URBAN EDGE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

NATURAL PROGRESSION

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Sustainability Report for the Preferred Options Local Plan

December 2023

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Sustainability Report for the Preferred Options Local Plan

Client:	South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse District Council	
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Contents

List of Tables and Figures

Abbreviations

AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
DAM	Detailed Assessment Matrix
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HELAA	Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment
HLA	High Level Assessment
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments
NO_2	Nitrogen dioxide
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG	National Planning Practice Guidance
PPP	Policies, plans or programmes
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

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0 Non-Technical Summary

0.1 About Sustainability Appraisal

0.1.1 A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is being carried out alongside development of the South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan.

0.1.2 Local Planning Authorities such as South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse use SA to assess plans against a set of sustainability objectives developed in consultation with local stakeholders and communities. This assessment helps the Councils to identify the relative environmental, social and economic performance of possible policy and site options, and to evaluate which of these may be more sustainable.

0.1.3 SA is a statutory process incorporating the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations.

0.2 About the Joint Local Plan

0.2.1 The new Joint Local Plan will set the planning strategy for the Districts and address emerging housing and employment needs through to 2041. When adopted the Local Plan will provide a strategy for the distribution, scale and form of development and supporting infrastructure, a set of proposals to deliver the strategy, policies against which to assess planning applications, and proposals for monitoring the success of the plan.

0.3 Purpose and Context of the Sustainability Report

0.3.1 The purpose of this Sustainability Report is to:

- Identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects of the Joint Local Plan and its reasonable alternatives; and
- Provide an opportunity for statutory consultees, interested parties and the public to offer views on any aspect of the SA process which has been carried out to date.

0.3.2 The Sustainability Report contains:

- An outline of the contents and main objectives of the Joint Local Plan and its relationship with other plans, programmes and strategies;
- Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and key sustainability issues for the Districts;
- The SA Framework against which the Joint Local Plan has been assessed;
- An appraisal of alternative strategic directions that the Joint Local Plan could reasonably take;
- An assessment of alternative options for meeting Local Plan strategy;
- An explanation of the likely significant effects of the Joint Local Plan in sustainability terms;

- The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects which may arise as a result of the Joint Local Plan;
- A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring; and
- The next steps for the SA.

0.4 The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Stage

0.4.1 An SA Screening and Scoping Report was prepared by the Councils and submitted to stakeholders for consultation in Spring 2022 as part of the Issues Consultation. This set out the intended scope and level of detail to be included in the Sustainability Report and included a plan, programme and strategy review, an evidence base for the assessment, key issues and environmental challenges to address, and a preliminary SA Framework of appraisal objectives against which the Joint Local Plan could be assessed. Following consultation on the Screening Scoping Report, the information presented in the document was updated to take account of the responses received, including production of a finalised SA Framework.

0.5 Assessment of Strategic Alternatives

0.5.1 Following the scoping stage, the SA team undertook assessments of a number of strategic alternatives for the Local Plan presented in the Preferred Options Joint Local Plan. This included four alternatives for the Local Plan's spatial strategy which will set out where new development will be promoted and where it will be limited to meet the objectives of the Plan. The four options considered included:

- Option A (preferred): Guiding new development to Science Vale, to Garden Communities and to locations in the highest tiers of the settlement hierarchy, as well as maximising opportunities for renewal and regeneration on brownfield land;
- Option B: Greenfield expansion at Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements;
- Option C: Co-location of housing and employment, including development on greenfield sites; and
- Option D: More dispersed pattern of development including at smaller villages (Tier 4) within the Settlement Hierarchy.

0.5.2 In addition to considering different spatial distributions of new housing within the Districts, four alternative levels of housing requirement presented in the Preferred Options Plan were assessed, including:

- Option A (preferred): Using the Standard Method[1], with an increase to allow for agreed unmet need from Oxford City resulting in 17,050 homes in South Oxfordshire and 14,390 in Vale;

[1] The standard method for the calculation of housing need is set out in National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

- Option B: Maintain existing levels of housing need resulting in 20,450 homes in South Oxfordshire and 22,394 in Vale;
- Option C: Using only the standard method[2] resulting in 12,100 homes in South Oxfordshire and 12,560 in Vale; and
- Option D: Reflecting the Oxfordshire Growth Deal in a new housing needs assessment. No definitive figure for number of homes provided but similar to Option B.

0.6 Assessment of Alternative Options

0.6.1 In addition to the assessment of strategic alternatives, options for residential and employment site allocations were considered. The starting point for this was the consideration of all the sites already allocated by the Local Plans for each District. The Joint Local Plan will be able to exert the most influence over the development of allocated sites which do not yet have planning permission. These sites and their alternatives (including consideration of whether development should take place in these locations at all) were subjected to detailed SA.

0.6.2 Firstly each site was assessed against a range of spatial constraints data to ensure consistency in approach and robustness in site selection. The assessments examined the suitability of each site according to its relative accessibility, previous uses and potential for contamination, landscape or ecological impact, loss of agricultural land, flood risk, and proximity to sources of, or sensitive receptors to pollution. A range of designated features were also addressed, including nearby heritage assets, important landscapes and nature conservation sites. Secondly, a high level assessment was made of each site's relative sustainability performance against the SA Objectives.

0.6.3 A further detailed assessment of each site was then made examining potential uncertain or negative effects in more detail and recommending potential mitigation measures.

0.7 Likely Significant Effects of the Preferred Options Local Plan

0.7.1 A summary of the potential effects of the Preferred Options Local Plan is given at Chapter 6 of the main report. Overall, significant long-term positive sustainability effects are predicted to result from the Joint Local Plan, particularly in relation to provision of health and well-being, accessible travel, housing provision, economy and jobs. Nevertheless, significant negative or mixed effects are also predicted, especially in relation to pollution, biodiversity, carbon emissions, heritage, landscape / townscape character, and natural resources, although many of these impacts have been minimised through the development strategy and are capable of being mitigated.

