to local circumstances. 	<p>Does not set targets, rather gives guidance and promotes good practice.</p>	<p>Travel and transport will need to be addressed in the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality. Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

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	<p>As with any project, successful delivery of sustainable travel requires certain key elements to be in place. This has only been confirmed by the experience of the sustainable travel towns. Those elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clear strategic direction, with a vision of success, strong priorities, defined deliverables and a realistic implementation plan ● A senior management champion or advocate at officer level. This person has a belief in success and can help argue for sustainable transport proposals in the decision making process. ● Political support and understanding. A single councillor or council leader who is committed to the approach and can act as an advocate can be key to getting and keeping support for a project. ● A strong team leader who can ensure that the project is adequately resourced, and can provide leadership for the team to keep the project on track. ● Properly resourced and motivated team with the appropriate skills. ● Good stakeholder management, both internal to the council and externally, from the outset. 			

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<p>This way to better residential streets (CABE, 2009).</p>	<p>*Think strategically about growth, avoid isolated sites, and connect new and existing neighbourhoods. *Rediscover the public transport led model of suburban development. Focus higher densities and mixed uses at new suburban centres connected by viable public transport links. *Create a logical structure of neighbourhood streets and spaces, to aid navigation for all and to encourage walking and cycling. *Ensure space is clearly public or private – a space whose ownership is ambiguous is likely to be under-used and become a maintenance burden. *Use a range of parking solutions that are appropriate to the context. Design streets to accommodate on-street parking. *Avoid compromising on materials and quality at the construction stage. This is also often known as ‘value engineering’. *Establish inclusive design as a core competency within design teams. Engage those who represent the widest possible range of local people early in the design process. *Audit completed schemes.</p>	<p>Does not set targets. Is guidance.</p>	<p>Design principles should be considered as the Local Plan is produced.</p>	<p>Provide a decent home for all. Reduce contributions to climate change and reduce the vulnerability to climate change. Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>
<p>Future health. Sustainable places for health and well-being (CABE 2009).</p>	<p>It is widely recognised that the design of the environment affects the healing process. The need for the built environment to provide safe, effective and high-quality places that can adapt to changing care delivery patterns has never been as clear. Evidence increasingly suggests that the wider environment can reduce stress, encourage exercise and promote good health. In England alone, obesity and physical inactivity cost the country £2.5 billion and £8.2 billion respectively. By contrast, regular physical activity contributes to the prevention of more than 20 conditions including coronary heart disease, diabetes, certain types of cancer, mental ill-health and obesity. Active transport, provision of good public open space in which</p>	<p>Does not set targets; provides guidance.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will have to consider its effect on health and its potential to improve health of the population.</p>	<p>Improve the health and well-being of the Population</p>

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<p>Community green: using local spaces to tackle inequality and improve health (CABE 2010)</p>	<p>to exercise and opportunities to foster social cohesion are all factors that should be considered in the planning and design of the built environment.</p> <p>By using the planned environment to help nurture a healthier population, we can reduce the burden on the healthcare service. But, in order to achieve this, there are fundamental issues to address in how we plan, procure and approach the narrowing of health inequalities.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Join up the policy initiatives in health, environment and planning, from national to community level. * Encourage joint goals within communities by supporting the available vehicles for strategic service delivery. * Make collaborative work easy by streamlining the impact assessments and best practice standards that protect health, well-being and sustainability. * Set minimum design standards. * Explain the market advantages, identifying the mutual benefits that a joined up approach can bring. 			
	<p>Study Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Green space is a public resource with a proven track record in improving people's health, but too many local green spaces remain unused 2: People's concerns about safety affect their use of local green space. This concern varies by ethnicity. 3: Improving the quality of spaces will encourage more active use and exercise 4. Local people are best placed to know what they want from green space. 	<p>Does not set targets; provides guidance.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to consider open space provision in line with the NPPF.</p>	<p>Improve the health and well-being of the Population</p>

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	<p>Access to decent green space, alongside housing, health and education, is a basic requirement for a good quality of life. Public green spaces are a local resource for exercise and socialising, community events and education, and offer respite from the pressures of urban living.</p> <p>Locally led green space improvements foster community pride and create spaces people feel safe and confident using. If spaces provide what local people want they will be better used and offer a far better return on investment.</p> <p>The current inequality of provision matters, especially as the ethnic and age profile of the UK changes. Everyone wants to live in an area that has a pleasant and safe environment. The individual and community benefits are immeasurable.</p> <p>Our research concludes that it makes sense to focus on the people in the community who are worse off. Improving green space in urban areas benefits those that have most to gain.</p>			
<p>First Progress Report on the Promotion and Use of Energy from Renewable Sources for the United Kingdom</p> <p>Article 22 of the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC (DECC 2011).</p>	<p>The UK Government recognises the vast and varied resources we have across the UK to provide energy from renewable sources, and has made clear its commitment to meeting our target of 15% target by 2020 from across the electricity, heat and transport sectors.</p> <p>Over the course of 2009 and 2010 we introduced a series of measures to provide and improve the effectiveness of financial incentives, remove the barriers to increased rates of deployment, develop supply chains and encourage innovation in these emerging technologies.</p> <p>By the end of 2010, as shown in Figure 1, renewable energy accounted for 54TWh (3.3%) of the UK's total energy consumption in 2010 - an increase of 27% over the 2 year period.</p>	<p>Does not set targets; is a progress report.</p>	<p>Renewable energy should be included in the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality Sustainable growth.</p>

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Localism Act (HM Government, 2011)	<p>Renewable electricity increased by 19% from 21.6TWh to 25.7TWh and renewable heat by 25% from 11.3TWh to 14.1TWh. In 2009 and 2010 we increased our wind generation by 46% and in 2010 achieved the milestone of 5GW installed capacity from offshore and onshore wind. In that same period we also increased electricity generated from biomass by over 25%, and increased the share of biofuels in road transport from 1.1% in 2007/8 to 3.3% in 2009/10.</p> <p>Going forward to 2020.</p> <p>While we are on track to achieve our first interim target in 2011/12 we know the rate of deployment will need to be further increased to ensure we meet the interim targets towards the end of the decade.</p> <p>*Increased accountability on local pay: councils are now required to publish their pay policies and put the policies that underpin senior pay packets to a full council vote opening up how public money is being spent in the area to local people.</p> <p>*Preparations for Home Swap Direct: the national home swap scheme that will take full effect in April 2012, enabling people to swap their social home more easily, for example because they wish to move jobs.</p> <p>*Reform of social housing regulation: initial legislative preparations for the formal implementation of changes due on 1 April 2012, which will give social landlords greater freedom to meet local needs and tenants stronger tools to hold landlords to account. Changes to the way complaints are managed will follow in 2013.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to address the provision of the Act.</p>	<p>Sustainable Communities.</p>

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	<p>*Freeing Cities: gives the means to transfer of powers from central Government and non-departmental public bodies to local authorities for improved accountability and economic growth.</p> <p>*New planning enforcement rules: a first step in the process to give councils the ability to take action against people who deliberately conceal unauthorised development in preparation for commencement of the substantive provisions in April 2012.</p>			
<p>Getting the measure of fuel poverty. Final Report of the Fuel Poverty Review. (John Hills 2012)</p>	<p>The terms of reference for the review called, in essence, for an examination of three issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether 'fuel poverty' is, in fact, a distinct problem, or simply a manifestation of more general problems of poverty. • If it is distinct, how it is best measured and whether the current approach to doing this captures the problems most effectively. • The implications of measurement for the way we understand the effectiveness of the range of policy approaches to reducing it. <p>Fuel poverty is a major social problem, causing considerable hardship and negative health impacts, as well as impeding efforts to reduce carbon emissions. It is also widespread. Using the latest official data our recommended indicator shows that more than 7 million people were affected in England in 2009, living in nearly 3 million homes. The fuel poor faced costs which were £1.1 billion higher than would be the case if their bills were at the level faced by typical households (generally living in larger homes and with bigger incomes).</p> <p>First, the framework for measurement underlying the 2001 strategy is inappropriate and does not effectively support policy-making and delivery. Second, on current trends and policies, fuel poverty will not be eradicated by 2016, however it is measured. Third, the context has changed since 2001,</p>	<p>Does not set targets. Makes recommendations to Government.</p>	<p>The Local Plans approach on energy could address fuel poverty in the area to some extent.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality Sustainable growth. Improve the health and well-being of the Population</p>

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<p>Evaluation of the Local Carbon Framework Pilots. A report by CAG Consultants in</p>	<p>with combating climate change a still more urgent national priority, while the economic and fiscal crisis leaves more households vulnerable to the effects of energy prices that have risen, rather than fallen as was assumed in 2001.</p> <p>Our analysis shows that interventions, targeted on the core of the problem, can make a substantial difference. We hope that the framework we have developed provides some of the tools that will allow this to be done most effectively.</p> <p>The Government – not just DECC but also other Departments – should set out a renewed and ambitious strategy for tackling fuel poverty, reflecting the challenges we lay out in this report and the framework we have developed for understanding them.</p> <p>The Local Carbon Framework (LCF) pilots programme has sought to develop demonstrable lessons about how councils can integrate measures to combat climate change into their core business. These lessons also provide a practical basis for the development of a new Council Framework for Climate Change. This Framework will seek to act as a local action plan on delivering carbon emissions, encapsulating the varying portfolios of carbon reduction measures relevant to individual or grouped councils.</p> <p>The pilots are fundamentally an “action learning process”. They were asked to explore what barriers and obstacles may be limiting local authority ambition – whether national, sub regional or local – and to help understand more about the support councils needed to assemble these strategies, and to secure buy-in from all the parties involved.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Whilst no firm proposals or guidance to the Council as yet, the Local Plan needs to address Climate Change and findings and case studies could be relevant.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality Sustainable growth. Improve the health and well-being of the Population</p>

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<p>association with Impetus Consulting and Dr Joanne Wade.</p> <p>Commissioned by the Local Government Association and the Department for Energy and Climate Change (2011)</p>	<p>1: Learning from LCF pilots will continue to evolve. Explore options to ensure that the evolving learning from the LCF pilots programme, and from wider council activity on climate change, is kept „live“, for example through web-based peer-review facilities or an online project wiki.</p> <p>2: Not all LCF outputs are designed for use by other councils. Work with the LCF pilot councils to LGA and convert key outputs into universal tools and guidance documents where necessary.</p> <p>3: LCF outputs would benefit from external testing and peer review. Consider ways in which to review the tools and other outputs from the LCF pilot programme to provide other councils with information about their efficacy and use, for example through a web-based peer review mechanism.</p> <p>4: There is no sector-wide approach to baselining and measuring carbon emissions. Build on the learning from the LCF pilots programme by establishing a sector-wide approach and framework for baselining and measuring carbon emissions.</p> <p>5: The LCF pilots raised a number of data-related issues. Facilitate interaction between that the councils concerned and the relevant decision makers and data set owners to highlight their experiences and discuss solutions to issues they have encountered.</p> <p>6: LCF Pilot funding has provided value-for-money learning to help the sector meet national climate change sector targets. Explore options to create a continued source of funding for council demonstration projects, looking at both public and private sector investment opportunities.</p> <p>7: The need to secure corporate commitment and engagement in carbon reduction. Ensure that the new Nottingham Declaration is designed in a way that generates corporate „excitement“ and commitment to the agenda and galvanises councils to set ambitious carbon targets.</p>			

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<p>The Setting of Heritage Assets (English Heritage, 2011)</p>	<p>The significance of a heritage asset derives not only from its physical presence and historic fabric but also from its setting – the surroundings in which it is experienced. The careful management of change within the surroundings of heritage assets therefore makes an important contribution to the quality of the places in which we live.</p> <p>This document sets out English Heritage guidance on managing change within the settings of heritage assets, including archaeological remains and historic buildings, sites, areas, and landscapes. Setting is the surroundings in which an asset is experienced. The extent and importance of setting is often expressed by reference to visual considerations. Setting will, therefore, generally be more extensive than curtilage, and its perceived extent may change as an asset and its surroundings evolve or as understanding of the asset improves. The setting of a heritage asset can enhance its significance whether or not it was designed to do so. The contribution that setting makes to the significance does not depend on there being public rights or an ability to access or experience that setting.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to consider the setting of Heritage Assets.</p>	<p>Sustainable growth. Landscape. Heritage.</p>
<p>Zero carbon non-domestic buildings. Phase 3 final report (CLG, 2011)</p>	<p>Since the Phase 2 work was completed Part L 2010 has been brought into legislation and the associated latest iteration of the Simplified Building Energy model (SBEM) (4.1) has been published. During this time DCLG also completed the public consultation begun in 2009. Phase 3, which began in September 2010, sought to further develop the evidence base for zero carbon build standards, take into consideration the responses to the consultation and address some of the limitations of the Phase 2 work: Namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of the scope of an energy efficiency standard, analysis of what form the standard should take and quantification of the energy efficiency values. 	<p>Does not set targets, rather discusses targets that could be set.</p>	<p>The build out time of development within the Local Plan area will be over 15 years or so. The consequences of this report will be of great relevance.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality Sustainable growth.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-calculation of achievable carbon compliance target levels given the fairly substantial changes to SBEM since the 2006 Part L and feedback from the public consultation. • Incorporation of the public sector buildings into the economic (cost benefit) analysis. <p>Three zero carbon scenarios were considered in the cost-benefit analysis - low, medium and high scenarios. These scenarios were chosen by DCLG after analysis of the initial results of the Phase 3 modelling and feedback from the 2009 consultation. These represented different trajectories to zero carbon, but were chosen for illustrative purposes, and should not be seen therefore as definitive Government policy on 2019 zero carbon targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The low scenario assumed carbon compliance of 44 per cent compared to Part L 2006, with additional carbon emissions addressed by allowable solutions • The medium scenario assumed carbon compliance of 49 per cent compared to Part L 2006, with additional carbon emissions addressed by allowable solutions. • The high scenario assumed carbon compliance of 54 per cent compared to Part L 2006, with additional carbon emissions addressed by allowable solutions. <p>A change from the Phase 2 analysis was the full inclusion of public sector buildings into the economic analysis. This did not result in significant changes in the overall cost benefit analysis as the area of new public sector floorspace built each year is quite low compared to that of commercial floorspace.</p> <p>All three scenarios yield a net benefit when the social value of carbon savings is taken into account. The low scenario results in a net benefit of about £2.2bn (over a 10 year policy period), the medium scenario results in a net benefit of about £1.7bn, while the high scenario yields a net benefit of £1.2bn. However,</p>			

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	<p>when looking at the net financial cost, i.e. before carbon savings are taken into account, all three scenarios result in a net cost.</p>			
<p>The Portas Review An independent review into the future of our high streets (Mary Portas, 2011)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Put in place a "Town Team": a visionary, strategic and strong operational management team for high streets 2. Empower successful Business Improvement Districts to take on more responsibilities and powers and become "Super-BIDs" 3. Legislate to allow landlords to become high street investors by contributing to their Business Improvement District 4. Establish a new "National Market Day" where budding shopkeepers can try their hand at operating a low-cost retail business 5. Make it easier for people to become market traders by removing unnecessary regulations so that anyone can trade on the high street unless there is a valid reason why not 6. Government should consider whether business rates can better support small businesses and independent retailers 7. Local authorities should use their new discretionary powers to give business rate concessions to new local businesses 8. Make business rates work for business by reviewing the use of the RPI with a view to changing the calculation to CPI 9. Local areas should implement free controlled parking schemes that work for their town centres and we should have a new parking league table 10. Town Teams should focus on making high streets accessible, attractive and safe 	<p>Does not set targets</p>	<p>Town Centres will need will be addressed as part of the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Encourage sustainable growth.</p>

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	<p>11. Government should include high street deregulation as part of their ongoing work on freeing up red tape</p> <p>12. Address the restrictive aspects of the 'Use Class' system to make it easier to change the uses of key properties on the high street</p> <p>13. Put betting shops into a separate 'Use Class' of their own</p> <p>14. Make explicit a presumption in favour of town centre development in the wording of the National Planning Policy Framework</p> <p>15. Introduce Secretary of State "exceptional sign off" for all new out-of-town developments and require all large new developments to have an "affordable shops" quota</p> <p>16. Large retailers should support and mentor local businesses and independent retailers</p> <p>17. Retailers should report on their support of local high streets in their annual report</p> <p>18. Encourage a contract of care between landlords and their commercial tenants by promoting the leasing code and supporting the use of lease structures other than upward only rent reviews, especially for small businesses</p> <p>19. Explore further disincentives to prevent landlords from leaving units vacant</p> <p>20. Banks who own empty property on the high street should either administer these assets well or be required to sell them</p> <p>21. Local authorities should make more proactive use of Compulsory Purchase Order powers to encourage the redevelopment of key high street retail space</p>			

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	<p>22. Empower local authorities to step in when landlords are negligent with new “Empty Shop Management Orders”</p> <p>23. Introduce a public register of high street landlords</p> <p>24. Run a high profile campaign to get people involved in Neighbourhood Plans</p> <p>25. Promote the inclusion of the High Street in Neighbourhood Plans</p> <p>26. Developers should make a financial contribution to ensure that the local community has a strong voice in the planning system</p> <p>27. Support imaginative community use of empty properties through Community Right to Buy, Meanwhile Use and a new “Community Right to Try”</p>			
<p>High Streets at the Heart of our Communities:</p> <p>the Government’s Response to the Mary Portas Review (CLG 2012)</p>	<p>The Government have accepted the vast majority of Mary’s recommendations – and have also gone further, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backing not only a National Market Day on Saturday 23 June, but the fortnight it launches – from 23 June to 8 July. The National Association of British Market Authorities, supported by the whole markets sector, will hold a “Love Your Local Market” Fortnight which will, among other things, enable “tables for a tanner” for aspiring entrepreneurs looking to try out their ideas by running a stall; • Taking firm action by doubling the level of small business rate relief in England for two and a half years. We have made it easier for businesses to access the small business rate relief by removing the legal requirement for them to submit an application form; given them the option to spread the Retail Price Index increase on their rates bill over three years; and, 	Does not set targets	Town Centres will need will be addressed as part of the Local Plan.	Encourage sustainable growth.

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	<p>through the Localism Act 2011, we have provided councils with new powers to introduce and fund local business rates discounts as they see fit;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting on proposals to abolish the centrally-set minimum parking penalty charge, giving councils the flexibility they need to levy parking penalty notices at a lower rate if they choose; • Putting in place a streamlined process to revoke out-of-date, archaic and unnecessary byelaws that hinder efforts to get new markets and businesses up and running; • Allowing the conversion of space above shops to two flats, without the need for planning permission, rather than the current limit of one – encouraging more people to live in their town centres and maintain them as vibrant places to be; and • Providing up to £306,000 match funding for an Enterprise Business Connectors mentoring scheme, run by Business in the Community, to support those looking to run their own business. • More Portas Pilots – in response to overwhelming interest and demand, we will fund a further twelve pilots, as well as workshops and toolkits so other towns can learn from their experiences; • A £500,000 investment to help Business Improvement Districts access loans for their set-up costs; • A High Street Innovation Fund - £10million to councils in areas blighted by empty shops and recovering from the riots to help bring entrepreneurs back to their communities; and • A £1m Future High Street X-Fund – to reward the areas delivering the most effective and innovative plans to bring their town centres back to life. 			

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<p>Supporting Local Growth (CLG and BIS 2014)</p>	<p>New Anglia is developing opportunities in the green economy. The local enterprise partnership is bringing all partners together, from both the private and public sectors, to create the conditions for a new dynamic low carbon goods supply chain across Norfolk and Suffolk and aligning this work with the delivery of the Great Yarmouth / Lowestoft Enterprise Zone, which focuses on the energy sector.</p> <p>The New Homes Bonus is the cornerstone of the new framework for sharing in housing growth. We believe councils are best placed to understand the barriers to growth in their areas. The Bonus ensures councils which promote housing growth have the funds to share the benefits of growth, not just the costs, with local communities. From 2011-12, the Bonus is based on the additional council tax for each additional new home and property brought back into use, with an additional £350 for each new affordable home for the following six years.</p> <p>The Community Infrastructure Levy came into force last year allowing councils in England and Wales to raise funds from developers putting up new buildings in their area. When fully operational, it is estimated it will raise up to £1bn a year nationally.</p> <p>The current planning system is slow, unwieldy and antagonistic. The Government is proposing reforms to make it more efficient and straightforward. A new draft National Planning Policy Framework cuts national planning policy down from over 1,000 pages to just 52, reducing duplication and contradiction, and making the system more transparent and easier to use. The Government aims to publish the final version of the framework by 31 March 2012.</p> <p>The Localism Act, which received Royal Assent on 15 November gives local areas a wide range of freedoms and flexibilities to further their own ambitions. Reforms around</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>The programmes discussed could benefit the Breckland Local Plan area.</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth.</p>

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	<p>community rights, neighbourhood planning, housing, cities and the general power of competence, are all designed to give local businesses and communities the power to design and deliver their future.</p> <p>The sector has risen to the challenge to deliver under the new Affordable Rent model. 146 providers will deliver 80,000 new homes for Affordable Rent and Affordable Home Ownership with Government funding of just under £1.8bn through the Homes and Communities Agency's Affordable Homes Programme 2011-15. As of 2 December the Homes and Communities Agency had signed contract agreements with 92 registered providers to deliver 70,000 affordable homes with £1.4bn Government investment.</p> <p>Overall with our total investment of £4.5bn we expect to provide up to 170,000 new affordable homes by 2015, compared to 150,000 originally estimated.</p> <p>We have been taking action to support our town centres in recognition of their significant economic, social, and tourism benefits. We are determined to strengthen the ability for local communities to decide what development they want in their area and recognise that town centres are at the heart of our communities and neighbourhoods.</p> <p>The new Growth and Improvement service is for those looking to grow and improve their business providing easy-to-use and practical information.</p> <p>'My New Business' is a comprehensive start-up service, providing an improved, tailored support package for customers wanting to start up in business or who have started up in business within the last two years.</p>			

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<p>Creating the conditions for integration (CLG 2012)</p>	<p>The Manufacturing Advisory Service adviser network, where support is delivered to businesses, will remain as strong as before, building on established local linkages. Support will be tailored to local economic circumstances.</p> <p>The £2.4bn Regional Growth Fund is designed to encourage growth and jobs in the private sector with particular support to areas and communities that are dependent on the public sector. Over the lifetime of the fund (2011-2014), the Regional Growth Fund is expected to create and safeguard up to 328 000 jobs across the country and attract up to £8.5bn of investment from the private sector.</p> <p>We are strengthening the role of local enterprise partnerships by providing further money through the Growing Places Fund. This £500m fund, announced in September, is designed to support growth through delivery of key infrastructure projects needed to unlock development, helping to generate jobs and housing.</p> <p>Following the Chancellor's announcement at the Autumn Statement the temporary doubling of small business rate relief will continue for a further six months, until the end of March 2013. Approximately half a million businesses in England are expected to benefit, with about a third of a million businesses paying no rates at all for that period.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Social cohesion and integration will be key within the Local Plan Area.</p>	<p>Sustainable communities.</p>

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	<p>We strongly encourage the different local partners to work together to drive action and to learn from each other in promoting integration and challenging extremism. Local authorities are well placed to take a leading role working through existing partnerships with the police, other agencies and the business and voluntary sectors.</p> <p>Integration comes from everyday life, and long-term social and economic challenges create barriers to a more integrated nation.</p> <p>Our new approach is focused on how we create the conditions for integration to happen. Instead of large-scale, centrally led and funded programmes, we want to inspire and enable civil society and local areas to take action on integration issues that are important to them.</p> <p>An important part of this is challenging the public, private and voluntary sectors to change, as well as rebalancing activity from the public to the voluntary and private sectors, and from centrally-led to locally-led action. This could mean the activities of community groups; successful individuals and businesses choosing to reinvest in their wider community; or simply the attitudes and actions of individuals in their everyday life. It will mean Government departments and the rest of the public sector fundamentally changing their ways of working to support these changes.</p>			
<p>Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England (HM Government, 2012)</p>	<p>The problems we face are stark – we have not built enough new homes for more than a generation and the impact of the credit crunch has simply compounded this challenge.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>*Support to deliver new homes and support aspiration</p>	<p>Does not set targets; more commitments.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will be planning for housing growth to 2031 and such issues raised will need to be considered.</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth.</p> <p>Access to affordable and decent home.</p>

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<p>Lifetime Neighbourhoods (CLG, 2011)</p>	<p>- 95 per cent loan to value mortgages for new build properties in England, - £500 million Growing Places Fund - new £400 million 'Get Britain Building' investment fund, freeing up public sector land - Custom Homes programme, including making available up to £30 million of new funding</p> <p>*Supporting choice and quality for tenants - reform of social housing - support tenants and help build more affordable housing, *Tackling empty homes</p> <p>*Better quality homes, places and housing support - committed to improving the design and sustainability of housing</p> <p>We are funding the Design Council to support communities in shaping development in their area, improving the energy efficiency of both new and existing homes, and ensuring protection of the green belt and protected areas as part of our commitment to sustainable development.</p> <p>At the heart of this is our commitment to delivering the Zero Carbon Homes standard for all new homes from 2016, which will mean that all the carbon emissions covered by Building Regulations – such as from heating, lighting, hot water and other fixed building services – will need to be abated.</p>			
<p>includes: • supporting residents to develop lifetime neighbourhoods – especially resident empowerment: A key component in assisting resident-led activity to promote lifetime neighbourhood features will be the role of the various tiers of local government. As the first tier of local government, parish and town councils</p>		<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Design will be an important element in the planning for growth within the District.</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth. Access to affordable and decent home.</p>

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	<p>have a crucial role to play in prioritising the design and delivery of lifetime neighbourhood features within their areas. It is important that the skill sets necessary for parish and town councillors to respond to the lifetime neighbourhoods agenda are identified and delivered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access: Access encompasses the various ways in which people can get out and about around the areas in which they live – both physically and virtually – and connect with other people and services in their immediate neighbourhood and beyond. The connections between different places are as important as the design and accessibility of places themselves. Forward-thinking inclusive design features at one point in someone's journey may be rendered useless by poor design somewhere else. • services and amenities: The provision of access to information and advice comprises an essential role for agencies and organisations in making it easy for people to get out and about. This role encompasses not only the dissemination of practical information across as wide a spectrum of residents as possible, but also helping to break down misperceptions about neighbourhoods, such as fear of crime. • built and natural environments: A crucial aspect of access relates to the extent to which neighbourhoods can be described as walkable. That is, the ease with which pedestrians can get out and about around outdoor spaces, services and facilities, which has significant implications for sociability, health and well-being. Walkable environments consider not only the physical design of routes, but also features and facilities that are inclusive of the widest possible range of needs; for example, places for people to rest along their journeys, including well designed seats and benches, accessible toilet facilities, signage and street design that is sensitive to a range of needs and that can help with orientation and wayfinding. 			

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	<p>A key objective for lifetime neighbourhoods is sustaining a diverse range of methods of transportation that enable people to get around, especially by using public transport, or by other means if they cannot use this type of service. Demand-responsive services are an important feature, enabling accessibility in neighbourhoods and across wider areas.</p> <p>A key role that local authorities can play in developing innovative and effective transport solutions as part of their planning function will be to plan services that can respond to future demographic change.</p> <p>Neighbourhoods that offer a mix of residential, retail and employment uses can help to meet the needs of diverse groups within the community. Although this is an ambitious aspiration, this feature of lifetime neighbourhoods has the potential to enable local authorities and residents to meet a range of parallel objectives such as striving towards sustainability and helping to reduce negative impacts on the environment.</p> <p>Working towards built and natural environments that are inclusive of as wide an audience as possible is not just about a fundamental equalities issue. Outdoor spaces that work well for people have the potential for benefits in terms of sociability, health and well-being.</p> <p>Although a range of guidance already exists that promotes sound design principles into new build, one consideration is the extent to which current guidance takes sufficient account of the implications of a larger number of older people in future decades.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social networks/well-being: The practice of developing lifetime neighbourhoods, therefore, includes not only a consideration of physical design, but also developing an understanding of the social factors and events that promote active participation 			

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	<p>in community life. This theme links closely with social well-being, especially around addressing the lack of confidence that individuals and groups may feel about making full and active use of outdoor spaces around their homes due to fear of crime and anti social behaviour. However, developing lifetime neighbourhoods also aims to address the physical and social isolation that can inhibit the choices that residents make about how they engage with their neighbourhoods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • housing: The majority of people would prefer to remain in their own homes as they grow older, and where possible make changes and adaptations to their properties should their needs change. 			
<p>The Effects of Smarter Choice Programmes in the Sustainable Travel Towns: Summary Report (Report to the Department for Transport February 2010)</p>	<p>Darlington, Peterborough and Worcester are all medium-sized, relatively free-standing towns, located in the north and middle of England. Following a competition, they were designated 'Sustainable Travel Towns', implementing a programme of measures from 2004 to 2009, intended to reduce car use. Taken together they spent £15 million, of which £10 million was special Government funding provided by the Department for Transport. Key areas addressed in the towns were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Workplace travel planning *School travel planning *Personal travel planning *Public transport information and marketing *Cycling and walking promotion *Travel awareness campaigns <p>Car driver trips per resident of the three towns taken together fell by 9% between 2004 and 2008, whilst car driver distance per resident fell by 5%-7%.</p> <p>Bus use grew substantially in Peterborough and Worcester during the period of the Sustainable Travel Town work, whereas it declined in Darlington.</p>	<p>Does not set targets; reviews schemes elsewhere.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the Local Plan will need to address.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

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<p>Manual for Streets (DfT, 2007)</p>	<p>There were positive results for cycling in all three towns, with particularly substantial growth in Darlington. According to the household travel survey data, between 2004 and 2008, cycle trips per resident of the three towns taken together increased by 26~30%, whereas, according to the National Travel Survey, there was a national decline of cycle trips in medium-sized towns over an approximately similar period.</p> <p>Walking trips by residents grew in all three towns during the period of the Sustainable Travel Town work. According to the household travel survey data, between 2004 and 2008, walk trips per resident of the three towns taken together increased by 10%~13%, whereas, according to the National Travel Survey, there was a national decline in walk trips in medium-sized towns of at least 9% over an approximately similar period.</p> <p>The overall reduction in car use for the journey to school was between 9% and 17% in the three towns²¹. Active travel to school increased in all the towns.</p> <p>We judge that the experience in the three Sustainable Travel Towns (and elsewhere) is now sufficient to justify widespread development and delivery of town-based Smarter Choice Programmes. There would also be great merit in piloting of new initiatives, to apply the principles of travel behaviour change to medium and long-distance journeys and to travel in rural areas, and to focus more intensively on travel for work.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the Local Plan will need to address.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the</p>

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	<p>Streets should not be designed just to accommodate the movement of motor vehicles - a prime consideration is that they meet the needs of pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>The key recommendation of the Manual is that increased consideration should be given to the 'place' function of streets. The Manual introduces a user hierarchy in which pedestrians are considered first in the design process to ensure that all the user groups are properly considered at an early stage.</p> <p>It is important that pedestrian- or cycle-only routes are designed properly. Inappropriate provision can lead to antisocial behaviour and increased levels of crime.</p> <p>Good design is fundamental to achieving high-quality, attractive places that are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. Places often fail because of poor relationships between dwellings and streets. It is therefore important to ensure a high level of co-operation among the disciplines involved in various elements of design.</p> <p>Of crucial importance is the need to provide for everyone regardless of age or ability – the concept of inclusive design. This does not necessarily mean that every element of infrastructure has to accommodate the needs of all users – if any aspect of a street unavoidably prevents its use by particular user groups, providing them with a suitable alternative way of getting around will help ensure that the overall design is inclusive.</p> <p>Generally, layouts of buildings and spaces should be considered first, and not be dictated by carriageway alignment.</p>			<p>vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality. Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

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	<p>Accommodating parked vehicles is a key function of most streets. The greatest parking demand is usually for cars, but there is also a need to consider provision for cycles and motorcycles. The amount and location of parking have a significant influence on the way people choose to travel.</p> <p>There is a statutory duty to sign restrictions or prohibitions, but it is for the designer to determine how they should be signed, and whether each sign is necessary to comply with that duty. The amount of signing should be no more than is necessary.</p> <p>Street furniture and lighting should be integral to the overall design. Furniture on a footway is best aligned along its rear edge. Guard railing should not be provided unless a clear need for it has been identified.</p> <p>Sustaining the quality of a new development requires good initial design and construction, followed by proper management and maintenance. Developers and local authorities should consider materials, processes and techniques that do not lead to excessive maintenance costs in future.</p>			

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<p>Manual for Streets 2. Wider application of the principles. (The Chartered Institutes of Highways and Transportation, 2010)</p>	<p>Does not supersede MfS1, rather it explains how the principles of MfS1 can be used more widely. It covers the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Networks, contexts and street types *Highway design, risk and liability *Design and implementation process *Pedestrian needs and footways *Cycle facilities *Bus facilities *Carriageways *Junctions, crossings and accesses *Visibility *On street parking and servicing *Street furniture and trees *Traffic signs and markings <p>It also includes some case studies.</p>	<p>Does not set targets, is guidance and reviews some case studies.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the DPD will need to address.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>
<p>Evaluation of the Cycling City and Towns Programme Interim Report, January 2011 (DfT)</p>	<p>The aim of the report is to share emerging messages about the factors influencing cycling behaviour, and explore the potential benefits of increasing cycling levels amongst different groups of the population, particularly in terms of health and physical activity, reductions in carbon emissions, and decongestion.</p> <p>residents revealed that barriers to and enablers of cycling were varied and inter-related. The majority of baseline survey respondents felt that cycling should form part of a modern transport system and that more people should cycle for short journeys instead of using the car. However, barriers to cycling included the perceived safety of cycling on roads with other traffic, which was a concern for the majority of individuals interviewed. The provision of separate cycle paths and routes was widely supported as a measure to address this barrier</p>	<p>Does not set targets, reviews approaches of other areas.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the Local Plan will need to address.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

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	<p>A barrier particular to non-cyclists was their past experience with cycling, and indeed their ability to ride a bike.</p> <p>A key feature of the local strategies has been the application of a ‘whole town’ rather than a piecemeal approach to cycling investment, which has offered the opportunity to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> tackle multiple barriers to cycling; <input type="checkbox"/> develop dedicated specialist cycling teams which offered the broad range of skills required, and a strong focus on the delivery of strategy outcomes; and <input type="checkbox"/> gain political and local community buy-in. <p>Practical barriers to cycling to work have been tackled through the provision of cycle parking, lockers/showers and Personal Travel Planning, whilst cycling has also been encouraged through initiatives such as Workplace Cycle Challenges and Bike Breakfasts.</p> <p>Significant barriers to cycling to schools identified include low bicycle availability (particularly amongst lower socioeconomic groups), low levels of cycle training, and parental safety concerns. Targeting children via the schools they attend was believed to provide a means of accessing the wider family group and thus influencing household travel choices.</p> <p>Cycling to stations at baseline was very low, but with many journeys being undertaken which involve a rail trip, there is evidence of potential to increase the use of bicycles to access train stations, with anticipated benefits particularly focusing on reducing congestion around the station.</p>			

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<p>2010 British Social Attitudes survey: attitudes to transport (DfT, 2011)</p>	<p>Congestion is regarded as less of a problem; there is greater acceptance of those driving at busier times; people are less concerned about exhaust fumes and the effect of transport on climate change, and demonstrate lower levels of concerns about mobile phone use whilst driving. Although support for 20 miles per hour speed limits on residential streets remains strong, attitudes towards the closure of residential streets to through traffic and the use of speed cameras are mixed.</p>	<p>Does not set targets, reviews public opinion.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the Local Plan will need to address.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>
<p>Making the Connection. The Plug-In Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy (Office for Low Emission Vehicles, 2011)</p>	<p>The shift to ultra-low emission vehicles presents unique environmental and economic opportunities for the UK. It offers the potential to decarbonise road transport while still enabling mobility and stimulating the kind of green jobs and investment that we require to help rebalance our economy.</p> <p>Reducing transport emissions will require a range of different technologies and solutions in the future. To help support this transition, the Government is committed to growing the market for plug-in vehicles in the UK. This is due to the contribution that they, and other low and ultra-low carbon technologies, can make across our economic and environmental priorities – climate change, green growth, energy security, decarbonising the electricity system and air quality.</p> <p>The Government is taking an integrated and pragmatic approach to support market growth.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the Local Plan will need to address. The DPD will cover Town Centres and potentially car parking, dwellings and businesses. Car charging could be considered in the Breckland Local Plan area.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Spending Review made provision of over £300m over the life of this Parliament for the Plug-In Car Grant to reduce the upfront cost of eligible vehicles to consumers and businesses. • Consumers and businesses also benefit from a favourable tax regime, with plug-in vehicles receiving Vehicle Excise Duty and Company Car Tax exemptions, as well as Enhanced Capital Allowances. • The Plugged-In Places programme has made £30m available to match-fund eight pilot projects installing and trialling recharging infrastructure in the UK to support the Carbon Plan commitment to install up to 8,500 chargepoints. • Recognising that continued growth in recharging infrastructure will be driven by private sector investment, which could be constrained by the ability to raise finance, there is the potential for the Green Investment Bank to provide targeted financial solutions for appropriate plug-in vehicle infrastructure projects. • The Government is also supporting low and ultra-low carbon vehicle Research, Development and Demonstration focusing on priorities identified in conjunction with the UK Automotive Council. <p>Our approach is not to mandate 'a chargepoint on every corner' – this is not necessary to help the market grow and would be uneconomic. Rather, for plug-in vehicles to appeal to, and be a viable solution for, consumers, we want recharging infrastructure to be targeted, convenient and safe. We want to see the majority of recharging taking place at home, at night, after the peak in electricity demand. Home recharging should be supported by workplace recharging for commuters and fleets, with a targeted amount of public infrastructure where it will be most used, allowing people to make the journeys they want.</p>			

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	<p>Recharging at home, at night, off-peak, is not only most convenient for drivers, but also maximises the environmental and economic benefits of plug-in vehicles by using cheaper, lower carbon night-time electricity generation. It also makes the best use of available electricity network capacity.</p> <p>After home recharging, we want to see workplaces providing recharging opportunities, both for fleet vehicles and employees for whom recharging at home is not practical or sufficient. We expect that plug-in vehicles will be particularly attractive to fleet purchasers.</p> <p>The majority of recharging is likely to take place at home and at work, so an extensive public recharging infrastructure would be underutilised and uneconomic. We want public infrastructure to be targeted at key destinations, where consumers need it, such as supermarkets, retail centres and car parks, with a focused amount of on-street infrastructure, particularly for residents without off-street parking.</p>			
<p>TRL Report PPR 580 FINDINGS Infrastructure and Cyclist Safety. (DfT, 2011)</p>	<p>*Of all interventions to increase cycle safety, the greatest benefits come from reducing motor vehicle speeds. Interventions that achieve this are also likely to result in casualty reductions for all classes of road user</p> <p>*Most cyclist injuries in multi-vehicle collisions take place at junctions. Reducing the speed of traffic through junctions appears to be an effective approach to reducing cycle casualties, and physical calming methods are a reliable means of achieving such a reduction.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the DPD will need to address. Cycling could have an important role.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Green Light for Better Buses (DfT, 2012)</p>	<p>*Providing segregated networks may reduce risks to cyclists, although evidence suggests that the points at which segregated networks intersect with highways can be relatively high-risk, sometimes of sufficient magnitude to offset any safety benefits of removing cyclists from the carriageway.</p> <p>*A number of infrastructure interventions that are not widely used in the UK have been implemented on the continent to increase safety at junctions. Particular examples include cycle lane markings continued across junctions, cycle pre-signals and Trixi mirrors (mounted below signal heads to allow drivers of heavy vehicles to see cyclists at their nearside). The literature suggests that, appropriately applied, the former two approaches can have a beneficial effect on cycle casualties.</p>			<p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>
<p>Local bus services have a huge role to play. Outside London, 63% of all public transport trips are made on a local bus: there were 2.3 billion bus journeys in 2010/14. Many people rely on their local bus to get to school, to work, to the doctor's, to visit their friends and family, or to go shopping. Given their importance in providing employers and businesses access to labour markets, buses are important for a well-functioning and growing economy.</p> <p>1.5 In the most recent survey by Passenger Focus of bus users' satisfaction with their local services, an average of 85% said they were satisfied overall. Even in the area with the lowest satisfaction, it still stood at a very respectable 79%5. In many ways, this is not surprising</p> <p>– thanks to a combination of bus company investment, local council infrastructure improvements and Government regulation and funding, buses are more accessible with more high-tech information and ticketing facilities for passengers than ever before.</p>	<p>Does not set targets</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the DPD will need to address. Bus could have an important role.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>	

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Our vision is for a 'better bus' with more of the attributes that we know passengers want: more punctual, inter-connected services, an even greener and more fully wheelchair and buggy-accessible fleet and the widespread availability of smart ticketing. A more attractive, more competitive, and greener bus network will encourage more people onto buses, create growth and cut carbon. And it will benefit younger, older and disadvantaged groups, who disproportionately depend on the bus to get around and make the most of the opportunities available to them.</p> <p>This document therefore sets out a balanced package of measures that will allow local transport authorities and commercial bus service operators to be efficient, innovative and creative in coming up with joint solutions to the transport needs of local people, and build upon the good examples of this that can already be found. We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reform the way in which we pay Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG), a subsidy to operators that makes more services viable, to ensure taxpayers get better value for the money we put into each and every local bus market <input type="checkbox"/> Incentivise partnership working between local transport authorities and operators to improve the quality of bus services and attract more passengers <input type="checkbox"/> Improve competition in English local bus markets, and bring local transport authorities and bus companies together to help develop effective multi-operator ticketing schemes, by adopting the Competition Commission's recent recommendations to Government and <input type="checkbox"/> Support local transport authorities in their ability to procure noncommercial services, including 			
Railways for All	This Strategy explains how the rail industry will improve the accessibility of rail travel in Great Britain. Our objective is to increase the number of journey opportunities for disabled	Does not set targets.	With Attleborough being positioned on a main line,	Reduce the contribution to climate

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<p>The Accessibility Strategy for Great Britain's Railways (DfT, 2006)</p>	<p>people by improving our stations, trains and related services. By doing this, more disabled people will be able to use the network, more often and for a wider range of journeys, giving disabled people greater access to employment opportunities and to participate in social and leisure activities.</p> <p>This Strategy considers how we plan to improve the accessibility of all aspects of the rail industry including: information, ticketing and reservations station buildings and platforms train carriages the quality and consistency of staff training.</p>		<p>receiving one train an hour and the high likelihood of many commuters from Attleborough to Norwich for work, rail is an important issue the ASHAAP should consider.</p> <p>Furthermore, other Parishes within the Local Plan area contain a active train line and station.</p>	<p>change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen (DfT 2011)</p>	<p>Our vision is for a transport system that is an engine for economic growth, but one that is also greener and safer and improves quality of life in our communities.</p> <p>Government is also making a number of specific national commitments to enhance the sustainability of local transport. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● providing funding for Bikeability cycle training, to allow as many children as possible to undertake high quality on-road cycle training; ● improving end-to-end journeys by enabling most public transport journeys to be undertaken with a smart ticket by December 2014; ● reviewing the way in which investment decisions are made to ensure that the carbon implications are fully recognised; ● setting out in a road safety strategy, by spring 2011, how to ensure that Britain's roads are among the world's safest; ● reviewing traffic signs policy so as to provide more freedom for local authorities to reduce the number of signs they put up and to develop innovative traffic management solutions. <p>The Government wants to encourage and enable more sustainable transport choices. Enabling choice is epitomised by the "nudge" concept, which works with human behavioural tendencies to encourage "good" choices. To count as a "nudge" an intervention must be easy and must not forbid choice. In transport terms, this might be exemplified by reducing unnecessary signs, posts and other street clutter to improve road safety and encourage walking, by travel planning, or by presenting information in such a way as to encourage choice.</p> <p>Commitments: *Money will be available to every English transport authority outside London to allow as many children as possible to undertake cycle training.</p>	<p>Refers to other targets set in other documents.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the Local Plan will need to address.</p>	<p>Sustainable growth. Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality. Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

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	<p>*Funding availability in 2011/12: Links to Schools, Cycle Journey Planner, Bike Club, Bike It and Living Streets' Walk To School Campaign.</p> <p>*Reduction of grant streams to Local Authorities into 4 simplified streams.</p> <p>*Local authorities have already been invited to prepare and develop proposals for the £560m Fund. Detailed guidance with further details on the operation of the Fund is being published alongside this White Paper.</p> <p>*Agree smarter ways to deliver the grant, including taking into account any conclusions from the Competition Commission's review of the bus market.</p> <p>*The Department for Transport will continue to work with key industry representatives to improve the end-to-end journey including promotion of the station travel plan pilot.</p> <p>*The Government is committed to deliver, with operators and public sector bodies, the infrastructure to enable most public transport journeys to be undertaken using smart ticketing.</p> <p>*Concessionary travel will be protected.</p> <p>*Announce eligibility for funding for local authorities from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, which is expected to include funding for local authority partnerships with community transport. *Reinforce messages on support for rural areas.</p> <p>*Funding for winners to purchase a total of around 500 low carbon buses.</p> <p>*Longer franchises to give operators incentives to make improvements at stations.</p> <p>*First phase removal of regulatory burdens.</p> <p>*Review to reduce the need for central Government approvals and give more flexibility to local authorities to tackle traffic problems.</p> <p>*The Department for Transport to give local authorities responsibility for roads classification in their areas.</p> <p>*A new strategic framework for road safety.</p>			

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Partnership working with a small number of Local Enterprise Partnerships towards agreeing a joint approach to the worst congestion hotspots in the major urban areas.</p>			
<p>Alternatives to Travel: Next Steps (DfT, 2011)</p>	<p>Alternatives to travel are measures which can reduce or remove the need to travel, particularly for work, including commuting and business trips and travelling during peak times. The travel alternatives that are within the scope of our current work include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Home working and remote working <input type="checkbox"/> Flexible working and staggered hours (in order to reduce travel during peak periods) <input type="checkbox"/> Tele conferencing, video conferencing and web conferencing <input type="checkbox"/> Any other alternatives to travel which can help reduce work-related travel. <p>This document sets out the work currently underway and the next steps Government will be taking to develop and deliver a coherent, co-ordinated policy relating to alternatives to travel.</p> <p>There are many examples of businesses and public sector organisations who have already been successful at implementing a range of alternatives to travel measures, and who have seen a wide range of benefits as a result.</p> <p>Stimulating investment in the UK's broadband infrastructure is a top priority. The Government has committed to delivering superfast broadband (at least 25 mega-bits per second) to 90% of households in the UK by 2015, and has made £530m available during the lifetime of the current Parliament to facilitate this.</p> <p>We will work to ensure that alternatives to travel are seen as one tool within the sustainable travel toolkit, as well as having a range of economic, environmental and social benefits.</p>	<p>Does not set targets; rather a progress report.</p>	<p>Transport and travel is an issue that the DPD will need to address.</p>	<p>Sustainable growth. Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality. Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

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	<p>One of the Department's aims is to use smart and integrated ticketing to facilitate the more efficient use of the transport network, by encouraging passengers to consider travelling at different times and offering opportunities to reconsider personal travel patterns</p> <p>Anywhere Working: The primary aims of the campaign are to educate, promote and encourage participation in flexible working practices, to illustrate the efficiency and productivity benefits of a more flexible approach, and to help reduce the burden on transport infrastructure and the impact travelling has on the environment. Through the campaign, business to business advice will be available alongside access to tools, online training, know-how and technology. Organisations and individuals will be able to access a range of offers from consortia members (such as technology trials, wellbeing services, office space and online training).</p>			
<p>Strategic Rail Freight Interchange Policy Guidance (DfT, 2011)</p>	<p>A Strategic Rail Freight Interchange (SRFI) is a large multi-purpose rail freight interchange and distribution centre linked into both the rail and trunk road system. It has rail-connected warehousing and container handling facilities and may also include manufacturing and processing activities.</p> <p>Rail can deliver goods quickly, efficiently, reliably and help to reduce congestion on our roads. The SRFI policy laid out in this document seeks to maximise the economic, environmental and social benefits of transferring freight movements from road to rail.</p> <p>The main objectives of Government policy for Strategic Rail Freight Interchanges are to:</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>There is potential for a rail freight interchange at Snetterton Health Employment Area.</p>	<p>Sustainable growth. Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>(a) Reduce road congestion - to deliver goods quickly, efficiently and reliably by rail and help to reduce congestion on our roads;</p> <p>(b) Reduce carbon emissions – to meet the Government’s vision for a greener transport system as part of a low carbon economy;</p> <p>(c) Support long-term development of efficient rail freight distribution logistics - to ensure a network of SRFI - modern distribution centres linked into both the rail and trunk road system in appropriate locations to serve our major conurbations;</p> <p>(d) Support growth and create employment – through the transfer of freight from road to rail, where this is practical and economic.</p> <p>Government aims to meet these objectives by encouraging the development of a robust infrastructure network of Strategic Rail Freight Interchanges.</p> <p>SRFIs operate to serve regional and cross regional catchment areas but are also key components in national and international networks. These networks are of strategic importance in facilitating trade links between UK regions and the European Union.</p> <p>While it is for the industry to identify potential SRFI sites to meet commercial logistics requirements, and to take forward development proposals, for the reasons summarised above, the Government supports the development of a national network of SRFIs and will seek to facilitate the achievement of this objective.</p>			Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.