0.8 Recommendations

0.8.1 Whilst the Preferred Options Plan as it stands brings a range of positive sustainability effects, a number of recommendations were proposed to help minimise negative impacts and maximise the

[2] Ibid

sustainability performance of the plan. These are summarised at section 7.1 of the main report.

0.9 Monitoring

0.9.1 The Sustainability Report provides a proposed monitoring framework to measure the Joint Local Plan's implementation in relation to aspects of the environmental, social and economic baseline which are assessed as likely to be significantly affected, or where opportunities for an improvement in sustainability performance may arise. Monitoring for the SA will be aligned with or incorporated within monitoring that is scheduled for the Plan itself, both to avoid duplication and ensure that appropriate remedial action can be taken. Indicative monitoring measures are listed at section 7.3 of the main report. These indicative parameters have been developed in advance of the Local Plan parameters and therefore may be subject to change at later stages of plan-making.

0.10 Next Steps

0.10.1 Following publication of the Preferred Options Local Plan, its Sustainability Report and evidence base, any representations will be analysed by the Councils and the SA team. The Joint Local Plan and its Sustainability Report may be updated in response to comments and any significant changes to the Plan will be subject to additional appraisal. Further public consultation is scheduled prior to an Examination in Public.

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

1.1.1 This Sustainability Report has been prepared for South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse District Councils as part of the combined Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process for the Joint Local Plan.

1.1.2 The Sustainability Report has been produced in compliance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (henceforth referred to as the SEA Regulations). It incorporates the Environmental Report which is required in accordance with the SEA Regulations.

1.1.3 The report presents an appraisal of the Preferred Options Local Plan which has been prepared in accordance with Regulation 18 of the 2012 Regulations, and forms part of the evidence base upon which the plan is based.

1.2 The South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

1.2.1 The current development plan for South Oxfordshire is comprised of the following documents:

- South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035;
- "Made" (adopted) Neighbourhood Development Plans prepared by local communities; and
- Oxfordshire County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

1.2.2 The current development plan for Vale of White Horse is comprised of the following documents:

- Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 – Part 1: Strategic Sites and Policies;
- Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 – Part 2: Detailed Policies and Additional Sites;
- "Made" (adopted) Neighbourhood Development Plans prepared by local communities; and
- Oxfordshire County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

1.2.3 The new Joint Local Plan will set the planning strategy for the Districts and address emerging housing and employment needs through to 2041. It will replace the current adopted plan documents for both Districts excluding the "Made" Neighbourhood Plans and the Oxfordshire County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan. When adopted the Local Plan will provide a strategy for the distribution, scale and form of development and supporting infrastructure, a set of proposals to deliver the strategy, policies against which to assess planning applications, and proposals for monitoring the success of the plan.

1.2.4 Using the standard method, with an increase to allow for existing agreed unmet need from Oxford City, the housing need over a twenty-year plan period (2021 to 2041) is 17,050 homes for South Oxfordshire and 14,390 homes for Vale of White Horse. This housing need is exceeded by the housing supply in both Districts as set out in policy HOU2 of the Joint Local Plan.

1.2.5 The employment land requirement for the plan period has been calculated at 23.5 hectares for South Oxfordshire and 115.2 hectares for Vale of White Horse. This requirement is exceeded by the employment land supply in both Districts as set out in policy JT1 of the Joint Local Plan.

1.2.6 Table 1.1 sets out the key facts relating to the Joint Local Plan.

Table 1.1: Key Facts Relating to the Joint Local Plan

Key Fact Relating to JLP	Description
Name of Responsible Authority:	South Oxfordshire District Council & Vale of White Horse District Council
Title of programme:	Joint Local Plan
What prompted the plan (e.g. legislative, regulatory or administrative provision):	It is a Local Development Document prepared in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
Subject (e.g. transport):	Spatial development planning
Period covered:	20 years – 2021 to 2041
Frequency of review:	At least every five years as required by National Planning Policy
Area covered:	The administrative areas of South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District
Purpose and scope of the plan:	▪ Establishes the strategic spatial strategy ▪ Allocates sites to meet the Districts' development needs over the next 18 years ▪ Sets strategic and development management policies against which individual proposals can be assessed
Contact point:	Joint Planning Policy Team, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils, Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 3JE

1.3 The Study Area

1.3.1 South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse are both largely rural districts just south of Oxford. The district boundaries of South Oxfordshire reach from the edge of the city of Oxford to the north-west, along the borders of Buckinghamshire and Berkshire to the outskirts of Reading to the south. The Vale of White Horse district falls between the larger centres of Oxford to the north-east and Swindon to the south-west. Together the two Districts cover an area of 125, 712 hectares. The North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Chiltern Hills AONB run along the southern boundaries covering 42,046 hectares of land within the Districts (approximately 42%). 22,577 hectares of land (approximately 21%) are within the Green Belt.

1.3.2 The Districts are predominantly rural in nature, with a large proportion of land in agricultural use. For South Oxfordshire, the main exception to this is within the south-east where the wooded Chiltern Hills rise sharply from the Thames Valley. Most of the southern end of the district sits in either the Chilterns or North Wessex Downs AONB. The north-east of South Oxfordshire district forms part of the Oxford Green Belt. For Vale, the southern end of the district is within the North Wessex Downs AONB and the north-west of the district forms part of the Oxford Green Belt.

1.3.3 South Oxfordshire has four main towns: Didcot, Henley-on-Thames, Thame and Wallingford. Larger villages within South Oxfordshire provide a range of services and facilities. The main settlements within the Vale are the three historic market towns of Abingdon-on-Thames, Faringdon and Wantage, which provide essential services for the surrounding rural areas. There are also two local service centres at Botley and Grove. There are three garden communities in South and Vale, including Didcot, Berinsfield and Dalton Barracks.

1.3.4 Science Vale is a significant employment hub. The Science Vale crosses the border of South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse, and is one of the most successful science clusters in the UK. This activity is concentrated around the three centres for science and technology at Harwell Campus, Culham Science Centre, and Milton Park, but is supported by a number of important settlements including Didcot, Wantage and Grove.

1.3.5 The two Districts had a combined population of 274,236 in 2018 which is projected to increase to 285,425 by 20328, an increase of approximately 4%. The M40 runs through the north-east of South Oxfordshire. The Great Western Mainline railway runs east-west through the Districts via Didcot. A north-south service also runs from Didcot north to Oxford.

1.3.6 There are a wide range of heritage assets across the Districts, including Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, one Battlefield, Registered Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas. There are six internationally designated ecological sites wholly or partially within the district boundaries, designated for a range of terrestrial habitats and terrestrial and aquatic species. There are several more international sites just beyond the district boundaries.

1.4 Sustainable Development

1.4.1.1 The UK's sustainable development agenda is shaped by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Agreed by world leaders at the UN in 2015, the 17 SDGs provide a shared blueprint for a sustainable global vision by 2030. The SDGs are underpinned by 169 targets which address a wide range of interconnected issues including poverty, inequality, climate change, inclusive societies and access to health and education. The UK is responsible for achieving the Goals domestically and for supporting their attainment internationally. In the UK, national frameworks capture government priorities in relation to the Goals.

1.4.1.2 In planning terms the sustainable development agenda is shaped by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which replaced previous national planning policy (Planning Policy Statements and Planning Policy Guidance notes) in March 2012. The NPPF has subsequently been updated in 2018, 2019, 2021 and again in 2023. The NPPF includes a presumption in favour of sustainable

development, which it goes on to interpret in a planning context with reference to the Sustainable Development Goals.

1.4.2 The NPPF notes that achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching and interdependent objectives:

- Economic – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;
- Social – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and
- Environmental – to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.

1.4.3 It goes on to note that these objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in the NPPF. The SA for the South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan incorporates these objectives at the heart of the assessment process.

2 Methodology

2.1 Integrated Sustainability Appraisal

2.1.1 The Local Plan is subject to the following assessments:

- Sustainability Appraisal; and
- Strategic Environmental Assessment.

2.1.2 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) is also being carried out but is reported separately.

2.1.3 SEA is a systematic process for evaluating the environmental consequences of proposed plans or programmes to ensure environmental issues are fully integrated and addressed at the earliest appropriate stage of decision making. SEA was introduced to the UK through EU Directive 2001/42/EC. In England the Directive was transposed via the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, which continue to apply now that the UK has left the European Union.

2.1.4 SA is broader and promotes sustainable development through integration of environmental, social and economic considerations into the plan's preparation. SA is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and applies to local development documents. Integrated SA combines these processes to allow for a single appraisal to be carried out by integrating the requirements of SEA into the SA process. SA should therefore fulfil the requirements for producing an Environmental Report under Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations (see Appendix A which also includes a compliance checklist).

2.1.5 In the interests of efficiency, following guidelines and the desire to avoid duplication, the two assessment types, SA and SEA, are integrated under the umbrella of SA and are being undertaken simultaneously for the Joint Local Plan. The combined approach is based upon the following principles:

- SA Objectives are used for appraising potential impacts of plan policies and proposals on various environmental, social and economic components;
- Baseline and spatial information including environmental, social and economic factors is collected and collated. Predicted effects of plan policies and proposals are evaluated against the baseline and likely evolution thereof in the absence of the plan;
- Alternative options and preferred options for the plan are appraised using an SA Framework, combined with careful consideration of baseline conditions; and
- Decision-making criteria are devised for all SA Objectives to assist in monitoring delivery of the plan and any significant effects thereof.

2.2 Stages of Sustainability Appraisal

2.2.1 Table 2.1 provides a summary of the procedural steps for the appraisal, based on both the *Planning Practice Guidance* (NPPG) (MHCLG, 2015) and *A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive* (ODPM, 2005a). The steps shaded in blue are the stages addressed in this report. The second column indicates where information about each respective stage can be found in this document.

2.2.2 This Sustainability Report has been prepared to accompany the Preferred Options Joint Local Plan. It presents information on the SA process carried out to date and incorporates an appraisal of reasonable alternatives to the plan as proposed. Chapter 8 discusses the next steps for the SA process.

Table 2.1: SA stages and those addressed in this report

Stage A: Setting the context & objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	**Location in this report**
1. Identify other relevant policies, plans, programmes, & sustainability objectives	**Section 3.3**
2. Collect baseline information	**Section 3.4**
3. Identify environmental issues and challenges	**Section 3.5**
4. Develop the Sustainability Appraisal Framework	**Section 3.6**
5. Consult on the scope of the Sustainability Report	**Section 3.2**
Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects	
1. Test the Plan objectives against the SA Framework	**Section 4.2**
2. Develop the Plan options including reasonable alternatives	**Sections 4.3 to 4.6**
3. Evaluate the likely effects of the Plan and alternatives	**Sections 4, 5, 6**
4. Consider ways of mitigating adverse, and maximising beneficial effects	**Section 7.1**
5. Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Plan	**Section 7.3**
Stage C: Prepare the Sustainability Report	
Including all requirements of the SEA Regulations	**Entire document**
Stage D: Seek representations on the Sustainability Report & Plan	
1. Consult the consultation bodies & public on the Plan and Sustainability Report	**Section 8**
2. Appraise significant changes resulting from representations, amend the Plan	n/a
Stage E: Post-adoption reporting and monitoring	
1. Prepare and publish the Post-Adoption Statement	n/a
2. Monitor the significant effects of implementing the Plan	n/a
3. Respond to adverse effects	n/a

2.3 Approach to the Assessment

2.3.1 The proposed spatial strategy, site allocations, and policies considered for inclusion in the Local Plan were assessed against the baseline and SA Framework using a four-stage process.