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<p>Reforming our railways Putting the customer first</p>	<p>This Government's vision is for a transport system that is an engine for economic growth, is more environmentally sustainable and improves quality of life within our communities. In that context, the railway must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● offer commuters a safe and reliable route to work; ● facilitate an increasing amount of business and leisure travel; ● support regional and local public transport as a key means of connecting communities with public services, workplaces and other economic opportunities; and ● transport millions of tonnes of freight around the country, relieving congestion on our road network and helping to meet our environmental goals. <p>Some topics the paper discusses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Relieving the fares burden *Building new capacity to address overcrowding *Reviewing fares and ticketing *Improving performance and dealing with track closures *Specifying to meet passenger interests * decision-making to sub-national bodies *Greater alignment between rail industry parties *An expanding rail freight sector *Better governance for Network Rail *Safety *Environmental sustainability <p>This Command Paper sets a clear and firm framework for reforming and improving the railways for the benefit of passengers, freight and the taxpayer.</p>	<p>Does not set targets, rather refers to other targets in place.</p>	<p>With Attleborough being positioned on a main line, receiving one train an hour and the high likelihood of many commuters from Attleborough to Norwich for work, rail is an important issue the Local Plan should consider.</p> <p>Furthermore, other Parishes within the Local Plan area contain a active train line and station.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>
<p>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006</p>	<p>Section 40 of the act places a duty on all local authorities to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity. According to the act Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.</p>		<p>Ensure policies in the Local Plan protect and</p>	<p>Have regard to the protection and</p>

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<p>Water for people and the environment. Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (Environment Agency 2009)</p>	<p>We need to plan for what we know the future will bring, but we also need to plan for what the future might bring. Without a strategic approach to managing water resources, there will be a significant impact on the economy and the environment.</p> <p>The nature and scale of the problems will differ across England and Wales – and our approach to dealing with them will vary. We will need flexible and incremental solutions which will allow society to adapt as the future reveals itself.</p> <p>Climate change will affect the amount of rain that supports river flows and replenishes groundwater, and when it does so. It will also influence the demand for water and its quality, as well as the way land is used – all of which will put pressure on water resources. Our strategy sets out climate change actions that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enable habitats and species to adapt better to climate change; • allow the way we protect the water environment to adjust flexibly to a changing climate; • reduce pressure on the environment caused by water taken for human use; • encourage options resilient to climate change to be chosen in the face of uncertainty; • better protect vital water supply infrastructure; • reduce greenhouse gas emissions from people using water, considering the whole life-cycle of use; • improve understanding of the risks and uncertainties of climate change. 	<p>Ofwat is introducing water efficiency targets for water companies, where each company has an annual target</p> <p>to save one litre of water per billed property per day through approved water efficiency activity. The targets represent the minimum level of activity</p> <p>that companies should already be achieving through their duty to promote efficient use of water.</p> <p>The England and Wales annual target of 23 MI/d</p> <p>corresponds to the recent annual performance of a</p>	<p>enhance habitats and areas of biodiversity</p> <p>The Local Plan needs to consider water use in accordance with the strategy and Water Cycle Studies.</p>	<p>enhancement of biodiversity in Breckland</p> <p>Provide a decent home for all. Encourage sustainable growth. Limit water consumption</p>

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	<p>The water environment is under pressure because of abstraction – that is, the water being taken from the environment for human and business use. Although abstraction licences issued today protect the environment and other users, in some cases, licences granted decades ago do not provide the level of environmental protection needed today. Our strategy sets out actions that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect conservation sites that depend on water so they are sustainable in the long-term, taking account of climate change impacts; • ensure that licensing issues are resolved; • improve environmental resilience, where we are able to do so; • safeguard water resources through effective catchment management, considering the interaction between quality and quantity; • reduce treatment and energy costs for water users; • improve understanding of how the water environment and ecology interact. <p>We need to plan so that there are sustainable, reliable water supplies for people and businesses, whilst also protecting the environment. This will become increasingly important in the face of climate change, population growth and an uncertain future. With a potential 20 million extra people living and working in England and Wales by the 2050s, the additional demand they will impose on the water environment will need to be managed carefully. Our strategy sets out actions that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support housing and associated development where the environment can cope with the additional demands placed on it; • allow a targeted approach where stress on water resources is greatest; • ensure water is used efficiently in homes and buildings, and by industry and agriculture; 	<p>20 Ml/d saving. The targets will in effect formalise the base level of water efficiency activity expected by companies, but will not encourage further activity in water efficiency for all companies.</p>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide greater incentives for water companies and individuals to manage demand; • share existing water resources more effectively; • further reduce leakage; • ensure that reliable options for resource development are considered; • allocate water resources more effectively in the future. <p>Water is not always naturally available in the same places as those with the highest pressures from people and growth. Our strategy sets out actions that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote incentives to reduce demand; • allow water companies to address affordability issues with customers; • allow people to use water more efficiently, and improve the efficiency of fixtures, fittings and appliances; • provide better information on a product's water efficiency; • allow more effective communication so that people can make more informed choices; • increase investment in technology for all types of use, including agriculture and industry. 			
Future Water - The Government's water strategy for England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *To reduce water demand. *To improve efficiency of demand.*Plan for water supply. *Aim for water neutrality in new developments. *Prevent and reduce water pollution and improve water quality. *Reduce the risk of flooding. *Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from water industry. *Investigate and promote water metering. 	None identified.	Restrict development in areas of flood risk Promote sustainable buildings. Investigate water neutrality	Limit water consumption Reduce and manage flood risk

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<p>Promoting and creating built or natural environments that encourage and support physical Activity.</p> <p>NICE public health guidance 8 (2008)</p>	<p>*Recommends methods of promoting physical activity</p> <p>*Involve all local communities and experts at all stages of development to ensure the potential for physical activity is maximised.</p> <p>*Ensure planning applications for new developments always prioritise the need for people (including those whose mobility is impaired) to be physically active as a routine part of their daily life.</p> <p>*Ensure local facilities and services are easily accessible on foot, by bicycle and by other modes of transport involving physical activity.</p> <p>*Ensure children can participate in physically active Play.</p> <p>*Ensure public open spaces and public paths can be reached on foot, by bicycle and using other modes of transport involving physical activity. They should also be accessible by public transport.</p> <p>*Ensure new work places are linked to walking and cycling networks. Where possible, these links should improve the existing walking and cycling infrastructure by creating new, through routes (and not just links to the new facility).</p>	<p>None identified.</p>	<p>Ensure new housing development provides open space.</p> <p>Ensure employment areas in locations that can be accessed by walking and cycling.</p> <p>Improve walking and cycling links</p>	<p>Improve the health and well-being of the Population</p> <p>Improve the quality and quantity of open space</p>
<p>Healthy lives, healthy people: our strategy for public health in England. (HM Government, 2010)</p>	<p>This White Paper outlines our commitment to protecting the population from serious health threats; helping people live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives; and improving the health of the poorest, fastest.</p> <p>The goal is a public health service that achieves excellent results, unleashing innovation and liberating professional leadership. This White Paper builds on Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS to set out the overall principles and framework for making this happen.</p>	<p>Top-down targets will be replaced by a new outcomes framework.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will have to consider its effect on health and its potential to improve health of the population.</p>	<p>Improve the health and well-being of the Population</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>This White Paper sets out a radical new approach that will empower local communities, enable professional freedoms and unleash new ideas based on the evidence of what works, while ensuring that the country remains resilient to and mitigates against current and future health threats.</p> <p>This approach will: reach across and reach out – addressing the root causes of poor health and wellbeing, reaching out to the individuals and families who need the most support – and be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responsive – owned by communities and shaped by their needs; • resourced – with ring-fenced funding and incentives to improve; • rigorous – professionally-led, focused on evidence, efficient and effective; and • resilient – strengthening protection against current and future threats to health. <p>To support this new approach and avoid the problems of the past, we need to reform the public health system. Localism will be at the heart of this system, with responsibilities, freedoms and funding devolved wherever possible; enhanced central powers will be taken where absolutely necessary, for example in areas such as emergency preparedness and health protection.</p>			
<p>No health without mental health, A cross-government mental health outcomes strategy for people of all ages (DH 2011)</p>	<p>It sets out how the Government, working with all sectors of the community and taking a life course approach, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve the mental health and wellbeing of the population and keep people well; and • improve outcomes for people with mental health problems through high-quality services that are equally accessible to all. <p>The six shared objectives are as follows:</p>	Does not set targets.	The Local Plan will have to consider how it addresses the objectives.	Improve the health and well-being of the Population

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>(i) More people will have good mental health (ii) More people with mental health problems will recover (iii) More people with mental health problems will have good physical health (iv) More people will have a positive experience of care and support (v) Fewer people will suffer avoidable harm (vi) Fewer people will experience stigma and discrimination</p> <p>A number of national work streams have been identified by the Mental health strategy Ministerial Advisory Group as important for implementation of the strategy objectives. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality; • Public Mental Health and Wellbeing; • Suicide Prevention; • Social Inclusion, including tackling stigma; • Offender health, forensic mental health and PD • Talking Therapies: A four-year plan of action; • Recovery. 			
<p>Air Quality Strategy for England, Wales and Northern Ireland (Defra, 2007)</p>	<p>Strategy sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK from today into the long term. As well as direct benefits to public health, these options are intended to provide important benefits to quality of life and help to protect our environment.</p> <p>Overview and outline of the UK government ambient (outdoor) air quality policy.</p> <p>The strategy addresses: *planning on air quality issues; details objectives to be achieved; and proposes measures to be considered further to help reach them.</p>	None identified.	The Local Plan will take into account the requirements set out in the strategy to meet acceptable standards of pollutant emissions as directed by the EU.	<p>Improve air quality. Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

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	<p>*Standards are the benchmarks for setting objectives. The strategy acts as framework for the UK to produce objectives to reduce emissions of various pollutants to acceptable EU standards</p> <p>*In setting objectives derived from the health and ecosystem advice, the UK government has also taken account of economic efficiency, practicability, technical feasibility and timescale</p> <p>*The long-term goal of the strategy is ultimately to remove all critical levels and loads exceedences.</p>			
<p>Renewable Heat Incentive, Department of Energy and Climate Change, March 2011.</p>	<p>The scheme is being introduced in two phases. In the first phase, long-term tariff support is targeted in the non-domestic sectors, at the big heat users – the industrial, business and public sector – which contribute 38% of the UK's carbon emissions. Under this phase there is also support of around £15 million for households through the Renewable Heat Premium Payment scheme.</p> <p>The second phase of the RHI scheme will see it expanded to include more technologies as well as support for households. In light of the later than expected launch of Phase 1, as a result of changes required by the European Commission, we are reviewing the timetable for introducing Phase 2.</p> <p>The RHI is being administered by Ofgem E-Serve</p> <p>*The RHI's objective is to increase significantly the level of renewable heat;</p> <p>*Non-domestic sectors will have an RHI tariff from the outset – the industrial and commercial sectors; the public sector, not-for-profit organisations and communities;</p> <p>*RHI Premium Payments will be available in 2011 and RHI tariffs will be introduced from 2012 alongside the Green Deal for homes.</p> <p>*Ofgem will administer the RHI tariff scheme; and</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Has potential to aid any energy strategy for development.</p> <p>Has potential to aid the retrofitting of renewable energy in the existing town.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas emissions. Encourage the use of renewable energy sources. Encourage sustained economic growth.</p>

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	<p>*Owners of eligible installations for the RHI tariff scheme to apply to Ofgem for support.</p> <p>*RHI will cover England, Scotland and Wales;</p> <p>*Only non-domestic installations supported from the outset;</p> <p>*Installations completed and first commissioned on or after 15th July 2009 eligible for support providing they meet the eligibility criteria;</p> <p>*Heat must be usable and useful heat used for space, water or process heating to be eligible for support;</p> <p>*RHI participants will be required to meet a number of ongoing obligations, including maintaining equipment, providing information to Ofgem and allowing installations to be inspected;</p> <p>*Phase One of the RHI, will support a range of technologies and fuels including biomass, solar thermal, heat-pumps, on-site biogas, deep geothermal, energy from waste and injection of biomethane into the gas grid;</p> <p>*Eligibility of some technologies will be limited to certain capacities;</p> <p>*Only technologies and fuels classified as renewable under the Renewable Energy Directive will be eligible; and</p> <p>*Fossil fuel heat recovery and fossil fuel CHP, transpired solar panels and co-firing won't be supported.</p>			
<p>The Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation consultation, Department of</p>	<p>Green Deal is a market led framework that will allow individuals and businesses to make energy efficiency improvements to their buildings at no upfront cost. Central to the Green Deal is a finance mechanism that will allow access to the finance needed for the improvements with repayment, in instalments, attached to the electricity bill.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Has the potential to aid energy efficiency measures for</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change.</p>

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Energy and Climate Change, 23 November 2011.	Underpinning the delivery of the Green Deal is the ECO. ECO will place one or more obligations on energy companies requiring them to generate a specific amount of credit by facilitating the installation of energy efficiency measures in homes in Great Britain before a set deadline. ECO has been designed to fit within the Green Deal framework and provide support, in the domestic sector, where Green Deal finance alone is not enough.		development within the Local Plan area.	Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas emissions. Encourage the use of renewable energy sources. Encourage sustained economic growth.
Climate Change Act 2008, HM Government, 26 November 2008.	The Climate Change Bill was introduced into Parliament on 14 November 2007 and became law on 26 November 2008. The Climate Change Act creates a new approach to managing and responding to climate change in the UK, by: *setting ambitious, legally binding targets *taking powers to help meet those targets *strengthening the institutional framework *enhancing the UK's ability to adapt to the impact of climate change *establishing clear and regular accountability to the UK Parliament and to the devolved legislatures.	Sets National Targets.	To meet National targets everywhere within the Local Plan.	Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas emissions. Encourage the use of renewable energy sources.

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	<p>Two key aims of the Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *improve carbon management, helping the transition towards a low-carbon economy in the UK *demonstrate UK leadership internationally, signalling the UK is committed to taking our share of responsibility for reducing global emissions in the context of developing negotiations on a post-2012 global agreement at Copenhagen in December 2009. <p>Key provisions of the Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *a legally binding target of at least an 80% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, to be achieved through action in the UK and abroad. Also a reduction in emissions of at least 34% by 2020. Both targets are against a 1990 baseline. *a carbon budgeting system that caps emissions over five-year periods, with three budgets set at a time, to help the UK stay on track for our 2050 target. The first three Carbon budgets will run from 2008-12, 2013-17 and 2018-22, and were set in May 2009. The Government must report to Parliament its policies and proposals to meet the budgets, and this requirement was fulfilled by the UK Low Carbon Transition Plan. *creation of the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) – a new independent, expert body to advise the Government on the level of carbon budgets and on where cost-effective savings can be made. The committee will submit annual reports to Parliament on the UK's progress towards targets and budgets. The Government must respond to these annual reports, ensuring transparency and accountability on an annual basis. *inclusion of international aviation and shipping emissions in the Act or an explanation to Parliament why not – by 31 December 2012. The CCC is required to advise the Government on the consequences of including emissions from international aviation and shipping in the Act's targets and 			Encourage sustained economic growth.

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	<p>budgets. Projected emissions from international aviation and shipping must be taken into account in making decisions on carbon budgets.</p> <p>*limits on international credits. The Government is required to "have regard to the need for UK domestic action on climate change" when considering how to meet the UK's targets and carbon budgets. The CCC has a duty to advise on the appropriate balance between action at domestic, European and international level, for each carbon budget. The Government must set a limit on the purchase of credits for each budgetary period – for the first budgetary period, a zero limit was set in May 2009, excluding units bought by UK participants in the EU Emissions Trading System.</p> <p>*further measures to reduce emissions, including: powers to introduce domestic emissions trading schemes more quickly and easily through secondary legislation – the first use will be the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme; measures on biofuels; powers to introduce pilot financial incentive schemes in England for household waste; powers to require a minimum charge for single-use carrier bags (excluding Scotland).</p> <p>*a requirement for the Government to report at least every five years on the risks to the UK of climate change, and to publish a programme setting out how these will be addressed. The Act also introduces powers for Government to require public bodies and statutory undertakers to carry out their own risk assessment and make plans to address those risks.</p> <p>*the Adaptation Sub-Committee of the Committee on Climate Change, providing advice to, and scrutiny of, the Government's adaptation work.</p> <p>*a requirement for the Government to issue guidance by 1 October 2009 on the way companies should report their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and to review the contribution reporting could make to emissions reductions by 1 December 2010. A requirement also for the Government to</p>			

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	<p>use powers under the Companies Act 2006 to make reporting mandatory, or explain to Parliament why it has not done so, by 6 April 2012. Defra published the Guidance for UK businesses and organisations on how to measure and report their GHG emissions on 30 September 2009.</p> <p>*new powers to support the creation of a Community Energy Savings Programme by extending the existing Carbon Emissions Reduction Target scheme to electricity generators</p> <p>*a new requirement for annual publication of a report on the efficiency and sustainability of the Government estate.</p>			
<p>Implementing the Climate Change Act 2008: The Government's proposal for setting the fourth carbon budget. HM Government, May 2011.</p>	<p>This document provides the Government's policy statement on the proposed level of the fourth Carbon Budget (2023-2027) and was presented to Parliament on 24 May 2011. The Government is seeking Parliament's agreement to accepting the Committee on Climate Change's recommendation on setting the level of the fourth carbon budget at 1950 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e).</p> <p>The proposed level of the fourth carbon budget is consistent with what the UK needs to do to play its part in international efforts to limit the expected increase in global temperature above pre-industrial levels to two degrees Celsius, consistent with scientific advice on avoiding the dangerous effects of climate change. Our analysis confirms that the proposed level of the fourth carbon budget is also consistent with the trajectory set out by the European Commission in its March 2011 Roadmap.</p> <p>The Government will make every possible effort to meet the fourth carbon budget through domestic action, as far as is practical and affordable, but we also intend to keep the option of trading to retain maximum flexibility. This is a pragmatic approach when considering the uncertainty involved in looking so far ahead. We have also stated our intention to review the</p>	<p>The fourth carbon budget, covering the period 2023–27, was set in law in June 2011 and requires emissions to be reduced by 50% below 1990 levels.</p>	<p>To meet National targets everywhere within the Local Plan Area.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas emissions. Encourage the use of renewable energy sources. Encourage sustained economic growth.</p>

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	<p>budget in 2014 to ensure consistency with the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS). If, at that time, our domestic commitments place us on a different emissions trajectory than the EU ETS trajectory agreed by the EU, we will, as appropriate, revise up our budget to align it with the actual EU trajectory.</p> <p>Setting an ambitious fourth carbon budget will help drive low carbon technologies and increase our resilience to dramatic changes in the price of oil, resulting in a more stable economy. Our analysis, as well as that of the European Commission and of the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) shows that taking ambitious early action is the most cost-effective way of tackling greenhouse gas emissions..</p>			
<p>The Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future, HM Government, December 2011.</p>	<p>This plan sets out how the UK will achieve decarbonisation within the framework of our energy policy: to make the transition to a low carbon economy while maintaining energy security, and minimising costs to consumers, particularly those in poorer households.</p> <p>Emissions are down by a quarter since 1990. Current policies put the UK on track to cut emissions by over a third, on 1990 levels, by 2020.</p>	<p>This report sets out the proposals and policies for meeting the first four carbon budgets. (see targets for meeting</p>	<p>To meet National targets everywhere needs to contribute. Climate Change will be reflected in ASHAAP.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas emissions. Encourage the use of renewable energy sources.</p>

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	<p>In the next ten years, we will develop and deploy the technologies that will be needed to halve emissions in the 2020s. This will put the UK on a path towards an 80% reduction by 2050.</p> <p>By moving to a more efficient, low carbon and sustainable economy, the UK will become less reliant on imported fossil fuels and less exposed to higher and more volatile energy prices in the future.</p> <p>The majority of emissions reductions will come from action in buildings, transport, industry and electricity generation.</p> <p>This plan shows that the UK can move to a sustainable low carbon economy without sacrificing living standards, but by investing in new cars, power stations and buildings. However, it will require the public to accept new infrastructure and changes to the way in which we heat homes, and to be prepared to invest in energy efficiency that will save money over time.</p> <p>Low carbon buildings In 2009, 37% of UK emissions were produced from heating and powering homes and buildings. By 2050, all buildings will need to have an emissions footprint close to zero. Buildings will need to become better insulated, use more energy-efficient products and obtain their heating from low carbon sources.</p> <p>Low carbon transport Domestic transport emissions make up nearly a quarter of UK emissions. By 2050, domestic transport will need to substantially reduce its emissions.</p> <p>Low carbon industry</p>	<p>four Carbon Budgets. The Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future, HM Government, 2011.</p>		<p>Encourage sustained economic growth.</p>

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	<p>Industry makes up nearly a quarter of the UK's total emissions. Over 80% of these emissions originate from generating the heat that is needed for industrial processes such as manufacturing steel and ceramics, and the remainder from chemical reactions involved in processes such as cement production. By 2050, the Government expects industry to have delivered its fair share of emissions cuts, achieving reductions of up to 70% from 2009 levels.</p> <p>Low carbon electricity</p> <p>The power sector accounts for 27% of UK total emissions by source. By 2050, emissions from the power sector need to be close to zero.</p> <p>Agriculture, land use, forestry and waste.</p> <p>In 2009, agriculture, forestry and land management together accounted for around 9% of UK emissions. In 2009, emissions from waste management represented a little over 3% of the UK total.</p>			
Green Guide Specification, BRE Global Ltd, 2011	<p>The Green Guide is part of BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) an accredited environmental rating scheme for buildings. The Green Guide contains more than 1500 specifications used in various types of building. Since</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Something to consider as the Local Plan progresses.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gas emissions.</p>

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	<p>the previous edition, information on the relative environmental performance of some materials and components has altered reflecting both changes in manufacturing practices, the way materials are used in buildings, and our evolving environmental knowledge.</p> <p>We examine the relative environmental impacts of the construction materials commonly used in six different generic types building including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Commercial buildings, such as offices *Educational *Healthcare *Retail *Domestic *Industrial <p>The environmental rankings are based on Life Cycle Assessments (LCA), using BRE's Environmental Profiles Methodology 2008.</p> <p>Materials and components are arranged on an elemental basis so that designers and specifiers can compare and select from comparable systems or materials as they compile their specification. The elements covered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *External walls *Internal walls and partitions *Roofs *Ground floors *Upper floors *Windows *Insulation *Landscaping *Floor finishes 			<p>Encourage the use of renewable energy sources. Encourage sustained economic growth.</p>

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	<p>Across these building element categories the Guide provides an extensive, but not complete catalogue of building specifications covering most common building materials.</p> <p>This data is set out as an A+ to E ranking system, where A+ represents the best environmental performance / least environmental impact, and E the worst environmental performance / most environmental impact. BRE has provided a summary environmental rating - The Green Guide rating, which is a measure of overall environmental impacts covering the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Climate change *Water extraction* Mineral resource extraction *Stratospheric ozone depletion *Human toxicity *Ecotoxicity to Freshwater *Nuclear waste (higher level) *Ecotoxicity to land *Waste disposal *Fossil fuel depletion *Eutrophication *Photochemical ozone creation *Acidification <p>By evaluating the performance of materials and building systems against these specific environmental impacts, which have also been ranked on an A+ to E basis, it is possible for the specifier to select specifications on the basis of personal or organisational preferences or priorities, or take decisions based on the performance of a material against a particular environmental impact.</p>			

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<p>The Marmot Review: Fair Society, Healthy Lives.</p>	<p>In November 2008, Professor Sir Michael Marmot was asked by the Secretary of State for Health to chair an independent review to propose the most effective evidence-based strategies for reducing health inequalities in England from 2010. The strategy will include policies and interventions that address the social determinants of health inequalities. This Review has twin aims: to improve health and well-being for all and to reduce health inequalities.</p> <p>The Review had four tasks</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Identify, for the health inequalities challenge facing England, the evidence most relevant to underpinning future policy and action 2: Show how this evidence could be translated into practice 3: Advise on possible objectives and measures, building on the experience of the current PSA target on infant mortality and life expectancy 4: Publish a report of the Review's work that will contribute to the development of a post-2010 health inequalities strategy. 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Whilst many of the recommendations in the report produced are outside the remit of Planning Policy, its findings will be considered in preparing the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Population Inclusive Communities</p>
<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment and Biodiversity: Guidance for Practitioners June 2004 Countryside Council for Wales, English Nature,</p>	<p>The SEA Directive is intended to help protect the environment and promote sustainable development. SEA involves predicting, evaluating and mitigating the environmental impacts of plans and programmes thereby integrating environmental considerations into strategic decision-making.</p> <p>This guidance aims to ensure that biodiversity considerations are appropriately addressed in Strategic environmental assessments. It is hoped that it will assist people and organisations in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to prepare plans and programmes in a wide range of sectors, carry out SEA, prepare SEA reports, and comment on biodiversity issues in SEA.</p>	<p>Does not set targets; provides guidance.</p>	<p>Will be relevant in preparing the SA.</p>	<p>Sustainable development.</p>

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<p>Environment Agency, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds</p>	<p>In the first three chapters the guidance runs through the definition of SEA and its legal requirements, and the how biodiversity fits in. Chapter four, the core of this guidance, explains step by step how biodiversity implications can be considered in SEA. While the links between SEA and other procedures: sustainability appraisal, "appropriate assessment" under the Habitats Directive, and project environmental impact assessment are examined in chapter 5.</p> <p>A "toolkit" of more specific techniques for promoting biodiversity through SEA is set out in the final chapter.</p>			
<p>Planning for climate change – guidance for local Authorities. (Planning and Climate Change Coalition, 2012)</p>	<p>Spatial planning can make a major contribution to tackling climate change by shaping new and existing developments in ways that reduce carbon dioxide emissions and positively build community resilience to problems such as extreme heat or flood risk. Spatial planning has the potential to deliver the right development in the right place in a fair and transparent way, informed by the imperative of sustainable development.</p> <p>The Localism Act signals a major shift of responsibilities to local authority and community levels in England. This guide is designed to respond to the localism agenda and is aimed primarily at local authorities, private sector practitioners, Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships who want both to tackle climate change and to reap the positive economic benefits that solutions such as renewable energy, sustainable transport and flood resilience can bring.</p> <p>Friends of the Earth have produced a separate guide for community planning and climate change.</p> <p>The guide gives detailed guidance on principles that can underpin plan-making and development management.</p>	<p>Does not set targets; provides guidance.</p>	<p>The Local Plan could consider the guidance in this document as it is produced.</p>	<p>Sustainable development, reduce contributions to climate change and adapt to climate change.</p>

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	<p>The approaches set out in the guide have been designed to support the policy outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework and other relevant government statutes and guidance.</p> <p>Local development plans can support the move to a low-carbon economy and secure low-carbon living in a changing climate.</p> <p>Local planning authorities are advised to design their policies to support and not unreasonably restrict renewable and low carbon energy developments. Strategic sites which are central to delivering the local planning approach for decentralised energy can be allocated in the local plan.</p> <p>Local development plans can set out how the local authority area will be planned over the long term to adapt to the opportunities and impacts arising from changes in the climate.</p> <p>In assessing sites for suitability for new development, local authorities are advised to consider their potential to support the move to a low-carbon future and to adapt to or mitigate the impacts of climate change. Where sites perform poorly against any of the criteria identified below, local authorities might consider whether there are proposals in local plans which would improve their performance and/or whether their performance would be improved by, for example, limiting development on the site to particular uses and/or by changing density.</p> <p>Local requirements can be consistent with national policy on allowable solutions set out in support of the zero-carbon policy.</p> <p>Local requirements for decentralised energy can be set out in a Development Plan Document and could be derived from an assessment of local Opportunities.</p>			

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	<p>The progressively demanding standards for carbon dioxide emissions set through the Building Regulations, together with the assessment of local opportunities for renewable and low-carbon energy, will help to drive greater use of decentralised energy. Targets for application across a whole local authority area which are designed to secure a minimum level of decentralised energy use in new development may become unnecessary when the proposed 2013 revisions to Part L of the Building Regulations (for both domestic and non-domestic buildings) are implemented. However, they remain an important interim measure.</p> <p>Any local requirement for a building's sustainability should be set out in a Development Plan Document, and applied appropriately to specific sites.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should prioritise walking, cycling and public transport and other smarter choices by setting targets for the proportion of trips in their area by these modes.</p>			
UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework	<p>The UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework covers the period 2011-2020. It forms the UK Governments response to the new strategic plan of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), published in 2010 at the CBD meeting in Japan. This includes 5 internationally agreed strategic goals and supporting targets to be achieved by 2020. The five strategic goals agreed were:</p> <p>Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society.</p> <p>Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use.</p>	Strategic goals to be achieved by 2020.	Biodiversity will be an important consideration as the Local Plan is produced.	Have regard to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Breckland

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity.</p> <p>Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services.</p> <p>Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.</p>			
<p>The Energy Efficiency Strategy: The Energy Efficiency Opportunity in the UK (November 2012)</p>	<p>Improving our energy efficiency and decarbonising the UK, maintaining secure energy supplies, and increasing the productivity of our businesses and making the best use of resources.</p> <p>Energy saving measures through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -connecting energy efficiency knowledge and technologies to finance seeking strong returns; -supporting energy efficiency innovation; -harnessing the power of improved energy use information, driving its availability and disclosure; and -encouraging collective action to act on this new and better information. <p>As set out in this strategy the benefits to energy efficiency can be significant, including:</p> <p>The December 2011 Carbon Plan was clear that, if we are to cut our green house gas emissions by 80% by 2050, 'energy efficiency will have to increase dramatically across all sectors'. It set out four possible scenarios for 2050, relative to 1990, which imply a per capita demand reduction of between 31% and 54% relative to 2007.</p>	<p>Implementing the 2012 EU Energy Efficiency Directive - In June 2012, and with active support from the UK, Member States agreed the new Energy Efficiency Directive. This is due to be published shortly and will need to be fully implemented by Spring 2014.</p>	<p>The Local Plan could consider the guidance in this document as it is produced.</p>	<p>Sustainable development, reduce contributions to climate change and adapt to climate change.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>This Strategy pinpoints the remaining energy efficiency potential within the UK economy and summarises the actions we will now take to realise this.</p>			
<p>Government Tourism Policy (DCMS, March 2011).</p>	<p>Importance of the tourism industry to the UK.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund the most ambitious marketing campaign ever to attract visitors to the UK in the years following 2012. The £100m campaign, co-funded by the government and the private sector, aims to attract 4 million extra visitors to Britain over the next 4 years. That equates to £2bn more spend in our economy, and 50,000 new jobs. • Increase the proportion of UK residents who holiday in the UK to match those who holiday abroad each year. For longer stays (4 nights or more) this would mean 29% 2 of travellers holidaying in Britain rather than just 20% today (creating 4.5m extra domestic trips each year, £1.3bn more spend and 26,000 new jobs). And if we can replicate this scale of improvement for shorter stays as well, we will create a further £750m of spend and 11,000 new jobs. • Improve the sector's productivity to become one of the top 5 most efficient and competitive visitor economies in the world. 	<p>Does not set targets. Is guidance.</p>	<p>Requirement for policy in the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Support tourism and recognise the importance of the domestic tourism industry as an attraction in its own right.</p>
<p>A Strategy for Sustainable Growth (BIS, 2010)</p>	<p>There is a crucial role for BIS, and government more widely, in supporting businesses and individuals through the changes needed to return the economy to sustainable growth. There are three key planks of our strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -promoting the efficient operation of markets to support growth; -smarter public and private investment in the economy, including creating a highly-skilled workforce; and 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Address within Local Plan Policy.</p>	<p>Encourage sustainable business growth.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	-encouraging entrepreneurialism and individual engagement in the economy to support growth.			
Scheduled Monuments (DCMS, 2013)	<p>The policies set out in this statement relate to the identification, protection, conservation and investigation of England's premier archaeological sites under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the designation of scheduled monuments; and • the determination of applications for scheduled monument consent. 	Does not set targets.	Address within Local Plan Policy.	Protect, conserve and enhance heritage assets.
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	<p>This biodiversity strategy for England builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how we are implementing our international and EU commitments. It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea. It builds on the successful work that has gone before, but also seeks to deliver a real step change.</p> <p>In October 2010, over 190 countries signed an historic global agreement in Nagoya, Japan to take urgent and effective action to halt the alarming global declines in biodiversity. This agreement recognised just how important it is to look after the natural world. It established a new global vision for biodiversity, including a set of strategic goals and targets to drive action.</p> <p>In June 2011, the Government published The Natural Choice – the first Natural Environment White Paper for 20 years. This responds to the global commitments made at Nagoya. It outlines the Government's vision for the natural environment, shifting the emphasis from piecemeal conservation action towards a more integrated landscape-scale approach. It also</p>	A number of outcomes by 2020.	Address within Local Plan Policy.	Sustainable development, reduce contributions to climate change and adapt to climate change. Protect, conserve and enhance biodiversity assets.

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>sets out how we can better value the natural environment in decision-making and thereby unlock growth in the green economy and reconnect people with nature.</p> <p>The overarching long-term vision, the 2020 mission and the framework of desired outcomes inform delivery action by partners at all levels, including grant-giving bodies, enabling everyone to clearly understand what the national priorities are.</p> <p>The strategy sets out the approach to biodiversity conservation and the priority areas for action during 2011-2020.</p> <p>*A more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea</p> <p>*Putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy</p> <p>*Reducing environmental pressures on agriculture, forestry, water management, management of marine environment, fisheries, air pollution, air pollution, invasion of non-native species.</p> <p>*Improving our knowledge.</p>			
<p>The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature. June 2011</p>	<p>Key measures in the White Paper, which also takes forward recommendations contained in 'Making Space for Nature', include:</p> <p>Reconnecting nature</p> <p>*New Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs), transforming rural and urban areas and providing bigger, connected sites for wildlife to live in and adapt to climate change.</p>		Address within Local Plan Policy.	Sustainable development, reduce contributions to climate change and adapt to climate change.

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Biodiversity offsetting – new way for developers to ensure we don't lose wildlife sites and make them better by making and improving other sites.</p> <p>*New Local Nature Partnerships (NLP's) to strengthen joined-up action across local agencies and organisations,</p> <p>*Phasing out peat - working with the horticulture industry to phase out peat use, which will help to protect and restore our peatlands, which are valuable carbon sinks, habitats and part of our ecological network.</p> <p>Connecting people and nature for better quality of life</p> <p>*Green Areas Designation allowing local communities to give protection to areas that are important to them for recreation, the view or their importance for wildlife.</p> <p>*Better urban green spaces for the benefit of cities and towns. Support for parks, gardens, and tree planting which benefit people and nature alike.</p> <p>*More children experiencing nature by learning outdoors, through practical support to schools and reducing red-tape for outdoor learning.</p> <p>*Strengthening local public health activities which connect people with nature for better health</p> <p>*A new environmental volunteering initiative ("Muck in 4 Life") to improve places in towns and countryside for people and nature to enjoy.</p> <p>Capturing and improving the value of nature</p> <p>*Natural Capital Committee – an independent body to report to the Government's economic affairs committee to put the</p>			<p>Protect, conserve and enhance biodiversity assets.</p>

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>value of nature at the heart of the Government's economic thinking, and advise *Government about the best way of securing our natural assets for the future.</p> <p>*An annual statement of green accounts for UK Plc to help measure green growth alongside GDP.</p> <p>*A business-led Task Force to expand the UK business opportunities from new products and services which are good for the economy and nature alike.</p>			

Table 9.2 Literature Review - National

	First carbon budget (2008–12)	Second carbon budget (2013–17)	Third carbon budget (2018–22)	Fourth carbon budget (2023–27)
Carbon budget level (million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO2e))	3,018	2,782	2,544	1,950
Percentage reduction below base year levels	23%	29%	35%	50%

Table 9.3 Targets for meeting the first four Carbon Budgets. The Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future, HM Government, December 2011.

Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Realising the benefits of trees, woods and forests in the East of England A Woodland for life Publication (2011)</p>	<p>This document follows on from Woodland For Life (2003) the Woodland Strategy for the East of England¹ (an area consisting of the counties of Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk and the Unitary Authorities of Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Luton, Peterborough, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock). The Strategy stimulated over 150 successful projects with beneficial economic, social and environmental outcomes, some of which are summarised in the Progress Report 2007. The vision behind this document is that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -communities, businesses, and local authorities in the East of England make the most of the benefits that trees and woodland bring to the economy, to society, for the environment and addressing climate change. -Trees can help enable the East of England to move to a creative and competitive low carbon economy and help communities to become more sustainable by managing resources. -Trees can offer significant opportunities for economic development, especially in rural area through developing the timber, tourism, recreation and game and associated industries. -Trees are an important part in the development of new and existing communities to deliver a sense of place to enable a better quality of life through – better health and wellbeing. -A high quality environment is essential for all aspects of human endeavour and for its own sake, it is essential that is protected and enhanced and resilient to the impact of climate change. -Many of the opportunities offered by woodland creation, which are listed in this Chapter, will only be realised in partnerships between Local Authorities, communities, business and the charity and voluntary sector. 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Relevant in relation to design and landscaping.</p>	<p>Relates to land, water and soil resources as well as cultural landscape. Protection of biodiversity</p>

<p>Sustainable Futures: Integrated Sustainability Framework for the East of England (2009)</p>	<p>East of England Sustainable Development Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Promoted sustainable growth within environmental limits *Reduce poverty and inequality and promote sustainable inclusion *Reduce greenhouse gas emissions *Adapt to the impacts of climate change *Promote employment, learning, skills and innovation *Increase resource efficiency and reduce resource use and waste *Conserve, restore and enhance the region's natural and built environment *Move goods and people sustainably *Meet the needs of the changing regional demographic *Provide decent affordable homes for all 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Ensure sites are allocated for development in locations that enable the development to help meet the sustainability objectives outlined in the document</p>	<p>Reflect objectives in SA Framework</p>
<p>Benefits of green infrastructure Report by Forest Research 2010</p>	<p>The report sets out how Green Infrastructure benefits the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Climate change (through heat amelioration, reducing flood risk, improving water quality, sustainable urban drainage and improving air quality) *Health and well-being (through increasing life expectancy and reducing health inequality, improving levels of physical activity and health, improving psychological health and mental well-being) *Economic growth and investment (through inward investment and job creation, land and property values and local economic regeneration) *Land regeneration (through regeneration of previously developed land, improving quality of place and increasing environmental quality and aesthetics) *Wildlife and habitats (through increasing habitat area, increasing populations of some protected species and increasing species movement) *Stronger communities (through social interaction, inclusion and cohesion) *Green infrastructure toolkits covering community engagement 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Relevance to the Green Infrastructure within the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Relates to land, water and soil resources as well as cultural landscape. Biodiversity</p>
<p>Water for life and livelihoods. River Basin Management Plan, Anglian River Basin</p>	<p>This plan focuses on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. Many organisations and individuals help to protect and improve the water environment for the benefit of people and wildlife. River basin management is the approach the Environment Agency is using to ensure our combined efforts achieve the improvement needed in the Anglian River Basin District. River basin management is a continuous process of planning and delivery. The Water Framework</p>	<p>Does not set targets</p>	<p>Relevance to the Green Infrastructure within the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Relates to land, water and soil resources.</p>

<p>District. (DEFRA and Environment Agency 2009)</p>	<p>Directive introduces a formal series of 6 year cycles. The first cycle will end in 2015 when, following further planning and consultation, this plan will be updated and reissued.</p> <p>The plan describes the river basin district, and the pressures that the water environment faces. It shows what this means for the current state of the water environment, and what actions will be taken to address the pressures. It sets out what improvements are possible by 2015 and how the actions will make a difference to the local environment – the catchments, the estuaries and coasts, and the groundwater.</p> <p>Looking towards implementation, the plan highlights the programme of investigations to be undertaken. This will identify more actions, particularly those associated with diffuse pollution, for delivery during the first cycle. New national measures, made available by government, will also lead to additional improvements. At local level, the Environment Agency will be working closely with a wide variety of organisations and individuals, not only to deliver the commitments contained in the plan, but wherever possible to expand upon them for the benefit of the water environment.</p>			
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<p>Anglian Water Services, Water Resource Management Plan, 2010</p>	<p>This report describes our plan to maintain a secure balance between water supplies and demands in the region served by Anglian Water. Our strategic priorities are to increase the resilience of our water and wastewater services, secure and conserve water resources, anticipate and invest for growth in our region and mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts. The WRMP is required to address the challenges to water supplies from growth, climate change and environmental legislation.</p> <p>Attleborough is in the WRZ7 – Norfolk Rural zone.</p> <p>The demand centres in the zone are the market towns of Swaffham, Watton, Dereham, Wymondham and Attleborough. As well as use by local households there are</p> <p>rural industries, notably poultry rearing, and active promotion of tourism attracting visitors for short stays throughout the year.</p> <p>Preferred Water Management Options in Norfolk Rural, Bradenham transfer, Active leakage control, Pressure reduction, Enhanced metering, High Oak (Wicklewood WTW) boreholes, West Bradenham boreholes and Norwich transfer.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>To be read in conjunction with the Water Cycle Studies reviewed in the District section.</p>	<p>Relates to land, water and soil resources. Contribution to quality of life.</p>
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Table 9.4 Literature Review - Regional

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Connecting Norfolk, Norfolk's Transport Plan for 2026 (LTP3), NCC 2011.</p>	<p>Norfolk's 3rd Local Transport Plan, Connecting Norfolk, sets out the strategy and policy framework for transport up to 2026. This will be used as a guide for transport investment in Norfolk as well as considered by other agencies when determining planning or delivery decisions. The strategy is accompanied by an implementation plan, setting out the measures to be delivered over the short term. Connecting Norfolk is driven by the views of local people and stakeholders and addresses the challenges we face in Norfolk. Our transport vision is:</p> <p>A transport system that allows residents and visitors a range of low carbon options to meet their transport needs and attracts and retains business investment in the county.</p>	<p>Refers to national targets (such as Carbon Reduction targets). Also refers to previous targets that have been met. Does not set new targets.</p>	<p>Travel and transport will need to be considered within the Local Plan and need to be considered in line with Connecting Norfolk.</p>	<p>Reduce the contribution to climate change and the vulnerability to climate change. Improve air quality.</p> <p>Reduce the effect of traffic emissions on the environment.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>We will achieve this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making the best use of what we have to facilitate reliable journeys • Reducing the need to travel • Influencing others and ensuring transport is integrated into development plans • Working with communities and our partners to seek new solutions and new ways of delivering • Lobbying for and pursuing improvements to Norfolk's strategic transport network. <p>Six strategic aims underpin the vision, they are: maintaining and managing the highway network; delivering sustainable growth; enhancing strategic connections; reducing emissions; improving road safety; and improving accessibility.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>In the short to medium term maintaining the existing highway network will require a greater share of Norfolk County Council resource and funding in transport delivery. Managing and maintaining the transport network Given the current financial reality, Connecting Norfolk identifies this area of work as the main short term priority for transport delivery. Within this, focus should be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining and managing the higher status roads, where necessary reducing treatments on other roads • Enhancing the community's role in routine maintenance jobs • Achieving better value by improving targeting and reducing costs. <p>Sustainable growth</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>There will be significant growth in Norfolk during the life of Connecting Norfolk. The strategy provides a framework for this to be delivered in, setting the Transport Authority's requirements. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that all new development is well located in settlements with a range of services so as to minimise the need to travel • Adequate regard is given to reducing the traffic impacts of growth to negate a detrimental effect on the road network or existing communities • Development is in line with Safe, Sustainable Development, our aims and guidance notes for development management • Ensuring necessary infrastructure to support growth is secured, including a Norwich Northern 			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Distributor Road to facilitate economic growth in the greater Norwich area.</p> <p>Strategic connections Connecting Norfolk identifies the following as Norfolk's key strategic connections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The A11, providing the main road connection to London and the south • A Norwich Northern Distributor Road to facilitate strategic access to north-east Norfolk and Norwich Airport • Connections to Norfolk's gateways, Norwich Airport and the pPorts at King's Lynn and Great Yarmouth, including a future Third River Crossing for the River Yare • The A47, part of the European TEN-T network, providing the main east-west road connection and route to the Midlands and north of England 			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Norwich to London rail line, providing links to London and the south • The Norwich to Cambridge and Peterborough rail line, providing links to the Midlands and the north of England • The King's Lynn to London rail line, providing links to London, the south and Europe via St Pancras / Thameslink. <p>Opportunities will be taken to enhance these through partnership working.</p> <p>Transport emissions Measures must be taken to reduce emissions from transport in Norfolk. Connecting Norfolk places importance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aiding a shift to a more efficient vehicle fleet through development and facilitation of necessary infrastructure like electric vehicle charging points 			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting active and healthier travel options for short journeys to schools, services and places of employment • Enhancing integration between different travel modes, particularly at key bus and rail stations and Norwich Airport • Tackling traffic problems where they are resulting in poor air quality. <p>Road safety Road safety continues to be a major public concern and this is reflected in our conversations with residents. Connecting Norfolk will address this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritising measures to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Norfolk's roads • Providing education, training and publicity to promote safer travel • Creating a safer environment for travel 			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in partnership with those agencies that share our goals. <p>Accessibility There will be significant pressures in this area over the coming five years, with the financial situation making services like public transport more difficult to deliver. Connecting Norfolk describes the strategy for dealing with this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a shift towards more demand responsive transport in rural areas • The community will take on more of a role in tackling poor accessibility and promoting shared travel options like car sharing • All agencies are responsible for ensuring their services are accessible. <p>Connecting Norfolk places importance on:</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving efficient movement into town and urban centres, favouring short term parking for car drivers, which benefits the local economy and supports alternative travel options • Providing opportunities for sustainable tourism, recognising the benefit of community and heritage rail lines • Providing accessible transport services • Encouraging alternatives to travel, such as supporting high quality broadband. <p>Approach to delivery There is a strong emphasis on working in partnership to achieve the intentions set out in Connecting Norfolk as well as enabling the community to take more ownership and responsibility.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership arrangements fostered during Connecting Norfolk's development will be built upon • Links will be strengthened with existing partnership structures like the Local Enterprise Partnerships • Our private sector partnership will be scrutinised to ensure best value • Community-led initiatives will be fostered • Support and capacity building will be provided to enable a greater role for community groups in transport delivery. <p>Connecting Norfolk requires value for money to be a central component of transport delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best use must be made of our existing transport network • External funding opportunities will be maximised 			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery will be combined and coordinated wherever possible • Longer term affordability should be a key consideration with all improvement schemes. 			
<p>Norfolk Ambition – The Community Strategy for Norfolk 2003 - 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *All individuals have the opportunity of a good quality of life. *People enjoy healthy lifestyles and have access to high standards of health and social care. *People in communities feel safe. *There is excellent educational attainment and opportunities for learning at all stages throughout life. *Individuals from all backgrounds can play an active part in community life. *The high quality environment is respected and enhanced for everyone's enjoyment 	<p>Various indicators covering topic areas including Inclusive and Diverse, Healthy and Well, Safe, Knowledgeable and Skilled, Active and Engaged, Environmentally Responsible, Creative, Economically Thriving and Accessible and Well Housed.</p>	<p>Direct implications are limited although there is a more direct relationship between economic and housing related objectives and what the Local Plan can influence or achieve.</p>	<p>Improve the quality of where people live.</p> <p>Improve health of the population.</p> <p>Improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.</p> <p>Encourage community identity and welfare.</p> <p>Reduce contributions to climate change.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>and is matched by a strong reputation for renewable energies. *Culture, creativity and spirituality are valued. *There is a distinctive economy characterised by innovative and dynamic businesses. *The communications infrastructure meets the needs of a forward-looking county.</p>			<p>Reduce vulnerability to climate change. Improve education and skills of population.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Countryside Management Plans; The Brecks & The Wensum Valley</p>	<p>To maintain and enhance the character of the landscape. *To protect and enhance wildlife habitat. *To protect and enhance sites of archaeological value and historic interest. *To improve opportunities for public access to the countryside. *To encourage local participation in the development of the Wensum Valley Project. *To increase local community and visitor awareness and appreciation of the area.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>	<p>Implications for policies and proposals affecting these areas.</p>	<p>Maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes. Conserve soil resources and quality. Maintain and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species. Improve opportunities for public access to the countryside. Encourage community identity and welfare. Conserve, and where appropriate enhance the historic and archaeological environment.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
				Improve health of the population.
Norfolk Residential Design Guide (1998)	There are various objectives aiming to improve residential development particularly in terms of design and access by non-car modes for the benefit of residents and others living nearby.	None identified.	Whilst still available on the County Council website, it is dated and is considered to have limited direct implications. mostly in accordance with those associated with planning good practice through the NPPF.	Reduce the effect of traffic on the environment. Maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes. Conserve, and where appropriate enhance the historic environment. Improve the quality of where people live.
Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership - Habitats and Species Action Plans (http://www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/actionplans/)	There is now not one collective action plan for Norfolk but there are a number of individual habitats and species action plans which will have an	A number of individual targets for both species and habitat Action Plans.	Implications for policies and proposals.	The SA will include objectives to protect and enhance biodiversity.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>impact upon the Breckland District as follows;</p> <p>The Habitat action plans include allotments, cereal field margins, churchyards and cemeteries, fens, hedgerows, littoral and sub littoral chalk, low level calcareous grassland, lowland mixed heathland, dry acid grassland, lowland meadow and pasture, lowland mixed deciduous woodland, lowland wood pasture and parkland, mesotrophic lakes, open mosaic habitats on previously developed land, ponds, reeds beds, saline lagoons, traditional orchards and wet woodlands.</p> <p>Also there are a number of species habitat - mammals, birds amphibians etc...</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	There is now a UK post 2010 Biodiversity Framework - see National documents.			
Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Guidance for Norfolk (NCC, 2004)	<p>This guidance seeks to emphasise the importance of adopting a positive approach to biodiversity protection and enhancement, and sets out the key considerations relating to wildlife and biodiversity that should be taken into account in all development proposals.</p> <p>It should be noted that whilst the guidance is still available that it is out of date and there are moved to re-write the document.</p>	None identified.	Considerations for policies and proposals within the Local Plan.	The SA will include objectives and policies to protect and enhance biodiversity.
Tomorrows Norfolk, Today's Challenge - A Climate Change Strategy for Norfolk	To cut carbon emissions by reducing energy consumption and promoting a shift to low-carbon technology. To improve Norfolk's resilience to the changing climate,	Norfolk LAA target is a 11% reduction in CO2 emissions across Norfolk by 2011 LAA target is to reach Level 3 of the	Ensure sits are allocated in accessible locations	Develop objectives relating to climate change

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	including reduction of the socio-economic and environmental risks associated with flooding and coastal erosion.	Government's performance framework by 2011		
Norfolk Geodiversity Partnership site audit (http://www.geo-east.org.uk/spages/norfolk.htm#features)	In 2007/08 the Norfolk Geodiversity Partnership commissioned a geodiversity audit. It was carried out through a survey of published literature and consultation with geological specialists. Some 328 entries were made in what will be an ongoing process. It represents an initial digest of significant geological and geomorphological sites and features in the county, including SSSIs. The results of the audit will be subject to a programme of verification, including identifying and contacting land owners / managers. The listing of a site does not imply any official	Does not set targets	Considerations for policies and proposals within the Local Plan.	Relates to land, water and soil resources as well as cultural landscape.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>conservation status or designation, nor right of public access.</p> <p>An example of sites of relevance consist of the Breckland Mere and Shropham Pit.</p>			
<p>Norfolk's Earth Heritage - valuing our geodiversity</p>	<p>Geodiversity Action Plans (GAPs) provide a new approach to conserving Earth heritage, setting out a management framework for conserving and promoting geology, geomorphology, soils and water resources for a defined area or an organisation.</p> <p>Norfolk's Earth Heritage summarises the county's geodiversity and the threats it faces; it explains the business of geoconservation; it sets out a vision for conserving and promoting the county's geodiversity, and a number of work</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>There are sites within the Breckland area.</p>	<p>Relates to land, water and soil resources as well as cultural landscape.</p> <p>A</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>priorities and associated action plans for the period 2010-2012. It is intended as a resource for explanation, planning and consultation. It will help co-ordinate new actions and those already underway, and will showcase its own achievements. This is the first edition of a dynamic document which will be subject to regular review.</p> <p>Outstanding features of the County's geodiversity include: The Lynford Neanderthal site – an outstanding example of a rare open-air Middle Palaeolithic site, with Mousterian flint tools associated with the bones of nine Woolly Mammoths and Breckland meres – a group of natural lakes developed in Chalk solution hollows, with</p>			

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	<p>distinctively fluctuating water-levels linked with groundwater.</p> <p>The coldest glacial period, the Anglian, saw ice sheets spreading across Norfolk from the north and north-west around 450,000 years ago; they gouged out the broad depression that is now Fenland and swept over and eroded a former range of Chalk hills in the west of the county. They left behind thick layers of chalky 'boulder clay' known as the Lowestoft Till and associated sandy outwash deposits that underlie many parts of Norfolk, and which form much of its best corn-growing farmland. Much of the Cromer Ridge is thought to have formed at this time. Meltwater under pressure beneath the ice sheet eroded the bedrock and carved out tunnel valleys which later filled</p>			

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	<p>with sediment; one under the Thet valley at Snetterton is over 50m deep.</p> <p>Shropham Pit – the most prolific findspot in the UK for vertebrate fossils of the Ipswichian (last) interglacial.</p> <p>Norfolk's Earth Heritage - A Geodiversity Action Plan sets out a vision for conserving and promoting Norfolk's geodiversity.</p>			
<p>Norfolk Geodiversity Action Plan</p>	<p>A Norfolk Geodiversity Action Plan (NGAP) is being prepared by the Norfolk Geodiversity Partnership. It aims to bring a qualitative change in the way that Norfolk Earth Heritage is conserved and communicated. It has five areas of work:</p> <p>1 – Understanding our geodiversity resources Norfolk's geodiversity comprises cultural as well as</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Considerations for policies and proposals within the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Relates to land, water and soil resources as well as cultural landscape.</p> <p>A</p>

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	<p>natural resources. We need to understand these resources and their vulnerabilities in order to promote their conservation and enhancement. An audit is central to this work.²</p> <p>– Embedding geodiversity in plans and policies The plans and policies of local and regional government and other organisations such as quarry companies have an impact on the geodiversity resource. We need to promote geodiversity conservation and enhancement by reviewing and contributing to these plans and policies.³</p> <p>Protecting and enhancing our geodiversity resources Norfolk's geodiversity resources are subject to a range of threats, and even statutorily protected sites and features may be at risk. We need a</p>			

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	<p>conservation and enhancement programme both for designated sites and for geodiversity in the wider environment. 4 - Promoting geodiversity awareness and understanding One of the greatest threats to Norfolk's geodiversity is a lack of understanding of its importance as a fundamental resource. We need to promote public awareness of our Earth heritage as widely as possible. 5 – Managing the Norfolk Geodiversity Action Plan The sustainability and success of the Norfolk GAP will depend on the strength and commitment of the Partnership. We will need to develop the Partnership as a key means of sustaining the GAP process.</p>			

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<p>A Vision for Norfolk Schools (NCC, 2012)</p>	<p>To deliver over 10 – 15 years a coherent pattern of inspiring places so that: *every young person in Norfolk will want to learn and achieve, develop socially, enjoy community life and take positive decisions for their future *communities will access these inspiring places.</p> <p>Norfolk Learning Statement All learners are entitled to learning of the highest quality, learning that helps them to fulfil their potential. They should have access to a curriculum that enables them to be competent in the key skills of learning, challenges their thinking and opens up their understanding of the world. Their learning should lead them to a greater understanding of themselves, their lives in a complex society</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Schools will need consideration as the Local Plan is produced.</p>	<p>Education, skills and employment.</p>

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	<p>and their ability to influence the world they live in for the mutual benefit of all.</p> <p>Young people and adults have entitled to schools and other places of learning that offer them support matched to their needs, provide a rich and challenging environment, promote high standards of achievement an above all inspire them in a desire to continue learning. Places of learning should be healthy environments for all who work and learn there.</p> <p>Our places of education must promote and value learning. They should celebrate the success of all learners and promote high expectations. To do this all adults supporting learning must listen to learners, plan for their needs and</p>			

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	<p>find the best ways to challenge and engage with the learner. They should create an environment of respect and trust and be role models in promoting equality of opportunity.</p>			
<p>Norfolk Core Strategy Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies DPD. (Norfolk County Council, 2011)</p>	<p>The Core Strategy, along with the Proposals Map, sets out the spatial vision for future mineral extraction and associated development and waste management facilities in Norfolk. It also contains strategic objectives and policies that make clear where, in broad terms, mineral extraction and associated development and waste management facilities should be located in Norfolk, and conversely where they should not be located. It also sets out Development Management policies that will be used to</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Will influence and inform the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Land, water and soil resources</p>

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	<p>ensure that the development of mineral extraction and associated development and waste management facilities can happen in a sustainable way at those locations assessed as being appropriate for development. When it is adopted it will become part of the Local Development Framework for Norfolk.</p> <p>The main purpose of the Core Strategy is to plan for sufficient mineral extraction and associated development and waste management facilities that meet the needs of the economy and society, whilst not causing significant adverse impacts on environmental assets and amenity.</p> <p>The overall spatial strategy sets out the locational principles in the form of broad areas</p>			

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	<p>where mineral extraction and associated development and waste management facilities will be preferred. Although minerals can only be extracted where they occur, if there is a choice of potential site allocations then Policies CS2 (minerals) and CS5 (waste) area gives a locational preference: close and/or well-related to the Norwich Policy Area, Great Yarmouth urban area, King's Lynn or Thetford or the main market towns (Attleborough, Aylsham, Cromer, Dereham, Diss, Downham Market, Fakenham, Hunstanton, North Walsham, Sheringham, Swaffham and Watton, taking into account any significant environmental constraints near these settlements.</p>			

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	<p>The distribution of mineral extraction facilities in Norfolk will be aligned as closely as is practicable with the growth and regeneration areas, because there will be an increased need to supply local aggregates for growth-related infrastructure. With the exception of silica sand – most of which is exported out of Norfolk for ceramics and glass production – most of the demand for sand & gravel and related products (such as concrete) will be used in the four largest settlements (Norwich, King's Lynn, Thetford and Great Yarmouth). The market towns with a current population of 7,000 or more, or which are expected to reach 7,000 through proposed new housing allocations, are likely to be the next largest users of minerals.</p>			

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	<p>Core Strategy Policy CS2 – General locations for mineral extraction and associated facilities</p> <p>Resource areas for key minerals are shown on the key diagram. Areas of search and/or sites specific allocations will be identified based on these areas.</p> <p>Sand & gravel production</p> <p>Sand and gravel resources are located widely throughout the county. However, there will be a clear preference for sites which are close and/or particularly well-related via appropriate transport infrastructure, to the Norwich Policy Area, Great Yarmouth urban area, Thetford or King's Lynn or the main market towns (Attleborough, Aylsham, Cromer, Dereham, Diss, Downham Market, Fakenham,</p>			

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	<p>Hunstanton, North Walsham, Sheringham, Swaffham and Watton). Extensions to existing sites will be preferred to new sites.</p> <p>Core Strategy Policy CS5 – General location of waste management facilities</p> <p>Strategic” or “major” waste management facilities (see paragraph 6.20) should be well-related to the Norwich Policy Area, Great Yarmouth urban area, King’s Lynn or Thetford. There is a particular need for recovery (residual waste treatment) capacity to manage the waste arising from these settlements.</p> <p>“Non-strategic” waste facilities – which will include most of the other types of waste facilities – should be well-related to one of these main settlements or to the main market</p>			

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	towns of Attleborough, Aylsham, Cromer, Dereham, Diss, Downham Market, Fakenham, Hunstanton, North Walsham, Sheringham, Swaffham, or Watton.			
<p>Norfolk Minerals and Waste Development Framework Mineral Site Specific Allocations</p> <p>Development Plan Document: Pre-submission. June 2012.</p> <p>Appendum of focused changes November 2012.</p>	<p>As part of its preparation of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF), in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the County Council has produced this Minerals Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). Its purpose is to set out specific, allocated sites where mineral extraction sites are considered acceptable in principal over the next 15 years. Areas within Breckland which are of relevance consist of:</p>	<p>No targets as such, rather sand and gravel should be removed and used on site before sterilised by development.</p>	<p>This will influence and inform the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Land, water and soil resources</p>

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	<p>MIN10 - Land off Fakenham Road, Beetley</p> <p>The site is allocated as a specific site for sand and gravel extraction.</p> <p>*A programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts;</p> <p>*The existing processing plant (at East Bilney Quarry), accessed via an extension to the current conveyor, must be used;</p> <p>*A detailed landscaping and screening scheme must be developed, so that the impacts on residents of Fakenham Road specifically, and the landscape generally, are satisfactory;</p> <p>*The lines and groups of mature oak trees and hedges across the site (marked on the Proposals Map) will</p>			

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	<p>need to be retained, enhanced with further planting, and incorporated into the scheme of working (allowing for standoffs) during operations. Field boundaries would also need additional planting and to be incorporated into the scheme of agricultural restoration;</p> <p>*Restoration will be at the lower level (with no importation of material) back to agriculture, but with wider field margins and additional copses and hedgerows;</p> <p>*Appropriate financial contributions must be made to B1146 F a k e n h a m Road/Rawhall Road junction improvements; and</p> <p>*There must be a 'watching brief' during the extraction phase in case features of potential geodiversity interest are discovered,</p>			

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	<p>and ensure appropriate scientific study is permitted during the operational stage.</p> <p>MIN 51 - Land west of Bilney Road, Beetley</p> <p>The site is allocated as a specific site for sand and gravel extraction, concrete batching plant and aggregate processing.</p> <p>* A programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts;</p> <p>*Satisfactory road-widening or passing bays on Bilney Road must be proposed;</p> <p>*Appropriate financial contributions to B1146 Fakenham Road/Rawhall Road junction improvements must be made;</p> <p>* A high-quality working and restoration scheme must be developed,</p>			

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	<p>including the thickening of boundary hedges, and safeguarding the *two small areas of woodland on the site and using them as a focal point for the restoration; and</p> <p>*There must be a 'watching brief' during the extraction phase in case features of potential geodiversity interest are discovered, and ensure appropriate scientific study is permitted during the operational stage.</p> <p>Extension to Shropham Quarry operations:</p> <p>MIN 102 – Land at North Farm, south of the River Thet, Snetterton</p> <p>The site is allocated as a specific site for sand and gravel extraction.</p> <p>*This site should not be worked in advance of MIN 108, MIN 110 and the remaining parts of MIN 109 (assuming</p>			

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	<p>that acceptable planning applications are made);</p> <p>*A programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts;</p> <p>*A buffer zone is needed along the north-east, northern and western boundary to protect existing areas of woodland as shown on the proposals map, Swangey Fen SSSI, Shropham Fen CWS and the Core River Valley of the River Thet;</p> <p>*A buffer zone to the east is necessary to protect the integrity of Barnes Oak Wood;</p> <p>*A hydrogeological risk assessment must be prepared to correctly determine the potential for any impacts on the Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC and to help inform the exact workable boundary.</p> <p>Only those parts of the</p>			

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	<p>site which could be extracted 'dry' (i.e. above the water table) could be worked; *It must be demonstrated that levels of dust deposition and/or nitrogen deposition on Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC; *Due to the Habitats Regulations Assessment findings of the potential impact on Norfolk Valley Fens SAC, a new vehicular bridge crossing the Thet to serve the current processing area will not be acceptable. A new processing area will therefore need to be set up on the MIN 102 site; *Drainage from the site should be passed through a settlement lagoon before discharge, with use of Sustainable Drainage</p>			

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	<p>Systems (SuDS) preferably to outfall to the River Thet;</p> <p>*Appropriate screening and/or bunding will be necessary to protect the amenity of the residents of North Farm (to the south), with the location of the processing plant considered carefully.</p> <p>The impact on racehorse 'gallops' will also need to be considered carefully;</p> <p>* A haul road will need to run south of the site to Hargham Road (with an acceptable junction arrangement) and then to the A11 (no HGVs will be permitted to travel north-westwards along Hargham Road, save for occasional local deliveries);</p> <p>* A comprehensive working and restoration plan will need to be developed to take into account the points above, with wide field margins, hedgerows and woodland included;</p>			

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	<p>*A desk-based archaeological assessment must be prepared, followed by field surveys and trial-trenching, with the results to be submitted with any planning application; and</p> <p>*Some open faces must be retained for geological study during the operational stages and there must be a 'watching brief' during the extraction phase in case features of potential geodiversity interest are discovered.</p> <p>MIN 108 – Land to the north of Hargham Road, Shropham The site is allocated as a specific site for sand and gravel extraction.</p> <p>*This site should not be worked in advance of the remaining parts of MIN 109 and then MIN 110 (assuming that acceptable planning applications are made);</p>			

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	<p>*A programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts; *Satisfactory screening and/or bunding must be provided on the southern boundary, with a 'stand-off' zone around Shropham Fen County Wildlife Site; *A hydrogeological risk assessment must be prepared to correctly determine the potential for any impacts on the Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC and to help inform the exact workable boundary. Only those parts of the site which could be extracted 'dry' (i.e. above the water table) could be worked; *It must be demonstrated that levels of dust deposition and/or nitrogen deposition (taking into account any mitigation measures) on Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk</p>			

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	<p>Valley Fens SAC would not have an adverse impact on the integrity of the SAC;</p> <p>*Drainage from the site should be passed through a settlement lagoon before discharge, with use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) preferably to outfall to the River Thet;</p> <p>*The current haul road (Spong Lane) to the processing site and agreed routing to the A11 must be used.</p> <p>Some highway improvements to Swangey Lane (improvements to passing bays) may be needed;</p> <p>*The restoration proposals should include a variety of habitats, preferably including conservation grassland, reedbed/carr woodland, open water and lowland mixed deciduous woodland;</p>			

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	<p>*A desk-based archaeological assessment must be prepared, followed by field surveys and trial-trenching, with the results to be submitted with any planning application; and</p> <p>*Some open faces must be retained for geological study during the operational stages, and ideally after restoration, and there must be a 'watching brief' during the extraction phase in case features of potential geodiversity interest are discovered</p> <p>MIN 109 – Land to the south of Honey pots Quarry, Shropham</p> <p>The site is allocated as a specific site for sand and gravel extraction.</p> <p>*This site should be the first Shropham site to be worked, with the other allocated sites following later</p>			

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	<p>(assuming that acceptable planning applications are made);</p> <p>*A programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts will be necessary;</p> <p>*Satisfactory screening and/or bunding must be provided on the southern boundary of the site to protect views from Shropham;</p> <p>*It must be demonstrated that levels of dust deposition and/or nitrogen deposition on Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC would not have an adverse impact on the integrity of the SAC;</p> <p>*Drainage from the site should be passed through a settlement lagoon before discharge;</p> <p>*The site should be worked 'dry' (i.e. above the water table); if it would need de-watering, a</p>			

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	<p>hydrogeological risk assessment would need to be prepared to determine the potential for any impacts on Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC, and any mitigation measures necessary;</p> <p>*The current haul road (Spong Lane) to the processing site and agreed routing to the A11 must be used.</p> <p>Some highway improvements to Swangey Lane (improvements to passing bays) may be needed;</p> <p>*The restoration proposals must include a variety of habitats, preferably including conservation grassland, reedbed/carr woodland, open water and lowland mixed deciduous woodland;</p> <p>*A desk-based archaeological assessment must be prepared, followed by</p>			

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	<p>field surveys and trial-trenching, with the results to be submitted with any planning application; and</p> <p>*Some open faces must be retained for geological study during the operational stages, and there must be a 'watching brief' during the extraction phase in case features of potential geodiversity interest are discovered.</p> <p>MIN 110 – Land to the south of Spong Lane, Shropham</p> <p>The site is allocated as a specific site for sand and gravel extraction.</p> <p>*This site should not be worked in advance of the remaining parts of MIN 109 and then MIN 108 (assuming that acceptable planning applications are made);</p> <p>*A programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts;</p>			

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	<p>*Satisfactory screening and/or bunding must be provided on the southern boundary of the site to protect views from Shropham;</p> <p>*It must be demonstrated that levels of dust deposition and/or nitrogen deposition on Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC;</p> <p>*Drainage from the site should be passed through a settlement lagoon before discharge, with use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) preferably to outfall to the River Thet;</p> <p>*The site would be worked 'dry' (i.e. above the water table);</p> <p>*A hydrogeological risk assessment must be prepared to correctly determine the potential for any impacts on the Swangey Fen</p>			

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	<p>SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC and to help inform the exact workable boundary. Only those parts of the site which could be extracted 'dry' (i.e. above the water table) could be worked;</p> <p>*The current haul road (Spong Lane) to the processing site and agreed routing to the A11 must be used.</p> <p>Some highway improvements to Swangey Lane (improvements to passing bays) may to be needed;</p> <p>*A desk-based archaeological assessment must be prepared, followed by field surveys and trial-trenching, with the results to be submitted with any planning application;</p> <p>*The restoration proposals include a variety of habitats, preferably including conservation grassland,</p>			

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	<p>reedbed/carr woodland, open water and lowland mixed deciduous woodland; and</p> <p>*Some open faces are retained for geological study during the operational stages, and there is a 'watching brief' during the extraction phase in case features of potential geodiversity interest are discovered</p>			
<p>Norfolk Minerals and Waste Development Framework Waste Site Specific Allocations</p> <p>Development Plan Document Pre-Submission. June 2012</p>	<p>As part of its preparation of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF), in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the County Council has produced this Waste Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). Its purpose is to set out specific, allocated sites where waste management facilities</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>This will influence and inform the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Land, water and soil resources</p>

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	<p>are considered acceptable in principle over the next 15 years.</p> <p>WAS 01 - Land at Beck Farm, East Bilney, East Dereham</p> <p>The site is allocated for inert waste recycling and inert fill, and composting within the quarry, for a temporary period.</p> <p>*Development not prejudicing the timing and implementation of final restoration of the existing quarry;</p> <p>*Protection of the landscape, with particular reference to views from the north;</p> <p>*Protection of ecological interests, particularly 'Beck Farm Meadows' County Wildlife Site, through control of water run-off from the site;</p>			

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	<p>*Protection of the aquifer through appropriate site design and engineering;</p> <p>*Protection of local amenity through the control and mitigation of dust, noise, lighting; and</p> <p>*Provision of acceptable highway access via the B1146 and Rawhall Lane</p> <p>Was 06 - Land at Norwich Road, Carbrooke</p> <p>The site is allocated for inert waste recycling and reworking, removal and reuse of deposited foundry sand, for a temporary period.</p> <p>*A hydrogeological risk assessment to be provided, and mitigation measures undertaken as appropriate, to protect the chalk aquifer;</p>			

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	<p>*Protection of the landscape and mitigation of any views into the site, by screening the site, including protection and retention of existing trees on site boundaries, with buffer zones where appropriate;</p> <p>*Provision of acceptable highway access, including visibility improvements at the B1108 junction with the U33104 Carbrooke Road;</p> <p>*Protection of local amenity through the control and mitigation of noise and dust; and</p> <p>*Restoration of the site, to include woodland planting and the retention of geological sections for scientific study.</p> <p>Was 14 - Land at Ashill Recycling Centre, Swaffham Road, Ashill</p>			

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	<p>The site is allocated for a small-scale local facility comprising composting or inert waste recycling and/or an extension to the existing household waste recycling centre.</p> <p>*Retention and protection of existing trees and shrubs, with buffer zones where necessary;</p> <p>*No plant, structures or buildings to be visible outside the site boundaries;</p> <p>*Safeguarding of County Wildlife Site 914;</p> <p>*The scale and detail of development being acceptable in terms of protection of local amenity and highway safety; and</p> <p>*Provision of acceptable highway access</p>			

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	<p>WAS 19 – Land at Harling Road, Snetterton. The site is allocated for a range of activities comprising composting, anaerobic digestion, processing of recyclables, inert waste recycling, HWRC and/or residual waste treatment processes, including energy-from-waste, thermal treatment and/or mixed waste processing. *Protection of the amenities of residents and businesses through the control and mitigation of noise, odour and dust; *Enclosure of operations other than a HWRC within buildings, and consideration of scale, design, processes and visual impacts in the context of both the developing role of the Snetterton Heath Employment Area, and the wider landscape;</p>			

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	<p>*A hydrogeological risk assessment must be prepared to determine the potential for any impacts on the aquifer, with particular reference to the adjacent landfill site, and mitigation measures, including appropriate site design and engineering, undertaken as necessary;</p> <p>*Appropriate abatement and control techniques to be implemented to ensure no adverse effect on the integrity of Norfolk Valley Fens SAC, Breckland Forest SAC, Breckland Forest SPA and other protected habitats in the vicinity of the site, due to emissions to air;</p> <p>*Protection of geodiversity interests by the retention of geological exposure(s) for study; and</p>			

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	<p>*Provision of acceptable highway access, including adequate visibility at site access.</p> <p>WAS 47 – Land at West Carr Road, Attleborough</p> <p>The site is allocated for inert waste recycling and/or waste transfer.</p> <p>*Enclosure of waste management activities within buildings;</p> <p>*Protection of local amenity by control and mitigation of dust, noise, odour, lighting and the restriction of hours of operation;</p> <p>*Landscaping to mitigate any impacts on visual intrusion, particularly on nearby residents, by site operations;</p> <p>*Protection of water resources through appropriate site design and engineering;</p> <p>*A Transport Assessment must be prepared to determine the suitability of the junction between the</p>			

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	<p>C137 West Carr Road and the A11 and mitigation and control measures undertaken as appropriate; and *Vehicle routing to be to and from the west, via the A11.</p> <p>WAS 79 – Land at North Farm, Snetterton The site is allocated for inert landfill and secondary aggregate recycling. *Operations to take place ancillary to mineral extraction, to assist with progressive phased restoration, for no longer than the duration of mineral extraction; *A desk-based archaeological assessment must be prepared, followed by field surveys and trial-trenching, with the results to be submitted with any planning application;</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Some open faces must be retained for geological study during the operational stages;</p> <p>*Protection of local amenity by control and mitigation of noise and dust, including by consideration of siting and design of recycling equipment;</p> <p>*It must be demonstrated that levels of dust deposition and/or nitrogen deposition on Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC;</p> <p>*A buffer zone is needed along the north-east, northern and western boundary to protect existing areas of woodland as shown on the proposals map, Swangey Fen SSSI, Shropham Fen CWS and the Core River Valley of the River Thet;</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*A buffer zone to the east is necessary to protect the integrity of Barnes Oak Wood;</p> <p>*A hydrogeological risk assessment must be prepared to correctly determine the potential for any impacts on the Swangey Fen SSSI/Norfolk Valley Fens SAC and to help inform the exact workable boundary. Only those parts of the site above the water table could be used for inert landfill and recycling;</p> <p>*Drainage from the site should be passed through a settlement lagoon before discharge, with use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) preferably to outfall to the River Thet;</p> <p>*Appropriate screening and/or bunding will be necessary to protect the amenity of the residents of North Farm (to the south), with the location of recycling</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>equipment considered carefully. The impact on racehorse 'gallops' will also need to be considered carefully; *A haul road will need to run south of the site to Hargham Road (with an acceptable junction arrangement) and then to the A11 (no HGVs will be permitted to travel north-westwards along Hargham Road, save for occasional local deliveries) as for the prior mineral working at the site; and *A comprehensive restoration scheme will need to be developed to take into account the points above, with wide field margins, hedgerows and woodland included.</p> <p>WAS 87 - Land west of Bilney Road, Beetley</p> <p>The site is allocated for inert waste recycling, as an operation ancillary to mineral extraction.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Operations to take place ancillary to mineral extraction, to assist restoration, for no longer than the duration of mineral extraction;</p> <p>*Mitigation of landscape impacts by safeguarding the two small areas of woodland on the site, operating at post-extraction ground level and by appropriate landscaping;</p> <p>*Protection of local amenity, including by control and mitigation of dust and noise, and the restriction of hours of operation;</p> <p>*Ensure appropriate scientific study of an features of potential geodiversity interest is permitted during the operational stage;</p> <p>*Provision of acceptable highway access, including</p>			

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<p>Saved Norfolk Structure Plan Policies.</p>	<p>satisfactory road-widening or passing bays on Bilney Road, as would be required for mineral extraction; and</p> <p>* Appropriate financial contributions to B1146 Fakenham Road/Rawhall Road junction improvements must be made</p>	<p>Does not set targets</p>	<p>This will influence and inform the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Sustainable growth.</p>
	<p>Policy T2: Development will be assessed against its effect on traffic generation and alternative modes of access. Development will not be allowed if adequate access cannot be provided. Developers will be required to address the transport consequences arising from their proposals and to provide for access by public transport, cyclists, pedestrians and disabled people. Developer contributions</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>will be sought, to secure the provision of the necessary infrastructure and/or public transport services where major development sites are inadequately served by modes other than the private car and to ensure safe and adequate site access. Developer contributions will also be sought towards the maintenance costs of additional highway works.</p> <p>Policy T.17: Development of small-scale business aviation or recreational flying at existing airfields, or the development of new airfields for such purposes, may be permitted provided there are no significant adverse impacts on the local environment and the amenity of local residents.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Policy EC.10: The change of use of hotels, holiday parks, chalets, camping and caravan sites will not be acceptable if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) it would result in the loss of a range of facilities; or (ii) the site makes a significant contribution to the local stock of holiday accommodation; or (iii) the site is in a prime location for holiday use and the introduction of a non-holiday related use would be incompatible with or detract from existing uses and the overall holiday character of the area. <p>Policy RC.8 Proposals for the development of conventionally fuelled power stations will only be acceptable where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) there are no serious environmental or transport impacts; and 			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>‘Delivering Economic Growth in Norfolk’ The strategic role for Norfolk County Council 2012 – 2017</p>	<p>(ii) all options to route power lines and/or pipelines linking a power plant to the electricity network or other ancillary facilities, underground have been investigated and, where appropriate, incorporated in the proposal.</p>	<p>Does not set targets. Outlines commitments.</p>	<p>All are relevant to the Local Plan as it is developed.</p>	<p>Education, skills and employment. Sustainable growth.</p>
	<p>*The County Council will pursue the priorities in ‘Connecting Norfolk’, our third local transport plan, to retain and grow business investment in the county. *We will continue to push for improvements to the rail links between Norfolk and London. *We will deliver the £60m ‘Better Broadband for Norfolk’ project, aimed at improving broadband speeds, especially in rural areas, and take up of broadband services. *We will develop an Infrastructure Plan to identify Norfolk’s</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>infrastructure gaps and cost and prioritise steps to address them.</p> <p>*Building on Outset Norfolk, we will work closely with district councils to establish a larger scale start up programme, in areas not covered by other schemes, with £200k of funding in each of 2012/13 and 2013/14. We will work with district councils to ensure our offer complements theirs and will seek to secure match-funding for the programme on a district by district basis.</p> <p>*If the Rural Growth Network (RGN) Pilot bid is successful (outcome expected by April 2012), we will work with the LEP and district councils to develop seven market town enterprise hubs in the county, helping to kick-start entrepreneurship in those areas.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*To address the loss of face-to-face business advice, we, and district councils, will work with New Anglia to develop and promote a web portal that brings together business start up assistance from a wide range of public and private sector partners.</p> <p>*Working with district and LEP colleagues we will support the development of the Gt Yarmouth / Lowestoft Enterprise Zone, delivering energy-related jobs.</p> <p>*We will build an Advanced Manufacturing Centre at HEC, providing growth on space for existing tenants and, through Hethel Innovation Ltd (HIL), a new company based at HEC, we will support the start-up of innovative, hi-tech companies.</p> <p>*We will also launch a 'Trusted Business' scheme,</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>complementing 'Trusted Trader', supporting the growth of services such as accountants and lawyers.</p> <p>*We will work closely with UK Trade & Investment's new Investment Services Team to respond to inward investment offers and champion Norfolk's offshore wind capabilities here and overseas.</p> <p>*Working with businesses based in the county, we will research their supply chains and identify ways to grow their Norfolk-based suppliers.</p> <p>*Building on our 'World Class Norfolk' campaign legacy we will promote Norfolk's world class assets in research at the Norwich Research Park and in renewable energy, linked to the county's generally excellent quality of life.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Work with partners through the Employability and Skills Board (ESB) and related groups including the 14-19 Strategy Groups to address the challenges in the Norfolk Skills Strategy, including the Norfolk Apprenticeships Strategy. These include supporting the progression of adults and young people from welfare to work programmes and those who are not in employment, education or training into work, further learning and apprenticeships.</p> <p>*The Council's support for apprenticeships / pre-apprenticeship training will match young people with sectors that have growth potential (eg engineering) or identified needs (eg social care). We will also provide Council placements for</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>unemployed graduates to gain work experience. We have already taken a significant number of steps to make things easier for businesses to do business with us, including simplified quotation documents, meet the buyer events and removal of the requirement for insurance to be put in place until a contract has been secured. *Building on these measures, as we re-tender major contracts, we will ensure that appropriate supply chain management provisions are included, including making sure that small suppliers have the opportunity to apply for sub contracts, and that prompt payment provisions are built in.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>The Sustainable Community Strategy for Norfolk 2003-2023</p>	<p>Our jointly agreed vision for Norfolk is;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *A place that inspires individuals and businesses to create, thrive and achieve *Communities that prosper, welcome and support *On England's frontline in tackling climatic change and environmental sustainability. <p>By 2023, the achievement of this vision, means that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Businesses tell us that Norfolk is a good place to do business *Norfolk people tell us it's a great place to live *Norfolk seen as a leader in carbon reduction, nationally and internationally. 	<p>Does not set targets. Outline key themes, challenges and visions.</p>	<p>This will influence and inform the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Health and well being, education and skills, safety, natural environment.</p>

Table 9.5 Literature Review - County

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Breckland Council Homelessness Strategy (2008)	This document is out of date and currently awaiting a review.	-	-	-
Breckland Housing Strategy. Building Futures, Meeting Needs. (2010 - 2013)	<p>Our Vision :- "Meet the needs of our communities to live in good quality housing of their choice, with the support they need to meet their aspirations."</p> <p>The Housing strategy has been developed to provide the direction of travel for the district for the next five years and to provide a deliverable action plan to meet the needs of our community.</p> <p>The aspiration for housing is to increase the number of affordable and quality homes available in the district.</p> <p>The three housing priorities are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Assist a wide range of vulnerable residents to be able to live independently *Improve the quality of homes provided by public and private sectors in Breckland Council *Promote better access to affordable housing for local people <p>Key Action 1: Ensuring everyone has access to an affordable decent home Key Action 2: Creating greater housing options to provide choice and independence Key Action 3: Removing health inequalities Key Action 4: Promote independent living Key Action 5: Encouraging sustainable lifestyles</p>	Does not set targets.	The Local Plan facilitates the delivery of housing.	<p>Improve the quality of where people live.</p> <p>Improve health of the population.</p> <p>Improve accessibility to essential services and facilities</p> <p>Provide a decent home for all.</p>
Breckland Council Corporate Plan 2015 - 2019	The vision is that 'Breckland is a place of opportunity and ambition for all.'	Does not set targets.	The Local Plan is a Breckland	Reduce anti-social behaviour.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Corporate Priorities 2011-15</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting Breckland to develop and thrive 2. Providing the right services, at the right time in the right way 3. Developing the local economy to be vibrant with continued growth 4. Enabling stronger, more independent communities 		Council document and must be in keeping with these values and priorities.	<p>Improve the quality of where people live</p> <p>Encourage community identity and welfare.</p>
A Strategy for Gypsies and Travellers in Norfolk (2005-2008)	<p>Establish more stopping places for Gypsies and Travellers in a way that is fair and transparent.</p> <p>An update is being produced which will be expanded to include Suffolk. Likely adoption date is late Autumn 2012.</p>	Does not set targets	<p>Develop policies and proposals that address the identified need in Breckland of the Gypsy and Traveller communities.</p>	<p>Reduce poverty and social exclusion.</p> <p>Provide a decent home for all.</p> <p>Improve accessibility for those most in need.</p>
Gypsy and Traveller Strategy: A Partnership Document for Norfolk and Suffolk (2012)	<p>The Gypsy and Traveller Strategy will cover Norfolk and Suffolk, as the county councils have merged resources making the service more efficient. The new merged service will continue to support Gypsies and Travellers by providing a framework for:</p> <p>*Improving community cohesion by promoting good relations between Gypsies and Travellers and settled communities;</p> <p>*Increasing awareness and understanding of Gypsy and Traveller needs, culture and lifestyle;</p>	Does not set targets.	<p>Develop policies and proposals that address the identified need in Breckland of the Gypsy and Traveller communities.</p>	<p>Reduce poverty and social exclusion.</p> <p>Provide a decent home for all.</p> <p>Improve accessibility for those most in need.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Managing unauthorised encampments in Norfolk and Suffolk, helping to ensure that accommodation needs and other welfare issues are Addressed;</p> <p>8Further generating knowledge and understanding of hate crime and incidents and encouraging Gypsy and Traveller communities to report them;</p> <p>*Working to reduce and eliminate harassment and discrimination towards Gypsy and Traveller communities;</p> <p>*Improving fire safety and personal welfare for Gypsies and Travellers in Norfolk and Suffolk</p> <p>*Improving access to learning for pre-school children, young people and adults on Gypsy and Traveller sites and encampments;</p> <p>Reduce health inequalities, improve health and well being and promote health education and awareness amongst Gypsies and Travellers.</p> <p>The strategy shows how agencies and authorities can work cohesively to address the key issues facing Gypsies and Travellers. It has been influenced by, and complements both the “working together” conference and the three Gypsy and Traveller subgroups which operate across Norfolk and Suffolk.</p>			
Breckland Council – Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (June 2005)	Areas of Breckland will be protected from development as a result of a likelihood of flooding or unacceptable risk of flooding.	Does not set targets.	Any land identified for development in Local Plan should	Provide a decent home for all.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
			be at least possible risk of flooding. Do not allocate sites for development that are at risk of flooding.	Improve the quality of where people live. Improve health of the population. Adapt to Climate Change.
Economic Prosperity Strategy (Breckland Local Strategic Partnership, 2006)	Migrated into the Breckland Integrated Delivery Document, discussed below.	-	-	-
Employment Growth Study 2013	Evidence to decide the level of employment growth required within Breckland over the plan period. In addition the study also considers whether Breckland should retain existing and allocated employment sites in the District and provide sites for particular uses.	Assessment of the demand for the supply of employment land by market segments over the plan period A forecast scenario showing population and employment change by sector over the period to 2031	Implications for policies and proposals, such as: *Safeguarding of existing employment sites and allocations for continued employment use or alternatively released for housing or mixed use; *Land should be identified for business development, and if so what kinds of activity, in what	Rewarding and satisfying employment. Encourage and accommodate new and existing business. Encourage sustained economic growth. Enhance the image of the area as a business location.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
REV ACTIVE	<p>Actively targeting business wastage and inefficiency along the A11 corridor in Norfolk, REV ACTIVE is a three-year package of free, confidential and impartial support for small and medium-sized enterprises along the A11 corridor in Norfolk.</p> <p>REV ACTIVE actively identifies those SMEs with the greatest potential to improve their resource efficiency and reduce carbon emissions and works with them to realise this potential and the associated business benefits: reduced costs; comparative advantage; business growth and resilience.</p> <p>REV ACTIVE provides systematic Reviews of business premises and operations by experts and 'hands on' assistance – fully-costed business cases for change – identifying, quantifying and prioritising the various opportunities and their paybacks. Coupled with follow-on support and business grants this eliminates many of the traditional barriers to business resource efficiency.</p> <p>The focus throughout is on low cost/no cost opportunities bottom line benefits and short payback periods.</p>	Does not set targets	<p>locations and with what characteristics. *What forms of assistance might be required to make sites viable.</p> <p>Targets businesses along the A11, including Snetterton Heath and Attleborough.</p>	<p>Encourage sustained economic growth.</p> <p>To make the District an economically prosperous place which attracts and supports local businesses and encourage local enterprise. Enhance the image of the area as a business location.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Securing Biodiversity in Breckland</p> <p>Guidance for conservation and research. First Report of the Breckland Biodiversity Audit.</p> <p>Authors: Paul M. Dolman, Christopher J. Panter, Hannah L. Mossman</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The BBA identified priority species for conservation in Breckland, including large numbers of BAP, RDB and range-restricted species. <input type="checkbox"/> A key element has been to develop an evidence-based approach to understanding the requirements of these priority species and providing guidelines for their conservation. <input type="checkbox"/> Ecological requirements of priority species for conservation in Breckland have been collated, and synthesised, integrating across numerous individual priority species to produce management guidance for multi-species assemblages. <p>The BBA has demonstrated the outstanding importance of Breckland for UK biodiversity. We have established that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> At least 12,845 species have been recorded from Breckland. <input type="checkbox"/> Of these, 2,149 are priority species for conservation in Breckland, many more than previously realised. <input type="checkbox"/> 28% of all the priority BAP species in the UK occur in Breckland. <input type="checkbox"/> 72 species have their UK distribution restricted to or have a primary stronghold in Breckland. Although Breckland has long been recognised for its distinctive biodiversity, this is the first time that the number of regional specialist species has been quantified. <p>Recommendations for management of dry terrestrial habitats</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Attleborough is on the periphery of the Brecks area.</p>	<p>Protect and conserve Biodiversity</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Large numbers of priority species require heavy and intense grazing, this should be implemented across large parts of most heathland sites. <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of heather (<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>) should not be an obstacle to heavy grazing as retention of mature heather should not be an objective of management for priority species. <input type="checkbox"/> Physical disturbance should be applied to a substantial part of all terrestrial sites to provide conditions required by large numbers of priority species. <input type="checkbox"/> Physical disturbance is a key tool in mitigating deleterious effects of nitrogen deposition and eutrophication. <input type="checkbox"/> Heterogeneity, with areas of lighter grazing, structurally diverse swards, and the juxtaposition of ungrazed elements (including ploughed or cultivated ungrazed margins within or alongside heath sites) all provide for additional species assemblages. <input type="checkbox"/> Management should not be approached with the hope of keeping things from changing, rather management should be dynamic, episodic and disruptive as gradual recovery from grazing or disturbance provides conditions and structures not found on homogenously managed sites. <input type="checkbox"/> Important assemblages that require physically disturbed ungrazed vegetation, including bare ground and ruderal plant communities, are best supported on arable field margins, through cultivated margin 			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>prescriptions, in the forest landscape, along lightly grazed margins of large grazed heathlands, or in brown-field sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Large lightly grazed heathlands provide opportunities for recreation of breck arable and ruderal habitats through mechanical disturbance and cultivation. <input type="checkbox"/> Brown field sites require mechanical management to create exposures of bare sand, gravel and chalk. <input type="checkbox"/> Areas of uncertainty and recommendations for further research and survey identified. <p>Recommendations for management of wetlands: fen, pingos and meres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Scrub and woodland should be largely removed from fen and wetland sites. <input type="checkbox"/> A range of grazed and tall vegetation structures should be created. <input type="checkbox"/> On large wetland complexes this may be achieved by flexible extensive grazing, while on smaller or wooded sites mechanical management may be required. <p>Strategic recommendations</p> <p>Sites should no longer be considered in isolation, but management priorities should be considered that strategically integrate across multiple sites in the landscape.</p> <p>Adjacent sites should be combined into larger contiguous integrated units.</p>			