Spatial site assessment (potential site allocations only)

2.3.2 Each potential site allocation was assessed against a range of spatial constraints data to ensure consistency in approach between the assessment of individual sites and robustness in site selection. Each site was examined according to its relative accessibility, previous uses and potential for contamination, ecological impact, loss of agricultural land, flood risk, and proximity to sources of, or sensitive receptors to pollution. A range of designated features were also addressed, including nearby heritage assets and nature conservation sites. The assessment was carried out in ArcGIS 10.7 using 47 separate geo-environmental datasets (Appendix E).

High level assessment

2.3.3 High level assessment was undertaken for potential site allocations, spatial strategy and policy options. The high-level assessment used the review of plans, programmes and policies and baseline data to assess each option against the SA Framework. Findings are presented in matrix format. In the case of potential site allocations, the results of the spatial site assessments were also used to inform the high-level assessment of each site option. The main function of the high-level assessment was to identify whether or not the sites considered for allocation, the spatial strategy and the policy options were likely to bring positive, negative or uncertain effects in relation to the SA Objectives.

2.3.4 Proposals were given a score against each SA Objective ranging from Strong Positive, Positive or Neutral, to Negative, Strong Negative or Mixed/Uncertain. This helped identify at a strategic level whether or not the assessment required a more detailed examination or whether satisfactory conclusions could be drawn from the high-level assessment, without the need for further detailed analysis of a particular site or policy option. The high-level assessment did not take account of any potential site-specific mitigation measures, as there was uncertainty that these measures could be delivered. Within this SA, given the limited number of site allocations, all proposals which were taken forward for detailed assessment.

Detailed assessment

2.3.5 The detailed assessment used Detailed Assessment Matrices to scrutinise potential negative or uncertain effects identified by the high-level assessment. Detailed Assessment Matrices addressed the range of criteria identified in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations when determining the likely (positive or negative) significance of effects (Box 2 below), providing a greater level of detail than the high-level assessment stage. Detailed Assessment Matrices thus include information relating to:

- A description of the predicted effect;
- The duration of the effect: whether the effect is long, medium or short term;
- The frequency of the effect: whether it will be intermittent or ongoing;
- Whether the effect is temporary or permanent;
- The geographic importance of the receptor: local, sub/regional, national or international;
- The magnitude of effect;

- The scale of significance;
- Whether mitigation is required/possible to reduce the effect; and
- Suggestions for mitigating the effect, or potential improvements to the proposals.

Box 2: Criteria for the assessment of significant effects

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Regulation 12 of the SEA Regulations

The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to

a. the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;

b. the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;

c. the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;

d. environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme;

e. the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).

Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to

a. the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;

b. the cumulative nature of the effects;

c. the transboundary nature of the effects;

d. the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents);

e. the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);

f. the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:

special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;

exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;

intensive land-use;

the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

2.3.6 The Detailed Assessment Matrices propose potential mitigation measures to limit predicted adverse effects where they arise (see section 2.4.4). At a strategic level it is often difficult to assess significant effects in the absence of widespread data. Instead, orders of magnitude are used, based on the geographic importance of the receptor and impact magnitude. Table 2.2 illustrates this order of magnitude for positive and negative effects.

Table 2.2: Significance Matrix

Geographic Importance	Impact Magnitude: Negative – High	Negative – Medium	Negative – Low	Negative – Negligible	Neutral	Positive – Negligible	Positive – Low	Positive – Medium	Positive – High
International	Severe	Severe	Major	Moderate		Moderate	Major	Optimum	Optimum
National	Severe	Major	Moderate	Minor		Minor	Moderate	Major	Optimum
Regional	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible		Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
Local	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	Negligible		Negligible	Negligible	Minor	Moderate

Cumulative effects assessment

2.3.7 The SEA Regulations specify that the description of likely significant effects within an environmental report should include cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects. An assessment of the effects of the Plan's site allocations and policies for each SA Objective alongside the development plans for neighbouring districts is provided in Chapter 6.

2.4 Limitations to the Assessment

2.4.1 It is acknowledged that there are a number of limitations and difficulties surrounding the SA process, predominantly stemming from the nature of strategic assessment at the plan level, using secondary data. These limitations often lead to assessment conclusions being based on professional judgement rather than empirical fact, informed by the best available data and experience of the assessor, together with contributions by statutory consultation bodies and other interested parties. These limitations, and any further limitations identified during later assessment stages, are stated to ensure that judgements based on professional opinion are clearly identified.

Limitations to scoping and baseline information

2.4.2 The main issue faced during scoping concerned the identification of relevant baseline information. In some cases data has not been available at the required resolution to allow key issues to be determined local area scale. In addition, limited information is available on environmental limits and in some cases indicators are no longer monitored. In others, data are available but not collected to common standards or timeframes, making comparative assessments against regional or national benchmarks impractical. The Detailed Assessment Matrices include a column stating confidence of assessment according to a high, medium or low scoring. Many of the Detailed Assessment Matrices include ratings of medium or low confidence. This reflects the lack of data, information associated with environmental limits or that the assessment conclusions are informed appraisals rather than affirmative decisions. To address these issues, monitoring proposals should seek address data gaps as well as monitor the effects of the plan. Where medium or low confidence is due to lack of data, this is subject to ongoing review such that at the Regulation 19 stage data gaps will be filled as far as possible.

Implementation of the Local Plan

2.4.3 The sustainability effects of the Joint Local Plan will largely be dependent on how the plan is implemented. The plan provides a broad picture of the location and type of new development, while setting standards for factors such as design and infrastructure provision. How the developments perform in sustainability terms is very much dependent on what happens at the micro-scale. For example if new development does not comply with the aspirations presented in the plan (for example related to water or energy efficiency, viability, infrastructure requirements and affordable housing) then the positive effects highlighted under the policies addressing these topics will be reduced. In another example, the effect on resource use of new development proposed through the plan will depend on the exact nature of how new houses, offices, shops and community facilities are designed and built, the layout of development, and the actions of the people who will live and work there. It is therefore noted that the sustainability performance of the plan will be dependent on the implementation of the policies and site allocations in particular.

Mitigation measures

2.4.4 The Detailed Assessment Matrices set out a number of mitigation measures for reducing the potential negative effects of the Local Plan. However, these are necessarily broad-brush in approach because the design of mitigation measures to offset the negative effects of the plan will sometimes only realistically be achievable at the project level. The extent to which proposed mitigation measures will offset adverse effects is therefore open to interpretation. Consequently, the SA scoring process has not taken account of mitigation measures and has not attempted to "upgrade" the assessment results to more positive findings through a presumption that the proposed mitigation measures will be delivered and meet their full potential to offset potential negative effects. Clearly where uncertainty of mitigation prevails, monitoring of the residual effect is crucial.

Tension between environmental, social and economic factors

2.4.5 SA considers social and economic as well as environmental effects. An often stated weakness of the SA process is that environmental considerations can be under-represented, while social and economic gains are over-emphasised. This may be for a number of reasons, such as the social and economic focus of a plan, the ambitious objectives of regeneration programmes, or the range and structure of an SA Framework.

2.4.6 Environmental sustainability considerations have been fully considered through the SA process for the Joint Local Plan by utilising a set of SA Objectives which comprehensively represent environmental sustainability considerations. The summary of appraisal findings presented in Chapter 6 has purposefully separated the environmental sustainability objectives from the socio-economic objectives, and no attempt has been made to justify negative environmental effects on the basis of beneficial socio-economic effects. While the approach of separating out environmental effects is for transparency, the Councils intends to take a balanced judgment as a whole, taking into account where net benefits outweigh the costs in formulating the plan's strategy.

3 Scoping

3.1 Scoping Report

3.1.1 The first phase of the SA was the scoping stage. Scoping is the process of deciding the scope and level of detail of an SA, including the environmental and sustainability effects to be considered, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the Sustainability Report. The purpose of the Scoping Report is to set the criteria for assessment (including the SA objectives), and establish the baseline data and other information, including a review of relevant policies, programmes and plans.

3.1.2 A Scoping Report was compiled by the Councils in May 2022. The Scoping Report presents information in relation to the following tasks:

- Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives;
- Collecting baseline information;
- Identifying sustainability opportunities and challenges; and
- Developing the SA Framework.

3.2 Scoping Consultation

3.2.1 The Scoping Report was published as part of the Issues Consultation from 12 May 2022 to 23 June 2022[3].

3.2.2 Responses were received from two of the three statutory consultation bodies (Historic England and Natural England) and a range of other respondents. Appendix B contains an analysis of scoping consultation responses including a description of how the comments have been taken into account. Following receipt of responses, the SA information, including baseline data, was updated as required. Those updates are set out in the baseline addendum at Appendix C.

3.3 Policy, Plan and Programme Review

3.3.1 The Joint Local Plan may be influenced in various ways by other policies, plans or programmes (PPPs), or by external sustainability objectives such as those put forward in other strategies or initiatives. The SA process aims to take advantage of potential synergies with these PPPs and address any inconsistencies and constraints.

3.3.2 The Councils' Scoping Report presented an evaluation of the key PPPs that are likely to be relevant to the SA process and development within the Districts. The review was updated in

[3] South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse District Councils (2022): *Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Screening and Scoping Report, May 2022.* The Scoping Report can be viewed here.

response to comments at the scoping consultation stage. Updates are provided as part of the baseline addendum at Appendix C.

3.4 Baseline Data Collation

3.4.1 A key part of the scoping process is the collection of baseline data. The purpose of the baseline review is to help define key opportunities and challenges facing the area which might be addressed by the Joint Local Plan. It provides an evidence base against which the predicted effects of the plans to be effectively appraised.

3.4.2 The baseline sections in the Councils' Scoping Report provided a review of social, economic and environmental conditions within the Districts, and their likely evolution in the absence of the plan. The data were collated utilising a wide range of secondary data sources. The baseline data are presented through a themed series of receptors. The themes incorporate the environmental receptors derived from Schedule 2(6) of the SEA Regulations (see Appendix A). The data are presented through tables, text and GIS mapping, and all data sources are referenced as appropriate.

3.4.3 One of the purposes of consultation on the Scoping Report was to seek views on whether the data selected are appropriate. Comments were received from a range of stakeholders and in some cases new sources of baseline information were provided or suggested. The baseline data has subsequently been updated as required to take account of consultation comments. Updates are provided as part of the baseline addendum at Appendix C.

3.4.4 A final list of all those datasets used in the assessment is provided in Appendix E, listed under the relevant sustainability objective (section 3.6).

3.5 Key Sustainability Issues

3.5.1 Drawing on the PPP review and the baseline data, the Scoping Report also set out a series of key sustainability challenges. The key challenges enable the SA process to identify the potential scope of cumulative effects and to focus on the main constraints and opportunities which may be addressed through local development. The key challenges were then used to inform the development of the SA Framework.

3.6 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework

3.6.1 Objectives are used for appraising potential impacts of plan policies and proposals on various environmental, social and economic components. Each objective is supported by a series of decision-making criteria. Together these form the SA Framework.