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	<p>Biodiversity resilience of sites will be enhanced by developing connectivity networks that are best achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Buffering existing track-ways and track verges with cultivated margins through agri-environmental agreements in the arable landscape. <input type="checkbox"/> Creating broad rural and disturbed highways for invertebrate and plant dispersal (by percolation) through the forest landscape. 			
Draft Central Norfolk Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2015)	<p>The CNSHMA identified the extent of the housing market area and assesses the objectively assessed need for the area.</p> <p>The central Norfolk housing market area is made of land within five local authority Districts:</p> <p>Breckland Council, Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk Council and North Norfolk District Council. The document provides housing targets for the individual Districts and considers individual housing types.</p>	<p>Sets a housing target for the District of 597 new homes per annum over the period 2012-2036</p>	<p>Implications for housing policy i.e appropriate types of housing to meet demand, affordable housing target and housing market target.</p>	<p>Reduce poverty and social exclusion.</p> <p>Provide a decent home for all.</p> <p>Reduce anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Improve accessibility for those most in need.</p> <p>Improve the quality of where people live</p> <p>Maintain and enhance the quality of townscapes.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Rural East Anglia Partnership - Breckland Housing Needs Study (2007).</p>	<p>*Ensure understanding of the housing situation and requirement in Breckland. *Focus on the need and demand for affordable housing within Breckland. *Provide a variety of housing, particularly in terms of tenure and price and a mix in terms of different types of household.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Implications for housing policy</p>	<p>Reduce poverty and social exclusion. Provide a decent home for all. Reduce anti-social behaviour. Improve accessibility for those most in need. Improve the quality of where people live Maintain and enhance the quality of townscapes.</p>
<p>Breckland District, Landscape Character Assessment, May 2007 (Land Use Consultants)</p>	<p>Identifies various Landscape Characters within the district. Establish that all landscapes are valuable. Outlines management objectives which seek to: *Conserve existing character of landscape *Enhance the existing character of landscape *Restore/re-create some key aspects of the landscape</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Take into account Landscape Character and protection in policies.</p>	<p>Conserve, enhance and identified landscape characters.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Breckland District Settlement Fringe Landscape Assessment, July 2007. (Land Use Consultants)	Assesses the sensitivities to development of the landscapes which surround the candidate local service centres and towns in Breckland. Sets out detailed considerations in respect of landscape management and design principles for future development	Does not set targets.	Assess impact of development on landscapes on the edge of settlements when allocating areas for growth	Avoid development on highly sensitive landscape characters
Breckland Environment Strategy 2008-2013	To ensure that the Sustainable Community Strategy, Local Area Agreement and Local Development Framework adequately address the 3 overarching environmental aims, Breckland's key challenges, and opportunities. Development of policies relating to new developments (and thus the transport required to an from these) to reduce the need for transportation, largely via the Sustainability assessment that is now feeding into our Local Development Framework. Develop Sustainable Design and Construction Policies within the Local Development Framework. Undertake research into the effects of proposed growth in the Breckland Local Development Framework on the European Designations with specific reference to the Woodlark, Nightjar and stone curlew.		Ensure policies and reduce contributions to climate change Ensure policies do not harm the natural or built environment.	Reduce contributions to climate change Protect, conserve and expand biodiversity. Maintain and enhance the built and historic environment
Breckland Stage 1 Water Cycle Study (2008)	This study highlights important sustainability issues in relation to water quality in the River Thet downstream of the Attleborough Waste Water Treatment Works. The study identifies possible solutions and a further Stage 2 study has been prepared to further examine the possible solutions.	Does not set targets.	Ensure significant development is phased until after infrastructure improvements to	Develop and monitor objectives on river water quality.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Securing Biodiversity in Breckland: Guidance and Recommendations for Conservation and Research. First Report of the Breckland Biodiversity Audit. (2010)</p>	<p>Identify priority species for conservation in Breckland by species. Establish the ecological requirements of priority species for conservation in Breckland, ensuring they are integrated across numerous individual priority species to produce management guidance for multi-species assemblages.</p>	<p>Does not set targets but gives recommendations.</p>	<p>the Wastewater treatment works are made.</p>	
<p>Econets (2007)</p>	<p>This work has been produced by the Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership's Ecological Network Topic Group. There are a number of GIS layers and reports used in deriving an ecological network map (or more accurately ecological network maps) for Norfolk. The information is presented to enable users to manipulate the information for their own purposes and, along with the accompanying reports, to provide an open and accountable record of how the maps were derived.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Ensure biodiversity is protected through site allocations. Biodiversity management priorities should be considered strategically creating integration across numerous sites, rather than individually.</p> <p>The indicative map provides a generalised representation of an ecological network and is useful at a broad level and in providing the context for the more detailed District maps.</p>	
<p>Core Strategy (Adopted in 2009)</p>	<p>The Core Strategy element of the DPD is central to achieving the above aims and provides the long-term vision for the District to 2026. The LDF period to 2026</p>	<p>Does set some targets such as</p>	<p>The Local Plan must take the</p>	<p>All are relevant.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>will meet the specific requirements of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England to 2021 including the need to deliver 15,200 homes and at least 6,000 jobs between 2001 and 2021. However, a requirement of PPS3 'Housing' is to have a demonstrable 15 year housing land supply and this requires that the LDF goes beyond 2021 to 2026. This will mean delivering a further 3,900 homes between 2021 and 2026, bringing the District total for 2001-2026 to 19,100 net new homes.</p>	<p>jobs, housing numbers and direction of growth.</p>	<p>Core Strategy in to consideration.</p>	
<p>Breckland Integrated Delivery Document 2010 Capita Symonds/Breckland Council</p>	<p>This is the first prioritised Infrastructure delivery document to be prepared for Breckland. The purpose of this document is to identify the strategic housing and infrastructure priorities that need to be provided as part of the delivery of sustainable communities in the District. Therefore, as well as setting out the scope, spatial extent, and cost of housing and infrastructure projects, this document will also include a timetable to delivery the projects that will realise the Council's vision. This document will also identify for the first time key priorities and outline how particular projects are to be funded as well as highlighting any funding gaps that may be evident and how to fill them.</p> <p>This document focuses on the delivery of strategic infrastructure projects and services which are identified in Council strategies. This document has not identified or assessed wider infrastructure associated with development sites, such as open spaces, on-site highway improvements and standard developer contributions towards education and libraries. These aspects will be assessed and their economic viability</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Identifies infrastructure priorities the Breckland Area.</p>	<p>Population and health, historic environment, townscape and landscape, climate change, access to services, soil and water resources.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>tested as part of the forthcoming Breckland Community Infrastructure Levy Document which is currently being prepared. Additionally, a number of organisations are still preparing infrastructure projects, such as health facilities, which will be assessed in reviews of this document once the detail of those projects are established. This document is a 'live' document which will be reviewed and refreshed.</p> <p>The six individual projects that make up the Attleborough and Snetterton Spatial Package. These are as follows:</p> <p>A1: Snetterton Energy supply Provide additional electrical energy supply to Snetterton Heath employment area.</p> <p>A2: Sustainable Transport improvements to Snetterton Increased bus services between Attleborough and Snetterton, increased use of Eccles Road Station to serve Snetterton Heath, and use of rail head to limit road freight.</p> <p>A3: Attleborough Waste Water Treatment Delivery of upgrades to Attleborough WWTW to enable increased treatment capacity arising from new growth.</p> <p>A4: Education provision Relocate the existing Chapel Road specialist needs school to provide approximately 100 specialist needs pupil places.</p> <p>A5: Attleborough southern distributor road Development of a new road link between the A1077 Buckenham Road and the A11. Note: This project does not include any upgrading of the A11 junctions themselves.</p> <p>A6: Attleborough town centre gyratory improvements and junctions Improvements to town centre gyratory and capacity improvements to existing junction(s) on the A11 trunk road.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Breckland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2007 Update (Feb 2008)	Provides a technical analysis of flood risk to inform policies and allocations within the LDDs. Provides an update to the 2005 SFRA to ensure compliance with PPS25.	Does not set targets/	Avoid allocating development in areas at risk of flooding identified in the SFRA	Minimise the risk of flooding
Breckland Housing Needs Survey (2010)	<p>The 2010 Breckland Housing Needs Survey is as a refresh of the secondary data from the original 2006 survey.</p> <p>In summary, the present market (summer 2009) is a very changed market place from when the fieldwork for the original survey was completed in summer 2006. The market difficulties have brought problems for volume house builders with site viability questioned given the current market. The will have an effect this will have on delivery of affordable housing in terms of numbers. There are also forthcoming changes, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy. Shared ownership, or Homebuy continues to be popular. The main issue is the availability of finance with local brokers.</p> <p>The study revised information on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *National, Housing Market Area (HMA)-wide and local picture. *Prices in adjoining areas. *Survey of asking prices for sales and lettings. *Affordable housing. *House price information used to assess local affordability. *Homeless households. 	Does not set targets. Provides advice for determining planning applications.		To ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Committed supply. *Annual supply of social rented housing. *Comparing prices in neighbouring areas.</p>			
<p>A11 Energy Study (2008)</p>	<p>Assessed the energy and power demand of the likely growth in housing and employment in each area. Breckland District is expected to add 15,200 homes to its existing stock by 2021, with a further 3,800 for the period of 2021-2031. A need for 6,000 jobs has also been identified.</p> <p>Solutions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *require increased supply capacities for electricity supply along the A11 corridor. *There is sufficient infrastructure of high an intermediate to supply all demand along the A11 corridor. Extra connects will be required in Theford and Attleborough, and Shetterton gas demands are uncertain. 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Stage 2 study will develop local energy solutions.</p>	<p>Improve infrastructure for businesses. Improve the Efficiency of the local economy Reduce the contribution to climate change.</p>
<p>Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (2014 and 2015)</p>	<p>The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) report considers the market towns and Local Service Centres within Breckland and seeks to identify land with potential for residential development and assesses that potential.</p> <p>The results of the study set out the expected capacity of developable sites across the locations identified in the Spatial Strategy for Breckland.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Assessment of land availability to inform housing levels and locational strategy within the Local Plan</p>	<p>To ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Retail Study (2014)	<p>The objectives of the study are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *assess the future need and (residual) capacity for retail, distributed by town centre for the period up to 2031; *assess the existing supply and demand for retail uses and the role played by each of the centres; *review the existing retail hierarchy and identify any deficiencies in the network including, where appropriate, the scope for extending the primary shopping area and/or town centre; *assess the implications of the planned scale of population growth; *identify, where appropriate, the scope and implications for accommodating potential growth and meeting the identified need; and provide advice on policies to be included in Local Plan documents to address future needs. <p>The report quantifies the shopping needs up to 2031 in the district.</p>	<p>Whilst not targets as such, provides floorspace figures to guide provision in the district.</p>	<p>The study will influence evidence for policy formulation within Local Plans.</p>	<p>Improve infrastructure for businesses.</p> <p>Improve the Efficiency of the local economy</p> <p>Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.</p>
Open Space Assessment (2015)	<p>The 2015 Open Space assessment is update has built on the work carried out within the initial 2007 and 2010 assessments. The requirement to undertake this audit is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. The findings were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *792 sites have been identified within Breckland District and were consistent with PPG17 typology criteria, this is an increase in the number of sites from 547 in the 2010 survey. *70% of the parishes for not meet the benchmark standard of 2.56ha per 1000 population. *The five market towns have the greatest deficiencies 	<p>Does not set targets. Core Strategy Policy DC11 sets requirements.</p>	<p>The study will influence evidence for policy formulation within the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Improve the quality and quantity of public accessible open space.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*With the exception of Lexham every parish is deficient in children's play space</p> <p>80% of dwellings within Breckland are within 1.2km of an outdoor sports facility</p>			
Water Cycle Study Stage 2 (2010)	<p>The Phase 2 Water Cycle Study continued on from the Phase 1 studies and was undertaken for growth across the district, including Theford. It has taken the findings of the Outline studies, and determined the detailed solutions required to deliver growth for the specific identified preferred development allocations, including detailed information on the cost of this infrastructure and the policy required to deliver it.</p>	Does not set targets.	The study will influence evidence for policy formulation within the Local Plan.	Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems.
Learning from the Past (Stott et al 2009)	<p>The concept of community is a slippery term and one that may be interpreted in a myriad of ways.</p> <p>Neighbourhood design and layout can facilitate community cohesion, interaction and integration but it does not determine it.</p> <p>Housing type and tenure are likely to play important role in creating cohesive and sustainable communities.</p> <p>Neighbourhood identity and reputation are established early on in a development and are resilient to change.</p> <p>Involvement, not mere consultation, of existing (nearby) and prospective communities is recommended to engender a sense of belonging and attachment and minimise potential tensions.</p> <p>Community development workers play a critical role in developing new communities.</p> <p>Community buildings provide space and opportunity.</p>	Does not set targets	Has influenced the proposed policies in the Community section.	Population Inclusive Communities

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	Community building designs need to balance perceived community needs, financial and environmental sustainability.			
Breckland Council Affordable Housing Policy (2009)	Refers to DC4 and DC5 of the Core Strategy. Provides detail on reasoning for the Council's approach as well as information on negotiating numbers, involvement of registered providers, preferred tenure mix, design and quality, who will live in the properties and planning obligations.	The target for affordable housing is 40% for developments of 5 dwellings or more or on an area of 0.17Ha or larger.	This may change depending on outcome of local level work in respect to future housing needs.	To ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing.
Rural East Anglia Partnership Strategic Housing Market Assessment Technical Appendix January 2010 update to secondary data (2010)	In terms of deprivation, none of the three REAP authorities ranked even in the top third most deprived authorities. The population profile of REAP is skewed towards those over 45, with the Rural East Anglia area containing a significantly higher proportion of people over retirement age than England and the East of England region as a whole. Breckland lower quartile earnings have barely increased between 2006 and 2009, whilst North Norfolk saw a 33% rise for the same figure. REAP demonstrates a high proportion of dwellings in the lowest council tax bands, with 27% of dwellings in Band A compared with 25% in England and 14% in the East of England. Conversely, there is a much lower percentage of highly banded properties. Average house prices in Rural East Anglia are around 17% lower than the average for England & Wales and 5% below the East of England average.	Does not set targets.	The update provides an insight into various key statistics for the area. It is an update of the 2007 assessment reviewed earlier in this chapter.	To ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>The key employment sectors in Rural East Anglia are distribution, hotels & restaurants, public administration, education & health, and manufacturing. This is very different to the East of England as a whole, with many more employees in manufacturing and construction, and many fewer people in transport and communications, and finance, IT and other business activities.</p> <p>On the unemployment side, rates remain comparable to the region and nation, with the REAP claimant count having largely followed the national and regional trends, with sharp falls from 1997 to 2001, stability from 2001-2006 and sharp rises thereafter.</p> <p>Within the sub-region, North Norfolk residents are much more likely, and Breckland residents much less likely, to be well-qualified.</p>			
<p>Site Specifics Policies and Proposals DPD. (2012)</p>	<p>Takes account of national, regional and strategic planning policies;</p> <p>*Identifies sites for, and requirements of, major development to deliver the adopted Spatial Strategy and Core Strategy policy;</p> <p>*Provides the framework of policies for assessing planning applications on allocated sites;</p> <p>*Enables infrastructure and service providers to bring forward their services when needed by new development;</p>	<p>Does set targets in terms of numbers and density for housing.</p>	<p>The Local Plan must take in to account policies and allocations within this document.</p>	<p>All issues are relevant.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>*Enables the public to be fully involved in developing local policies and proposals; and is accompanied by an updated Proposals Map including revised settlement boundaries in accordance with the adopted Core Strategy.</p> <p>*The Site Specifics Policies and Proposals DPD covers the whole of the District with the exception of *Thetford and Attleborough and Snetterton Heath where two separate Area Action Plans are being prepared.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Theftord Area Action Plan DPD (2012)</p>	<p>The Theftord Area Action Plan (TAAP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Takes account of national, regional and strategic planning policies; *Identifies sites for, and requirements of, major developments to deliver the adopted Spatial Strategy and Core Strategy policy; *Provides the framework of policies for assessing planning applications on allocated sites; *Enables infrastructure and service providers to bring forward their services when needed by new development; *Enables the public to be fully involved in developing local policies and proposals; and *Is accompanied by an updated Policies Map including a revised Settlement Boundary for Theftord in accordance with the adopted Core Strategy. *The TAAP covers the whole of the Parish of Theftord and parts of the parishes of Croxton and Brettenham and Kilverstone. 	<p>Does set some targets in respect to jobs, housing, allotment provision, sports, energy standards etc..</p>	<p>The Local Plan must take in to account policies and allocations within this document.</p>	<p>All issues are relevant.</p>

Table 9.6 Literature Review - District

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Attleborough Land Use and Transport Strategy (Mott Macdonald 2008)</p>	<p>Document tests the impact upon transport of three growth options. Option 3 being the Preferred Option in the Breckland Core Strategy Preferred Options.</p> <p>The document also provides some action plan policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate and develop cycle routes to encourage uptake of cycling in the town. • Improve walking environment, by widening certain footways and improve walking/cycling and access to train station. • Improve bus services to and from Attleborough. Improve access to public transport for those with Disabilities. • Investigate direct rail services between Attleborough and London. • Improve network capacity at junctions where arterial routes meet one-way system Controlled provision and availability of car parking to manage urban congestion. • Need for further investigation into capacity concerns on one-way system, which could include making one-way streets available for two-way traffic. • Introduce measures to promote modal shift. • Enhance the built environment to make cycle and walking journeys more attractive. • Ensure new development is located to reduce the need to travel. • Produce TIA to accompany locations of new developments. • Construction of new southern link road to accommodate planned housing growth. 	<p>Does not set targets</p>	<p>Ensure new development is located to reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>Encourage modal shift.</p> <p>Manage car parking availability.</p> <p>Take account of issues raised in study.</p>	<p>Improve the quality and accessibility of services.</p> <p>Help people gain access to work.</p> <p>Reducing contributions to climate change.</p>
<p>Attleborough Propose Link Road</p>	<p>Document tests the proposed routes for a link road in Attleborough for the strategic growth of Attleborough. The document assesses 18 link road options, four east and six west and eight combined. The issues under consideration are;</p>	<p>Does not set targets</p>	<p>Ensure any future link road is the most</p>	<p>Improve infrastructure for businesses.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Solutions (2008)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junctions with existing B1077. • Local topography. • Railway Line • Environmental Constraints (landscape and biodiversity) • Proposed development sites. • Residential amenity. • Public utilities. <p>The study concluded that all proposed routes are in principle viable options.</p>			<p>appropriate for Attleborough taking in to consideration full assessment of social, environmental and economic conditions.</p>	<p>Improve provision and quality of premises.</p> <p>Improve the physical environment of towns.</p> <p>Avoid development on highly sensitive landscape characters.</p> <p>Conserve, enhance and identified landscape characters.</p> <p>Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land</p> <p>Protect and conserve Biodiversity.</p> <p>Improve the health and well-being of the Population.</p> <p>Improve the quality and accessibility of services.</p> <p>Help people gain access to work.</p> <p>Improve the Efficiency of the local economy</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Water Cycle Study Stage 2 - Attleborough Findings (2010)	<p>The stage 2 WCS is required to demonstrate that there is a solution to the treatment of waste water from growth in Attleborough which will ensure that additional discharge will not impact on down stream quality and will allow future compliance with WFD standards.</p> <p>The assessment takes in to account the proposed growth within Attleborough up to 2026 and the impacts and mitigation required to ensure that future water quality and waste water treatment WFD standards for 'good ecological status' without causing deterioration to the environment.</p> <p>Options available consist of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrades to WwTW or which has been identified as feasible. • Building a new works downstream of the existing WwTW. • Transfer of untreated wastewater to Watton of Thetford. • Transfer contains constraints. • Transfer of treated waste water. 	Does not set targets.	Recommended that the phasing of growth in Attleborough beyond 2015 (current planned for upgrades) and hence up to 1,500 new homes is not commended until the start of the Asset Management Plan (2020) which is the earliest at which a process solution could be operational to accept the additional growth.	Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural storage systems.
A11 Energy Study - Stage 2 (Attleborough and Snetterton) (2010).	<p>The study considers Attleborough, Thetford (a national Growth Point) and Snetterton Heath in terms of sufficient energy supply relative to the planned growth. The study looks at local energy network capacity demand and solutions, Options for local renewable energy supply, Potential for one or more EESCO/ESCO; and development plan policies.</p> <p>Whilst gas supply is not expected to be a significant issue, electricity supply is likely to require significant upgrades in infrastructure if the proposed growth plans are to be fully implemented.</p>	Does not set targets.	Assess energy option for Attleborough and Snetterton Heath which should be addressed with the AAP.	Reducing contributions to climate change.

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Stage 2 of the A11 Energy Study follows on the findings and conclusions reached after completion of Stage 1 of the "A11 Energy Study". Stage 1 of the work was completed in April 2008 and aimed to understand if the growth as planned at the three locations could take place or whether the energy supply constraints are too great that the growth at one or more of the locations will not be viable. Stage 1 detailed the likely rise in energy demand that would occur due to new developments and job creation in the local area, under a number of different scenarios, and outlined a number of strategic solutions as to how the demand could be accommodated. In particular Stage 1 concentrated on the peak power and gas demands and the ability of the infrastructure to meet these peaks. This is different from meeting the annual energy demand.</p> <p>Elements of Stage 1 were revisited in Stage 2 since some of the scenarios and options had been updated following the Inspector's Report on the Core Strategy.</p>			
<p>Breckland Core Strategy Infrastructure Study (Attleborough Findings) (2008)</p>	<p>This study is concerned with identifying the infrastructure requirements based on 4,000 and employment growth across the following areas in Attleborough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport • Utilities • Community and Social Infrastructure (e.g. education, health care facilities, fire and police stations, affordable housing, community / village halls, and green infrastructure). • Green infrastructure (e.g. open space requirements) 	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>Recommends further work required for the AHSAAP in terms of infrastructure requirements.</p>	<p>Improve infrastructure for businesses.</p> <p>Improve provision and quality of premises.</p> <p>Improve the physical environment of towns.</p> <p>Improve the health and well-being of the Population.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>The required infrastructure has significant costs attached that cannot be met entirely by existing government funding sources and developer contributions alone. The report identifies more innovative approaches to meeting the infrastructure funding gap and these require further exploration.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A much more detailed assessment of the impacts of growth on the existing and proposed transport network is required. • It is essential that negotiations with utilities providers are started as soon as the preferred option is approved so that the necessary upgrade works are programmed into the various utilities provider's asset management plans • Discussion in to innovative funding solutions given the funding gap. • A more detailed masterplanning exercise is undertaken to ensure that the delivery of housing is brought forward in a way that enhances the town and provides balanced and sustainable development. 			<p>Improve the quality and accessibility of services.</p> <p>Help people gain access to work.</p> <p>Improve the Efficiency of the local economy</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Attleborough Strategic Masterplan (2011)</p>	<p>Elements of the Baseline Review and Analysis and the Masterplan Options. Report are summarised in this document, to provide continuity and consistency, and to ensure that the Strategic Masterplan remains embedded in the wider context of development in Attleborough. The Strategic Masterplan has been derived from a series of design iterations, of reviewing constraints and opportunities, assessing potential development options and winnowing out the less robust and deliverable proposals. A preferred development scenario has been recommended that is considered to be viable, sensitive to the landscape setting, complementary to the physical form and structure of the town and, crucially, with the potential to maximise the longer-term benefits for the residents of Attleborough (both existing and new).</p> <p>The purpose of the Strategic Masterplan is to identify and explain the form and disposition of any future urban extension to Attleborough. It produced and assessed three options:</p> <p>Option 1 - Development Concentrated to the West of the B1077</p> <p>Option 2 - Development Spread Equally on Both Sides of the B1077</p> <p>Option 3 - Development Located in a Series of Dispersed Neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Option 2, the Preferred Option, was, therefore, refined by the URS/Scott Wilson team, with a view to testing the assumptions made regarding the location, nature and scale of development (i.e., roughly 50% of development to either side of the B1077), the disposition of the development parcels and the neighbourhoods created as a consequence, and the relationship between the built development and its landscape setting. While the Strategic Masterplan is primarily based on Option 2, some elements of Options 1 and 3, which were deemed by the Client Group and the Attleborough Task Force to be worthy of inclusion were added to Option 2 during the revision process.</p>	<p>Does not set targets.</p>	<p>This piece of evidence base will inform the ASHAAP land allocations and policies.</p>	<p>Enable decent and affordable housing.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>As a consequence, the green links that are an important element of Option 3 are retained in the Strategic Masterplan, albeit in a less extravagant way. In addition, more development was located to the north of the railway line, in larger infill sites located within and adjacent to the existing urban area of Attleborough.</p>			

Literature Review - Attleborough

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership For Norfolk and Suffolk. Business Plan (2012)</p>	<p>Tourism We will deliver a coherent, scalable marketing and advertising strategy for all the iconic brands that exist in New Anglia such as North Norfolk, Suffolk Heritage Coast. Through consultation we will rationalise the provider base, introduce an online one stop shop and information platform and implement best practice models – 1,200 jobs 2011/12</p> <p>Energy Support to EEEGR to create 200 jobs in the next year as pump priming for part of the inward investment in energy forecast at £50+bn and the potential of 10-15,000 new skilled jobs in New Anglia. Cost estimate of £1m by doubling the number of business opportunity events, extending the existing funded initiative aimed at major energy players to invest in the region, 3 outward investment missions per annum, advisory support to SMEs and 1-2-1 case work, two flagship conferences per year, improved IT facilities and skill development support.</p> <p>Energy Support funding for land availability for contractors, manufacturers, operators. Skills development on the back of specific industry requirements Continued marketing for inward investment Integration and innovation from local New Anglia companies and supply chains Raise the profile of energy in New Anglia to national and global level achieving a virtuous circle of continued inward investment and job creation</p> <p>Broadband - Norfolk Pursuing the development of a wider and higher speed service utilising bids to BDUK pilot funding and EEDA's Songbird funding for 85% coverage and remaining 15% through the public sector network. Lobbying commercial providers to speed up commercial roll out in Norfolk.</p>	<p>No targets identified.</p>	<p>Implications for economic development policies.</p>	<p>Encourage sustained economic and tourism growth.</p>

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Infrastructure</p> <p>Improvements in road, rail and utilities will require continual lobbying and support just to maintain the status quo in the current climate</p> <p>Realistic priorities will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of A11 dualling at earliest possible date • A14 improvements • Felixstowe to Rugby rail improvement for freight • Norwich to London in 90 minutes • Kings Lynn to London capacities and rolling stock • East – West rail service • Upgrading water supply and capture • Utility supply for housing growth areas and potential development areas such as Snetterton Heath • Land availability at Ports <p>Business Support</p> <p>Business Link migrates to a centrally run internet and telephone advisory service from October, we do not think this is conducive to increasing the number of business start ups, we believe will need a complementary number of services to create sustainable growth and jobs</p> <p>Support would cover:</p> <p>Start up workshops, access to finance, coaching for growth, business mentoring, specialist advice for exporters and manufacturers, provision of business incubation space, chargeable workshops, networking and consultation connection. Cost is forecast at £2.9mpa partially offset by charges, RDPE fund application and RDF bid to produce 700 additional start ups per annum, 1000 additional jobs created and sustained and £1m saved by businesses in energy reduction advice.</p>			

Document Title (Policy / Para. No.)	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
A47 - Gateway to Growth (New Anglia)	Targeted improvements along the 105 miles of the A47 to encourage a strategic link between central/northern Europe and the Midlands and the North in order to boost economic development of a large part of the East of England and making a significant contribution to the national economic recovery. With a combination of selected dualling, junction improvements and the creation of a new river crossing in Great Yarmouth, there will, within 20 years, be 9,615 more jobs in Norfolk and an increase of £390 million per annum in economic output (GVA).	No targets identified.	Implications for economic development policies.	Encourage sustained economic and growth. Encourage and accommodate new and existing business.
Once in a generation – A rail prospectus for East Anglia	A number of requirements needed are detailed in the short term and medium term to improve the main arterial routes, inter-county routes, feeder routes, branch lines, the freight corridor and service provision, including stations. Whilst the strategy does not appear to impact directly on rail services within Breckland there could be some secondary impacts due other recommendations.	No targets identified within the Breckland District.	Implications for transport policies.	Encourage sustained economic and growth. Encourage efficient patterns of movement to support sustainable patterns of growth.

Table 9.7

10 District Wide Baseline Data

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings	% of dwellings completed on previously developed (brownfield) land.	2014/15	44.81%		Increase amount of completions on previously-developed land.	Much of the future growth of Breckland is to be on greenfield land. Future reduction of PDL as a result of limited remaining brownfield land within the District and the brownfield definition change to no longer include back gardens.	Breckland Annual Monitoring Report 2014/15
		2013/14	34.58%				
		2012/13	55.9%				
		2011/12	62.4%				
2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems	Company estimates of average household consumption (l/head/d).	2009/10	145 (Anglian Water)	146 (Industry Average for England and Wales)	In Future Water, the Government's Water Strategy for England, we outlined our ambition to reduce household water use by at least 20 litres per person per day by 2030. Each person in the UK uses an average 150 litres of water per day, which is higher than many of our northern European neighbours and is unsustainable in the long term, particularly in areas of low annual rainfall.	There has been a steady increase in the household consumption of water. It is believed that there has been no clear underlying increase in per person consumption per year. However it is suggested that lifestyle changes are reflected in the increases in water consumption.	www.ofwat.gov.uk Service and delivery - performance of the water companies in England and Wales annual report, supporting information. (No information available post 2009/10 - Updated 20/10/2015)
		2008/09	147 (Anglian Water)	146 (Industry Average for England and Wales)			
		2007/8	150 (Anglian Water)	147 (Industry Average for England and Wales)			
		2006/7	146 (Anglian Water)	148 (Industry Average for England and Wales)			
		2010		54,452 (England and Wales)			
		2009		54,250 (England and Wales)			
Estimated abstractions from all surface and ground waters (Ml/day) (total).	2008	7,108 (Anglian Water)	54,925 (England and Wales)	Historic abstractions from all surface and ground waters have risen from 1995 due to societal demands, population increase, changing in	www.defra.gov.uk (No information available post 2010 - updated 26/10/2015)		

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality		2007	7,722 (Anglian Water)	57,820 (England and Wales)		household patterns and climate change. However, abstractions appear to be in decline as a result of efficiency measures and legislation. National figure is for England and Wales.	Environment Agency. Note that the EA are in a transition phase as they switch to using the new Water Framework Directive methodologies of assessing river quality. The changes mean the GQA for 2007 is no longer comparable to the historical GQA data set.
		2006	7,751 (Anglia Water)	59,752 (England and Wales)			
	% rivers graded as good and very good biological quality - % length (GQA).	2008	92.81	75.1	Increase in water quality	Biological water quality is generally increasing. National figure is for England and Wales.	
		2007	100	75.3			
		2006	90.64	74.1			
		2008	0	5.3			
		2007	0	5.5			
		2006	0	5.7			
	% rivers graded as good and very good chemical quality - percentage length (GQA)	2008	70.64	81.8	Chemical water quality is generally increasing. National figure is for England and Wales.		
		2007	67.14	94.5			
		2006	64.39	93.7			
	% of rivers in fair chemical quality - percentage length (GQA)	2208	4.56	5.1			
		2007	0.94	5.9			
		2006	8.49	6.9			
Total (net) Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Carbon Dioxide emissions in brackets)	2013		568.3 (467.5)	The UK target is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% compared to the 1990 baseline as set out by the Kyoto Protocol. The Climate Change Act of 2008 established a long-term, legally-binding framework committing	As of 27 May 2015 it was stated that the UK has reduced emissions by 30% (DECC, 2015). Between 1990 and 2009 the sectors contributing most to the decline were Industrial Processes and		
	2012		582.2 (476.3)				
	2011		566.2 (457.5)				

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
					the UK to a reduction of at least 80% below the 1990 baseline by 2050 with an interim target of 34% by 2020.	Waste Management. Industrial Process emissions decreased by 81% due to plant closures and equipment improvements. Waste Management emissions decreased by 70% due to methane recovery and landfill sites. During this same period the only sector that did not show a decrease in emissions was the Transport sector, which increased by 0.1%.	
	Generation of electricity from renewable sources, (GWh)	2014		64,654	The 2009 Renewable Energy Directive sets a target for the UK to achieve 15% of its energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020.	As of June 2009, the East of England remains the leading region for the generation of renewable electricity. It has now	Information Renewable energy in 2011: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/659266/29-renewable-energy-2011-eta-table.pdf Renewable energy in 2012: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/208607/renewable_energy_in_2012.pdf Renewable energy in 2013: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/623358/Renewable_energy_in_2013.pdf Renewable energy in 2014: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/437953/Renewable_energy_in_2014.Pdf (Updated 20/10/2015)
		2013		53,667			
		2012		41,258			
		2011		34,410			
	Installed capacity of sites generating electricity from renewable	2014		24,623	passed its first 500MW of installed capacity, with some 508MW built counting both on and off-shore sources.		
		2013		19,801			
		2012		15,515			
	Sources (MW)	2011		12,309.7			
	Annual average concentration of nitrogen dioxide (µg/m3)	2015	Highest concentrations are in Cities and Towns.				For detailed information visit the Environment Agency website: What's in your backyard? The data is updated annually. (Updated 20/10/2015)

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
	No of days when fine particle concentration found to be in bandings 'moderate' or 'higher' (PM10)	2015					
	% households with at least one car or van	2011	83.1	74.4 (England and Wales)	No set target		2011 Census
		2001	83.09	73.22 (England and Wales)	No set target		2001 Census
	% of persons driving to work by car or van	2001	70.1	55.23 (England and Wales)	No specific targets exist although there is a target for a general decrease in single occupancy car usage.		2001 Census
	Average distance travelled to fixed place of work (km)	2001	17.87	13.31 (England and Wales)	No specific targets exist, although the aim would be to reduce the distance travelled to fixed place of work.	Theiford has a lower average commuting distance than the rest of the district, region and country.	2001 Census
	Amount of CO2 from Road Traffic - Kt	2007	424		See NI186 for targets	In 2007, out of all the Districts in Norfolk, Breckland had the highest figures, closely followed by South Norfolk.	DECC.
2006		420					
2005		431					
	% CO2 from Road Traffic	2007	43%			In Norfolk, in 2007, Breckland had the second highest %. South Norfolk had the highest.	

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
	Per Capita CO2 emissions from Road Traffic Kt	2007	3.26	90% higher than UK Per Capita		Breckland is second to South Norfolk. When compared to the rest of the region and UK, Breckland's per capita emissions from transport are much higher.	
4. Minimise waste production and support the recycling of waste	% of household waste collected which is recycled and composted.	20089	41.79% (12.89% composted)	37 (England)	BDC target of 42% for 09/10	Recycling rates compare very well with regional and national figures. Breckland has improved greatly in the last 2 years with the aid of initiatives of promotion of recycling. Currently a reduction in domestic waste going to landfill.	Breckland Council Environmental Services Team.
		20078	42.44% (11.6% composted)	34.5 (England)			
		20067	39.3 % (11.1% of this is composting)	31 (England)			
5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution	Percentage of people travelling over 10km to work	2011	Data not yet released				Census
		2001	42%	29% (England)			
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	Planning applications approved against Environment Agency advice (or objection) on flood risk grounds.	20089	3	No data	Environment Agency's aim would be for such decisions to be as few as possible.	Breckland has three applications approved contrary to EA advice.	Gov.UKwebsite. High Level Target 5: Development and flood risk in England.
		20078	0	115 (Minor and Major Development)			
		20067	0	106 (Minor and Major Development)			

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
7. Protect, conserve and enhance and expand biodiversity	% of SSSI areas in favourable condition	2015	44%	37.5%	95% of SSSI land to be favourable or recovering condition by 2010. (Defra)	Breckland condition of SSSI's has stayed the same and exceeds the national Information taken from Natural England. Historic data cannot be generated on the Natural England website. (Updated 26/10/2015) statistics as a whole	
		2014	44%				
		2013	45%				
	2012	45%					
	2011	46%					
	% of area unfavourable or recovering condition	2015	48%	58.19%			
		2014	46%				
		2013	44%				
	2012	42%					
	2011	42%					
	% of areas unfavourable or no change condition	2015	6%	2.44%			
		2014	5%				
		2013	8%				
	2012	10%					
	2011	9%					
	% of area in unfavourable or declining condition	2015	2%	1.72%			
		2014	5%				
		2013	3%				
	2012	3%					
2011	3%						
% of area destroyed or part destroyed condition	2015	0%	0.03%				
	2014	0%					
	2013	0%					
2012	0%						
2011	0%						
Number SPA	2015	1	83				
	2014	1					

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
		2013	1				
	Number of SAC	2015	4	254			
		2014	4				
		2013	4				
	Number of Ramsar Sites	2015	1	72			
		2014	1				
		2013	1				
	Change in number and area of designated geological SSSIs and RIGS	2015	0		No set target.	There are 2 RIG in Breckland:	Norfolk Geodiversity Partnership
		2009	0	1		Newton by Castle Acre chalk pit - GR TF 837149.	
		2008	0	3		Gt Hockham erratic boulder - GR TL 953924.	
		2007	1	-6			
	Number of churring male nightjars	2004	351	4606 (UK) (95% confidence level)	National Achieve an increase in the number of churring males to 4800 by 2016. Maintain the current range of nightjar (there were 269 occupied 10 km squares in 2004). Increase the range to 305 occupied ten km squares by 2016 (a 13% range increase in 12 years). In the long term (next 20 years), restore nightjar to parts of its former range in, for example, south-west England, west Midlands, north-west	Breckland figures are for the number of recorded churring males in the Breckland SPA - note that some areas were subject to greater survey efforts than others.	www.norfolkbiodiversity.org www.ukbap.org.uk RSPB

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
					<p>England, south-west Scotland and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Norfolk</p> <p>Maintain as a minimum 313 breeding pairs of nightjar in Norfolk in the existing 2004 range of 14 ten km squares.</p> <p>By increasing the area of suitable habitat, increase the possible breeding and feeding areas for the nightjar, and so provide scope for further population expansion in the county.</p>		
	Number of Stone Curlews Breeding Pairs.	2009	230 (including an estimate for Thetford)	354 (England)	<p>National</p> <p>Increase the breeding population in the present UK range to 200 pairs by 2000 and 300 pairs by 2010.</p> <p>Encourage recolonisation of the past breeding range.</p> <p>Increase the population breeding on semi-natural grassland to 120 pairs by 2000.</p> <p>Norfolk</p> <p>Maintain the breeding population in Breckland (Norfolk as well as Suffolk) at no fewer than 172 pairs.</p>	<p>The stone curlew is a rare and declining species, numbers of which have fallen by 85% in the past 50 years, and more than 50% since 1960. It is now largely restricted to two areas of the country, Breckland and Wessex.</p> <p>Breckland figures are for the Breckland SPA and areas of suitable habitat outside of its immediate boundary.</p> <p>Thetford area and Breckland figures are a minimum as</p>	<p>www.norfolkdiversity.org</p> <p>www.ukbap.org.uk</p> <p>RSPB</p>
		2008	216	351 (England)			
		2007	206	347 (England)			

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
					<p>Increase the breeding population in Norfolk and Suffolk to at least 225 pairs by 2010.</p> <p>Maintain a minimum of 7 breeding pairs in North Norfolk with a target of 15 breeding pairs by 2010.</p> <p>Consolidate and increase the protection, range and numbers of birds in the north-west Norfolk population.</p> <p>Encourage the re-colonisation of the past breeding range in Norfolk and Suffolk.</p> <p>Increase the proportion of population nesting on semi-natural grasslands and grass heaths to 20% where they would be less reliant on intervention and less susceptible to any future changes in farming practice.</p> <p>Maintain a minimum productivity of 0.70 fledged chick per pair by intervention on arable and reserve management where appropriate.</p>	<p>area north of A1066 not monitored in recent years.</p>	
	Number of Woodlark	2006	470 (95% confidence level) (The Brecks)	3064 (95% confidence level) (England)	<p>National</p> <p>Achieve an increase in the number of breeding pairs in the UK, from 1,500 breeding pairs to 2,150 by 2018 (a 43% increase in 12 years).</p>	<p>There are an estimated 3,063 territories in England in 2006. Breckland figures are for the Breckland SPA and areas of suitable habitat</p>	

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
					<p>Increase the range of the woodlark from 90 to 125 ten km squares, including the recolonisation of Wales and south-west England, by 2018.</p> <p>Norfolk</p> <p>Maintain as a minimum 200 breeding pairs of woodlark in Norfolk in the existing range of 16 ten km squares. (Target to be reviewed following the results of the 2006 national survey.)</p> <p>By increasing the area of suitable habitat, increase the possible breeding and feeding areas for the woodlark, and so provide scope for further population expansion in the county.</p>	outside of its immediate boundary.	
8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure within the District	Ha of Green Infrastructure provided with new developments	No data recorded to date. Monitoring required.					
9. Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character	Development meeting Building for Life Standards.	No data recorded to date. Monitoring required Start April 2009.			No target	N/a	N/a
10. Conserve and where appropriate,	Number of listed buildings (all grades)	2015	1536		No set target	N/a	Historic Buildings Team

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
enhance the historic environment		2009	1530				
	Total number of designated conservation areas	2015	50				Historic Buildings Team
	Number of Listed Buildings at Risk (all grades)	2015	31				Historic England
		2009	28				
		2008	28				
		2007	29				