3.6.2 There is no statutory basis for setting objectives but they are a recognised way of considering the sustainability effects of a plan and comparing alternatives, and as such provide the basis from which effects of the plan can be tested consistently.

3.6.3 The SA Objectives were derived through consideration of the PPP review, the baseline data collection, and the key sustainability challenges identified for the plan area. Alongside these, the SEA environmental receptors identified in Schedule 2(6) of the SEA Regulations (Appendix A) were a key determinant when considering which SA Objectives should be used for appraisal purposes. A first iteration of the SA Framework was presented in the Councils' Scoping Report. Upon appointment, UEEC facilitated a workshop with Council officers and technical leads to rationalise the initial list of objectives and define decision-making criteria.

3.6.4 The objectives address the social and economic requirements of SA, while also retaining a high degree of relevance to SEA. The SA Objectives seek to reflect each of these influences to ensure the assessment process is robust, balanced and comprehensive.

3.6.5 Table 3.1 lists the SA Objectives, while the full SA Framework of objectives and decision-making criteria is given at Appendix D.

Table 3.1: SA Objectives

#	SA Objective
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the Districts
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both Districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the Districts
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality
8	To conserve and manage natural resources
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing
10	To provide a resilient economy for both Districts in the future
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management

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4 Testing Objectives and Identifying Alternatives

4.1 Objectives of the Joint Local Plan

4.1.1 The Local Plan Objectives are implemented through the development strategy and are listed in Table 4.1. The policies and delivery programme within the Local Plan show how they can be achieved within the plan period.

Table 4.1: Joint Local Plan Objectives

#	Joint Local Plan Objective
1	Create a unified set of policies for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, retaining the best from each previous local plan and building in latest thinking to create an ambitious and fresh joint plan, which sets a framework for successful neighbourhood plans.
2	Help transition to net zero carbon districts by 2030 for South Oxfordshire and 2045 for Vale of White Horse, mindful of the Districts' carbon budgets, by locating new housing and employment development in places which minimise the need to travel by private car, requiring buildings to be designed to the highest achievable standards for reducing energy and water use, encouraging suitable renewable energy generation, and supporting nature-based carbon and stormwater storage.
3	Strengthen resilience to climate change by designing new buildings and infrastructure in our districts for extreme weather events, such as flash floods and heat waves, and implementing nature-based solutions like planting street trees.
4	Help nature recover by protecting wildlife and expanding natural habitats, requiring developments to achieve the highest viable net gain in biodiversity so that it leaves the natural environment better than it was before.
5	Focus new allocations of land for development at well-located brownfield sites, recycling land that is already developed, using land efficiently and re-using buildings and materials rather than expending new resources.
6	Help communities lead healthy and more active lifestyles, by providing high-quality greenspace, promoting active travel, and controlling air, water, light and noise pollution from new developments, so that people and nature can be safe, healthy and thriving.
7	Cherish and protect natural and built heritage, with policies that make sure the location and design of development respects landscape character and the local distinctiveness of towns and villages.
8	Plan for enough new homes to meet our needs, including significant numbers of homes that are genuinely affordable to rent or buy, and different kinds of homes to meet the needs of our communities, including older people and those with care needs and younger people getting their first home.

#	Joint Local Plan Objective
9	Plan for enough new jobs, a flourishing local economy and a wide range of jobs, not only in the science and innovation sector for which the Districts are well known, but in the foundational economy which underpins this and provides people's day to day needs.
10	Ensure that new developments create great places that make our Districts better, leaving a positive legacy for the future.
11	Plan for infrastructure in the right places and built at the right times to serve our growing communities, like transport, water, energy and digital networks, along with health, education and cultural facilities.
12	Help create and sustain communities by protecting community facilities and supporting new local facilities that help residents live healthier, more active, sustainable lifestyles without the need to rely on cars.

4.2 Assessing the Plan's Objectives against the SA Objectives

4.2.1 Current guidelines on SA/SEA (the NPPG and ODPM, 2005a) require that the plan's objectives are assessed for compatibility with the SA Objectives. Table 4.2 presents a compatibility appraisal of the Joint Local Plan Objectives against the SA Objectives to meet this requirement. The assessment shows that the plan objectives broadly support the full range of SA Objectives and that there is a good degree of compatibility between the two sets of objectives. Some potential for conflict exists between plan objectives which drive towards housing and economic development and SA Objectives which provide for environmental protection, but these largely depend on the how the objective would be implemented.

Table 4.2: Compatibility Assessment between Plan Objectives and SA Objectives

		Local Plan Objectives										
SA	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	?	✓
2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	?	✓
4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	?	?
5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	?	✓
6	✓	?	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	?	?	✓	✓	✓
7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	?	✓
8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	?	?
9	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	✓	✓

✓ Potentially compatible

? Potentially incompatible

4.3 Identifying Reasonable Alternatives

4.3.1 The SEA Regulations require that the Environmental Report should consider:

> *'Reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme'* and give *'an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with' (Regulation 12(2)(b) and Schedule 2(8)).*

4.3.2 The NPPG[4] additionally states that SA should compare all reasonable alternatives, including the preferred approach, and assess these against the baseline environmental, economic and social characteristics of the area and the likely situation if the Local Plan were not to be adopted. It should outline the reasons the alternatives were selected, the reasons the rejected options were not taken forward and the reasons for selecting the preferred approach in light of the alternatives.

4.4 Spatial Strategy Alternatives

4.4.1 The Joint Local Plan's Spatial Strategy will set out where new development will be promoted and where it will be limited to meet the objectives of the Plan. Four alternative spatial strategy options are considered within policy SP1 each of which has been subject to assessment in the SA. The Preferred Spatial Strategy retains some elements of the previous adopted local plan strategies.

Table 4.3: Spatial Strategy Options

Option	Description
Option A - Preferred	The Councils want to guide new development to Science Vale, to the Garden Communities and to locations in the highest tiers of the settlement hierarchy (Tiers 1, 2 and 3) as set out in Policy SP1. In smaller settlements in Tier 4, some more specific brownfield development is also appropriate within the built-up area. This helps to reduce the need to travel and help people shift towards more sustainable travel patterns. They also want to take opportunities for renewal and regeneration, by supporting the redevelopment of well-located brownfield land, and will introduce some new site allocations to help support this aim, as well as supporting brownfield developments that come forward as windfalls where it helps to achieve our other aim to reduce the need to travel. The Councils will also support the delivery of our viable and developable existing allocations, which align with the new spatial strategy. Site allocations have been reviewed to see how they perform against the new spatial strategy. The Councils want to support the preparation of new neighbourhood plans that will reinforce this spatial strategy, but also encourage ambitious projects if Parish or Town Councils want to deliver more. The spatial strategy should protect Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Green Belt. A review has started to look for the potential to enhance and even possibly extend the Oxford Green Belt in our Districts.
Option B	*Greenfield expansion at Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements*

[4] DCLG (2015): *Planning Practice Guidance: Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal Paragraph 018.* Reference ID: 11-018-20140306. Accessed online [07/08/23].

Option	Description
	This option would permit some suitable greenfield sites adjacent to Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements which would give more housing supply and choice at our most sustainable settlements. This option would significantly over-supply the amount of housing beyond what is needed to meet local needs. This option is unlikely to help achieve the aims for carbon neutrality, reducing the need to travel or maximising brownfield redevelopment opportunities. It may add traffic on the roads and create pressure on community infrastructure, the delivery of which in some cases still needs to catch up from the last round of allocations. It may also slow down or undermine the delivery of housing and other development principles at our three Garden Communities.
Option C	*Co-location of housing and employment, including development on greenfield sites* This could be achieved by the Joint Local Plan setting development targets at settlements where co-location of housing and employment already exists (Tier 1 settlements), or it could be achieved by making new allocations at strategically important employment locations. This option would be a choice to allocate more development than we need to deliver. As such it may add pressure on community facilities and transport networks. This alternative is very likely to support new sustainable transport networks and connections because of our focus for development within Tier 1 settlements. The current spatial strategies for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse (and partly option A) overlaps with this alternative, because some of the existing allocated sites fall within the Science Vale area where it could support co-location of housing and employment within that cluster of sites and Tier 1 settlements.
Option D	*More dispersed pattern of development including at smaller villages (Tier 4) within the Settlement Hierarchy* This would involve setting development targets for parishes or settlements in the Districts. This would reflect the approach in the current spatial strategy of the South Oxfordshire local plan to support more development at smaller settlements (the equivalent of Tier 4) as well as at Tiers 1, 2 and 3. This approach could support smaller villages and maintaining their vitality and it encourages a high level of participation in neighbourhood plan making. The Councils do not prefer this option because it is likely to lead to more homes being dispersed to places where there are fewer jobs, services and facilities, and is less likely to support a shift to more sustainable modes of transport including active travel like walking and cycling. The housing numbers do not require the Councils to make this ask again of neighbourhood plans.

4.5 Housing Requirement Alternatives

4.5.1 In addition to considering different spatial distributions of new housing within the Districts, the Plan considers alternative housing requirements within policy HOU1. Four alternative scenarios were considered, as set out in Table 4.4. These scenarios are considered in further detail in the Councils' housing topic paper.

Table 4.4: Housing Requirement Options

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Description	Using the Standard Method, with an increase to allow for existing agreed unmet need from Oxford City	Maintain existing levels of housing need	Using only the standard method	Reflecting the Oxfordshire Growth Deal in a new housing needs assessment
Residential yield	South Ox total need: 17,050 homes Vale total need: 14,390 homes	South Ox total need: 20,450 homes Vale total need: 22,394 homes	South Ox total need: 12,100 homes Vale total need: 12,560 homes	No definitive figure but similar to Option B

4.6 Site Allocation Alternatives

4.6.1 The Councils' starting point for developing alternatives for residential and residential-led site allocations in the Preferred Options Plan was to assess all the sites already allocated by the Local Plans for each District. These allocated sites fell into three categories depending on the progress towards development since they were allocated. The SA approach to each of these three categories of sites is set out below:

Allocated sites (construction complete)

4.6.2 On sites where construction has been completed, there is no need for a Joint Local Plan policy to allocate the site. It does not need 'allocation status' anymore. There is no SA alternative to test for these developments because the previous policy (and associated planning permissions) has been implemented.

Allocated sites (with planning permission)

4.6.3 Allocated sites which have planning permission, where construction has not yet been completed, have not been subjected to SA. This is because the planning permission has now overtaken the local plan making process. These sites have previously been subjected to SA in the adopted Local Plan SAs.

4.6.4 The policies from the adopted South Oxfordshire Local Plan and the adopted policies / development templates from the adopted Vale of White Horse Local Plan are, however, proposed to be 'saved' for these sites in an appendix to the Joint Local Plan. This is to ensure that the overarching policy framework for these allocations remains in place, to inform subsequent planning applications on these sites (such as reserved matters applications for the outline planning consents).

Allocated sites (without planning permission)

4.6.5 The Joint Local Plan will be able to exert the most influence over the development of allocated sites which do not yet have planning permission, or only have planning permission on part of the site. Although, depending on the timing of a planning application decision and the timing of the Joint Local Plan's adoption, planning permission may be granted in accordance with a site's current allocated status and policy wording, if this falls before the plan's adoption. These sites and their alternatives (including consideration of whether development should take place in these locations at all) have been subjected to SA as described in section 5.3.