Table 10.1

Social Baseline

Objective	Indicator	Date	Benchmark	East of England	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
11. Improve the health and well being of the population	Total population	2011	131,000	582,400	56,075,900	No target.	UK as a whole has as ageing population. It has been suggested that this is due to the post-World War II baby boom and, to a lesser degree, due to high birth rates in the late 1960s, when national birth rates were falling. Breckland is also a popular destination for retirement and second home owners.	Census 2001 & 2011
		2001	121,418	538,140	52,041,916 (England and Wales)			
	Life Expectancy	2015	80.2 (m)	80.3 (m)	79.4 (m)	No set target. (National figures for England).	General increase in life expectancy.	www.apho.org.uk
			83.8 (f)	83.8 (f)	83.1 (f)			
		2014	80.0 (m)	80.1 (m)	79.2 (m)			
		2013	79.5 (m)	79.6 (m)	78.6 (m)			
			83.3 (f)		82.6 (f)			

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	East of England	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
				83.2 (f)				
		2012	79.5 (m) 83.3 (f)	79.6 (m) 83.2 (f)	78.6 (m) 82.6 (f)			
	Obese Adults (%)	2009	29.1	No data	23.6	General target is to reduce incidences.	General increase in obesity in adults.	
		2008	29.1		23.6			
		2007	24.8		21.8			
	Obesity among primary school aged children in reception year (%)	2015	8.6	No data	9.5	(National Figures for England)	General increase in obesity in year 6 children.	
		2014	8.8		9.3			
		2013	9.0		9.5			
		2012	9.6		9.4			
		2011	8.8		9.8			
	Mortality from Heart Disease and Stroke. Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population under 75 years of age.	2011-13	67.4	69.9	78.2		General decrease in % of incidence.	
		2010-12	70.4	72.6	81.1			
		2009-11	70.4	75	84.4			
12. Reduce and prevent crime	All recorded crimes. Number/Rate per 1,000 population	2010/11	5490	259,655	4,150,097	No set target but general aim to have a reduction in crime.	All crime rates are reducing.	Norfolk Constabulary

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	East of England	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
Rates use mid year population estimates given above.	Dwelling burglary. Number/Rate per 1,000 population	2010/11	1.39	3.73	4.67		Breckland's rates are below regional and national averages. There are pockets of higher crime rates within Breckland.	
	Vehicle crime. Number/Rate per 1,000 population	2010/11	3.74	6.58	8.14			
	Violent crime	Apr-Jun 2015	4.64					
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space	Number/Rate per 1,000 population	Jul- Sep 2014	3.96				There is an under provision within the majority of the district.	Breckland District Council – Open Space Assessment 2007 & 2010 & 2015
		2010/11	8.72	12.12	14.88			
		2015	-53.6ha	No data	No data	All dwellings in major housing areas must be within 1.2km of outdoor sports areas. In terms of children's play areas, all dwellings in housing areas should be within 100m of a LAP, 400m		
	2007	-111.2ha	No data	No data				

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	East of England	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services	Households with difficulty accessing corner shops/supermarkets. Post Office, Doctor/Hospital.	2011	No data	No data	No data	No target	The majority of dwellings within the District are located within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP's surgery	Census
		2001	93.86% of houses within 30minutes public transport of a GP	No data	No data			
15. Redress inequalities relating to age, gender, disability, race, faith,	Area of A1 Class land use developed per year.	2013/2014	1163.15	No data	No data	No target.	The level of A1 floorspace within Breckland has stayed relatively stable in recent years.	Breckland Annual Monitoring Report
		2012/2013	-1346.15			A1 floorspace should be maximised within designated town centres		
		2011/2012	383.65					

Table 10.2

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	East of England	National	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
15. Redress inequalities relating to age, gender, disability, race, faith,	Index of multiple deprivation average score	2015	19.789		N/A	Decrease Breckland's rank in index of multiple deprivation	Ranking from 1 (most deprived in England) to 354 (least deprived in England). Breckland has pockets of deprivation but averages	The English Indices of Deprivation by CLG
		2010						
		2007	15.30					
		2004	14.48					
	2015	142						
	Rank of average score							

location and income.		2010	187				favourably. Its ranking has increased since 2004.	
		2007	213					
		2004	222					
		2015	164					
	Rank of Local Concentration	2010	204					
		2007	218					
		2004	232					
		2015	155					
	Rank of income scale	2010	157					
		2007	159					
		2004	176					
		2015	143					
	Rank of employment scale	2010	165					
		2007	178					
		2004	190					
		2013	8.5%					
	% Households in Fuel Poverty	2010	19.5%	8.8%	16%	Decrease in the percentage of people with fuel poverty.	A household is said to be in fuel poverty if it needs to spend 10% of its income on	Fuel poverty statistics www.gov.uk

	2006	16%							fuel to maintain an adequate standard of warmth. This is usually defined as 21 degrees for the main living room and 18 degrees for other rooms. There appears to be an decrease in fuel poverty since 2010.
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Table 10.3

16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing.	Number of new houses built (net)	2014/15	491	Seek delivery of new houses in accordance with requirements of the Core Strategy and emerging Local Plan.	More recent data unavailable. The economic downturn is likely to have had an effect on numbers.	BDC and EERA Annual Monitoring Report. EEERA has now been dissolved.
		2013/14	425			
		2012/13	329			
		2011/12	346			
Number dwellings Completed that are 'affordable' Affordable in Breckland monitoring context is homes provided through RSL.		2014/15	92	Adopted Core Strategy aims for 40% affordable housing.	Low % due to the sites granted permission are under lower thresholds. Due to government targets and predicted population growth these	BDC and EERA Annual Monitoring Report: EERA has now been dissolved.
		2013/14	71			
		2012/13	86			
		2011/12	68			

Average House Price (£)	2014/15	£200							figures are likely to increase.	Annual Monitoring Report 2014/15 & Land Registry House Price Index (Feb 2013) http://www.landregistry.gov.uk/public/house-prices-and-sales
	2013/14	£200								
	2012/13	£187								
	2011/12	£188	£203535							
								£239233		
				To build more affordable and low cost homes						

Table 10.4

Economic Baseline

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	East of England	England & Wales	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
17. Increase vitality and viability of existing town centres	Vacant retail floor space on town centres (sq m)	2014/15	N/A			Reduce number of vacant retail units and 'dead' shop frontages.	Higher order shopping centres outside the District attract shoppers from within Breckland which result in leakage of expenditure away from the District.	Breckland Annual Monitoring Report.
		2013/14	5,050.86					
		2012/13	4,974.90					
		2011/12	5,803.52					
18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills,	Change in floorspace (sqm) of A Class units	2014/15	N/A			Current Core Strategy Policy is to guide changes to try and make sure there is a maximum amount of A1 on primary frontages and retail uses on secondary frontages.	Figures refer to changes in area used as an A class use compared to the previous year.	Breckland Annual Monitoring Report.
		2013/14	794.14					
		2012/13	171.62					
		2011/12	86.49					
		2011/12	34.49					
18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills,	% of Key Stage 4 (GCSE) 5+ Passes at A-C inc Eng & Maths	2010/11	49	59	58	No specific target other than as many as possible.		NCC Child services
		2009/10	51	56	55			
		2008/9	48	52	50			

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	East of England	England & Wales	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source		
potential and place of residence		2007/8	48	50	48					
		2006/7	46	48	46					
	Gross Weekly pay. Full time (£)	2014	450.9	539.1	520.8	No target	Breckland's figures are less than regional and national figures.	www.nomisweb.co.uk		
		2013	442.8	543.5	517.9					
		2012	448.1	531.4	508.3					
		2011	421.5	525.0	500.2					
		2014	10.29	13.62	13.15					
		2013	10.29	13.69	13.08					
		2012	10.44	13.34	12.80					
		2011	9.74	13.14	12.62					
		Aug 2015	0.9%	1.2%	1.7%(GB)	No target			The number of JSA claimants has decreased since peaking in February 2012.	www.nomisweb.co.uk
		Feb 2015	1.3%	1.5%	2.0%(GB)					
Aug 2014	1.5%	1.7%	2.3%(GB)							
Feb 2014	2.3%	2.3%	3.0% (GB)							
Aug 2013	2.4%	2.6%	3.3% (GB)							
Feb 2013	3.0%	3.2%	3.9% (GB)							
Aug 2012	2.8%	3.0%	3.8% (GB)							
Feb 2012	3.2%	3.4%	4.1% (GB)							
Aug 2011	2.8%	3.1%	3.8% (GB)							
Feb 2011	2.8%	3.0%	3.7% (GB)							
	Job Seekers Allowance Claimants. % of resident working age population.	Aug 2015	0.9%	1.2%	1.7%(GB)	No target	The number of JSA claimants has decreased since peaking in February 2012.	www.nomisweb.co.uk		
		Feb 2015	1.3%	1.5%	2.0%(GB)					
		Aug 2014	1.5%	1.7%	2.3%(GB)					
		Feb 2014	2.3%	2.3%	3.0% (GB)					
		Aug 2013	2.4%	2.6%	3.3% (GB)					
		Feb 2013	3.0%	3.2%	3.9% (GB)					
		Aug 2012	2.8%	3.0%	3.8% (GB)					
		Feb 2012	3.2%	3.4%	4.1% (GB)					
		Aug 2011	2.8%	3.1%	3.8% (GB)					
		Feb 2011	2.8%	3.0%	3.7% (GB)					

Objective	Indicator	Date	Breckland	East of England	England & Wales	Target	Local Trend/Assessment	Data source
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	VAT registered businesses: registrations deregistrations (% of end of year stock)	2007	6.8 6.3	9.6 7.2	10.2 7.3	No set target	VAT registrations and de-registrations are the best official guide to the pattern of business start-ups and closures. They are an indicator of the level of entrepreneurship and of the health of the business population. As such they are used widely in regional and local economic planning. Registrations seem to have decreased over time. Note that the available data is only up until 2007.	www.nomisweb.co.uk
		2006	7.7 5.6	8.9 7.1	9.4 7.4			
		2005	8.0 5.8	9.3 7.2	9.6 7.9			
		2004	8.29 5.6	9.4 7.9	9.9 8.2			

Table 10.5

11 Assessment of Strategic Objectives

	Land, water and Soil Resources		
Strategic Objectives (summary of each objective)	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of on site resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.
Development in the right Place			
1. Contribute to sustainable development	<p>+/-</p> <p>Vision states Breckland will be developed in a sustainable manner. The % of dwellings completed on brownfield land has increased since 2003, from 38.9% to 85.4% (CSSA). Inevitably some loss of undeveloped land, although land is of poor quality (CSSA - DEFRA).</p> <p>Although inevitable loss of Greenfield land across the district.</p>	<p>+</p> <p>Vision states improvement in quality of life (i.e. water quality). Water conservation measures are encouraged, resulting in more limited consumption.</p>	<p>+</p> <p>Vision states improvement in quality of life (i.e. water quality)</p>
2. Use of already developed land, buildings and natural resources;	<p>++</p> <p>Efficient land planning.</p>	<p>+/-</p> <p>Efficient use of natural resources implies conserving water resources. However, there has been a steady increase in the household consumption of water (CSSA – www.ofwat.gov.uk)</p>	<p>Efficient use of natural resources implies conserving water resources.</p>

	Land, water and Soil Resources		
Strategic Objectives (summary of each objective)	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of on site resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.
3. Development is focused where services are available, and facilities supported;	+ Focused development implies minimising loss of undeveloped land, although may involve developing on agricultural land.	0/+	
Meeting the Housing needs			
4. Concentration of development in Attleborough and Thetford and adjacent to Dereham, Swaffham and Watton and support small scale development in rural areas.	+ Uses previously developed land in urban areas, whilst recognising small scale development is necessary in rural areas. No mention of recycling/reusing.	0 Particularly good relationship between DPD and housing/economic sustainability objectives. Coupled with this is the the overall development strategy of seeking to balance this housing and employment, with focused growth in market towns.	0
5. Support the development of a variety of decent, affordable housing	0	0	0
6. Encourage high quality, sustainable and safe design that respects the character and local distinctiveness;	0	0/+	0/+
A Strong Economy			

	Land, water and Soil Resources		
Strategic Objectives (summary of each objective)	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of on site resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.
7. Promote and support economic growth to diversify the urban and rural economic, investment is encouraged, skills are developed and retained and new and existing businesses are supported;	+ Growth sustainable locations, hence reduce loss of undeveloped land.	0	0
8. Enable the A11 gateway and A47 corridor to contribute to economic growth of the District	0	0	0
9. Provide sufficient number and variety of employment locations and opportunities	0	/+ Qualities of environment not damaged i.e. water quality	/+ Qualities of environment not damaged i.e. water quality
10. Promote the vitality and viability of town centres, including the night time economy	0	0	0
11. Provide for improved broadband connections,	0	0	0
A Rich Environment			
12. Contribute to the positive management of change while protecting the existing environment;	+	0	0
13. Promote a safe and healthy environment;,	+ +	++	++

	Land, water and Soil Resources		
Strategic Objectives (summary of each objective)	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of on site resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.
14. Protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and valuing green infrastructure	++	+	+
15. Protection of key habitats for protected species;	+	+	0
		Biological and chemical water quality is increasing (CSSA – Environment Agency)	
Thriving Communities			
16. Reducing health inequalities, promoting healthy living and supporting locally accessible, high quality healthcare;	0	++	++
17. To protect and enhance community facilities and services and maximise accessibility to them;	0	+	+
18. To encourage and facilitate a sense of community and belonging, and make sure decisions are made at community level	0	0	0

Table 11.1

Sustainability Objectives	Climate change and air pollution		
Strategic Objectives	4: Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.
Development in the right Place			
1. Contribute to sustainable development	<p>+/-</p> <p>Recycling rates compare very well with national figures (CSSA – District Monitoring and DEFRA). Currently a reduction in domestic waste going to landfill.</p> <p>Although potential for exhaustion of landfill capacity through increased development.</p>	<p>++</p> <p>Evidence suggest a reduction in CO₂ emissions (CSSA – Norfolk Data Observatory). Large generation of electricity is provided by renewable sources in this area.</p>	<p>+/-</p> <p>Potential for increase of flooding.</p>
2. Use of already developed land, buildings and natural resources;	<p>++</p>	<p>-</p> <p>Any development is likely to increase emissions.</p>	<p>++</p> <p>Not adding any more impermeable land.</p>
3. Development is focused where services are available, and facilities supported;	<p>+</p>	<p>-</p> <p>Same as above</p>	<p>+</p>
Meeting the Housing needs			
4. Concentration of development in Attleborough and Thetford and adjacent to Dereham, Swaffham and Watton and support small scale development in rural areas.	<p>+</p>	<p>0/-</p>	<p>+</p>

Sustainability Objectives	Climate change and air pollution		
Strategic Objectives	4: Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.
5. Support the development of a variety of decent, affordable housing	0	0	0
6. Encourage high quality, sustainable and safe design that respects the character and local distinctiveness;	+	+ High quality design such as Sustainable Code for Homes.	++
A Strong Economy			
7. Promote and support economic growth to diversify the urban and rural economic, investment is encouraged, skills are developed and retained and new and existing businesses are supported;	0	0	+
8. Enable the A11 gateway and A47 corridor to contribute to economic growth of the District	0	-/+ Air quality worsened as a result of increase in use of A11 and A47, depending upon traffic flows.	0
9. Provide sufficient number and variety of employment locations and opportunities	0/+	- Some environmental damage inevitable.	0
10. Promote the vitality and viability of town centres, including the night time economy	0	0	0
11. Provide for improved broadband connections,	0	0	0
A Rich Environment			

Sustainability Objectives	Climate change and air pollution		
	4: Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.
Strategic Objectives			
12. Contribute to the positive management of change while protecting the existing environment;	0	0	+
13. Promote a safe and healthy environment,;	++	+	++
14. Protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and valuing green infrastructure	+	+/- Some increase in emissions will be inevitable.	++
15. Protection of key habitats for protected species;	0	0	+
Thriving Communities			
16. Reducing health inequalities, promoting healthy living and supporting locally accessible, high quality healthcare;	0	+	0
17. To protect and enhance community facilities and services and maximise accessibility to them;	+	0	0
18. To encourage and facilitate a sense of community and belonging, and make sure decisions are made at community level	0	0	0

Table 11.2

Sustainability Objectives	Biodiversity		Cultural heritage and landscape	
Strategic Objectives	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.
Development in the right Place				
1. Contribute to sustainable development	+/-	++	0	+ Acknowledged in the Vision that built heritage will be prized.
2. Use of already developed land, buildings and natural resources;	++	+	(+) Environmentally sustainable communities will require open and recreational space.	(+) efficient land use implies avoiding designated heritage assets.
3. Development is focused where services are available, and facilities supported;	+	+	0	0
Meeting the Housing needs				
4. Concentration of development in Attleborough and Thetford and adjacent to Dereham, Swaffham and Watton and support small scale development in rural areas.	+	+	0	? Depends on exact locations of Strategic Urban Extensions, but can predict some impacts on listed building and scheduled monuments present in Attleborough, Thetford and Watton. There

Sustainability Objectives	Biodiversity		Cultural heritage and landscape	
	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.
Strategic Objectives				
				are fewer scheduled monuments present in Swaffham.
5. Support the development of a variety of decent, affordable housing	0	+	0	0
6. Encourage high quality, sustainable and safe design that respects the character and local distinctiveness;	+	+	++ The local character and distinctiveness will be maintained or enhanced within the sustainable and safe design.	+ Historic buildings form part of local distinctiveness.
A Strong Economy				
7. Promote and support economic growth to diversify the urban and rural economic, investment is encouraged, skills are developed and retained and new and existing businesses are supported;	+/- Depending on location of development.	+	+ With economic growth there is potential for enhancement of townscape/landscape.	0
8. Enable the A11 gateway and A47 corridor to contribute to economic growth of the District	0	++	0	? Dependent on scope of works proposed for both roads, hence any potential impact on built heritage.

Sustainability Objectives	Biodiversity		Cultural heritage and landscape	
Strategic Objectives	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.
9. Provide sufficient number and variety of employment locations and opportunities	+/- Potential for biodiversity loss	+	+ This objective states it will ensure qualities of the local environment are not damaged, this may include lands/townscapes.	+
10. Promote the vitality and viability of town centres, including the night time economy	0	++	+	0
11. Provide for improved broadband connections,		+	0	0
A Rich Environment				
12. Contribute to the positive management of change while protecting the existing environment;	- The growth agenda of the Local Plan could impact on the District's natural and historic environment.	0	? There are minor conflicts in relation to the maintenance of the character and diversity of settlements and protection of areas of environmental or historic interest. The different sub types of landscape have a varying capacity to accommodate new development, depending on their nature and location. Although development will not be permitted where it would be	++

Sustainability Objectives	Biodiversity		Cultural heritage and landscape	
	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.
Strategic Objectives				
			significantly detrimental to the landscape characteristics.	
13. Promote a safe and healthy environment,;	+	+	+	+
14. Protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and valuing green infrastructure	<p>++</p> <p>Opportunities to protect large areas of SSSIs, Breckland contains 21% ha of East England's SSSIs (CSSA – English Nature). Condition of SSSI's have improved and is better than the regional and national statistics.</p> <p>Sites identified for their importance are afforded a high degree of protection and their enhancement sought.</p>	<p>++</p> <p>As a predominantly rural District, Breckland has a vast green infrastructure, stretching from protected European sites, through to hedgerows, and trees across the northern farmlands.</p> <p>The Council is seeking in its policy to recognise the value of all green infrastructure and the contribution it makes to the local area.</p>	<p>0</p> <p>Brecks Landscape Character Assessment (LCA, 2013) recognises importance of Brecks heath and woodland.</p>	<p>0</p>

Sustainability Objectives	Biodiversity		Cultural heritage and landscape	
Strategic Objectives	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.
15. Protection of key habitats for protected species;	++ New development provides quality environments that respond to local landscape and townscape character.	+	0	
Thriving Communities				
16. Reducing health inequalities, promoting healthy living and supporting locally accessible, high quality healthcare;	0	++	0	0
17. To protect and enhance community facilities and services and maximise accessibility to them;	0	++	0	0
18. To encourage and facilitate a sense of community and belonging, and make sure decisions are made at community level	0	+	+	+

Table 11.3

	Population and human health		
Strategic Objectives	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	12. Reduce and prevent crime	13. Improve the quality and quantity of
Development in the right Place			
1. Contribute to sustainable development	++	++	++

	Population and human health		
Strategic Objectives	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	12. Reduce and prevent crime	13. Improve the quality and quantity of
	Vision states to improve quality of life, health and safety, access to services.	Vision aims to improve safety of the local environment.	Integrated as part of Vision
2. Use of already developed land, buildings and natural resources;	0	0	+
3. Development is focused where services are available, and facilities supported;	++ Houses will be located near basic amenities such as healthcare.	0	+
Meeting the Housing needs			
4. Concentration of development in Attleborough and Thetford and adjacent to Dereham, Swaffham and Watton and support small scale development in rural areas.	++ Same note as above	0	+
5. Support the development of a variety of decent, affordable housing	++ Same note as above	0	+
6. Encourage high quality, sustainable and safe design that respects the character and local distinctiveness;	0	0	++
A Strong Economy			
7. Promote and support economic growth to diversify the urban and rural economic, investment is encouraged, skills are developed and retained and new and existing businesses are supported;	++ Investment in healthcare	0	0
8. Enable the A11 gateway and A47 corridor to contribute to economic growth of the District	(+) Potentially improving access to healthcare services, out of town.	0	0

	Population and human health		
Strategic Objectives	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	12. Reduce and prevent crime	13. Improve the quality and quantity of
9. Provide sufficient number and variety of employment locations and opportunities	0	?	0
10. Promote the vitality and viability of town centres, including the night time economy	0	+	0
11. Provide for improved broadband connections,	0	0	0
A Rich Environment			
12. Contribute to the positive management of change while protecting the existing environment;	0	0	+
13. Promote a safe and healthy environment;,,	++	++	++
14. Protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and valuing green infrastructure	0	0	++
15. Protection of key habitats for protected species;	0	0	++
Thriving Communities			
16. Reducing health inequalities, promoting healthy living and supporting locally accessible, high quality healthcare;	++ UK as a whole has an ageing population. Breckland is also a popular destination for retirement and second home owners (CSSA – Statistics.gov). Although life expectancy compares favourably with Regional and national levels, together with improved access to healthcare will benefit locals.	+ + There has been a reduction on the overall number of crimes.	++
17. To protect and enhance community facilities and services and maximise accessibility to them;	+/- Population is increasing. Ensure growth is located where there is convenient access to healthcare and social facilities.	0	? Overall losses and existing short falls of publically accessible open

	Population and human health		
Strategic Objectives	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	12. Reduce and prevent crime	13. Improve the quality and quantity of
			space (CSSA, Breckland District Council – Planning Policy Team).
18. To encourage and facilitate a sense of community and belonging, and make sure decisions are made at community level	0	0	?

Table 11.4

	Inclusive communities		
Strategic Objectives	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.
Development in the right Place			
1. Contribute to sustainable development	<p>++</p> <p>Retail development will be focused.</p> <p>Preferred approach seeks to maintain and enhance vitality and viability of five main town centres, and local shopping facilities within smaller villages.</p>	<p>+</p> <p>The District has few areas of high deprivation and the most deprived areas are located in Thetford. There will be opportunities to address inequalities through adopting a sustainable approach to development.</p>	<p>+</p>
2. Use of already developed land, buildings and natural resources;	<p>++</p> <p>See above note</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>0</p>

	Inclusive communities		
Strategic Objectives	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.
3. Development is focused where services are available, and facilities supported;	++	? Uncertain impact. Most deprived areas in Thetford would benefit from development and inclusive community.	? Uncertain impact. Most deprived areas in Thetford would benefit from development and inclusive community.
Meeting the Housing needs			
4. Concentration of development in Attleborough and Thetford and adjacent to Dereham, Swaffham and Watton and support small scale development in rural areas.	+ Retail development will be focused.	? CNSHMA (2015) concludes that there is a need to provide affordable housing across the housing market. The individual districts target is 35.7%, equivalent to 220 dwellings per year.	? CNSHMA (2015) concludes that there is a need to provide affordable housing across the housing market. The individual districts target is 35.7%, equivalent to 220 dwellings per year.
5. Support the development of a variety of decent, affordable housing	? Affordable housing is increasing, but slower than other areas.	? See above note	? See above note

	Inclusive communities		
Strategic Objectives	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.
6. Encourage high quality, sustainable and safe design that respects the character and local distinctiveness;	+ Local shopping facilities will be maintained.	0	?
A Strong Economy			
7. Promote and support economic growth to diversify the urban and rural economic, investment is encouraged, skills are developed and retained and new and existing businesses are supported;	+ +	+ Results in better access to essential services and facilities.	+ +
8. Enable the A11 gateway and A47 corridor to contribute to economic growth of the District	++ Will improve accessibility to services. Currently health and education services tend to be located in key settlements and market towns.	+ See note above	0
9. Provide sufficient number and variety of employment locations and opportunities	0	0	+
10. Promote the vitality and viability of town centres, including the night time economy	++ An objective of the Local Plan is to promote the vitality and viability of town centres, including the night time economy and support the retention of existing rural services	0	+

	Inclusive communities		
Strategic Objectives	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.
11. Provide for improved broadband connections,	0	0	0
A Rich Environment			
12. Contribute to the positive management of change while protecting the existing environment;	+	0	0
13. Promote a safe and healthy environment;,,	0	+	0
14. Protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and valuing green infrastructure	0 Council is seeking in its policy to recognise the value of all green infrastructure and the contribution it makes to the local area in which it is located.	+	0
15. Protection of key habitats for protected species;	0 Breckland has a range of sites protected for their biodiversity or geological interest.	0	0
Thriving Communities			
16. Reducing health inequalities, promoting healthy living and supporting locally accessible, high quality healthcare;	++ Improving health and well-being of community is a priority of Breckland Council's Sustainable Community Strategy.	++	0

	Inclusive communities		
Strategic Objectives	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.
17. To protect and enhance community facilities and services and maximise accessibility to them;	++ See note above	++	0
18. To encourage and facilitate a sense of community and belonging, and make sure decisions are made at community level	0	++	0

Table 11.5

	Economic Activity		
Strategic Objectives	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
Development in the right Place			
1. Contribute to sustainable development	+	+	++
2. Use of already developed land, buildings and natural resources;	+	0	+
3. Development is focused where services are available, and facilities supported;	+	+	+
Meeting the Housing needs			

	Economic Activity		
	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
Strategic Objectives			
4. Concentration of development in Attleborough and Thetford and adjacent to Dereham, Swaffham and Watton and support small scale development in rural areas.	0	+	0
5. Support the development of a variety of decent, affordable housing	0	+	0
6. Encourage high quality, sustainable and safe design that respects the character and local distinctiveness;	0	+	0
A Strong Economy			
7. Promote and support economic growth to diversify the urban and rural economic, investment is encouraged, skills are developed and retained and new and existing businesses are supported;	+	+/- Four different scenarios of future employment space requirements were considered for the period up to 2031, with most pointing to a lower level of future economic growth, reflecting a more pessimistic post-recession economic outlook. However, preferred direction seeks to deliver 67ha of employment land over the plan period.	++
8. Enable the A11 gateway and A47 corridor to contribute to economic growth of the District	0	++	++
9. Provide sufficient number and variety of employment locations and opportunities	+	++	++

Strategic Objectives	Economic Activity		
	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
10. Promote the vitality and viability of town centres, including the night time economy	++	+	+
11. Provide for improved broadband connections,	0	+	+
A Rich Environment			
12. Contribute to the positive management of change while protecting the existing environment;	0	0	0
13. Promote a safe and healthy environment;,	0	0	+
14. Protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and valuing green infrastructure	0	0	++
15. Protection of key habitats for protected species;	0	0	++
Thriving Communities			
16. Reducing health inequalities, promoting healthy living and supporting locally accessible, high quality healthcare;	0	0	0
17. To protect and enhance community facilities and services and maximise accessibility to them;	+	++	++
18. To encourage and facilitate a sense of community and belonging, and make sure decisions are made at community level	+	+	++

Table 11.6

12 Assessment of Local Plan Policies

Strategic Vision

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Option	--	-/?	-/?	?	+	?	?	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	?	+	?	?	+

Table 12.1 Summary Table Strategic Vision

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: Breckland's Strategic Vision						
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	--	The vision seeks the provision of new housing and employment land within Breckland. Due to the rural nature of the District, there is limited amounts previously developed land within the District and as such much of the development will occur on undeveloped land.		
		LT	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	?	-/?		All net new development will have an impact upon water consumption and will see an increase upon demand. The vision seeks to support new development. A new Water Cycle Study is currently being prepared and the findings will feed into this document, however at the moment the impact is unclear.	
		?	?			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional	?	-/?			See comments in the row above.
		?	?			

	growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	?	?	The impact on waste recycling is currently unclear.
		?	?	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	The vision for the District is to see new development occur in areas with co-ordinated transport provision. It is considered that this would include public transport provision rather than just private car. The vision therefore scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	?	?	The vision supports the delivery of new housing development. The exact impact upon flood risk is unclear, however a new water cycle study and flood risk assessment is currently being prepared and the findings will need to feed into the Local Plan including the vision
		?	?	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	The vision makes no specific reference to biodiversity or geodiversity of the District. It is unclear the potential impact the the Districts vision will have on biodiversity or geodiversity.
		?	?	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	+	Green infrastructure is formed by the linkages of natural assets within the District including open space. The vision seeks to see new development supporting open spaces and as such scores positively against this sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	+	The vision recognises the role the natural and built assets of the play in shaping the character of the district. It also recognises that the should be protected through the plan period as they act as both a means of attracting investment and visitors to the District. The vision therefore scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The vision notes the importance of the Districts built assets and the need to protect them for both their own sake and also as a means of attracting investors and visitors into the area. The vision does not
		?	?	

				specifically note the role of the historic environment, however it is considered that this is grouped within the overall phraseology around built assets of the District. It is not clear the exact impact the vision will have on the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	?	?	Limited reference is made to health within the vision. It is unclear how the vision for the District will impact upon health.
		?	?	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	?	?	No reference is made within the vision to the reduction or prevention of crime.
		?	?	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	The vision for the District is that all new developments have good access to open space. Policies have been included within the plan which support the delivery of open space for all new dwellings.
		LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	The vision for the District is that new development will support services and facilities and in rural areas the will be supported and prized. This statements within the vision are positive in the support they give towards essential services and facilities.
		LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	?	?	Whilst the vision supports the delivery of services and facilities within Breckland by 2036, it is not clear the impact this has on redressing inequalities.
		?	?	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	The vision supports the delivery of new housing development within the District in accordance with the locational strategy set out within the Local Plan. This approach scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	?	?	The vision makes no mention to the role of the Districts town centres. It does however talk about centring growth around areas where it can support existing services. The impact of the vision for Breckland on the vitality and viability of the town centres is therefore unclear.
		?	?	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work	?	?	The vision refers to the need for local distinctiveness to be reflected through local

	appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	?	?	policies for the rural economy. The positive support for the rural economy has the opportunity to help people within the countryside gain work close to their place of residence. The exact impact of the vision on the sustainability objective is unclear.
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	The vision for the District by 2036 is for a diversified economy which is well connected, with a growing number of skilled workforce and population. This aspect of the vision supports the sustainability objective to improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy and as such scores positively against it.
		LT	P	

Table 12.2 Local Plan: Strategic Vision

PD01 Sustainable Development in Breckland

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	0	++	+	N/a	+	++	0	++	0	+	+
Alternative Option: Rely on NPPF	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	N/a	+	+	0	++	0	+	0
<p>Comments: Both the preferred direction of a localised definition of sustainable development and the alternative option to rely on the definition set out within the NPPF score positively against the sustainability objectives. The preferred option of a localised approach allows for key Breckland issues to be taken into consideration, this includes issues around the rural economy and sustaining local policies. These issues score more positively against the sustainability objectives than just relying on the NPPF. Furthermore, the preferred approach also places a greater importance on the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change and reiterates the need to go back to the NPPF where the Local Plan is silent, absent or out of date.</p>																			

Table 12.3 Summary Table Strategic Development in Breckland

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD 01 Sustainable Development				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L D	++ 0	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective

	Decision Making (Appraisal) Questions	N	--			
		ST MT LT	P T			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	++	Policy will seek to ensure development occurs in a sustainable manner, having regard to a number of key characteristics. The policy will have a district wide impact as it will be applied to all developments.		
		LT	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	++		The key principles within the policy seek to ensure the creation and maintenance of environmentally sustainable communities, including the use of natural resources.	
		LT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	++			The key principles within the policy seek to ensure the creation and maintenance of environmentally sustainable communities, including the use of natural resources.
		LT	P			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	++	Policy includes key principles around environmental sustainability. The policy will be applicable district wide.		
		LT	P			
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	++		The first principle set out within the policy refers to the need for development to mitigate and adapt to climate change.	
		LT	P			
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	++			Whilst the policy does not make direct reference to flood risk, it does refer to the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The policy specifically relates to the need to ensure the creation of environmentally sustainable communities.
		LT	++			

Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	++	One of the key principles of sustainable development within Breckland, as set out within the policy, is to protect and enhance the natural environment.	
		LT	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	+		The policy does not make specific reference to green infrastructure, however it does seek to ensure the protection of the natural environment.
		LT	P		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0	Whilst the policy makes no specific reference to landscape or townscape character, it does seek to ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment.	
		LT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	++		The policy defines one of the key principles of sustainable development as being the protection and enhancement of the historic environment, which is in accordance with the aims of this objective.
		LT	P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	The policy promotes sustainable development, which includes ensuring development occurs in locations with good access to facilities, this includes health facilities	
		LT	P		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+		The principles of sustainable development have been defined to include the development of facilities to support growth. Whilst there is no specific reference to open space, it does include reference to the development of leisure facilities.
		LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	One of the principles of sustainable development as set out within the policy is to provide new services and facilities where necessary.	
		LT	P		

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	0		
		LT	P		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++		The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of sustainable development, including housing. It supports the inclusion of inclusive communities.
		LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	0	No specific reference within the policy to town centres	
		LT	P		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The policy supports the sustainable development of employment land.	
		LT	P		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	The policy supports the sustainable development of employment land.	
		LT	P		

Local Plan Policy: PD 01 Sustainable Development in Breckland

Alternative Option: Rely on the definition of Sustainable Development set out within the NPPF				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D LT	++ P	The NPPF encourages the re-use of previously developed land in the first instance.

	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	++	A key principle within the NPPF is ensuring the prudent use of natural resources.
		LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	++	
		LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	++	The environment is highlighted as one of the 3 key dimensions of sustainable development and this includes a reference to the need to minimise the production of waste.
		LT	P	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	++	Climate change falls within the environmental section of the NPPF definition of sustainable development.
		LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	++	See comment above
		LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	++	Within the environmental dimension of sustainable development the need to contribute to protecting and enhancing the natural environment.
		LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	+	Green infrastructure includes many parts of the natural environment, however, the three dimensions of sustainable development within the NPPF does not make any specific reference to the role of green infrastructure.
		LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	++	The landscape and townscape form an important part of the environmental dimension of sustainable development.
		LT	P	

	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	++	See comment above.
		LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	++	The social dimension of for sustainable development includes supporting healthy communities.
		LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	See comment relating to green infrastructure	
	LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	The social strand of sustainable development revolves around strong, vibrant healthy communities which would include through the development of key services and facilities. This is supported by the sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	0	
		N/a	N/a	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	The social dimension of sustainable development states that the social role will be supported by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations.	
	LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	0	The economic dimension of sustainable development makes reference to a competitive economy, however it makes no reference to the role of town centres within this.
		LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The economy is one of three strands of sustainable development set out within the NPPF. The NPPF places a high level of importance on the economy and jobs growth and as
		LT	P	

				such scores well against this objective.
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	0	Whilst the NPPF supports the economy, it seeks to allow Local Plans to provide the greater detail around the local economy and in Breckland's case the rural nature of it.
		LT	P	

PD02 Development Requirements (Minimum)

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction: 597 dwellings per annum	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/-	0	0	0	+	++	+	++	+	+	++
Alternative Option 1: Economic Baseline - 634 dwellings per annum	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/-	0	0	0	+	++	+	++	+	+	++
Alternative Option 2: Demographic Led - 699 dwellings per annum	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/-	0	0	0	+	++	+	++	+	+	++
Alternative Option 3: Economic Growth - 770 dwellings per annum	--	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0/-	0	0	0	+	++	+	++	+	+	++
<p>Comments: Due to the limited quantum of previously developed land within Breckland, the majority of new housing growth is likely to be on greenfield sites. The higher the level of housing development, the greater the quantum of new housing development which will occur on undeveloped land. The impact on a number of the objectives is currently unclear, and will be dependent upon the location of the developed sites.</p>																			

Sustainability Objective																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>The preferred direction is for the lowest level of housing per annum. This is in accordance with the findings of the central Norfolk strategic housing market assessment. A higher level of housing, would be greater than the recognised housing need within the District. Furthermore, the larger land take it would require to deliver the additional houses is likely to score poorly against other sustainability objectives.</p>																		

Table 12.4 Summary Table Development Requirements

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD 02 Development Requirements (Minimum)				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of housing and economic growth. There is limited previously developed land within Breckland and as such the majority of development is likely to occur on undeveloped land. This scores negatively against the sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0	
		LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0	
		LT	P	
<p>All new development will have an impact upon water consumption. A new water cycle study is currently being prepared and the results of which will be taken into consideration through the preparation of this plan.</p> <p>The policy will have a long term impact as it allocates development, however the specific impact on water is not clear.</p>				

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0	New development is likely to result in increased car journeys, and add to greenhouse gas emissions. The location of the development and access to public transport options will impact upon this.
		LT	P	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0	
		LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	0	
		LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	0	
		LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0	
		LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0/-	The policy seeks the allocation of new housing and employment land across the District. This therefore has the potential to impact upon the landscape and townscape, however the impact is unclear as it does not refer to the location of the development.
		LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0	
		LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0	
		LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	0	
		LT	P	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	All new residential developments will need to provide/contribute towards open space.
		LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	
		MT	P	

				and leisure floorspace, which is in accordance with this objective.	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	The policy will support the delivery of new services and facilities	
		MT	P		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	The policy seeks to provide new housing development in the District over the plan period.	
		LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The policy provides a supportive approach to the provision of new retail and leisure facilities within the District, which can be used in the determination of planning applications. The policy does not provide specific allocations however.	
		LT	P		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+		The policy sets the development requirements for employment land across the District. The policy has been informed by the Employment Growth Study, whilst the policy does not allocate the highest scenario as set within the study, it is at the higher end of the range of scenarios.
		LT	P		
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	++			
	LT	P			

Table 12.5

Alternative Option: Economic Baseline - 634 dwellings				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	

		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of housing and economic growth. There is limited previously developed land within Breckland and as such the majority of development is likely to occur on undeveloped land. This scores negatively against the sustainability objective.	
		LT	P		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0		All new development will have an impact upon water consumption. A new water cycle study is currently being prepared and the results of which will be taken into consideration through the preparation of this plan.
		LT	P		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0		The policy will have a long term impact as it allocates development, however the specific impact on water is not clear.
		LT	P		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0	New development is likely to result in increased car journeys, and add to greenhouse gas emissions. The location of the development and access to public transport options will impact upon this.	
		LT	P		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0		
		LT	P		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	0		
		LT	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	0	The exact impact will depend on the location of development.	
		LT	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0		
		LT	P		

Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0/-	The policy seeks the allocation of new housing and employment land across the District. This therefore has the potential to impact upon the landscape and townscape, however the impact is unclear as it does not refer to the location of the development.	
		LT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0		
		LT	P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0		
		LT	P		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	0		
		LT	P		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+		All new residential developments will need to provide/contribute towards open space.
		LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	The policy supports the development vibrant town and district centres through new retail and leisure floorspace, which is in accordance with this objective.	
		MT	P		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+		The policy will support the delivery of new services and facilities
		MT	P		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++		The policy seeks to provide new housing development in the District over the plan period.
		LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The policy provides a supportive approach to the provision of new retail and leisure facilities within the District, which can be used in the determination of planning applications. The policy does not provide specific allocations however.	
		LT	P		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to	D	+		The policy sets the development requirements for employment
		LT	P		

	their skills, potential and place of residence.			land across the District. The policy has been informed by the Employment Growth Study, whilst the policy does not allocate the highest scenario as set within the study, it is at the higher end of the range of scenarios.
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	++	
		LT	P	

Table 12.6

Alternative Option: Demographic Led - 699 dwellings						
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective		
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0			
		N	--			
		ST	P			
		MT	T			
		LT				
Land, water and Soil Resources		1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of housing and economic growth. There is limited previously developed land within Breckland and as such the majority of development is likely to occur on undeveloped land. This scores negatively against the sustainability objective.	
	LT		P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0	All new development will have an impact upon water consumption. A new water cycle study is currently being prepared and the results of which will be taken into consideration through the preparation of this plan.		
		LT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and	D	0			The policy will have a long term impact as it allocates development, however the
		LT	P			

	development with minimal impacts on water quality.			specific impact on water is not clear.	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0	New development is likely to result in increased car journeys, and add to greenhouse gas emissions. The location of the development and access to public transport options will impact upon this.	
		LT	P		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0		
		LT	P		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	0		
		LT	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	0		
		LT	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0		
		LT	P		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0/-	The policy seeks the allocation of new housing and employment land across the District. This therefore has the potential to impact upon the landscape and townscape, however the impact is unclear as it does not refer to the location of the development.	
		LT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0		
		LT	P		
	Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D		0
			LT		P
12. Reduce and prevent crime		D	0		
		LT	P		
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.		D	+	All new residential developments will need to provide/contribute towards open space.	
		LT	P		

Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	The policy supports the development vibrant town and district centres through new retail and leisure floorspace, which is in accordance with this objective.	
		MT	P		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+		The policy will support the delivery of new services and facilities
		MT	P		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++		The policy seeks to provide new housing development in the District over the plan period.
		LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The policy provides a supportive approach to the provision of new retail and leisure facilities within the District, which can be used in the determination of planning applications. The policy does not provide specific allocations however.	
		LT	P		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+		The policy sets the development requirements for employment land across the District. The policy has been informed by the Employment Growth Study, whilst the policy does not allocate the highest scenario as set within the study, it is at the higher end of the range of scenarios.
		LT	P		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	++		
		LT	P		

Table 12.7

Alternative Option: Economic Growth - 770 dwellings per annum				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	

		MT LT	T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of housing and economic growth. There is limited previously developed land within Breckland and as such the majority of development is likely to occur on undeveloped land. This scores negatively against the sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0	All new development will have an impact upon water consumption. A new water cycle study is currently being prepared and the results of which will be taken into consideration through the preparation of this plan.
		LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0	The policy will have a long term impact as it allocates development, however the specific impact on water is not clear.
		LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0	New development is likely to result in increased car journeys, and add to greenhouse gas emissions. The location of the development and access to public transport options will impact upon this.
		LT	P	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0	
		LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	0	
		LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	-	The exact impact will depend on the sites location. However the impact is likely to be greater where there is higher housing numbers as this will increase the land take required.
		LT	P	

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0	
		LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0/-	The policy seeks the allocation of new housing and employment land across the District. This therefore has the potential to impact upon the landscape and townscape. The impact is unclear as it does not refer to the location of the development, however the impact is likely to be greater based on the higher housing numbers and the impact this has on land take up.
		LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0	
		LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0	
		LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	0	
		LT	P	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	All new residential developments will need to provide/contribute towards open space.
		LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	The policy supports the development vibrant town and district centres through new retail and leisure floorspace, which is in accordance with this objective.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	The policy will support the delivery of new services and facilities
		MT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	The policy seeks to provide new housing development in the District over the plan period. The higher housing levels set out within this option will support a greater number of affordable dwellings, which allows for choice in the market.
		LT	P	

Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The policy provides a supportive approach to the provision of new retail and leisure facilities within the District, which can be used in the determination of planning applications. The policy does not provide specific allocations however.		
		LT	P			
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+		The policy sets the development requirements for employment land across the District. The policy has been informed by the Employment Growth Study, whilst the policy does not allocate the highest scenario as set within the study, it is at the higher end of the range of scenarios.	
		LT	P			
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	++			
		LT	P			

Table 12.8

PD03 Locational Strategy

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	0	-	0	+	+	?	?	0	-	+	?	++	++	+	++	+	+	+
Alternative Option: Focused Development Pattern	-	0	-	0	+	+	?	?	0	-	+	?	++	+	+	++	+	+	+
Alternative Option: Dispersed/Scattered Development Pattern	--	0	0	0	0/-	0	?	?	0	0	+	?	0/+	0/-	+	++	0/-	0	0
Alternative Option: New Settlement	--	-	-	0	0/-	0	?	?	0	0	+	?	+	0/-	+	0	0/-	0/-	0/-

Comments: The locational strategy has a number of implications on the sustainability objectives. The preferred direction is to include a balanced distribution of growth between the market towns and the local service centres. This has a number of sustainability advantages including improvements to services and facilities and access to these facilities. All of the options score negatively against the requirements to limit development on undeveloped

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
or agricultural land. Due to the limited levels of brownfield land within Breckland this is unsurprising that the majority of new development will be on greenfield land.																			

Table 12.9 Summary Table Locational Strategy

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD 03 Locational Strategy				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy continues the approach of two large scale urban extensions which will be built in Thetford and Attleborough predominantly on greenfield land. There is limited availability of brownfield land within Breckland.
		LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0	
		LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	-	
		LT	P	
Climate change and	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	L	0	
		LT	P	

air pollution	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	+	The policy seeks to concentrate the main quantum of development to the market towns. These are the more accessible locations within the District and offer other forms of transport. In addition, part of the assessment of local service centre villages considered the availability of public transport within the village.
		ST	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	L	+	
		MT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	Compatibility with the objective will be dependent on specific sites. However, the need to deliver significant volume of housing to meet housing requirements in accordance with the spatial distribution will mean pressure on both urban brownfield sites and peripheral greenfield sites that have bio-diversity value.
		ST	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	?	?	
		ST	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	The locational strategy has been informed by the relevant evidence base; the Breckland Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Assessment. These assessments indicate that housing delivery can occur without significant harm to the landscape/townscape in the areas.
		ST	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	-	
		ST	P	

Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	Providing affordable housing on new housing schemes will have a positive impact on meeting housing need and allied health issues related to access to and quality of accommodation.
		ST	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	?	?	
		?	?	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	++	Evidence from the Open Space Assessment demonstrates that the greatest deficiencies in public open space are found in the Districts market towns. A strategy of focusing the majority of housing growth to these locations presents an opportunity to secure public open space for the benefit of new and existing residents.
		ST	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	The Policy seeks to locate growth in areas with good accessibility to essential services and facilities. New development is also likely to see improvements to these services and facilities
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	
		MT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	In the short term housing delivery will begin to redress the disparity between housing demand and supply. During the medium to long term the marked shift in housing delivery as set out within the policy will deliver a strong compatibility around ensuring all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing. This is more than just supply and demand and will be supported by the policy seeking different types and sizes of housing.
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	+	The main growth within Breckland will be focused on the districts five towns. Further housing development will support the function of the towns and potentially allow for improvements to services.
		MT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work	D	+	The focus of growth is in areas where there are employment opportunities. In

	appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	MT	P	addition these are areas where there is public transport availability to higher order centres.
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	Focusing development on the districts towns is likely to see an increase in demand for employment sites. The policy has been informed by the employment growth study.
		MT	P	

Table 12.10

Alternative Option: Focused Development Pattern						
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective		
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0			
		N	--			
		ST	P			
		MT	T			
		LT				
Land, water and Soil Resources		1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy continues the approach of two large scale urban extensions which will be built in Thetford and Attleborough predominantly on greenfield land. There is limited availability of brownfield land within Breckland.	
	LT		P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0	The locational strategy has been informed by the Breckland Water Cycle Study and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. The studies confirm that there is sufficient water capacity to meet the requirements of the growth.		
		LT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development	D	-			
		LT	P			

	with minimal impacts on water quality.			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	L	0	<p>This approach will see development concentrated in the market towns. These are the more accessible locations within the District and offer other forms of transport. In addition, part of the assessment of local service centre villages considered the availability of public transport within the village.</p> <p>It should be noted that more concentrated development patterns could increase traffic flows within towns and therefore has the potential to increase air pollution in these areas.</p> <p>The locational strategy has been set having due regard to the findings of the previous water cycle study and strategic flood risk assessment. Further studies are currently being prepared and any impacts resulting from these studies will need to be reflected within the policy.</p>
		LT	P	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	+/0	
		ST	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	L	+	
		MT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	
		ST	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	?	?	
		ST	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	
		ST	P	

				that housing delivery can occur without significant harm to the landscape/townscape in the areas.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	-	The policy includes two large urban extensions in Thetford and Attleborough. The location of the urban extensions have been informed by the heritage evidence base for Thetford. Further historic characterisation is currently being prepared for Attleborough by the land agents, and as such the impacts is currently unclear.
		ST	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	Providing affordable housing on new housing schemes will have a positive impact on meeting housing need and allied health issues related to access to and quality of accommodation.
		ST	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	?	?	This will be dependent on the design of the scheme and will be determined through the planning application process.
		?	?	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	++	Evidence from the Open Space Assessment demonstrates that the greatest deficiencies in public open space are found in the Districts market towns. A strategy of focusing the majority of housing growth to these locations presents an opportunity to secure public open space for the benefit of new and existing residents.	
	ST	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	A focused development pattern will locate growth in areas with good accessibility to essential services and facilities. New development is also likely to see improvements to these services and facilities The market towns form the focus for service delivery within Breckland, a focused development pattern will not necessarily help the rural hinterlands of Breckland to access services and facilities.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	A focused development pattern has the potential to provide new infrastructure including local centres within the urban extensions, schooling, health care and affordable housing. This will help to redress existing inequalities.
		MT	P	

	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	<p>In the short term housing delivery will begin to redress the disparity between housing demand and supply. During the medium to long term the marked shift in housing delivery as set out within the policy will deliver a strong compatibility around ensuring all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing. This is more than just supply and demand and will be supported by the policy seeking different types and sizes of housing.</p> <p>A focused development pattern will see the majority of housing allocated to the market towns. Larger scale developments are likely to have a number of infrastructure requirements, which may well put pressure on the viability of the scheme and therefore the ability to deliver affordable housing</p>
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	+	The main growth within Breckland will be focused on the districts five towns. Further housing development will support the function of the towns and potentially allow for improvements to services.
		MT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The focus of growth is in areas where there are employment opportunities. In addition these are areas where there is public transport availability to higher order centres.
		MT	P	
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	Focusing development on the districts towns is likely to see an increase in demand for employment sites. The policy has been informed by the employment growth study.	
	MT	P		

Table 12.11

Alternative Option: Dispersed/Scattered Development Pattern				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	

		MT LT	T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	--	A dispersed approach to housing delivery will see development across a number of settlements, due to the limited amount of brownfield land available within most settlements in the district, it is likely that this will occur on undeveloped agricultural land.
		LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0	The locational strategy has been informed by the Breckland Water Cycle Study and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Whilst the studies confirm that there is sufficient water capacity to meet the requirements of the growth, a dispersed approach may see the need for upgrading of facilities in settlements,
		LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0	See comment above
		LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	L	0	A dispersed strategy for housing distribution is likely to increase the need to use private car, due to limited levels of public transport availability within Breckland away from the market towns.
		LT	P	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0/-	
		ST	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	L	0	
		MT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	Compatibility with the objective will be dependent on specific sites. However, the need to deliver significant volume of housing to meet housing requirements in accordance with the
		ST	P	

				spatial distribution will mean pressure on both urban brownfield sites and peripheral greenfield sites that have bio-diversity value.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	?	?	See comment above
		ST	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	The locational strategy has been informed by the relevant evidence base; the Breckland Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Assessment. These assessments indicate that housing delivery can occur without significant harm to the landscape/townscape in the areas.
		ST	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	See comment above
		ST	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	Providing affordable housing on new housing schemes will have a positive impact on meeting housing need and allied health issues related to access to and quality of accommodation.
		ST	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	?	?	This will be determined through the planning application
		?	?	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	0/+	Evidence from the Open Space Assessment demonstrates that the greatest deficiencies in public open space are found in the Districts market towns. A dispersed growth strategy will not help to meet deficiencies in these areas, however new developments will still be required to provide open space.
		ST	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	0/-	Lower growth levels across a dispersed area will impact upon the level of new service provision. The planning obligations regulations state that they can only be provided where it is directly related to a development.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender,	D	+	

	disability, race, faith, location and income.	MT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	In the short term housing delivery will begin to redress the disparity between housing demand and supply. During the medium to long term the marked shift in housing delivery as set out within the policy will deliver a strong compatibility around ensuring all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing. This is more than just supply and demand and will be supported by the policy seeking different types and sizes of housing.
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	0/-	A dispersed strategy will see less of a focus on the districts five market towns, and there may be knock on effects on the vitality and viability of the town centre.
		MT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	0	A dispersed strategy may result in new housing being developed in areas of limited employment opportunity and lead to people having to travel further to employment opportunities.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	0	See comment above
		MT	P	

Table 12.12

Alternative Option: New Settlement				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		

Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	--	Due to the limited quantum of previously developed land within Breckland, a new settlement would require the development of undeveloped greenfield land.		
		LT	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	-		The locational strategy has been informed by the Breckland Water Cycle Study and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. The studies confirm that there is sufficient water capacity to meet the requirements of the growth. However a new settlement is likely to require significant upgrades to a water recycling centre so that they are able to deal with the growth	
		LT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	-			See comment above
		LT	P			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	L	0	A new settlement may be slow to deliver strategic and essential infrastructure required to service a settlement, therefore it may lead to commuting/trips to larger settlements. This may have a negative impact upon localised air pollution.		
		LT	P			
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0/-		This section will be informed by the new water cycle study and flood risk assessment.	
		ST	P			
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	L	0			Compatibility with the objective will be dependent on specific sites. Due to the limited amount of brownfield land within breckland, it is highly likely that any new settlement will
		MT	P			
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?			
		ST	P			

				need to be delivered on peripheral greenfield sites that have bio-diversity value.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	?	?	A new settlement has the opportunity to incorporate green infrastructure from the design stage
		ST	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	The delivery of a new settlement will have an impact on the landscape and townscape of the area. The exact impact will depend upon the siting of the area, however it should be informed by the Breckland Landscape Character Assessment.
		ST	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	See comment above
ST		P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	Providing affordable housing on new housing schemes will have a positive impact on meeting housing need and allied health issues related to access to and quality of accommodation.
		ST	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	?	?	This will need to be included through the design and will be assessed through the planning application
?		?		
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	+	A new settlement will be required to provide on-site open space. It will not however help to meet existing deficiencies in other parts of the district.	
	ST	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	0/-	This option seeks to create a new settlement, which may be slow to deliver infrastructure required to ensure there is a sustainable community.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	
MT		P		
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent	D	0	A new settlement will deliver the housing development required which will help to meet the housing	
	MT	P		

	and appropriate housing that meets their needs.			needs of the District. However a new settlement will have a longer lead in time for housing delivery.
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	0/-	A new settlement may result in unmet needs of market towns and larger rural settlements.
		MT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	0/-	A new settlement will have long lead in times and is likely to be slow to deliver required infrastructure required to ensure access to employment areas.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	0/-	See comment above
		MT	P	

Table 12.13

PD04 Level and Location of Growth

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	0	0	N/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/a	+	+	0	++	+	+	+
Alternative Option 1: No specific target for local service centres.	-	0	0	N/a	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	N/a	0	0	0	++	+	+	+
Alternative Option 2: Higher levels of growth to market towns	-	-	-	N/a	+	-	-	0	0	0	+	N/a	+	+	0	0	+	+	+
Comments: The preferred direction and alternative option 1 as compared to Option 2 have more development recommended for Local Service Centres (LSC). Option 1 distributes development evenly within each tier of settlement type and the preferred direction and alternative option 2 takes into account the Breckland Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) conclusions in defining specific numbers to each tier.																			

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Overall development in Local Service Centres as opposed to large settlements will potentially have negative impacts from increased visual impacts and increased numbers of residents needing to commute to significant facilities like hospitals, senior schools and work opportunities. Conversely development in LSC should increase the vitality and economy of these local areas and may stimulate new local employment opportunities.																			
Development in key settlements and market towns have a greater risk of pressure on water resources, fluvial and sewer flood risk and reducing the percentage of local green belt and open space. The significant benefit of development in larger settlements is the reduction in commuting distances to facilities and services.																			
Where development in an area can be unpopular and cause a significant issues is where local day-to-day facilities like primary schools and doctors surgeries are at capacity already. The preferred direction and alternative option 2 takes into account the quantity of suitable land (including capacity of existing facilities, flood risk and pressure on habitats) to accommodate development, in defining the quantity of development to each development.																			
The preferred direction of distributing growth across the sustainable settlements in the District should provide the most sustainable development by taking into account the suitability of areas to accommodate development, offering opportunities to support the local economy in more rural areas and not reducing the easy access to open spaces in and around key settlements and market towns.																			

Table 12.14 Summary Table Level and Location of Growth

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD04 Level and Location of Growth				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D ST-LT	- P	Thetford is surrounded by low quality agricultural land but this is because it is ecologically sensitive heathland. Swaffham, Dereham, Banham, Bawdeswell, Garboldisham, Great Ellingham, Litcham, Mattishall, North Elmham, Necton, Shipham and Sporle have Grade 2 agricultural land on their periphery which will be protected reducing the land supply for potential development.

				The preferred direction has development recommended for Local service Centres which tend to be more rural however the agricultural grade 2 land is present around market towns and ten of the Local Service Centres.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N	0	There is concern that rises in demand created by an increase in the total number of households will place increased pressure upon water resources. Households exert considerable pressure on the environment by using much of the water that is abstracted. With the number of households increasing the average size of the households decreasing, this will put further pressure on water resources because smaller houses use more per person. The most sensitive areas for development due to increased water demand are Attleborough, Dereham and Swaffham. The waste water capacity sensitive urban areas are Attleborough and Dereham and to a lesser extent Thetford. Option 2 has equal focus on these areas.
		ST-LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N	0	Attleborough, Dereham and Swaffham are predicted to have limited water resource availability up to 2026 and will require water to be pumped from other sources to meet the increased demand.
		ST-LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N	0	The preferred direction the highest percentage of residential units in Local Service Centres. This is likely to create the highest level of emissions from all key settlements and market towns are susceptible to fluvial and sewer flooding. The preferred option takes into account the availability of suitable land including if it is at flood risk.
		ST-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N	0	The preferred option takes into account the availability of suitable land including if it is at flood risk.
		ST-LT	P	

Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	0	The preferred direction splits dwelling numbers according to land available in the SHLAA will have lower numbers at Beetley, Litcham, Munford and Weeting which all border designated areas. Both Weeting and Mundford are not defined as suitable for further development because they are within a 1500m buffer zone around designated Special Protection Areas with breeding curlews.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0	
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0	All options run the risk of impacting visually and reducing open space areas but it is the specific locations of development that will determine this rather than the tier of settlement where development is proposed.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0	
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0	All options run the risk of reducing open space areas but it is the specific locations of development that will determine this rather than the tier of settlement where development is proposed. The preferred direction considered the availability of day-to-day facilities.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	+	The preferred direction takes into account the availability of public transport and services within the Local Service Centres.
		MT	P	

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	L	0	One of the main objectives of the a Local Plan is to facilitate inclusive mixed communities and as such is particularly important in the redress of inequalities.
		ST-LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	++	The preferred direction has high development numbers in the Local Service Centres which could provide more affordable family housing in rural and Local Service Centres.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The preferred direction will see a balance of growth being distributed between the market towns and the local service centre villages. It is considered that this will help to improve the vitality and viability of the town centre.
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The preferred direction focuses development in the Local Service Centres which may need the development to encourage businesses to locate there. Higher paid technical or managerial jobs are more common in larger urban areas like Norwich and development along or near good connections to these areas would be positive.
		MT-LT	P	
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	Improving the local economy relies on more factors than just the distribution of housing. Increased development in Local Service Centres will support and encourage new businesses. The difference may be that local facilities like Post Offices and Public Houses in Local Service Centres may be able to remain open from increase trade. The preferred direction takes into account the quantity of suitability in LSC to accommodate additional residential development.	
	MT	P		

Table 12.15

Alternative Option 1: No specific targets for Local Service Centres				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L D	++ 0	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective

	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	Options 1 development recommended for Local Service Centres tends to be rural. However the agricultural grade 2 land is present around market towns and ten of the Local Service Centres.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N	0	The most sensitive areas for development due to increased water demand are Attleborough, Dereham and Swaffham. There is equal focus on these areas in Options 1 The waste water capacity sensitive urban areas are Attleborough and Dereham and to a lesser extent Thetford. Options 1 focuses equally on these areas.
		ST-LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N	0	The most sensitive areas for development due to increased water demand are Attleborough, Dereham and Swaffham. Options 1 has equal focus on these areas.
		ST-LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	There is no difference in the production or management of waste between the three options
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0	Option 1 has the highest percentage of residential units in local service centres. This is likely to create the highest level of emissions from residents commuting to work, senior schools, hospitals and supermarket shopping.
		ST-LT	P	

	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	-	All key settlements and market towns are susceptible to fluvial and/or sewer flooding. Development of less than 50 houses at the Local Service Centres would be expected to have a minor flooding impact unless all proposed in one development, in which case assessment of the affects to define mitigation and protection would be required.
		ST-MT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	-	All options propose no new development around Thetford which could affect the designated areas on its outskirts. Both Weeting and Mundford are not defined as suitable for further development because they are within a 1500m buffer zone around designated Special Protection Areas with breeding curlews.
		MT-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	-	Options 1 does not split dwelling numbers according to land available in the SHLAA which took account of potential impacts on green infrastructure.
		MT-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	All options run the risk of impacting visually and reducing open space areas but it is the specific locations of development that will determine this rather than the tier of settlement where development is proposed.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	All options run the risk of impacting visually but it is the specific locations of development that will determine this rather than the tier of settlement where development is proposed.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	0	All options run the risk of reducing open space areas but it is the specific locations of development that will determine this rather than the tier of settlement where development is proposed.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	0	New development will be protected to provide open space
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	0	Option 1 shares development evenly without taking account that larger urban developments already have facilities or the availability of public transport or services within Local Service Centres.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	L	0	All options have the same impact on redressing inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.
		ST-LT	T	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	++	Options 1 similarly to the the preferred direction has higher development numbers in the Local Service Centres which could provide more affordable family housing in rural and Local Service Centres. However Option 1 does not take account of the availability of services within areas in the District.	
	ST-LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	+	Development needs to distribute growth across those settlements that would receive an overall benefit from it. In addition the distribution of growth option needs to provide clarity to residents, businesses and industry on minimum growth in local areas so they can plan where to invest. Option 1 does not take this into account in distributing development.
		MT-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	Option 1 focuses development in the Local Service Centres which may need the development to encourage businesses to locate there. Higher paid technical or managerial jobs are more common in larger urban areas like Norwich and development along or near good connections to these areas would be positive.
		MT-LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and	D	+	Improving the local economy relies on more factors than just the distribution of housing

	adaptability of the local economy.	MT	P	Increased development in Local Service Centres will support and encourage new businesses. The difference may be that local facilities like Post Offices and Public Houses in Local Service Centres may be able to remain open from increase trade.
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Table 12.16

Alternative Option 2: Higher levels of growth to market towns				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	Alternative Option 2 has less development recommended for Local service Centres which and tend to be less rural however the agricultural grade 2 land is present around market towns and ten of the Local Service Centres.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	-	
		ST-LT	P	
				The most sensitive areas for development due to increased water demand are Attleborough, Dereham and Swaffham. Option 32has increased development in Dereham and Swaffham and therefore greatest pressure on water resources. The waste water capacity sensitive urban areas are Attleborough and Dereham and to a lesser extent Thetford. Option 2 has increased development in Dereham and therefore greatest pressure on waste water capacity.

	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N ST-LT	- P	The most sensitive areas for development due to increased water demand are Attleborough, Dereham and Swaffham. Option 2 has increased development in Dereham and Swaffham and therefore greatest pressure on water resources.
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	There is no difference in the production or management of waste between the three options.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	All options introduce more residential units and therefore more emissions associated with domestic heating, power and transport.
		ST-LT	P	
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	-	All key settlements and market towns are susceptible to fluvial and/or sewer flooding and Option 2 has the highest levels of developments in these areas creating a higher risk of flooding. Development of less than 50 houses at the Local Service Centres would be expected to have a minor flooding impact unless all proposed in one development, in which case assessment of the affects to define mitigation and protection would be required.	
	ST-LT	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D MT-LT	- P	All options propose no new development around Thetford which could affect the designated areas on its outskirts. Option 3 has the highest proposed number of residual residential units required at Market towns including Watton putting pressure on the designated area to the south of its existing boundary. Options 3 splits dwelling numbers according to land available in the SHLAA and will have lower numbers at Beetley, Litcham, Munford and Weeting which all border designated areas. Both Weeting and Mundford are not defined as suitable for further development because they are within a 1500m buffer zone around designated Special Protection Areas with breeding stone curlews.

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0	Alternative option 2 splits dwelling numbers according to land available in the SHLAA which took account of potential impacts on green infrastructure.
		MT-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	All options run the risk of impacting visually and reducing open space areas but it is the specific locations of development that will determine this rather than the tier of settlement where development is proposed.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	All options run the risk of reducing open space areas but it is the specific locations of development that will determine this rather than the tier of settlement where development is proposed. Alternative option 2 considered the availability of day-to-day facilities.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	All new developments will be expected to provide new open space.
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	+	Alternative option 2 focuses development on the larger urban areas where facilities already exist.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	L	0	All options have the same impact on redressing inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.
		ST-MT	T	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	0	Options do not define the type of housing just the percentage in each tier of settlement. Similarly there is no difference between the options in delivering development for more manageable homes and housing with care for elderly residents.
		ST-LT	P	

				<p>The option that delivered housing within walking distance of day-to-day facilities would be a positive benefit to elderly residents.</p> <p>Option 2 has low development numbers which could have provide more affordable family housing in rural and Local Service Centres.</p>
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	LT	+	Development needs to distribute growth across those settlements that would receive an overall benefit from it. In addition the distribution of growth option needs to provide clarity to residents, businesses and industry on minimum growth in local areas so they can plan where to invest.
		MT-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	<p>Alternative option 2 focuses more development on the larger urban areas where skilled and semi-skilled employment opportunities already exist reducing the need to commute. Conversely it reduces the extent of development in the Local Service Centres which may need the development to encourage businesses to locate there.</p> <p>Higher paid technical or managerial jobs are more common in larger urban areas like Norwich and development along or near good connections to these areas would be positive.</p>
		MT-LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and	D	+	Improving the local economy relies on more factors than just the distribution of housing. Option 2 has greater residential

	adaptability of the local economy.	MT	P	<p>development proposed in key settlements and market towns which should lead to increased trade to the local businesses already based there and increase opportunities for new businesses to establish to meet demand.</p> <p>Option 2 focuses development away from Local Service Centres which may need development to increase trade and keep local facilities like Post Offices and Public Houses open. .</p>
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Table 12.17

PD05 Rural Areas

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	?	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on the approach to settlement boundaries set out within the Core Strategy	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	?	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	0/+	+	N/a	0/+	N/a	N/a	N/a
<p>Comments: This policy deals with the approach to rural areas outside of the locational strategy. The settlements within the location strategy are considered to be the most sustainable, and any new development outside of these areas is likely to impact upon the sustainability objectives. There is however a need for housing within some of these areas and the approach scores positively against the sustainability objectives in relation to providing new dwellings.</p>																			

Table 12.18 Summary Table Rural Areas

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD05 Rural Areas				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L D	++ 0	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective

	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--	
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy allows for housing development in areas outside of the locational strategy subject to a criteria based approach. Development in these areas is likely to be on undeveloped land. Whilst the level of growth within these settlements is unlikely to be significant it will still impact on the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	The locational strategy has set out the most sustainable settlements for growth in Breckland which has included having regard to the provision of public transport. In the rural areas defined within this policy there is limited access to public transport and developments are likely to rely on the private car.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	-	
		ST-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	The impact of the policy on biodiversity and geodiversity will depend on the sites location.
		?	?	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	This policy allows for new development in settlements outside the locational strategy subject to a criteria based approach. The landscape character assessment settlement fringe study does not cover rural settlements outside of the local service centre. The exact location of the development will depend on the impact upon the sustainability objective.
		?	?	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	A number of the smaller settlements within Breckland are characterised by there historic environment. The policy includes infilling and rounding of opportunities. In settlements the views through settlements (including those provided by gaps in the street scene) can often be important to the historic setting of the settlement. The policy does include a criterion on the need for the design to contribute to the historic environment. The exact impact of this policy will depend on the location of the development.
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This would be determined at the planning application stage
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	+	All new residential dwellings are required to contribute towards open space. As such a policy	
	ST-LT	P		

				which provides criteria for the delivery of new housing development scores positively against the sustainability objective.
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	The policy supports the delivery of new housing subject to a criteria based approach in rural areas. These are settlements and hamlets which historically have seen limited levels of housing growth. Whilst this policy is not intended to see high levels of housing delivery it will still see housing growth.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.19

Alternative Option: Continue with the approach set out within the Core Strategy				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	

		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The policy allows for housing development in areas outside of the locational strategy in the rural areas. The alternative option is to retain the use of settlement boundaries. There remains limited brownfield land across the district so new developments is still likely to be on brownfield land.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	The alternative option to rely on the approach within the Core Strategy using settlement boundaries is still likely to mean that new developments are predominantly reliant on private car for their transport.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0	
		ST-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	The impact of the policy on biodiversity and geodiversity will depend on the sites location.
		?	?	

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	This policy allows for new development in settlements outside the locational strategy subject to a criteria based approach. The landscape character assessment settlement fringe study does not cover rural settlements outside of the local service centre. The exact location of the development will depend on the impact upon the sustainability objective.
		?	?	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	This would be determined at the planning application stage
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	+	
		ST-LT	P	
			All new residential dwellings are required to contribute towards open space. As such a policy which provides criteria for the delivery of new housing development scores positively	

				against the sustainability objective.
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	+	The alternative option is to continue the use of settlement boundaries to define areas where new development is acceptable. Settlement boundaries are located in areas with a level of service provision.
		ST-LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	0/+	The continuation of the approach would still see housing development in the rural areas, however this will be limited in areas without a settlement boundary as these areas are classified as countryside within the planning system.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.20

PD06 Economic Development

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	N/a	0	+	+	0	+	++	++
Alternative Option 1: Lower level of employment land	0/-	+	N/a	N/a	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	N/a	0	+	+	0	0/+	+	0
Alternative Option 2: Employment growth based on past take up rates	--	+	N/a	N/a	+	+	+	0	0/-	0	+	N/a	0	+	+	0	+	++	++

Comments: The three options presented all look to increase the level of employment growth within Breckland and have regard to the findings of the employment growth study. The preferred direction seeks to allocate employment growth in line with the policy on scenario set out within the employment growth study. All the approaches score well against the sustainability objectives related to the provision of employment land for the local economy. The employment growth scenario based on past take up rates will require a greater supply of land. This will have an impact upon development on undeveloped land, due to the limited levels of brownfield land in Breckland.

Table 12.21 Summary Table Economic Development

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD 06 Economic Development				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and	L	-	The majority of the employment land required over this plan period will be met through the existing allocations.
		MT	P	

Resources	productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			These are predominantly located on greenfield land, and as such score negatively against the SA objective.	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	+	The level and location of employment development has been informed by the Breckland water cycle study. The evidence base shows that there is sufficient water capacity to support the employment development	
		MT	P		
3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0			
	MT	P			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0		
		MT	P		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+		The policy allocates employment land to the districts five market towns and Snetterton Heath. These areas are served by public transport.
		MT	P		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	+		The employment site selection has been informed by the Breckland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Breckland has significant proportions of land within Flood zone 1 and this should be used in the first instance.
		ST	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	+	The sites have been assessed having due regard to the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Study.	
		MT	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	0		The policy itself does not incorporate green infrastructure, this will need to be considered as part of any planning application.
		MT	P		
Cultural	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness,	L	0	The land allocations have been considered having regard to the	

heritage and landscape	diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	MT	P	landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study, however the impact will be dependent on the planning application.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	The land allocations have been considered having regard to the landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study, however the impact will be dependent on the planning application.
		MT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The sites are located in areas with access to other services and facilities.
health	12. Reduce and prevent crime	MT	P	
		N/a	N/a	This should be included in the design at the planning application stage
	N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	0	Employment land allocations will not require an increase in public open space.
		ST	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	+	The employment land is being focused on the districts market towns which is in accordance with the employment growth study. This will improve access to services and facilities.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	Thetford is the area of the district which scores lowest against the indices of multiple deprivation. Increases in employment land availability in this area will help this.
		MT	P	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	0	The policy seeks to allocate new employment land in accordance with the spatial strategy. Whilst there is not a direct link to housing within the policy, the strategy is in line with the housing allocations.	
	MT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The majority of employment land will be allocated to the Districts market towns, the population increases in this area will provide a secondary benefit to the town centre in the medium term.
		MT	P	

	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	++	The employment allocations are predominantly within the market towns in accordance with the findings of the employment growth study, this approach therefore score highly against the sustainability objective.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	++	The policy will see an increase in employment land availability in accordance with the employment growth study.
		MT	P	

Table 12.22

Alternative Option 1: Lower level of employment growth						
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective		
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0			
		N	--			
		ST	P			
		MT	T			
		LT				
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0/-	The majority of the employment land required over this plan period will be met through the existing allocations. These are predominantly located on greenfield land, and as such score negatively against the SA objective. A lower level of employment land will reduce the amount of land required.		
		MT	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	+		The level and location of employment development has been informed by the Breckland water cycle study. The evidence base shows that there is sufficient water capacity to support the employment development	
		MT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			

	growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.				
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	The policy allocates employment land to the districts five market towns and Snetterton Heath. These areas are served by public transport.	
		MT	P		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	+	The employment site selection has been informed by the Breckland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Breckland has significant proportions of land within Flood zone 1 and this should be used in the first instance.	
		ST	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	+	The sites have been assessed having due regard to the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Study.	
		MT	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	0		
		MT	P		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	The land allocations have been considered having regard to the landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study, however the impact will be dependent on the planning application.	
		MT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	The land allocations have been considered having regard to the landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study, however the impact will be dependent on the planning application.	
		MT	P		
	Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The sites are located in areas with access to other services and facilities.
			MT	P	

health	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This should be included in the design at the planning application stage
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	0	Employment land allocations will not require an increase in public open space.
		ST	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	+	The employment land is being focused on the districts market towns which is in accordance with the employment growth study. This will improve access to services and facilities.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	0/+	Thetford is the area of the district which scores lowest against the indices of multiple deprivation. A lower level of employment land compared to the preferred approach may reduce access to employment opportunities.
		MT	P	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	0	The policy seeks to allocate new employment land in accordance with the spatial strategy. Whilst there is not a direct link to housing within the policy, the strategy is in line with the housing allocations.	
	MT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	0/+	The majority of employment land will be allocated to the Districts market towns, the population increases in this area will provide a secondary benefit to the town centre in the medium term. A lower level of employment land than the preferred direction may reduce access.
		MT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The employment allocations are predominantly within the market towns in accordance with the findings of the employment growth study, this approach therefore score positively against the sustainability objective.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	0	A lower level of employment land may reduce choice within the market and impact on the local economy.

		MT	P	
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Table 12.23

Alternative Option 2: Allocate employment land based on past take up rates						
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	--	Relying on past take up rates will see the requirement for more land to be made available for employment uses. Due to the limited quantum of brownfield land available within Breckland it is likely that the majority of this will be undeveloped land.		
		MT	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	+		The level and location of employment development has been informed by the Breckland water cycle study. The evidence base shows that there is sufficient water capacity to support the employment development	
		MT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+		The policy allocates employment land to the districts five market towns and Snetterton Heath. These areas are served by public transport.	
		MT	P			

	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	+	The employment site selection has been informed by the Breckland Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Breckland has significant proportions of land within Flood zone 1 and this should be used in the first instance.
		ST	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	+	The sites have been assessed having due regard to the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Study.
		MT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	0	The policy itself does not incorporate green infrastructure, this will need to be considered as part of any planning application.
		MT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0/-	The land allocations have been considered having regard to the landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study, however the impact will be dependent on the planning application. The requirement for more land to be made available may have an adverse impact upon the landscape and townscape.
		MT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	The land allocations have been considered having regard to the landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study, however the impact will be dependent on the planning application. The requirement for more land to be made available may have an adverse impact upon the historic environment.
		MT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The sites are located in areas with access to other services and facilities.
		MT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This should be included in the design at the planning application stage
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	0	Employment land allocations will not require an increase in public open space.
		ST	P	

Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	+	The employment land is being focused on the districts market towns which is in accordance with the employment growth study. This will improve access to services and facilities.		
		MT	P			
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+		Thetford is the area of the district which scores lowest against the indices of multiple deprivation. Increases in employment land availability in this area will help this.	
		MT	P			
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	0			The policy seeks to allocate new employment land in accordance with the spatial strategy. Whilst there is not a direct link to housing within the policy, the strategy is in line with the housing allocations.
		MT	P			
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The majority of employment land will be allocated to the Districts market towns, the population increases in this area will provide a secondary benefit to the town centre in the medium term.		
		MT	P			
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	++		The employment allocations are predominantly within the market towns in accordance with the findings of the employment growth study, this approach therefore score highly against the sustainability objective.	
		MT	P			
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	++			Having regard to past take up rates will see an increase in employment land availability in accordance with the employment growth study.
		MT	P			

Table 12.24

PD07 Town Centre and Retail Strategy

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	0	0	N/a	N/a	+	0	N/a	N/a	+	-	+	N/a	N/a	++	+	N/a	++	+	+

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Alternative Option: reliance on the impact assessment threshold set out within the NPPF	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	-	+	+
<p>Comments: The preferred policy option has been developed having regard to the findings of the Retail and Town Centre Study. The approach takes into account the size of the town centres within Breckland's market towns and scores well against the economic objectives relating to the vitality and viability of these centres. The preferred direction also scores well against the social aspects of the sustainability appraisal relating to access to service and facilities.</p> <p>The alternative option is rely on the impact assessment threshold within the NPPF. This is a higher threshold than recommended within the preferred policy. A significant proportion of retail development which comes forward within Breckland is below this level. Relying on a higher threshold may adversely impact the vitality and viability of the town centres.</p>																			

Table 12.25 Summary Table Town Centre and Retail Strategy

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD07 Town Centre and Retail Strategy				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
	LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0	Policy relates to existing town centres
		N/a	N/a	

	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	0	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	Compatibility with this objective will be determined at the planning application stage.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	The supports the development of town centre uses within the Districts town centres. This is compatible with the aims of the objective as these are more accessible locations by means other than single occupancy car.
		MT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	L	0	The policy allocates retail floorspace across the District, including to Thetford. Whilst the level of growth can be accommodated within the town, any new development will need to have regard to the town centres location at the confluence of the Rivers Thet and Little Ouse and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. No specific reference is made to this within either the policy or the reasoned justification.
		ST	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness,	L	+	Direct enhancements to the townscape are not included

heritage and landscape	diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	MT	P	within the policy. However, the retail and town centre strategy states that applications should deliver improvements to the built environment.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	-	No specific mention to the historic environment is provided within the policy
ST		P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The policy supports the location of retail facilities within accessible locations, including through new pedestrian and cycle links.
		MT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This will be determined at the planning application stage
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a		
	N/a	N/a		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	The policy allows for new retail floorspace within the town centres in accordance with the Retail and Town Centre Strategy. This will improve access to key services and as such scores well against the sustainability objective.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	The policy supports the development of town centre uses within accessible locations which is compatible with the objective.
		MT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	++	The policy reflects the findings of the Retail and Town Centre Study. Increases in floorspace within the town centre and lower impact assessment thresholds will improve the vitality and viability of the town centre.
		ST	P	

	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	+	The policy allows for an increase in retail and town centre floorspace across the A use class in accordance with the findings of the Retail and Town Centre study.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	+	The policy does not directly allocate land for business development, however it is supportive of new floorspace within the town centre.
		MT	P	

Table 12.26

Alternative Option: Reliance on the impact assessment levels set out within the NPPF				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	Compatibility with this objective will be determined at the planning application stage.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This will be determined at the planning application stage
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	-	The higher threshold for impact assessments could lead to more retail developments being located outside of existing town centres. This would reduce
		MT	P	

				accessibility to these developments.	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	-	See comment above	
		MT	P		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	-	The threshold to require impact assessments for developments outside the designated town centre within the NPPF is for 2,500 sqm. Development of 2500sqm would be relatively large scale for the town centres in Breckland. As such below this level proposals coming forward may adversely impact the vitality and viability of the town centres.	
		ST	P		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	+		The policy allows for an increase in retail and town centre floorspace across the A use class
		MT	P		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	+		in accordance with the findings of the Retail and Town Centre study, however it is supportive of new floorspace within the town centre.
		MT	P		

Table 12.27

PD08 Affordable Housing

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	+	0	0	0	0	0/-	0	0/-	0	+	+	0	+	++	++	N/a	+	+
Alternative Option 1: Lower level of affordable housing	N/a	+	0	0	0	0	0/-	0/+	0/-	0	0	N/a	0/+	+	0	0/+	N/a	+	+
Alternative Option 2: Vary level of affordable housing based on location across the District and need	N/a	+	0	0	0	0	0/-	0	+	+	0/-	+	0/-	+	++	++	N/a	+	+

Comments: All of the options (preferred and alternative) score well against the sustainability objectives in regard to the provision of affordable housing. The preferred direction and the second alternative option score more positively against this objective. Providing affordable housing will meet the needs of a number of groups within society.

The second alternative option seeks to vary the level of affordable housing based on housing need within different locations in the District. Varying the level of affordable housing requirement, will respond well to the Districts needs in different location. However it may lead to some developers being additionally burdened and reduce the level of contributions which can be sought for other types of services and facilities..

Table 12.28 Summary Table Affordable Housing

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD08 Affordable Housing				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
	ST	P		
	MT	T		
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions			

		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	Compatibility with this objective will be dependent on the specific sites which are to be developed.
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N	+	The policy facilitates the delivery of new households, which will lead to an increase in water consumption. However, the Water Cycle Study has shown that there is sufficient water capacity to meet the growth requirements.
		ST-LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N	0	New households will lead to an increase in water consumption. The findings of the Water Cycle Study will need to be taken into consideration within new developments
		ST-LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0	New households will produce additional waste. The exact impact may depend on arrangements for recycling and composting. Overall, this will not be significantly effected by the levels of affordable housing.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0	The impact will be dependent on the location of new affordable housing development. However, the spatial distribution focuses development on more accessible areas with access to public transport.
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	0	The compatibility with this objective is dependent on the location of the development rather than the tenure.
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	0/-	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.
		ST-LT	P	

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0	The need for developers to fund affordable housing may lead to tensions between socio-economic needs and landscape needs particularly for the funding of green infrastructure,
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0/-	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	The provision of new affordable housing will help to meet the Districts needs and this will have related health benefits to the population.
		ST	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	+	Increased access to improved, secure, affordable housing and the wider environment through increased affordable housing schemes can create community cohesion and a sense of ownership. This can reduce crime and improve peoples personal sense of security.
		MT	P	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	0	The requirement of developments to provide onsite affordable housing, may cause tension with the need for the developer to also fund open space
		MT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	Affordable housing will be delivered as part of wider development schemes. The settlement hierarchy focuses development around the market towns and larger villages which have better access to essential services and facilities.
		ST	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	++	This policy seeks to provide additional affordable housing within the District, this will help to redress inequalities. The policy is applicable across the district, which will improve access to affordable housing. It will
		ST	P	

				also rely on the Councils allocation strategy.
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	The policy requires all new developments with 5 or more dwellings to provide onsite affordable housing at a rate of 36%. This is compatible with the requirements of the objective.
		ST	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	This will not be significantly affected by the level of affordable housing.
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N	+	This is likely to be impacted by the location of the affordable housing. However it should have regard to the spatial distribution.
		MT	P	
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N	+	The stability provided by an increased level of affordable housing may make the District more attractive as a labour base for employers who would be able to tap in to an increased labour market.	
	MT	P		

Table 12.29

Alternative Option 1: Lower level of affordable housing than set out within SHMA				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and	N/a N/a	N/a N/a	Compatibility with this objective will be dependent on the specific sites which are to be developed.

	safeguard resources for the future generations.			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N	+	The policy facilitates the delivery of new households, which will lead to an increase in water consumption. However, the Water Cycle Study has shown that there is sufficient water capacity to meet the growth requirements.
		ST-LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N	0	New households will lead to an increase in water consumption. The findings of the Water Cycle Study will need to be taken into consideration within new developments
		ST-LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0	New households will produce additional waste. The exact impact may depend on arrangements for recycling and composting. Overall, this will not be significantly effected by the levels of affordable housing.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0	The impact will be dependent on the location of new affordable housing development. However, the spatial distribution focuses development on more accessible areas with access to public transport.
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	0	The compatibility with this objective is dependent on the location of the development rather than the tenure.
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	0/-	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0/+	The need for developers to fund affordable housing may lead to tensions between socio-economic needs and landscape needs particularly for the funding of green infrastructure. A lower level of affordable housing may increase funds available for other facilities.
		ST-LT	P	

Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0/-	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.		
		ST-LT	P			
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0			
		ST-LT	P			
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0	The provision of new affordable housing will help to meet the Districts needs and this will have related health benefits to the population. A lower level than required to meet housing needs may lead to some people living in unfit housing.		
		ST	P			
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		I	
		N/a	N/a			
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	0/+		The requirement of developments to provide onsite affordable housing, may cause tension with the need for the developer to also fund open space A lower level of affordable housing would increase funds available for other facilities.	
		MT	P			
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	Affordable housing will be delivered as part of wider development schemes. The settlement hierarchy focuses development around the market towns and larger villages which have better access to essential services and facilities.		
		ST	P			
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	0		The alternative approach would seek to support a lower level of affordable housing than set out within the SHMA. This could lead to not enough affordable housing being provided to meet housing needs.	
		ST	P			
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	0/+			Setting a policy requirement for affordable housing below the SHMA recommendation, will reduce the level of affordable housing which can be secured through planning applications. This will result in a
		ST	P			

				lower level of affordable housing than required to meet needs.
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	This will not be significantly affected by the level of affordable housing.
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N	+	This is likely to be impacted by the location of the affordable housing. However it should have regard to the spatial distribution.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N	+	The stability provided by an increased level of affordable housing may make the District more attractive as a labour base for employers who would be able to tap in to an increased labour market.
		MT	P	

Table 12.30

Alternative Option 2: Vary level of affordable housing across the District based on location and need				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources		1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a
	N/a		N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage	N	+	The policy facilitates the delivery of new households, which will lead to an increase in water consumption. However, the Water Cycle Study has
		ST-LT	P	

	systems and maintain and enhance water quality.			shown that there is sufficient water capacity to meet the growth requirements.
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N	0	New households will lead to an increase in water consumption. The findings of the Water Cycle Study will need to be taken into consideration within new developments
		ST-LT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	D	0	New households will produce additional waste. The exact impact may depend on arrangements for recycling and composting. Overall, this will not be significantly effected by the levels of affordable housing.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0	The impact will be dependent on the location of new affordable housing development. However, the spatial distribution focuses development on more accessible areas with access to public transport.
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	0	The compatibility with this objective is dependent on the location of the development rather than the tenure.
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	0/-	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	0	The need for developers to fund affordable housing may lead to tensions between socio-economic needs and landscape needs particularly for the funding of green infrastructure. Varying the level of affordable housing based on location may adversely impact some developers being able to fund other services.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0/-	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.
		ST-LT	P	

	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0	Compatibility with this objective is likely to be dependent on the location of the development.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	The provision of new affordable housing will help to meet the Districts needs and this will have related health benefits to the population.
		ST	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	+	Increased access to improved, secure, affordable housing and the wider environment through increased affordable housing schemes can create community cohesion and a sense of ownership. This can reduce crime and improve peoples personal sense of security.
		MT	P	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	0/-	The requirement of developments to provide onsite affordable housing, may cause tension with the need for the developer to also fund open space. Some developers may be additionally affected based on the location of the development.
		MT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	Affordable housing will be delivered as part of wider development schemes. The settlement hierarchy focuses development around the market towns and larger villages which have better access to essential services and facilities.
		ST	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	++	Varying the level of affordable housing by location across the District will allow it to be responsive to local needs within different areas. By tailoring the level of affordable housing to the location, it may be more responsiveness to the needs of the area.
		ST	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	Varying the level of affordable housing by location across the District will allow it to be responsive to local needs within different areas. By tailoring the level of affordable housing to the location, it may be more responsiveness to the needs of the area.
		ST	P	

Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	This will not be significantly affected by the level of affordable housing.
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N	+	This is likely to be impacted by the location of the affordable housing. However it should have regard to the spatial distribution.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N	+	The stability provided by an increased level of affordable housing may make the District more attractive as a labour base for employers who would be able to tap in to an increased labour market.
		MT	P	

Table 12.31

PD09 Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	0	0	0	0	0	N/a	0	0	+	+	N/a	+	+	0	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Seek to meet the requirements through planning applications	0	0	0	0	0	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/-	+	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a
<p>Comments: The preferred direction seeks to provide both a criteria based approach for dealing with planning applications and also allocate sites to meet existing need. The approach scores preferably in relating to the social sustainability indicators for instance in regards to redressing inequalities between different groups within the community. Allowing new gypsy and traveller sites to be met solely through planning applications may lead to an under supply of sites in comparison to demand.</p>																			

Table 12.32 Summary Table Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD09 Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L D	++ 0	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective

	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--			
		ST	P			
		MT	T			
		LT				
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0	The policy gives a preference for brownfield land to be used in the first instance, however it acknowledges that there is limited brownfield land available within the District and the pressure from other uses on it.		
		ST	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0		The impact of new developments on water consumption and quality are currently uncertain. Any new development will be required to have regard to the findings of the Water Cycle Study.	
		MT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0			The impact of new developments on water consumption and quality are currently uncertain. Any new development will be required to have regard to the findings of the Water Cycle Study.
		MT	P			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	L	0	Any new site will produce additional waste. The exact impact and therefore the compatibility with this objective may depend on arrangements for recycling and composting.		
		ST	P			
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0		New developments are likely to result in increased car journeys and add to greenhouse gas emissions. The level of impact will be dependent on the location of the site.	
		ST	P			
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a			Any new development sites within Breckland will need to be assessed in regards to flood risk. The impact is not currently clear.
		N/a	N/a			

Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	0	The exact impact depends on the location of any new site, the proposed policy does not make any reference to either biodiversity or geodiversity.	
		N/a	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	0		
		N/a	N/a		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	The policy refers to the need to consider landscape and townscape. The impact will be site specific, however regard will need to be had to the landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study.	
		MT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	+		
		MT	P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	Making adequate provision for sites reduces the need for unauthorised encampments, and as such the policy score positively against the objective.	
		N/a	N/a		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	+		
		MT-LT	P		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+		
		MT-LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	0	The policy is addressing the configuration of sites, rather than a specific location, so will have no obvious affect upon the objective.	
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+		
		MT	P		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent	D	+		A clear policy direction is provided which scores positively against the objective to ensure all groups
		MT	P		

	and appropriate housing that meets their needs.			have access to appropriate housing to meet their needs.
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	The policy addresses the configuration of sites, rather than the location. There are no obvious impacts upon the objective.
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	The policy addresses the configuration of sites, rather than the location. There are no obvious impacts upon the objective.
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	The policy addresses the configuration of sites, rather than the location. There are no obvious impacts upon the objective.
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.33

Alternative Option: Seek to meet the requirements through planning applications				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0	The policy gives a preference for brownfield land to be used in the first instance, however it acknowledges that there is limited brownfield land available within the District and the pressure from other uses on it.
		ST	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0	
		MT	P	

				to have regard to the findings of the Water Cycle Study.
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0	The impact of new developments on water consumption and quality are currently uncertain. Any new development will be required to have regard to the findings of the Water Cycle Study.
		MT	P	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	L	0	Any new site will produce additional waste. The exact impact and therefore the compatibility with this objective may depend on arrangements for recycling and composting.
		ST	P	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0	New developments are likely to result in increased car journeys and add to greenhouse gas emissions. The level of impact will be dependent on the location of the site.
		ST	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	Any new development sites within Breckland will need to be assessed in regards to flood risk. The impact is not currently clear.
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	0	The exact impact depends on the location of any new site, the proposed policy does not make any reference to either biodiversity or geodiversity.
		N/a	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	0/-		Not including a specific site to meet needs may lead to unauthorised encampments.
		MT-LT	P		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+		All development should contribute to the provision of open space.
		MT-LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	-		Not allocating a specific site and instead relying on planning applications to meet need, will not redress existing inequalities, and may lead to an under provision of gypsy and traveller sites.
		MT	P		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-		Not allocating a site for gypsies and travellers may lead to an under provision of sites within the district compared to need, and as such scores negatively against the sustainability objectives.
		MT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

Table 12.34

PD10 Healthy Lifestyles

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	N/a	+	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Do not include a policy in the Local Plan.	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	0	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: Including a policy on healthy lifestyles within the plan scores well against the social sustainability objectives, including redressing existing inequalities. Having a policy should ensure that health is considered at the design stage of any development. Whilst not having a policy does not necessarily score negatively against the sustainability objectives it is not as positive.

Table 12.35 Summary Table Healthy Lifestyles

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD10 Healthy Lifestyles				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	systems and maintain and enhance water quality.			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	The policy requires all new developments to consider health impacts through design and construction. This would include access to services and facilities by means other than single occupancy car.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	+	
		ST	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	

				development can have a significant health impact.
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	++	The policy requires all new development to consider health impacts from the initial design phase and as such score positively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	Compatibility with the objective will occur through the planning application stage.
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	All new developments should provide open space. As part of the application proposal developments will now need to consider impact upon health, which includes access to open space.
		ST	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	The policy requires new development to have regard to health impacts, particularly in regards to economic, environmental and social conditions. This should help to redress inequalities within the district.
		ST-LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	The policy requires new development to have regard to health impacts, particularly in regards to economic, environmental and social conditions. This should help to redress inequalities within the district.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.36

Alternative Option: Do not include a policy on healthy lifestyles within the Local Plan				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0	The locational strategy means

		ST	P	that the majority of development within the district will be located in areas of public transport availability. However it may mean that provision within development for walking and cycling may not be included.
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	0	
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	0	
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0	
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	0	A policy on healthy lifestyles would benefit a number of groups within the district. Not including the policy will not score negatively against this objective however it will maintain the status quo.
		ST-LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.37

PD11 Development Requirements for the Attleborough Strategic Urban Extension

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	?	?	N/a	-	-	--	+	?	?	+	N/a	++	++	+	++	0	+	+
Alternative Option: Do not include a specific policy	--	?	?	N/a	-	-	--	+	?	?	0/-	N/a	++	+	+	+	0	0/+	0/+

Sustainability Objective																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Comments: The preferred direction sets out the development requirements for the strategic urban extension. The preferred direction has a number of negative scores relating to the environment, including loss of agricultural land. These negative scores are also reflected within the alternative option of not having a policy. The preferred direction scores more favourably in relation to access to services and facilities. In a number of instances not including a preferred policy does not necessarily mean that an impact will not be taken into consideration through the determination of a planning application, however it may diminish the weight which can be given to it.</p>																		

Table 12.38 Summary Table Development Requirements for the Attleborough Strategic Urban Extension

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD11 Development Requirements of the Strategic Urban Extension				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	--	The location of the strategic urban extension is on undeveloped greenfield land which is predominantly in agricultural use.
		LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	?	?	The policy specifies the requirement for 4000 new dwellings, which will have an impact upon water consumption. A new water cycle study has been commissioned which will look into water capacity across the District including Attleborough. The impact of the policy on this sustainability objective will be better assessed once this study is completed.
	?	?		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to	?	?	See comment above.

	accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	?	?		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	Attleborough is identified as a key settlement within the spatial hierarchy and has access to public transport. Due to the size of the development proposed there is likely to be an implication on local air pollution. Evidence base around smarter transport options has been prepared as part of this local plan and should be included within a policy.	
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	-		
		LT	P		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	L	-		
		LT	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	-	The development will be on greenfield land and as such there is likely to be implications for biodiversity within the plan area. The policy does include reference to the retention and protection of hedgerows and trees within the urban extension.	
		LT	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	+		
		LT	P		
	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?		The development of the sustainable urban extension will have an impact on the landscape and townscape. Regard should be had to the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Study. The impact of the development on the landscape and townscape is currently uncertain.
		?	?		

	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	There are a number of important heritage features within Attleborough which have the potential to be impacted upon by the development of the sustainable urban extension. Whilst the impact of the development to the south west of the town is lower than in other areas, the impact is still unclear.
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The new development will include pedestrian and cycle links to the town centre and also new outdoor sports facilities.
		LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This should be considered through the design stage of the planning application
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	++	The new development will be required to provide on-site open space of both children's play and outdoor sports facilities.	
	LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	++	The new development will provide a number of essential services and facilities including new school provision, retail provision through local centres and new sports facilities.
		LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	The policy will provide a number of new essential services and facilities which will be accessible to everyone within the town.
		LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	The development of the urban extension will provide a significant proportion of the housing needs for the District as a whole. This will include new affordable housing to help meet the requirements of those in housing need.
		LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	0	The urban extension will provide retail provision within the development. The Retail and Town Centre study assessed the impact of local centres within the SUE and due to the level of retail provision, this was assessed as being minimal.
		LT	P	

	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The urban extension will be required to provide new employment areas as part of the development.
		LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	New employment opportunities within the town will help to improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
		LT	P	

Table 12.39

Alternative Option: Do not include a specific policy on the Development Requirements for the Strategic Urban Extension				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources		1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	--
	LT		P	
	?	?	The policy specifies the requirement for 4000 new dwellings, which will have an impact upon water consumption. A new water cycle study has been commissioned which will look into water capacity across the District including Attleborough. The impact of the policy on this sustainability objective will be better assessed once this study is completed.	
	?	?		

	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	?	?	See comment above.
		?	?	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	-	Attleborough is identified as a key settlement within the spatial hierarchy and has access to public transport. Due to the size of the development proposed there is likely to be an implication on local air pollution. Evidence base around smarter transport options has been prepared as part of this local plan. The preferred direction includes information on pedestrian and cycle links, not including a policy may reduce the weight which can be given to this.
		LT	P	
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	L	-	The sustainable urban extension will see the development of a significant quantum of housing on greenfield land. This will have an impact on runoff rates. The application will need to consider the implications of surface water.	
	LT	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	--	The development will be on greenfield land and as such there is likely to be implications for biodiversity within the plan area. The preferred direction specifically refers to the retention of hedgerows and trees not including a specific policy may diminish the weight which can be given to their protection through a planning application.
		LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	+	Not including a specific policy on the development of the sustainable urban extension may reduce the weight that can be given to the provision of green infrastructure through the determination of a planning application.
		LT	P	
Cultural heritage and	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity	?	?	The development of the sustainable urban extension will have an impact on the landscape and townscape. Regard
		?	?	

landscape	and quality of landscape and townscape character.			should be had to the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Study. The impact of the development on the landscape and townscape is currently uncertain.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	There are a number of important heritage features within Attleborough which have the potential to be impacted upon by the development of the sustainable urban extension. Whilst the impact of the development to the south west of the town is lower than in other areas, the impact is still unclear.
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	0/-	
		LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This should be considered through the design stage of the planning application
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	++	The new development will be required to provide on-site open space of both children's play and outdoor sports facilities. This is included through a separate open space policy.	
	LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	The new development will provide a number of essential services and facilities including new school provision, retail provision through local centres and new sports facilities. Whilst not including a policy will not necessarily mean that these services are not provided it has the potential to diminish the weight which can be given through the planning process.
		LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	See comment above
		LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	The development of the urban extension will provide a significant proportion of the housing needs for the District as a whole. This will include new affordable housing to help meet the requirements of those
		LT	P	

				in housing need. Not including a specific policy will see the need to rely on the district wide affordable housing policy and may diminish the weight which can be given to it through the planning process.
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	0	The urban extension will provide retail provision within the development. The Retail and Town Centre study assessed the impact of local centres within the SUE and due to the level of retail provision, this was assessed as being minimal.
		LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	0/+	The urban extension will be required to provide new employment areas as part of the development. The preferred policy includes requirements around pedestrian and cycle links to help people access employment. Not including a preferred policy will diminish the weight which can be given to this.
		LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	0/+	See comment above
		LT	P	

Table 12.40

PD12 Attleborough Local Employment

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	0/-	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	+	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+
Alternative Option: Do not include a policy	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	0	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	0
Comments: The inclusion of a local policy on employment development supports the earlier policy around the level of employment growth for the town. The preferred direction supports the employment development and scores																			

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
positively against the sustainability objectives relative to the economy. Including a policy adds to the weight which can be given to the impact on the landscape and townscape through a planning application.																			

Table 12.41 Summary Table Attleborough Local Employment

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: PD12 Local Employment				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0/-	The policy supports the development of new local employment sites within Attleborough. New sites are likely to be located on greenfield land. The exact impact the policy will have can not be determined until the precise sites have been identified.
		LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	?	?	
		?	?	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	?	?	
		?	?	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	This will be dependent on the site which is developed.
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	The development of new employment sites will see the take up of further land which could impact upon biodiversity. The level of impact is currently unclear and will depend on which site is developed.
		?	?	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	The policy proposes that new local employment within Attleborough should be located on gateway locations into the town. Any proposals have the potential to have a significant impact on the landscape and townscape of Attleborough. Development proposals should come forward having regard to the findings of the Landscape Character Assessment and the Settlement Fringe Study. The policy seeks enhancements to these gateway locations which scores positively against the sustainability appraisal objective.
		LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	
		LT	P	

				reference to the need to ensure that they are sensitively designed and enhance the setting of the historic market town.
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This will be determined through the planning application
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The policy supports the development of new employment sites within the area. The policy has been developed having regard to the findings of the Employment Growth Study.
		LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	The policy supports the development of new employment sites within the area. The policy has been developed having regard to the findings of the Employment Growth Study.
		LT	P	

Table 12.42

Alternative Option: Do not include a specific policy and rely on policies within the NPPF to guide employment development in Attleborough

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	This will be dependent on the site which is developed.
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and	?	?	The development of new employment sites

	promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	will see the take up of further land which could impact upon biodiversity. The level of impact is currently unclear and will depend on which site is developed.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	0	Employment growth levels for Attleborough are set through the overarching employment development policy. The local policy specifically relates to the design of the site and has regard to the landscape and townscape. Not including a specific policy could result in diminished weight being awarded to this through planning applications.
		LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	0	
		LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This will be determined through the planning application
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	0	The preferred direction supports the development of new employment sites within the area. The Local Plan contains a policy around the level of employment growth for Attleborough/ Not including a specific local plan policies for Attleborough will not alter the level of employment growth for Attleborough.
		LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	0	See comment above
		LT	P	

Table 12.43

ENV01 Green Infrastructure

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	?	+	++	+	+	+	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	?	+	N/a	+

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Alternative Option: Do not include a specific policy and instead rely on the NPPF	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a
<p>Comments: Green infrastructure includes a wide range of multi-functional green spaces and can play an important role in the landscape and townscape of Breckland. The inclusion of a policy within the Local Plan will help to safeguard green infrastructure and seek to secure its protection and enhancement. The policy scores positively against the sustainability objections. Furthermore the lack of a policy and the reliance on the NPPF scores negatively against the sustainability objectives.</p>																			

Table 12.44 Summary Table Green Infrastructure

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV01 Green Infrastructure				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	+	Although the release of land to facilitate the growth of the district is unavoidable, the likelihood that a green infrastructure policy will help to ensure the most valuable of this land is preserved. Therefore there is good compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	systems and maintain and enhance water quality.			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	?	?	
		?	?	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	?	?	
		?	?	

There are a number of potential benefits of green infrastructure one of which is as a carbon sink. Although this will not directly reduce emissions into the atmosphere, it may reduce contributions by increasing the amount of carbon that is fixed and therefore there is the potential for a good compatibility with this sustainability objective. An attractive and integrated green infrastructure network could also encourage people to walk as opposed to drive to places and this may have direct benefits in terms of emissions. However, as these effects will be dependant on the exact infrastructure provided it is difficult to quantify them at this point.

The rationale for the impact of a positive green infrastructure policy is set out in the comments for sustainability objective 5. As one of the anticipated affects of climate change is an increased flood risk to some areas a positive effect in terms of sustainability objective 5 may also have benefits for this sustainability objective. There are also potentially more direct impacts that green infrastructure can have in terms of mitigating flood risk. Specifically, vegetation can trap run-off and increase rainfall capture. This can reduce flood risk. As the benefits in terms of this objective will depend upon the exact nature of the

				infrastructure provided it is difficult to quantify at this juncture.
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	+	Protection of existing green infrastructure, and its enhancement through new development will have significant benefits in terms of preserving and enhancing the biodiversity of the district. Therefore there is a strong compatibility with this objective. As more infrastructure improvement is likely to be seen as development is realised, this compatibility is likely to strengthen over time.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	++	The key aim of this policy is to safeguard and enhance green infrastructure within Breckland. The policy scores very positively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	Preserving areas of important green infrastructure is also likely to preserve areas which are important to the distinctiveness and diversity of the district. Therefore there is a good compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	+	The historic environment comprises the natural environment as well as the built environment. The preservation of certain location is likely to have particular benefits in terms of this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	Providing an improved green infrastructure, including areas of open space, and other links, will have benefits in terms of the available leisure and recreational space to the districts residents. This would have a good compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	+	Improved green infrastructure will include the provision of open space, formal and informal and improved linkages. There is therefore a good compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	?	?	Requiring the provision of green infrastructure is likely to confer a cost to the developer, either in terms of physically laying out infrastructure or management. The cost in certain circumstances may lessen the viability of a scheme and this may effect delivery.	
	?	?		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	+	Green infrastructure can enhance an areas image, can make it more pleasant to use and a more attractive investment. Therefore there is a clear compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	+	The potential improved image described for sustainability objective 17 can also potentially have benefits in terms of this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	

Table 12.45

Alternative Option: Do not include a policy on Green Infrastructure and instead rely on the NPPF

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	-	The absence of a local policy which seeks to improve local green infrastructure may
		ST-LT	P	

				significantly undermine the potential for the council to achieve improvements. This would conflict with this sustainability objective in terms of its aims to enhance biodiversity.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	-	Without the inclusion of a local policy within the Local Plan, the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure will be dependent upon policies within the NPPF. This could undermine the potential to achieve enhancements to green infrastructure and as such scores negatively against this policy requirement.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	Green infrastructure can play an important role in shaping the landscape and townscape of the area. To rely solely on policies within the NPPF rather than seek specific protection through the Local Plan has the potential to undermine the the requirements of this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	0	Green infrastructure can include open space. Whilst open space is protected separately
		ST-LT	P	

				through local policies including additional policies around green infrastructure can also aid this sustainability objective.
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	-	Green infrastructure can enhance an areas image, can make it more pleasant to use and a more attractive investment. Therefore the lack of a clear local policy on green infrastructure scores negatively against this objective
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.46

ENV02 Sites of European, National and Local Nature Conservation Importance

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	+	++	+	++	?	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Retain approach to Internationally and Nationally designated sites however lower level of protection for local sites	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	+	0/+	0/-	0/-	?	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: The protection of designated sites from redevelopment scores positively against the sustainability objectives, particularly in regards to those which are directly related to the environment. The alternative option is to provide a lower level of protection to those sites which only have a local level of protection. This scores poorly against a number of the sustainability objectives. A lower level of protection is likely to see these sites facing pressure for redevelopment and it may diminish the weight which can be given to their protection through the planning process.

Table 12.47 Summary Table Sites of European, National and Local Nature Conservation Importance

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV02 Sites of European, National & Local Nature Conservation Importance				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D ST-LT	+ P	The policy seeks protection for sites with an environmental designation. The policy sets clear criteria regarding reasons where an environmentally designated site could be developed upon, it therefore scores well against the sustainability objective.

	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	?	?	There are a number of potential benefits of protecting sites with a high biodiversity value, one of which is as a carbon sink. Although this will not directly reduce emissions into the atmosphere, it may reduce contributions by increasing the amount of carbon that is fixed and therefore there is the potential for a good compatibility with this sustainability objective. It is however difficult to quantify the exact impact.	
		?	?		
		6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N	+	Designated sites can often work as a carbon sink. Although they will not directly reduce emissions into the atmosphere, it may reduce contributions by increasing the amount of carbon that is fixed and therefore there is the potential for a good compatibility with this sustainability objective.
			ST-LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N	++	The policy seeks the protection of designated sites within Breckland which is in accordance with the expectations of the sustainability objective and the habitat regulations.	
		ST-LT	P		

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N	+	Designated sites for biodiversity and geodiversity often form part of the green infrastructure network. The policy provides a set of criteria seeking to protect European, national, regional and local sites from development. The policy approach therefore scores well against this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N	++	The natural environment and in particular designated sites form a key part of deriving the character of the landscape and townscape of the District. The policy therefore scores well with the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The historic environment comprises the natural environment as well as the built. The preservation of certain locations is likely to have particular benefits in terms of this sustainability objective, however the exact implication is unclear.
	?	?		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	Designated sites for biodiversity and geodiversity can include areas of open space. The protection of these areas scores well against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.48

Alternative Option: Retain approach to Internationally and Nationally designated sites however lower level of protection for local sites				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	The alternative option seeks a lower level of protection for local sites as opposed to those which have a national or international designation. Not placing as much weight on local sites may lead to pressure for their redevelopment and as such
		ST-LT	P	

				could see the loss of undeveloped land.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	?	?	There are a number of potential benefits of protecting sites with a high biodiversity value, one of which is as a carbon sink. Although this will not directly reduce emissions into the atmosphere, it may reduce contributions by increasing the amount of carbon that is fixed and therefore there is the potential for a good compatibility with this sustainability objective. It is however difficult to quantify the exact impact.
		?	?	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N	+	Designated sites can often work as a carbon sink. Although they will not directly reduce emissions into the atmosphere, it may reduce contributions by increasing the amount of carbon that is fixed and therefore there is the potential for a good compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N	0/+	Whilst national and internationally designated sites are protected, placing a lower level of protection on locally designated sites, may lead to
		ST-LT	P	

				pressure for their redevelopment. This could lead to a loss of sites with a biodiversity or geodiversity value.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N	0/-	Designated sites for biodiversity and geodiversity often form part of the green infrastructure network. The potential loss of locally designated sites would also impact upon those sites which form part of the Districts green infrastructure network.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N	0/-	The natural environment and in particular designated sites form a key part of deriving the character of the landscape and townscape of the District. Locally designated sites form a key part of the landscape and townscape character alongside nationally and internationally designated sites. A lower level of protection for locally designated sites will diminish the weight they can be given through the planning process and this will negatively impact upon this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The historic environment comprises the natural environment as well as the built. The preservation of certain locations is likely to have particular benefits in terms of this sustainability objective, however the exact implication is unclear.
?		?		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	Designated sites for biodiversity and geodiversity can include areas of open space. The protection of these areas scores well against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.49

ENV03 The Brecks Protected Habitats and Species

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	++	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a

Sustainability Objective																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Comments: The HRA has defined the need for this policy. There are no reasonable alternatives which meet the requirements of the HRA. This approach is a continuation of that which is set out within the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD, The Site Specifics Policies and Proposals DPD and the Thetford Area Action Plan DPD.</p>																		

Table 12.50 Summary Table The Brecks Protected Habitats and Species

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV03 The Brecks Protected Habitats and Species				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N	++	The Brecks forms a large area of undeveloped, often arable, land to the south west of the District, much of which is designated as a special protection area. The policy seeks to ensure that development does not cause an adverse impact on the SPA, and as such will help to minimise the loss of undeveloped land in accordance with the expectations of this objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	with minimal impacts on water quality.			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	There are a number of potential benefits of protecting sites with a high biodiversity value, one of which is as a carbon sink. Although this will not directly reduce emissions into the atmosphere, it may reduce contributions by increasing the amount of carbon that is fixed and therefore there is the potential for a good compatibility with this sustainability objective. It is however difficult to quantify the exact impact.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	?	?	
		?	?	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N	++	
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	

Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	+	The Brecks SPA forms a key part of the landscape character of the District as a whole, and is where the District gets its name. The policy which seeks to ensure that residential development does not have an adverse impact on the integrity of the SPA, is beneficial to the SA objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-	The policy requires development to undergo an appropriate assessment to consider potential adverse impacts on the SPA, where these are found the development should be refused. This has the potential to restrict housing development in parts of the district with the Breckland SPA and as such have an adverse impact on housing delivery.
		ST-LT	P	

Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.51

ENV04 Open Space, Sport and Recreation

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	++	++	+	++	N/a	++	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Seek off-site contributions rather than on-site	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	N/a	+	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
<p>Comments: The requirement of all new dwellings to contribute towards open space scores positively against the sustainability objectives, in addition it also helps to meet the existing deficiencies open space set out within the open space assessment. Providing on-site open space wherever possible, scores higher against the objectives than providing off-site. The provision of on-site spaces will ensure that it will be provided within the development that it is intended to serve.</p>																			

Table 12.52 Summary Table Open Space, Sport and Recreation

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV04 Open Space, Sport & Recreation				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	

		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	+	Protection of current open space will reduce the loss of undeveloped land.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	Protection of open spaces, particularly ones with trees present can help reduce carbon concentration in the atmosphere. Widespread provision of sports facilities across the District will reduce peoples need to drive to access such facilities.
		MT-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	+	Open green spaces can help to absorb run off, thus reducing the risk of flooding.
		ST-LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	++	Open space can be designated for a range of reasons, include biodiversity and geodiversity. Protection
		ST-LT	P	

				of open space and provision of new open spaces can expand, enhance, conserve and protect biodiversity and geodiversity.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	++	Open spaces are a form of green infrastructure. The policies aim of protecting existing open spaces and provision of new spaces is compatible with the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	++	Provision of open space and the protection of existing open space can enhance the diversity of the landscape and townscape.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	+	Protection of open spaces can enhance and protect the character and setting of the historic environment.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	++	Protection of existing and provision of new outdoor sports facilities and children's play areas, can improve the health of and well-being of the population by encouraging people to exercise and play outdoors.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	++	The policy requires all net new development to provide either a contribution towards or onsite open space. The policy has been developed having regard to the deficit identified through the Open Space Assessment.
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	The policy will seek to increase the provision of open spaces, which scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	All new development will be required to contribute towards open space, which will help to address existing deficiencies and redress inequalities.
		ST-LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.53

Alternative Option: Seek off-site open space contributions rather than on-site				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
		D	+	Protection of current open space will reduce the loss of undeveloped land.
		ST-LT	P	

	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	Protection of open spaces, particularly ones with trees present can help reduce carbon concentration in the atmosphere. Widespread provision of sports facilities across the District will reduce peoples need to drive to access such facilities.
		MT-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	+	Open green spaces can help to absorb run off, thus reducing the risk of flooding.
		ST-LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	++	Open space can be designated for a range of reasons, include biodiversity and geodiversity. Protection of open space and provision of new open spaces can expand, enhance, conserve and protect biodiversity and geodiversity.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	++	
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of	D	++	Provision of open space and the protection of existing open space can enhance the
		ST-LT	P	

landscape	landscape and townscape character.			diversity of the landscape and townscape.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D ST-LT	+ P	Protection of open spaces can enhance and protect the character and setting of the historic environment.
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	++	Protection of existing and provision of new outdoor sports facilities and children's play areas, can improve the health of and well-being of the population by encouraging people to exercise and play outdoors.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	The requirement for solely off-site provision of open space will not directly impact the quantity of new open space supplied, however it may lead to open space being provided away from the development it is expected to serve.	
	ST-LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	The policy will seek to increase the provision of open spaces, which scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	All new development will be required to contribute towards open space, which will help to address existing deficiencies and redress inequalities.
		ST-LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.54

ENV05 Protection and Enhancement of the Landscape

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	++	++	?	?	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	-
Alternative Option: Rely on the NPPF	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	--	?	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: The preferred policy approach to include a local plan policy on the protection and enhancement of the landscape scores positively against the sustainability objective. The landscape forms a key part of the character of the District. This policy also is in accordance with paragraph 17 of the NPPF which states that planning should take account of the different role and characters of different areas..recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.

Table 12.55 Summary Table Protection and Enhancement of the Landscape

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV05 Protection and Enhancement of the Landscape				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land	N	++	Many of the Districts important natural features are located in

and Soil Resources	and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	ST-LT	P	predominantly undeveloped areas. This policy seeks to protect the landscape and natural assets of the District in accordance with the findings of the Landscape Character Assessments. This policy approach scores highly against the sustainability objective.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a
N/a			N/a	
5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.		D	+	The policy provides protection to the Districts landscape. Protection of open spaces particularly ones with trees present can help reduce carbon concentration in the atmosphere.
		ST-LT	P	
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.		D	+	The policy seeks high protection for river valleys within the District, based on their undeveloped nature and high biodiversity value. By protecting these areas this reduces the risk of buildings being developed within them.
		ST-LT	P	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	++	Many different types of land within the district contribute to its biodiversity, and this includes a significant contribution from the undeveloped landscape and other natural features. A policy which helps to prevent land or natural features being taken up by / lost through development is likely to make a positive contribution to the
		ST-LT	P	

				biodiversity or geodiversity of the district.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	++	Many different types of land within the district contribute to green infrastructure, and this includes a significant contribution from the undeveloped landscape and other natural features. A policy which helps to prevent land or natural features being taken up by / lost through development is likely to make a positive contribution to green infrastructure within the district.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	++	A policy that protects the landscape of the district will have a direct benefit in terms of preserving the distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape of the district.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The historic environment comprises areas of the landscape as well as buildings. Where is feature of the historic environment is also in an area of landscape sensitivity then this policy will contribute to this achievement of this sustainability objective. In the absence of a quantitative assessment of the correlation of these issues, it is not possible to quantify the beneficial contribution of the policy to this objective at this juncture.
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	?	?	The landscape of the district can have a positive impact on health.
		?	?	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	?	?	Publicly accessible open space comprises in part areas of the countryside. Where open space is also in an area of landscape sensitivity then this policy will contribute to the achievement of the sustainability objective. In the absence of a quantitative
		?	?	

				assessment of the correlation of these two issues, it is not possible to quantify the beneficial contribution of the policy to this objective at this juncture.
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-	Restricting the development of land through the application of a landscape protection policy may prevent some land from being available for housing development. This may in turn impact upon the provision of housing in the district. There is therefore a minor conflict with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	-	Restricting the development of land through the application of a landscape protection policy may prevent some land from being available for economic development. This may in turn impact upon the development of the districts economy. There is therefore a minor conflict with the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	

Table 12.56

Alternative Option: Do not protect the landscape or natural features of the district through local planning policy and do not seek enhanced access through development and other means

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	-	Clearly areas of of natural landscape and natural features contribute to the overall biodiversity of the
		ST-LT	P	

				district. An absence of local planning policy that will protect these features is likely to have a detrimental impact in respect of this sustainability objective.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	-	A number of the key features of the landscape are also likely to form green infrastructure. The lack of a specific local policy is likely to be detrimental to the aims of this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	--	The absence of local planning policy which protects the landscape of the District will reduce the significance and weight that can be given to these considerations in the planning process and will prevent local priorities being set. There is therefore a significant conflict with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The historic environment comprises areas of the landscape as well as buildings. Where a feature of the historic environment is also an a part of a sensitive landscape then an absence of local policy may contribute to the loss of said historic environment. In this way there may be a conflict with the sustainability objective. In the absence of a quantitative assessment of the correlation of these issues, it is not possible to quantify the effect of a lack of local policy in relation to this objective at this juncture.
		?	?	
Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

health	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	?	?		Open space comprises parts of the districts landscape as well as specific play space or playing fields. Where an area of open space is also in part of a sensitive landscape then an absence of local policy may contribute to the loss of said open space. In this way there may be a conflict with the sustainability objective. In the absence of a quantitative assessment of the correlation of these issues, it is not possible to quantify the effect of a lack of local policy in relation to this objective at this juncture.
		?	?		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-		Restricting the development of land through the application of a landscape protection policy may prevent some land from being available for housing development. This may in turn impact upon the provision of housing in the district. There is therefore a minor conflict with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills,	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

	potential and place of residence.			
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.57

ENV06 Trees, Hedgerows and Development

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	+	+	++	+	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Do not include a local policy	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	-	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: Trees and hedgerows form a vital part of the landscape character of Breckland. Not including a policy for their protection and enhancement through development scores negatively against the sustainability objectives.

Table 12.58 Summary Table Trees, Hedgerows and Development

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV06 Trees, Hedgerows and Development				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the	D ST-LT	0 P	Protection of trees and hedgerows could in some cases restrict development on undeveloped and productive agricultural

	recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			land. However, the focus of the policy option is not to minimise the loss of all undeveloped land and agricultural land.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	Trees and other natural features such as hedgerows absorb carbon from the atmosphere, therefore their protection can reduce contributions to climate change. However, the scale of absorption associated with trees and natural features at risk from development of negligible.
		LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	+	Protection of trees and hedgerows from development will help to conserve biodiversity in the district.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	+	Greater protection for natural features within the landscape can help to improve green infrastructure.
		ST-LT	P	

Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	++	Trees and hedgerows are an important part of the landscape and townscape and have high amenity value. The protection of them within developments will enhance the character of the landscape and townscape.		
		ST-LT	P			
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	+		Trees and hedgerows have a role in preserving the setting of the historic environment and the protection of them within developments through this policy scores positively against the sustainability objective.	
		ST-LT	P			
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+			Trees and hedgerows play an important role in providing amenity within open spaces, their protection through the policy scores positively against the sustainability objective in regards to improving the quality of open space.
		ST-LT	P			
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate	N/a	N/a			

	to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.59

Alternative Option: Do not include a policy on trees and hedgerows				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

air pollution	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	-	Trees and other natural features such as hedgerows absorb carbon from the atmosphere, therefore their protection can reduce contributions to climate change. Lack of a specific Local Plan policy may therefore lead to the loss of these features through new development and as such scores negatively against this sustainability objective.
		LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	-	Trees and hedgerows have an important biodiversity value. The lack of a policy protecting them may lead to their loss and as such scores negatively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	-	
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	-	Trees and hedgerows are an important part of the landscape and townscape and have high amenity value. The lack of a clear local policy for the protection of these features may make
		ST-LT	P	

				them vulnerable to detrimental impact from development.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.60

ENV07 Designated Heritage Assets

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on the NPPF	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a

Comments: The historic environment and designated heritage assets are an important part of the character of Breckland. The inclusion of a local policy on the historic environment within the Local Plan scores more positively against the sustainability objectives. The local policy allows for additional information to be provided with the planning application which will allow greater information for decisions to be made. The preferred direction also includes the guidance set out by Historic England.

Table 12.61 Summary Table Designated Heritage Assets

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV07 Designated Heritage Assets				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	++	A key element of the character of the landscape and townscape within Breckland is the historic environment and its assets. The policy seeks to ensure that development proposals will lead to unacceptable harm to these heritage assets. It also requires additional information on any application which may cause harm to a designated heritage assets. The policy scores well against this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	++	
		ST-LT	P	

				will lead to unacceptable harm to these heritage assets. It also requires additional information on any application which may cause harm to a designated heritage assets. The policy scores well against this sustainability objective.
Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	Breckland's five market towns include numerous designated heritage assets. These help to enhance the viability and vitality of the town centre. A policy which seeks to protect heritage assets therefore scores positively against this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	

	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.62

Alternative Option: Do not consider a specific Local Policy				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

air pollution	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	+	A key element of the character of the landscape and townscape within Breckland is the historic environment and its assets. National policy seeks to ensure that development proposals will lead to unacceptable harm to these heritage assets.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	0	Breckland's five market towns include numerous designated heritage assets. These help to enhance the viability and vitality of the town centre. Whilst there would be national protection for the historic environment, this is less specific than a separate policy.
			ST-LT	P	
18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.		N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.		N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

Table 12.63

ENV08 Non-Statutory Heritage Assets

	Sustainability Objective																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	+
Alternative Option: Rely on national planning policy	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: Non-statutory heritage assets contribute towards the character of the landscape and townscape of the District. A policy seeking the protection of those assets which are listed on the Norfolk Historic Environment Record scores positively against the sustainability objectives relating to landscape and townscape and the historic environment. These heritage assets also impact upon the vitality of the town centre in a positive manner.

Table 12.64 Summary Table Non-Statutory Heritage Assets

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV08 Non-Statutory Heritage Assets				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	and maintain and enhance water quality.			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	+	Non statutory heritage assets help to enhance the character of the landscape and townscape, alongside the designated heritage assets . These are not currently protected through national planning policy. A policy seeking their retention scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	

				retention scores positively against this sustainability objective.
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	The policy supports the conversion of non-statutory heritage assets to residential and economic uses. This will see new housing provision which scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and	D	+	The policy supports the conversion of

	adaptability of the local economy.	ST-LT	P	non-statutory heritage assets to residential and economic uses. This could see new business provision which scores positively against the sustainability objective for the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
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Table 12.65

Alternative Option: Do not include a policy within the Local Plan				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

air pollution	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	-	Non statutory heritage assets help to enhance the character of the landscape and townscape, alongside the . These are not currently protected through national planning policy. Reliance on national policy may see the loss of these assets
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	-	
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.66

ENV09 Flood Risk & Surface Water Drainage

	Sustainability Objective																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Preferred Direction	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	
Alternative Option: Rely on policies contained within the NPPF	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	
Comments: Both the preferred and alternative options score well against the sustainability objectives, as they seek to ensure that new developments are not placed in areas at risk of flooding. The preferred direction also places the Norfolk County Council Guidance on sustainable drainage systems into policy, in their role as the Lead Local Flood Authority.																				

Table 12.67 Summary Table Flood Risk and Surface Water Drainage

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV09 Flood Risk & Surface Water Drainage					
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective	
		D	0		
		N	--		
		ST	P		
		MT	T		
		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	+		The policy requires new developments to mitigate any flood risk through design and the implementation of sustainable drainage systems.
		MT-LT	P		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		The policy specifically relates to flood risk rather than water quality.
		N/a	N/a		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	++		The policy requires all new development to have regard to flood risk and the need to incorporate surface
		MT-LT	P		

				water drainage into the design and development of the scheme. This scores positively against the sustainability appraisal objective.
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	+	The policy seeks to secure SuDS in line with the guidance set out by Norfolk County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority to deal with sustainable drainage. SuDS can form part of the green infrastructure network.
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	The policy requires all development to have regard to flood risk and to be suitably located in areas which will not place the development at risk of flooding.
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.68

Alternative option: Rely on policies contained within the NPPF				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	+	The alternative approach of relying on national planning policy `requires new developments to mitigate any flood risk through design and the implementation of sustainable drainage systems.
		MT-LT	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	D	++	The NPPF requires all new development to have regard to flood risk and the need to incorporate surface water drainage into the design and development of the scheme. This scores positively against the sustainability appraisal objective.	
	MT-LT	P		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+		The NPPF requires all development to have regard to flood risk and to be suitably located in areas which will not place the development at risk of flooding.
		ST-LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

Table 12.69

ENV10 Renewable Energy Development

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	?	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on policies within the NPPF	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	?	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
<p>Comments: A number of the impacts of renewable energy development on the sustainability objectives is currently unclear, and it will depend upon the sites location. The exact impacts will be determined through the planning process. However it is possible to note that most renewable energy schemes are likely to occur on undeveloped agricultural land. The preferred direction of including a policy on renewable energy development will help to guide this.</p> <p>The approach does however score well in relation to the objectives around climate change.</p>																			

Table 12.70 Summary Table Renewable Energy Development

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: ENV10 Renewable Energy Development				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment	D	-	Renewable energy can often require the use undeveloped land for siting, particularly for schemes such as solar farms. In some instances the use of the land for a renewable scheme may be temporary,
		ST-LT	P/T	

	and safeguard resources for the future generations.			however this is not always the case. The policy may therefore have a negative impact against this sustainability objective.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	The policy supports the development of renewable energy schemes within the District, where there is no significant adverse effects. The policy scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	
		?	?	

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	The development of renewable energy schemes has the potential to impact upon the landscape and townscape of the District. No specific reference is made within the policy to landscape and townscape character. The exact impact of a scheme will depend on the sites location, however regard should be had to the landscape character assessment and the settlement fringe study.
		?	?	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.71

Alternative Option: Do not set out local criteria under which proposals for renewable energy generation development will be permitted				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	D	-	Renewable energy can often require the use undeveloped land for siting, particularly for schemes such as solar farms. In some instances the use of the land for a renewable scheme may be temporary, however this is not always the case. The policy may therefore have a negative
		ST-LT	P/T	

				impact against this sustainability objective.	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+		The policy supports the development of renewable energy schemes within the District, where there is no significant adverse effects. The policy scores positively against the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P		
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a			
	N/a	N/a			
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	Higher level guidance gives a degree of weight to the consideration of locally important features. However the lack of a locally defined criteria for the assessment of commercial scale energy generation developments has an inherent risks towards the district's amenities	
		?	?		

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	See comment in relation to sustainability objective 6
		?	?	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	See comment in relation to sustainability objective 6
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and	N/a	N/a	

	adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
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Table 12.72

E01 General Employment Areas

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	-	+	++	++
Alternative Option: Do not protect employment areas solely for B class uses	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	+	-	--	--

Comments: The preferred direction is to protect general employment areas within Breckland for employment uses. This approach scores well against the sustainability objectives based around the economy. The approach is also in conformity with the Employment Growth Study 2013.

Table 12.73 Summary Table General Employment Areas

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: E01 General Employment Areas				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and	D LT	0 P	Restricting development on employment sites for non-employment uses may put some pressure on the release of undeveloped and

	safeguard resources for the future generations.			agricultural land for development.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	-	Restricting development on employment sites for non-employment uses may be detrimental to the provision of facilities and services in settlements.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-	Restricting development on employment sites for non-employment uses could result in vacant under used land which could be used to provide homes for the population.
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	Restricting development on employment sites for non-employment uses will result in less out-of-town retail units, thus improving the vitality and viability of town centres.
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	++	Protecting employment sites allows for enhancement of employment opportunities and greater accessibility to employment.
		ST-LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	++	Providing and protecting areas from

		ST-LT	P	employment use will ensure there is appropriate areas of accessible land available to improve efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
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Table 12.74

Alternative Option: Do not protect employment areas solely for B class uses				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	?	?	Development of non-employment uses on employment land could result in a minimal reduction in demand on undeveloped and agricultural land.
		?	?	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	Not protecting employment areas will result in more land being available for the development of services and facilities.
		MT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	Not protecting employment areas will result in more land available to support housing growth.
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	-	No protection for employment areas may result in retail units being developed in employment areas outside of town centres, thus undermining the vitality and viability of town centres.
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	--	Not protecting employment areas could result in a loss of land availability for employment opportunities. This could reduce the accessibility of satisfying work for the local people
		ST-LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	--	Option could result in loss of land for employment uses, which could have a detrimental effect on the local economy.
		ST-LT	P	

Table 12.75

E02 Employment Development Outside of General Employment Areas

	Sustainability Objective																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Preferred Direction	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/-	N/a	-	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++
Alternative Option: allow for employment	--	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/-	N/a	-	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	0

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
development wherever it chooses to locate																			
<p>Comments: The preferred direction seeks to locate employment development to general employment areas in the first instance, however it acknowledges that this approach is not always suitable. This policy is carried forward from the core strategy and scores negatively against some of the sustainability objectives around the landscape it is more favourable in relation to the employment objectives.</p>																			

Table 12.76 Summary Table Employment Development Outside of General Employment Areas

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: E02 Employment Development Outside of General Employment Areas				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	-	Option could result in limited loss of undeveloped and agricultural land particularly in the case of industries related to agriculture and forestry.
		MT-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	Employment development in remote countryside locations could result in employees having to travel long distances to work.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0/-	
		MT-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	-	Limited loss of undeveloped land could result in a detrimental effect on biodiversity
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	-	B class use outside of General Employment Areas could have a detrimental affect on the townscape and landscape.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	-	B class use outside of General Employment Areas could have a detrimental affect on the townscape and landscape, including the historic environment.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	++	Option allows flexibility for the location of employment use where there is an identified need, thus creating employment opportunities to meet the needs of the local population.
		ST-LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	++	Option allows for diverse rural economy by allowing for employment development in the countryside which supports agriculture and forestry. The option allows a level of flexibility to ensure economic development is not overly restricted by lack of appropriately located, available land.
		ST-LT	P	

Table 12.77

Alternative Option: Allow for employment development wherever it chooses to locate				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	

		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	--	Limited restrictions on employment development in the countryside would result in a loss of undeveloped and agricultural land.
		MT-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0/-	Employment development in remote countryside locations could result in employees having to travel long distances to work.
		MT-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	-	Limited loss of undeveloped land could result in a detrimental effect on biodiversity
		ST-LT	P	

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	-	B class use outside of General Employment Areas could have a detrimental affect on the townscape and landscape.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	-	B class use outside of General Employment Areas could have a detrimental affect on the townscape and landscape, including the historic environment.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	-	Option would create employment opportunities throughout the district, but these opportunities might not
		ST-LT	P	

				be accessible to the whole population
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	0	Option would ensure that there are no land availability restrictions to employment development and would allow business to locate where they thought it was economically viable for them to locate. However, the dispersal of businesses in rural areas may not be economically efficient in the longer term, due to the loss of networks associated with concentrated areas of employment land uses.
		ST-LT	P	

Table 12.78

E03 Farm Diversification

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	0/-	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/-	N/a	-	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/+	N/a	N/a	-	+	+
Alternative Option: Retain existing Core Strategy policy on farm diversification	0/-	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/-	N/a	-	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/+	N/a	N/a	0/-	+	+

Comments: Farm diversification is an important mechanism for support farming enterprises and securing their ongoing viability and scores well against the economic sustainability objectives. The policy scores less well in relation to the loss of undeveloped agricultural land and also impacts on climate change.

Table 12.79 Summary Table Farm Diversification

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: E03 Farm Diversification

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective		
		D	0			
		N	--			
		ST	P			
		MT	T			
		LT				
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0/-	The policy approach could see the loss of agricultural land, however the approach does require the development to be subservient to the main agriculture use and required to support its continued viability.		
		ST	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a		N/a	Diversification of farms could lead to development in remote areas, increasing the need for people to travel by car to access to services.
			N/a		N/a	
		5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L		0/-	
ST-LT			P			
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.		N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and	D	-	The policy could see further development on agricultural		

	promote and conserve geodiversity.	ST-LT	P	holdings across the District. This may lead to impacts upon biodiversity and hence the negative score on the sustainability appraisal.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	-	The policy could see further expansion into the countryside taking in undeveloped land and agricultural land. This could result in a detrimental impact on landscape. The policy does however include a criterion on proposals not having an unacceptable impact on residential amenity.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	0/+	Farm diversification can present an opportunity to provide services to rural communities in the form of a farm shop or community facility. As a result rural accessibility to services can be improved through farm diversification, although much of this will depend on the proposed use.
		MT-LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	

		N/a	N/a		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	-	Farm diversification may include town centre retail uses, for instance on the form of farm shops. As the policy requires the diversification to be subservient to the farm holding, the impact on the vitality and viability of the town centre is likely to be minimal.	
		MT-LT	P		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	+		The option allows some flexibility in the local economy
		ST-LT	P		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	+		This policy approach allows for the diversification of the rural economy and the potential for job creation within the rural area. The policy has been developed to support the continuing viability of agricultural holdings.
		ST-LT	P		

Table 12.80

Alternative Option: Retain existing Core Strategy policy on Farm Diversification				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		

Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0/-	The policy approach could see the loss of agricultural land.
		ST	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0/-	Diversification of farms could lead to development in remote areas, increasing the need for people to travel by car to access to services.
		ST-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	-	The policy could see further development on agricultural holdings across the District. This may lead to impacts upon biodiversity and hence the negative score on the sustainability appraisal.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	-	The policy could see further expansion into the countryside taking in undeveloped land and agricultural land. This could result in a detrimental impact on landscape. The policy does however include a criterion on proposals not having an unacceptable impact on residential amenity.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	0/+	Farm diversification can present an opportunity to provide services to rural communities in the form of a farm shop or community facility. As a result rural accessibility to services can be improved through farm diversification, although much of this will depend on the proposed use.
		MT-LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	0/-	The Core Strategy policy specifically makes mention to the development of retail uses and the requirement for proposals to demonstrate need within the local area.	
		MT-LT	P		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	+		The option allows some flexibility in the local economy
		ST-LT	P		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	+		This policy approach allows for the diversification of the rural economy and the potential for job creation within the rural area. The policy has been developed to support the continuing viability of agricultural holdings.
		ST-LT	P		

Table 12.81

E04 Tourism Related Development

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	--	0	0	N/a	0/-	?	?	?	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	++	++
Alternative Option: Retain the Core Strategy Policy	-	0	0	N/a	N/a	?	?	?	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	++	+
<p>Comments: Both the preferred direction and the alternative option recognise the importance of tourism for Breckland's economy and support its development, in this regard both the policy options score well against sustainability objectives relating to the local economy. The preferred direction is more supportive of smaller scale developments within the rural area than the alternative option, which sought information around the facility it would sustain. Due to the limited levels of brownfield land within the District, particularly in rural areas, this scores negatively against the sustainability objectives relating to loss of undeveloped land.</p>																			

Table 12.82 Summary Table Tourism Related Development

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: E04 Tourism Related Development

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective	
		D	0		
		N	--		
		ST	P		
		MT	T		
		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	--	The policy allows for tourist related development across the district, whilst the focus for major schemes is on the market towns, smaller scale development is acceptable across the district subject to scale and type. Whilst, the effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site, due to the limited quantum of brownfield land across the District it is likely that most development will occur on undeveloped land.	
		ST-LT	P		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0		New development will see a need for increased water consumption, however the impact from tourism development is likely to be minimal.
		LT	P		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0		New development will see a need for increased water consumption, however the impact from tourism development is likely to be minimal.
		LT	P		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	0/-		The preferred direction allows for smaller scale tourism development across the district. This may lead to development in areas without public transport access and as such lead to reliance on the private car. The
		MT	P		

				impact upon air pollution likely to be minimal.
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	?	?	The effect of this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected, as such the impact is unclear at present but should be dealt with during the planning application stage.
		?	?	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	The effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected. The effect will need to be carefully considered given the close relationship between tourism and rural areas with known biodiversity value such as Thetford Forest or the river valleys.
		?	?	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	?	?	The effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected. The effect will need to be carefully considered given the close relationship between tourism and rural areas with known biodiversity value such as Thetford Forest or the river valleys.
		?	?	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	The effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected. The impact will need to be carefully considered given the dependency between a successful tourist economy and an attractive landscape and built environment.
		?	?	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The impact on this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected. The effect will need to be carefully considered given the close relationship between tourism and heritage, including e historic environment.
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a		
	N/a	N/a		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The policy seeks to promote larger scale development within or close to town centres as sustainable locations from which to explore Breckland. This scores good compatibility with this objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	++	The policy supports the development of new tourist facilities and accommodation within the District. Tourism is a key employment sector within Breckland and as such the policy scores well against this objective.
		ST	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	++	Tourism and tourist related employment is a key sector within Breckland's economy. The policy supports the sustainable development of tourist facilities within the District. The preferred direction supports smaller scale tourism development across the district.
		ST	P	

Table 12.83

Alternative Option: Retain existing Core Strategy policy				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L D	++ 0	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective

	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--			
		ST MT LT	P T			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	-	The alternative option allows for tourist related development in the countryside with an emphasis on re-using existing buildings or on previously developed land. However, the effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site, the availability of brownfield opportunities in that location and therefore the effect is uncertain.		
		ST-LT	P			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	D	0		New development will see a need for increased water consumption, however the impact from tourism development is likely to be minimal.	
		LT	P			
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	D	0			New development will see a need for increased water consumption, however the impact from tourism development is likely to be minimal.
		LT	P			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a			
		N/a	N/a			
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	?	?			The effect of this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected, as such the impact is unclear at present but should be dealt with during the planning application stage.
		?	?			
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand	?	?	The effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site		
		?	?			

	biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.			selected. The effect will need to be carefully considered given the close relationship between tourism and rural areas with known biodiversity value such as Thetford Forest or the river valleys.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	?	?	The effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected. The effect will need to be carefully considered given the close relationship between tourism and rural areas with known biodiversity value such as Thetford Forest or the river valleys.
		?	?	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	The effect on this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected. The impact will need to be carefully considered given the dependency between a successful tourist economy and an attractive landscape and built environment.
		?	?	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The impact on this objective will be dependent on the particular site selected. The effect will need to be carefully considered given the close relationship between tourism and heritage, including e historic environment.
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	The Core Strategy policy seeks to promote hotel and motel accommodation within or close to town centres as sustainable locations from which to explore Breckland. This scores good compatibility with this objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	L	++	The Core Strategy policy supports the development of new tourist facilities and accommodation within the District subject to a number of criteria. Tourism is a key employment sector within Breckland and as such the policy scores well against this objective.
		ST	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	+	Tourism and tourist related employment is a key sector within Breckland's economy. The policy supports the sustainable development of tourist facilities within the District where they support an existing facility.
		ST	P	

Table 12.84

E05 Telecommunications

	Sustainability Objective																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Preferred Direction	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+
Alternative Option: Allow telecommunications development	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	--	--	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
wherever it is proposed																			
<p>Comments: New telecommunications infrastructure is important for delivering and supporting a strong economy within Breckland, as such policies supporting the development of telecommunications infrastructure score well against the sustainability objectives for the economy. The alternative option of allowing telecommunication infrastructure wherever it chooses potentially has significant negative impacts in relation to landscape and townscape character, the historic environment, biodiversity, green infrastructure and geodiversity.</p>																			

Table 12.85 Summary Table Telecommunications

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: E05 Telecommunications				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	?	?	The technical requirements of some telecommunications infrastructure will dictate that they will need to be located in the countryside. However, locally defined criteria should ensure that this is a last resort, and that all visual impacts will be minimised.
		?	?	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	development with minimal impacts on water quality.			
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N	-	No specific reference is made to the protection of biodiversity or geodiversity within the policy, instead the policy relies on visual impact.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N	-	
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N	+	The policy includes a locally defined criteria around avoidance of sites with an unacceptable impact on visual or residential amenity. This provides compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	

Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	A good telecommunication network is essential to the development of the local economy, and therefore is important to this sustainability objective.
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	A good telecommunication network is essential to the development of the local economy, and therefore is important to this sustainability objective.
		MT	P	

Table 12.86

Alternative Option: Allow telecommunications development wherever it is proposed

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective	
		D	0		
		N	--		
		ST	P		
		MT	T		
		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N	-	The technical requirements of some telecommunications infrastructure will dictate that they will need to be located in the countryside. A policy which permits development wherever it is proposed potentially has conflict with this policy.	
		MT-LT	P		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
			N/a	N/a	
		5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
N/a			N/a		
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.		N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and	N	-	Allowing development wherever it is proposed	

	promote and conserve geodiversity.	ST-LT	P	may endanger areas of particular interest. Therefore there is a conflict with this sustainability objective.
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N	-	See comment above
		ST-LT	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N	--	Allowing telecommunications development wherever it chooses to locate will not have regard to the impact on the landscape or townscape character and scores negatively against this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	--	
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	and appropriate housing that meets their needs.			
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	A good telecommunication network is essential to the development of the local economy, and therefore is important to this sustainability objective.
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	
		MT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	
		MT	P	

Table 12.87

E06 Developer Contributions

	Sustainability Objective																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	
<p>Comments: The preferred direction is to include a policy on developer contributions. What can be secured as a developer contribution is set out within the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations. Having regard to the requirements of these regulations it is not considered that there is a reasonable alternative to the approach proposed within the preferred direction.</p>																				

Table 12.88 Summary Table Developer Contributions

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: E06 Developer Contributions				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L D	++ 0	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective

	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--	
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	All new development is required to contribute towards open space. This will need to be secured through a planning obligation to ensure it comes forward. As such a policy setting out the requirements for developer contributions scores positively against this sustainability objective.	
	ST-LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	D	+	Where a new development requires the provision of infrastructure including essential facilities such as schools to make it acceptable in planning terms a planning obligation will be required to secure this. As such a policy setting out the requirements for developer contributions scores positively against this
		ST-LT	P	

				sustainability objective.
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	Affordable housing will need to be secured through a planning obligation to ensure it comes forward. As such a policy setting out the requirements for developer contributions scores positively against this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	1N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.89

E07 Advertising and Signs

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Do not include a local policy on	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

	Sustainability Objective																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
advertisements and signs																		
<p>Comments: Advertisements and Signs can have a significant impact on the aesthetics of an area and a development. Including a positive local plan policy should help to ensure that the impact of signs on the districts environment, including landscape townscape character and also the historic environment are taken into account through the planning process. This approach scores positively against the sustainability objectives for the environment.</p>																		

Table 12.90 Summary Table Advertising an Signs

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: E07 Advertising and signs				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	++	Advertisements and signage can have a significant impact on the character and the perception of an area. The preferred approach requires advertisements and signs to have regard to their setting specifically landscape and townscape.
		ST	T	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	++	
		ST	T	

Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	L	+	The policy has been assessed as having a positive impact against the sustainability objective relating to the landscape and townscape. Improvements to the street scene within the Districts town centres will improve the vitality of these areas.
		ST	Y	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.91

Alternative Option: Do not include a local policy on advertisements and signs

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective	
		D	0		
		N	--		
		ST	P		
		MT	T		
		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	-	Advertisements and signage can have a significant impact on the character and the perception of an area. Not including a local policy within Local Plan will not mean that the landscape and townscape isn't taken into account, however it risks a level of inconsistency in the way in which they are assessed which could be detrimental to the protection of the landscape and townscape of the district.
		ST	T	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	-	
		ST	T	
Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

health	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.92

TR01 Sustainable Transport Network

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on other policies	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
within the Local Plan																			
<p>Comments: The sustainable transport policy includes requirements for new dwellings to be located in areas with good public transport access. The alternative option of not including a policy does not mean that sites will not be sustainably located in areas with good access to public transport. However it may diminish the weight which can be given to it through the planning application process.</p>																			

Table 12.93 Summary Table Sustainable Transport Network

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: TR01 Sustainable Transport Network				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	The sustainable transport study encourages the delivery of housing development in sustainable locations where it reduces the need to travel and in areas where there is public transport availability. A key case of localised air pollution is through car use, as such a policy which encourages other transport options scores positively against this objective.
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

health	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	?	?	Whilst this policy does not directly provide or enhance essential services and facilities, it requires new developments to be located in more sustainable locations, the overall implication is that this will lead to better accessibility to facilities.
		?	?	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.94

Alternative Option: Do not include a specific policy on Sustainable Transport and rely on other policies within the Local Plan

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	D	0	Not including a sustainable transport policy within the local plan will not necessarily impact upon local air pollution from cars as the locational strategy sets out that new developments should be in more sustainable
		ST-LT	P	

				locations. However it may diminish the weight which can be given to the issue through the determination of a planning application.
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	?	?	Not including a policy on sustainable transport has the potential to impact upon the location of new developments. Whilst the policy does not directly
		?	?	

				provide or enhance essential services and facilities, it requires new developments to be located in more sustainable locations, the overall implication is that this will lead to better accessibility to facilities.
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.95

COM01 Design

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	+	++	+	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	+
Alternative Option: Rely on policies	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
within the NPPF																			

Comments: The design of a development is a key part of the planning process and should be considered at the very beginning of the scheme. Including a locally led set of design principles will help to achieve this goal and scores positively against the sustainability objectives. Not including a local policy does not mean that design would not be considered through the planning process, however it risks not being as responsive to the local area. Furthermore it scores poorly around ideas on the the landscape and townscape character and the historic environment.

Table 12.96 Summary Table Design

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM01 Design				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	++	The most obvious effects of good design is the contribution that is made to the townscape and landscape of places. The effective application of good design principles should result in a particular compatibility with this sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	++	
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	+	Well designed development should incorporate open space and/or create good accessibility links. It should also incorporate features that promote a choice of transport, including walking or cycling. This may contribute to the improvement of the health and well being of the population.
		ST-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	D	++	
		ST-LT	P	

				prevention of crime and the prevention of the fear of crime.
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	D	+	Well designed development should integrate any element of open space, or forge links to existing open space as far as is practicable.
		ST-LT	P	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	Well designed housing should incorporate an appropriate mix of house types and should be designed in such a way as to be capable of adaptation to meet the changing needs of its occupiers. There are risks that very high standards of design confer additional costs to the developer, in terms of money and time, and this may impact upon the market attractiveness of sites and therefore the delivery of housing.	
	ST-LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	D	+	Well designed buildings, spaces and transportation routes will contribute to the creation of an attractive environment that people will want to use. This will help to create vital and viable town centres.
		ST-LT	P	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and	D	+	Well designed buildings, spaces and transportation routes will

	adaptability of the local economy.	ST-LT	P	contribute to the creation of an attractive and well functioning environment that people will want to use and invest in. Therefore well designed places will help to contribute to the competitiveness of the economy. Buildings designed to be adaptable will build in adaptability which should help the reactivity of the economy by ensuring that buildings are suitable for a number of purposes. There are risks that very high standards of design confer additional costs to the developer, and this may impact upon the attractiveness of sites and therefore the delivery of employment development.
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Table 12.97

Alternative Option: Do not set out locally defined principles to be used to assess the quality of development proposals				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes	N/a	N/a	

	and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	-	The absence of a local design policy would not remove design as a consideration from the design process. However, the designation of design principles at the site level risks an inconsistency that would be detrimental to the protection of the landscape and townscape of the district.
		ST-LT	P	

	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	-	The absence of a local design policy would not remove design as a consideration from the design process. However, the designation of design principles at the site level risks inconsistency that would be detrimental to the protection and enhancement of the districts historic environment.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.98

COM02 Protection of Amenity

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	++	?	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Do not seek to protect the amenities of the District through a Local Plan policy	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	?	-	-	?	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	-	?	N/a	M/a

Comments: Consideration of amenity is a key part of the planning process. Without a specific local plan process it does not mean that amenity will not be considered through the planning process. However, the level of weight which can be given to different amenity issues through the planning process may be diminished. Not including a policy within the local plan scores negatively against a number of the sustainability objectives, particularly those relating to the environment.

Table 12.99 Summary Table Protection of Amenity

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM02 Protection of Amenity				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
	LT			

Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	+	Areas of particular conservation or environmental interest are also often areas that are important local amenities. Therefore the protection of amenities will have an indirect benefit to areas contributing to the bio-diversity of the district. There is therefore good compatibility with this sustainability objective. There is no substantial evidence that there will be any notable improvement of this compatibility over time.
		ST-LT	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	+	
		ST-LT	P	

				protection of amenities will have an indirect benefit to areas contributing to the bio-diversity of the district. There is therefore good compatibility with this sustainability objective. There is no substantial evidence that there will be any notable improvement of this compatibility over time.	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	++	The diversity and distinctiveness of the landscape of the district is clearly an amenity that would be preserved within this policy. Therefore there is a strong compatibility with this sustainability objective.	
		ST-LT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	++		
		ST-LT	P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	?	?	The maintenance of the amenities of the district may potentially help to maintain the attractiveness of open space and community areas. This may in turn attract people to use these facilities and as such help to improve health. However, this is a subjective and unsubstantiated assumption and therefore the level of compatibility has not been defined at this juncture.	
		?	?		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	?	?		The protection of local amenities will include the interests of maintaining the quality of areas of open space. Although this will not improve quality or quantity it will ensure that there is not a detrimental wasting of areas of open space. Therefore although not a positive compatibility with this sustainability objective, there
		?	?		

				is a degree of compatibility with its underlying aims.
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	+	An essential element of maintaining decent and appropriate housing is ensuring the protection of residential amenity. Therefore there is a good compatibility with this sustainability objective. It is not considered that there is a strong compatibility with this objective as it will not deliver the affordable aspect of the sustainability objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	?	?	The protection of the districts amenities, including the features of its historic and natural environment may have benefits in terms of the vitality of the districts town centres. The principle potential benefit is that by protecting desirable features the attractiveness of town centres can be maintained against a backdrop of expansion and this may aid their attractiveness to consumers. However, this is an unsubstantiated effect that cannot be quantified at this juncture.
		?	?	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and	N/a	N/a	

	adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
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Table 12.100

Alternative Option: Do not include a specific local policy on protection of amenity				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	D	?	The absence of a locally defined amenity policy would not preclude consideration of the impact of development on natural features from a contribution to local amenity. However the lack of a local policy may diminish the weight that can be attached to such issues in the planning process. To this extent there may be a conflict with this sustainability objective.	
		ST-LT	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	D	?		See comment above
		ST-LT	P		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	D	-	There is a risk that the lack of a local policy seeking to preserve the districts visual amenities will diminish the weight that can be given to this issue through the development management process. This leads to a minor conflict with this sustainability objective.	
		ST-LT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	D	-		A lack of a specific policy on amenity may lead to the impact of it not being fully taken into account in regards to the historic environment.
		ST-LT	P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	?	?		
		?	?		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	?	?		A locally defined policy that aims to preserve the amenities of the district will not improve the quality or
		?	?		

				quantity, it might help to ensure that there is not a detrimental wasting of areas of open space. An absence of a locally defined planning policy may have the opposite effect. There is a degree of conflict with the underlying aims of this sustainability objective.
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	-	A key element of providing decent and appropriate housing is ensuring that an appropriate level of residential amenity is afforded to all properties. The failure to set out a locally defined set of criteria may undermine this aim.	
	ST-LT	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	?	?	A potential benefit of protecting the desirable features and attractiveness of town centres against a backdrop of expansion, is an added attraction to consumers. An absence of local policy seeking to maintain these amenities may have the opposite effect. However, it is difficult to quantify the impact of this.
		?	?	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and	N/a	N/a	

	adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
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Table 12.101

COM03 Principles of New Housing

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on policies within the NPPF	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: The preferred direction supports new housing development inside existing settlement boundaries and aims to ensure that new developments make efficient use of land which reflects the character of the area. This policy scores well against the sustainability objectives. Whilst not including a policy does not mean that these issues will not be addressed, the weight that can be attributed to them may be diminished and as such this scores negatively against the sustainability objectives.

Table 12.102 Summary Table Principles of New Housing

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM03 Principles of New Housing				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N ST MT LT	++ 0 -- P T	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the	D ST-LT	+ P	The preferred direction does not set a maximum density, however it does encourage higher density in areas where this may be appropriate, such as

	impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			town centre locations, areas with good public transport and within the urban extensions. Encouraging higher densities in sustainable locations will ultimately reduce the quantities of greenfield land that is developed.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	The density of the development does not necessarily equate to the quality of the development, this is subject to design, layout and context. The preferred
		ST-LT	P	

				directions approach to focus high density development in areas where there is already an efficient use of land and sustainable locations where additional measures can be introduced such as strategic landscaping to assist integration with landscape/townscape setting. Conversely low density development, especially in the rural areas will assimilate to the existing form and character of these area.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	+	The historic environments of Breckland include the 50 conservation areas identified in the baseline. The density of development in these conservation areas varies considerable and the flexibility of the preferred direction to enable high density development in urban scenarios and low density development in the rural context should enable appropriately designed developments that have a positive effect against this objective.
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.103

Alternative Option: Do not include a specific local plan policy on principles of new housing				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and	D	-	Not including a policy in regards to optimising the density of developments on sites may lead to lower density
		ST-LT	P	

	safeguard resources for the future generations.			schemes coming forward. This would increase the amount of land a site will need to develop the same number of dwellings. As such the approach scores negatively against the sustainability objective.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	-	The density of the development does not necessarily equate to the quality of the
		ST-LT	P	

				development, this is subject to design, layout and context. Not including a specific policy around density may lead to development which does not reflect the local area and as such is damaging on the landscape and townscape character.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	-	See comment above
		ST-LT	P	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.104

COM04 Community Facilities

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	++	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on other policies within the NPPF	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	--	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: The preferred direction is to include a policy around the protection of community facilities through the Local Plan. This approach is carried forward from the Core Strategy and scores well against the social sustainability objectives. Local facilities provide access to facilities for people who may not be able to travel to higher order settlements. The alternative option is to not include a specific policy within the Local Plan and instead rely on policies within the NPPF. This approach scores negatively against a number of sustainability objectives and will lead to the need to travel further to services and facilities.

Table 12.105 Summary Table Community Facilities

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM04 Community Facilities				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Resources	agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a
N/a			N/a	
5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.		L	+	Protection of key local services reduces peoples need to travel long distances, thus lowering carbon dioxide emissions.
		MT	P	
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.		N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	?	Reducing peoples need to

and human health		MT	P	travel by protecting key local services could improve the well being of the local population
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	++
MT			P	
15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.		L	+	Protection of local services ensures everyone has reasonably easy access to the services that they need.
		MT	P	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.		N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.106

Alternative Option: Rely on other policies within the NPPF					
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective	
		D	0		
		N	--		
		ST	P		
		MT	T		
		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	-	This option could result in the loss of services in rural areas, increasing people's need to travel longer distances to higher order settlement, thus contributing to climate change.	
		MT-LT	P		

	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	L	--	Option could result in loss of essential services and facilities to redevelopment.
		MT-LT	P	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	L	-	Loss of services and facilities could result in some areas of the population having more difficulty accessing essential services and facilities.
		MT-LT	P	

	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.107

COM05 Specialist Housing

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/A	0	0	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a	+	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Do not include a policy and rely on the NPPF	N/a	0	0	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a	+	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Allocate a specific site(s) for specialist housing	0/-	0	0	N/a	+	?	0	0	+	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a

Comments: The strategic housing market assessment highlights the fact that Breckland's older population is increasing. In order to meet the needs of this group, the policy supports the development of specialist housing. The preferred policy approach scores positively against the sustainability criteria around redressing inequalities and the provision of new dwellings to meet the needs of the population. Whilst the NPPF is supportive of delivering a full range of house types., it is considered that the preferred direction scores better against the social requirements of the sustainability appraisal. The second alternative option is to allocate a specific site for specialist

Sustainability Objective																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
housing. This approach also scores well against the sustainability objectives, and should help to meet the requirements within the strategic housing market assessment. However any new allocation is likely to be on undeveloped greenfield land due to limited brownfield land availability within Breckland.																		

Table 12.108 Summary Table Specialist Housing

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM05 Specialist Housing				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	The policy seeks to support new development which provides housing solutions for an ageing population. This could include development on undeveloped or greenfield land, however this will be determined by the sites location and the planning application.
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

air pollution	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	+	The policy encourages the development of specialist housing within settlements which have access to an adequate range of transport facilities. This is in conformity with the expectations of the sustainability appraisal objective.
		ST	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	?	?	
		?	?	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	0	No reference to biodiversity or geodiversity is made within the policy. This will depend on the sites location
		ST	P	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	0	
		ST	P	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	The policy includes a criteria to ensure the design and scale of schemes is appropriate to the setting and surroundings with no adverse impact on local character and amenity. This should ensure that the development comes forward in accordance with the expectations of the sustainability objective.
		ST	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	+	
		ST	P	
Population and human	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The policy seeks to increase the level of specialist housing within the district in order to address the requirements of the ageing
		ST	P	

health				population. The development should occur in areas where there is access to public transport and health facilities.
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This will be determined at the planning application stage
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	All new residential development is required to provide on-site open space.
		N/a	N/a	
	Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a
N/a			N/a	
15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.		N/a	++	The strategic housing market assessment confirms that the number of older people within Breckland is increasing. The policy supports specialist housing to meet the needs of this section of Breckland's population and as such scores positively against this sustainability objective.
		N/a	N/a	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.		D	++	The policy will help to secure housing for an ageing population which is accordance with the sustainability objective to ensure all groups have access to appropriate housing.
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.109

Alternative Option: Do not include a specific policy on Specialist Housing options.					
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective	
		D	0		
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	N	--		
		ST	P		
		MT	T		
		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a		New development will have a requirement for water provision. The impact is likely to be minimal from specialist housing.
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		New development will have a requirement for water provision. The impact is likely to be minimal from specialist housing.
		N/a	N/a		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The policy seeks to increase the level of specialist housing within the district in order to address the requirements of the ageing population. The development should occur in areas where there is access to public transport and health facilities.	
		ST	P		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This will be determined at the planning application stage	
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	All new residential development is required to provide on-site open space.	
		N/a	N/a		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	-		The NPPF at paragraph 50 notes that local planning authorities should plan to deliver a wide choice of high quality of homes, including for
		MT	P		

				older people. The NPPF does not provide any specific requirements around the level of new homes which should be adaptable or accessible and as such scores poorly against the sustainability objective.
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-	See comment above
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.110

Alternative Option: Allocate a specific site for specialist housing				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the	L	0/-	The policy seeks to support new development which provides housing solutions for an ageing population. There is limited brownfield land within Breckland
		MT	P	

	recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			and it is highly likely that any new allocation would be on undeveloped greenfield land. The exact impact however would be determined when the allocation is sited.	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	L	0	New development will have a requirement for water provision. The impact is likely to minimal from an allocation from a specialist housing.	
		MT	P		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	L	0	New development will have a requirement for water provision. The impact is likely to minimal from an allocation for specialist housing.	
		MT	P		
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	+		The impact of this policy approach would depend upon the location of the allocation. The policy includes criteria for the location of sites close to essential services and facilities which should reduce the need to travel and therefore scores positively against this sustainability objective.
		ST	P		
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	?	?	The conformity with this sustainability objective will be dependent on the location of the site		
	?	?			
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	L	0	This will depend on the sites location.	
		ST	P		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	L	0	This will depend on the sites location and will be determined through the planning application.	
		ST	P		
Cultural heritage and	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of	L	+	The policy includes a criteria to ensure the design and scale of schemes is appropriate to the setting and surroundings with no	
		ST	P		

landscape	landscape and townscape character.			adverse impact on local character and amenity. This should ensure that the allocation comes forward in accordance with the expectations of the sustainability objective.	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L ST	+ P	The policy includes a criteria to ensure the design and scale of schemes is appropriate to the setting and surroundings with no adverse impact on local character and amenity. This should ensure that the allocation comes forward in accordance with the expectations of the sustainability objective.	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	L	+	The policy seeks to increase the level of specialist housing within the district in order to address the requirements of the ageing population. The development should occur in areas where there is access to public transport and health facilities.	
		ST	P		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	This will be determined at the planning application stage	
		N/a	N/a		
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	All new residential development is required to provide on-site open space.		
	N/a	N/a			
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	++		The strategic housing market assessment confirms that the number of older people within Breckland is increasing. The policy supports specialist housing to meet the needs of this section of Breckland's population and as such scores positively against this sustainability objective. A specific allocation of specialist housing scores positively against this objective.
		N/a	N/a		

	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	The allocation will help to secure specialist housing for an ageing population which is accordance with the sustainability objective to ensure all groups have access to appropriate housing.
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.111

COM06 Technical Design Standards for New Homes

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on NPPF and do not apply local technical standards	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	N/a
Comments: The preferred direction scores positively against the sustainability objectives for ensuring access to new homes for all groups within society. The requirements for adaptability and accessibility of dwellings should help to redress existing inequalities and allow people to stay within their homes for longer																			

Table 12.112 Summary Table Technical Design Standards for New Homes

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM06 Technical Design Standards for New Homes

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0	This policy does not specially relate to any of the decision making questions associated with this sustainability objective. However ensuring adaptability and accessibility of dwellings is considered positive in regards to well being. The policy approach should ensure that people are able to remain within their own home longer.
		MT-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	++	The inclusion of a policy around the adaptability and accessibility of dwellings scores positively against the sustainability objective to redress inequalities. The strategic housing market assessment
		MT-LT	P	

				has demonstrated that Breckland has an increasing older population and this policy will go some way to meeting their needs within the housing market.
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	++	A specific policy around design standards and the need to ensure the adaptability of homes scores positively against the sustainability objective. The strategic housing market assessment has shown the need for adaptable dwellings to support these sections of the community within Breckland.
		MT-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a		

Table 12.113

Alternative option - Rely on policies within the NPPF				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	

		MT LT	T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	D	0	This policy does not specially relate to any of the decision making questions associated with this sustainability objective. However ensuring adaptability and accessibility of dwellings is considered positive in regards to well being. The policy approach should ensure that people are able to remain within their own home longer.
		MT-LT	P	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	-	
		MT-LT	P	

				against the sustainability objective.
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-	See comment above
		MT-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	

Table 12.114

COM07 Residential Replacement, Extension and Alteration

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
Alternative Option: Rely on policies within the NPPF	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a
<p>Comments: Dwellings within the countryside often form a key part of the traditional vernacular of the area. The strategic housing market assessment has demonstrated the need for different size dwellings including smaller dwellings. The inclusion within the policy of the requirements for replacement dwellings to be similar in scale to the original dwelling therefore scores positively against the sustainability objective.</p>																			

Table 12.115 Summary Table Residential Replacement, Extension and Alteration

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM07 Residential Replacement, Extension and Alteration

SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective	
		D	0		
		N	--		
		ST	P		
		MT	T		
		LT			
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	+	The policy involves the replacement and extension of existing dwellings, therefore it does not involve the take up of significant amounts of new undeveloped land or productive agricultural land.	
		ST	P		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	The policy will not see the creation of new dwellings, so as such should not impact upon water consumption.	
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
			N/a	N/a	
		5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
N/a			N/a		
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.		N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	Well designed replacement buildings can have a positive effect on the landscape and townscape. Additionally, contemporary buildings add to the layers of our built heritage. Replacement dwellings can provide a significant opportunity to improve the landscape.
		ST	P	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The loss of traditional and smaller properties is at variance with the objective of conserving the historic environment. However, the character and built form is continually evolving and contemporary buildings can add to the evolution of the character of villages and hamlets. Given the subjectivity around design the effect of such an approach is at best uncertain.
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	+	Ensuring that replacement dwellings reflect the size and scale of the original will help to maintain the traditional local vernacular. It also retains choice within the market for smaller dwellings within the countryside.
		MT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.116

Alternative Option: Allow for replacement dwellings principally on the basis of design rather than the need to protect property size				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
Land, water and Soil Resources	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the	L	+	The policy involves the replacement and extension of existing dwellings, therefore it does not involve the take
		ST	P	

	recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			up of significant amounts of new undeveloped land or productive agricultural land.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	The policy will not see the creation of new dwellings, so as such should not impact upon water consumption.
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	Well designed replacement buildings can have a positive effect on the landscape and townscape. Additionally, contemporary buildings add to the layers of our built heritage. Replacement dwellings can provide a significant opportunity to improve
		ST	P	

				the landscape, especially those which are design led.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	The loss of traditional and smaller properties is at variance with the objective of conserving the historic environment. However, the character and built form is continually evolving and contemporary buildings can add to the evolution of the character of villages and hamlets. Given the subjectivity around design the effect of such an approach is at best uncertain.
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	-	The replacement dwelling section of the policy does not include reference to the scale of the replacement with the exception of its height. This could lead to the loss of smaller scale dwellings within the countryside.
		MT	P	

Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

Table 12.117

COM08 Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	++	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	+	+
Alternative Option: Do not require an economic reuse in the first instance	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	++	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	-	-

Comments: The policy allowing the conversion of existing buildings within the countryside scores well against the sustainability objectives. Agricultural buildings form a key characteristic of the countryside within Breckland. The policy supports the retention of suitably constructed buildings. The preferred direction requires consideration of an economic reuse in the first instance. The employment growth study highlights the role of the rural economy and the use of small units to support Breckland's wider economy.

Table 12.118 Summary Table Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM08 Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	

		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	0	The policy involves the conversion of existing dwellings in the countryside. Additional undeveloped land may be required to provide garden land for dwellings.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	?	?	There is a risk that allowing the conversion of buildings in unsustainable locations is going to lead to an increased need to travel, with the only option for that travel being the private car. This in turn may lead to an increase in emissions conflicting with this sustainability objective.
		?	?	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	

	promote and conserve geodiversity.				
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	A key feature of the distinctiveness and diversity of the townscapes and landscapes is its historic environment. Allowing conversion that would retain these historically important buildings would therefore have a good compatibility with this sustainability objective.	
		ST-LT	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L	++		
		ST-LT	P		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	+		All new dwellings will be required to contribute towards open space.
		ST-LT	P		
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+		The policy allows the conversion of buildings to residential where an economic reuse is not suitable. Whilst the quantum
		ST-LT	P		

				of dwellings provided through this mechanism is likely to be minimal, it will still meet a need for residential dwellings.
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	+	The policy requires applicants to demonstrate that an economic reuse of buildings is not possible, prior to the conversion to a residential dwelling. This seeks to ensure wherever possible an economic re-use happens in the first instance. The Economic Growth Study demonstrated the need for smaller units including rural workshop, and this policy is beneficial to this.
		ST-LT	P	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	See comment above
		ST-LT	P	

Table 12.119

Alternative Option: Allow for the conversion of buildings without the need for an economic reuse.				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural	L	0	The policy involves the conversion of existing dwellings in the countryside.
		ST-LT	P	

Resources	holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			Additional undeveloped land may be required to provide garden land for dwellings.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a
N/a			N/a	
5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.		?	?	
		?	?	
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.		N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of	L	+	
		ST-LT	P	

landscape	landscape and townscape character.			landscapes is its historic environment. Allowing conversion that would retain these historically important buildings would therefore have a good compatibility with this sustainability objective.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	L ST-LT	++ P	Allowing conversion that would retain these historically important buildings would have a strong compatibility with this sustainability objective.
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L ST-LT	+ P	All new dwellings are required to contribute towards open space provision	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D ST-LT	+ P	The policy allows the conversion of buildings to residential where an economic reuse is not suitable. Whilst the quantum of dwellings provided through this mechanism is likely to be minimal, it will still meet a need for residential dwellings.	

Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	The Economic Growth Study showed that whilst the majority of the workers within the District work within higher order settlements, there is still a need for a number of smaller rural workshops. By not seeking an economic reuse in the first instance this removes these units from an existing economic role, which scores negatively against this sustainability objective.	
		N/a	N/a		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	D	-		
		ST-LT	P		
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	-		See comment above
		ST-LT	P		

Table 12.120

COM09 Agricultural Workers Exceptions

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	-	-	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	++	N/a	N/a	++
Alternative Option: Rely on policies within the NPPF	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	++	N/a	N/a	0/-
<p>Comments: Due to the nature of the businesses that they are intended to support agricultural workers dwellings are often located within isolated locations in the countryside and are developed upon undeveloped or agricultural land. The preferred direction requires consideration of whether there is a suitable site nearby or a building which may be possible of conversion. This scores more positively against the sustainability objectives in this regard.</p>																			

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Both the preferred and alternative approaches score well in the provision of new dwellings.																			

Table 12.121 Summary Table Agricultural Workers Exceptions

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM09 Agricultural Workers Exceptions				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L D N	++ 0 --	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		ST MT LT	P T	
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	-	This policy allows for the development of new dwellings, where there is a demonstrated agricultural need. It is likely that the dwellings would be built on undeveloped or agricultural land, however the number of dwellings coming forward under this policy are likely to be minimal and as such the impact is likely to be limited.
		ST	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	L	-	
		ST	P	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	L	-	
		ST	P	

Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	By virtue of the types of industry these dwellings are intended to support they are likely to be in isolated locations which are less sustainable. Transport options are likely to be limited to cars.	
		N/a	N/a		
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	-		
		ST	P		
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	The impact against this sustainability objective will be determined based on the individual planning application	
		N/a	N/a		
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	The impact against this sustainability objective will be determined based on the individual planning application	
		N/a	N/a		
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	L	+	The policy includes reference for the proposed dwellings to include appropriate landscaping.	
		ST	P		
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	The impact against this sustainability objective will be determined based on the individual planning application	
		N/a	N/a		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	+		All new dwellings are required to contribute to open space.
		ST	P		

Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	The policy supports the development of new dwellings where they are demonstrated as essential to the need of the business.
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	++	
		ST	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	++	
		ST	P	

Table 12.122

Alternative Option: Do not include a policy on Agricultural Workers Exceptions				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
	Decision making (Appraisal) questions	D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	
		MT	T	
		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources		1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the	L	-
	ST-LT		P	

	recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.			be on undeveloped or agricultural land.
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	L	-	By virtue of the types of industry these dwellings are intended to support they are likely to be in isolated locations which are less sustainable. Transport options are likely to be limited to cars.
		ST	P	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	The impact against this sustainability objective will be determined based on the individual planning application
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	The impact against this sustainability objective will be determined based on the individual planning application
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	The impact against this sustainability objective will be determined based on the individual planning application
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness,	L	0	The approach within the NPPF does not make

heritage and landscape	diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	ST	P	reference to the landscape or townscape character. Whilst this will depend upon the sites location, not including it within a specific policy has the potential to diminish the weight which can be attributed to it through the planning process.	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	N/a	N/a	The impact against this sustainability objective will be determined based on the individual planning application	
		N/a	N/a		
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	L	+		All new dwellings are required to contribute to open space.
ST		P			
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	L	++		The NPPF supports the development of new dwellings where they are demonstrated as essential to the need of the business.
		ST	P		
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		

	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	L	0/-	The NPPF does allow for isolated dwellings in the countryside where there is an essential need. The policy does not define essential need. The lack of definition around essential need has the potential to have a negative impact upon the sustainability objective.
		ST	P	

Table 12.123

COM10 Affordable Housing Exceptions

	Sustainability Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Preferred Direction	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	+
Alternative Option: Do not include a policy on exception sites and instead rely on the NPPF	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	N/a	N/a	-

Comments: The preferred direction to include a policy on affordable housing exception sites scores more positively against the sustainability objectives than not including a specific policy. Whilst the NPPF does support the role of exception sites, it is considered that a specific policy would be beneficial for housing delivery. In addition it also scores well in regards to redressing inequalities and supporting the local economy.

Table 12.124 Summary Table Affordable Housing Exceptions

LOCAL PLAN POLICY: COM10 Affordable Housing Exceptions				
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L	++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D	0	
		N	--	
		ST	P	

		MT LT	T		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	-	The development of affordable housing exception sites is on land which is located outside of settlement boundaries. Often this land is likely to be undeveloped or agricultural and therefore the use of this policy is likely to lead to its loss. The amount of land likely to be used for affordable housing exception sites is minimal.	
		ST-LT	P		
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
	Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a		N/a
			N/a		N/a
		5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a		N/a
N/a			N/a		
6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.		N/a	N/a		
		N/a	N/a		
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	?	?	Affordable housing exception sites are likely to be built on undeveloped greenfield land, which as such will have a biodiversity impact. The exact impact however will depend on the sites location and any mitigation measures which are proposed.	
		?	?		

	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	Exception sites in rural areas are likely to occupy peripheral locations on the edge of the built-up area. The precise impact of such development on the landscape and built environment will depend on the specific site chosen and the design and layout of the proposed scheme.
		?	?	
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	+	
		MT-LT	P	
				Exception sites can form an important option in providing for people's housing needs in areas where there is a general policy of restraint on new development. Additionally, the controls on exception sites to

				provide for people with local connections can sustain local social and family networks, redressing inequalities related to age and income.
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	+	The key role of exception sites is in providing affordable housing in rural areas where it would not normally be delivered. Whilst the quantum of housing delivered is likely to be delivered, it will support the delivery of affordable housing and as such scores positively against this sustainability objective.
		MT-LT	P	
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	+	The provision of a greater proportion of affordable housing which is aligned to the specific needs in Breckland will enable a greater number of people of working age to live in the area and access work, thereby supporting the local economy.	
	MT-LT	P		

Table 12.125

Alternative Option: Do not include a policy within the Local Plan and instead rely on the NPPF					
SEA/SA Topic	Sustainability Appraisal Objective Decision making (Appraisal) questions	L		++	Assessment of policy against sustainability objective
		D		0	
		N		--	
		ST		P	
		MT		T	

		LT		
Land, water and Soil Resources	1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped land and productive agricultural holdings and encourage the recycling/reuse of onsite resources to minimise the impacts on the environment and safeguard resources for the future generations.	L	+	Not including a specific policy on exception sites, may reduce the number which come forward on undeveloped agricultural land.
		ST-LT	P	
	2. Limit water consumption to the capacity of natural processes and storage systems and maintain and enhance water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	3. Ensure the sustainable reuse of water to accommodate additional growth and development with minimal impacts on water quality.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Climate change and air pollution	4. Minimise the production of waste and support the recycling of waste.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	5. Reduce contributions to climate change and localised air pollution.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	6. To adapt to climate change and avoid, reduce and manage flood risk.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Biodiversity	7. Protect, conserve, enhance and expand biodiversity and promote and conserve geodiversity.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	8. Protect, enhance and increase Green Infrastructure in the District.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Cultural heritage and landscape	9. Maintain, enhance and preserve the distinctiveness, diversity and quality of landscape and townscape character.	?	?	Not allowing for affordable houses on the edge of villages may result in more homes being crammed into the
		?	?	

				existing built fabric of rural settlements to the detriment of the landscape and built environment of rural Breckland. This effect is relatively uncertain as national planning policy on housing would allow for an exception site scheme.
	10. Conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	?	?	See comment above
		?	?	
Population and human health	11. Improve the health and well being of the population.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	12. Reduce and prevent crime	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	13. Improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open space.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
Inclusive communities	14. Improve the quality, range and accessibility of essential services and facilities.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	15. Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.	D	-	Not providing for affordable housing in rural communities where there is a general policy on restraining development will have a negative effect in terms of redressing inequalities related to age and income.
		MT-LT	P	
	16. Ensure all groups have access to affordable, decent and appropriate housing that meets their needs.	D	-	The key role of exception sites is in providing affordable housing in rural areas where it would not normally be delivered. Whilst the NPPF includes information around the role of exception sites, it
		MT-LT	P	

				is considered that a specific policy would be useful in supporting housing development going forward.
Economic Activity	17. Increase the vitality and viability of existing town centres.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	18. Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.	N/a	N/a	
		N/a	N/a	
	19. Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.	D	-	Restricting the supply of affordable housing in villages may result in rural based businesses facing issues around proximity and numbers of workforce who can support/work at their business.
		MT-LT	P	

Table 12.126

13 Cumulative Assessment of Local Plan Policies

13.1 The following table shows the cumulative impact of the policies against the sustainability appraisal objectives.

Policy	SA Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
PD01 Sustainable Development	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	0	++	+	N/a	+	++	0	++	0	+	+
PD02 Development Requirements (Minimum)	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/-	0	0	0	+	++	+	++	+	+	++
PD03 Location Strategy	-	0	-	0	+	+	?	?	0	-	+	?	++	++	+	++	+	+	+
PD04 level and Location of Growth	-	0	0	N/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/a	+	+	0	++	+	+	+
PD05 Rural Areas	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	?	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
PD06 Economic Development	-	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	N/a	0	+	+	0	+	++	++
PD07 Town Centre and Retail Strategy	0	0	N/a	N/a	+	0	N/a	N/a	+	-	+	N/a	N/a	++	+	N/a	++	+	+
PD08 Affordable Housing	N/a	+	0	0	0	0	0/-	0	0/-	0	+	+	0	+	++	++	N/a	+	+
PD09 Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	0	0	0	0	0	N/a	0	0	+	+	N/a	+	+	0	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
PD10 Healthy Lifestyles	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	N/a	+	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a

Policy	SA Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
PD11 Development Requirements of Aftleborough Strategic Urban Extensions	-	?	?	N/a	-	-	--	+	?	?	+	N/a	++	++	+	++	0	+	+
PD12 Local Employment	0/-	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	+	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+
ENV01 Green Infrastructure	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	?	+	++	+	+	+	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	?	+	N/a	+
ENV02 Sites of European, National and Local Nature Conservation Importance	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	+	++	+	++	?	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
ENV03 The Brecks Protected Habitats and Species	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	++	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a
ENV04 Open Space, Sport and Recreation	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	++	++	+	++	N/a	++	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
ENV05 Protection and Enhancement of the Landscape	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	++	++	++	?	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	-
ENV06 Trees, Hedgerows and Development	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	+	+	++	+	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
ENV07 Designated Heritage Assets	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a

Policy	SA Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
ENV08 Non-Statutory Heritage Assets	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+
ENV09 Flood Risk and Surface Water Drainage	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
ENV10 Renewable Energy	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
E01 General Economy	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	-	+	++	++
E02 Employment Development Outside General Employment Areas	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++
E03 Farm Diversification	0/-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0/+	N/a	N/a	-	+	+
E04 Tourism Related Development	--	0	0	N/a	N/a	?	?	?	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	++	++
E05 Telecommunications	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	-	-	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+
E06 Developer Contributions	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
E07 Advertising and Signs	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a
TR01 Sustainable Transport	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
COM01 Design	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	+	++	+	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a

Policy	SA Objective																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
COM02 Protection of Amenity	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	++	++	?	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a
COM03 Principle of New Housing	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
COM04 Community Facilities	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	++	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
COM05 Specialist Housing	N/a	0	0	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a
COM06 Technical Design Standards for New Homes	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	++	++	N/a	N/a	N/a
COM07 Residential Replacement, Extension and Alteration	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a
COM08 Conversion of Buildings in the Countryside	0	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	++	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	+	+
COM09 Agricultural Workers Exceptions	-	-	-	N/a	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	N/a	N/a	++	N/a	N/a	++
COM10 Affordable Housing Exceptions	-	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	?	N/a	?	?	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	+	+	N/a	N/a	+

Table 13.1 Cumulative Impact of Policies against Sustainability Objectives