4.6.6 A review of each site's availability, achievability, and suitability has been carried out as follows:

- **Availability:** The Councils reviewed the latest information from the HELAA and 5-year land supply statements to assess whether the site would still be available for its allocated development by 31 March 2041 (the end of the Joint Local Plan period).
- **Achievability:** The Councils assessed whether the site's current allocation could be delivered on site – i.e., whether the site has capacity to accommodate the current policy requirements.
- **Suitability:** The Councils have developed a new spatial strategy (Policy SP1), which itself has been subject to SA alongside its alternatives (section 5.1). Sites without planning permission were tested against this new spatial strategy to determine whether they were still suitable to allocate for development. It is proposed that those sites that did not conform with the new spatial strategy will have their allocations removed entirely, or in part. Other suitability issues, such as access, were also considered.

4.6.7 Each allocated site which does not have planning permission yet has been subjected to SA. This process has tested each site against the alternative of deleting that allocation, plus in some instances comparing with another alternative (such as testing a smaller or enlarged site area, where this still conforms with spatial strategy Policy SP1).

4.6.8 Following the review of availability, achievability and suitability, the Councils concluded that there is sufficient supply of housing from the remaining existing allocations to exceed each Districts' housing requirement whilst providing a robust supply and significant contingency.

4.6.9 In addition to all the existing allocated sites, the Councils considered new brownfield development opportunities as candidates for allocation. The Councils carried out a Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change with a brownfield focus, and shortlisted well-located brownfield sites that were not in the Green Belt, not within an AONB, and that would be unlikely to come forward as windfall developments because of existing policies (for example existing protected uses on the site or falling beyond the edge of a settlement). The Councils concluded that two brownfield sites fall into this category, and these have both been subjected to SA:

- Land at the former Council Offices in Crowmarsh Gifford; and
- Land at Dalton Barracks, Shippon (extending an existing allocated site).

Employment sites

4.6.10 The approach to employment sites was the same as that adopted for residential-led sites described above. Employment sites allocated in the adopted plans which either do not have any planning permission, or only have planning permission on part of the site were reviewed to assess whether that are still fit for purpose for continued employment use, and whether the sites have capacity to deliver additional employment growth. These sites and their alternatives have therefore been subjected to detailed SA. Only those sites which do not have planning permission and are not in current employment use have considered alternatives to the adopted site allocation.

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5 Assessment of Reasonable Alternatives

5.1 Spatial Strategy Alternatives Assessment

5.1.1 The four spatial strategy options (described in section 4.4) were subject to high-level assessment as part of the assessment of reasonable alternatives to the Plan. A summary of each spatial option's score against each of the sustainability objectives is provided in Table 5.1. The full assessment is presented at Appendix F. A scoring guide is provided at Table 5.2.

Table 5.1: Spatial Strategy Option Scoring Summary

No.	SEA Objective	Spatial Strategy Op A	Spatial Strategy Op B	Spatial Strategy Op C	Spatial Strategy Op D
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	+/-	-	+/-	-
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	+	-	+/-	-
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	++	-	+	-
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the Districts	0	+/-	0	+/-
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both Districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change	+	-	+	-
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the Districts	-	0	+/-	-
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality	0	-	0	-
8	To conserve and manage natural resources	++	-	+	+/-
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	++	+	+	+
10	To provide a resilient economy for both Districts in the future	+	-	+	+/-

No.	SEA Objective	Spatial Strategy Op A	Spatial Strategy Op B	Spatial Strategy Op C	Spatial Strategy Op D
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	-	-	-	-

Table 5.2: Scoring Guide

Sustainability score	Description of effect
++	Strong positive effect
+	Minor positive effect
0	Neutral effect
-	Minor adverse effect
--	Strong adverse effect
+/-	Mixed effect
?	Uncertain effect

5.1.2 Overall, preferred option A scores most favourably in sustainability terms. The option guides new development to Science Vale, to the Garden Communities and to locations in the highest tiers of the settlement hierarchy (Tiers 1, 2 and 3). Some specific brownfield development in smaller settlements is also appropriate in this option. The strongest positive effects are predicted with respect to accessibility, natural resources and housing. Directing development towards the highest tiers of the settlement hierarchy and the Science Vale will ensure new residents have good access to existing facilities and access to the public transport network. Losses of agricultural land, including best and most versatile agricultural resource would be minimised in this option, as well as providing opportunities for re-use and remediation of brownfield land. In terms of housing provision, option A provides better opportunities for a range of dwelling sizes and types to support the local housing market, including provision of affordable housing given the focus on larger sites.

5.1.3 Option B scores the least favourably in sustainability terms overall, with greenfield expansion predicted to result in adverse effects across a number of objectives, including health, accessibility and emissions reductions, landscape, natural and water resources and economic growth. Smaller greenfield sites may also provide more limited opportunities to provide for a range of dwelling sizes and types to support the local housing market, including provision of affordable housing. Therefore, housing effects are considered less positive than for Option A. This is also the case for option C, with the co-location of employment and residential uses potentially restricting the possible range of housing types and sizes, and option D with the development of smaller sites in smaller sites providing similar limitations.

5.2 Housing Requirement Alternatives Assessment

5.2.1 Sustainability impacts are largely driven by the location of new homes. However, a high-level assessment of the sustainability impacts associated with different housing requirements was undertaken based solely on the likely quantum of housing which could come forward under each option. A summary of each option's score against each of the sustainability objectives is provided

in Table 5.3. The full assessment is presented at Appendix G. Objective 3 has not been assessed as the accessibility of new developments and the ability to promote sustainable modes of transport will be entirely dependent on the location of new housing.

Table 5.3: Housing Requirement Option Scoring Summary

No.	SEA Objective	Housing Req Op A	Housing Req Op B	Housing Req Op C	Housing Req Op D
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	-	--	-	--
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	+	++	+	++
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	Not assessed	Not assessed	Not assessed	Not assessed
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the Districts	-	--	-	--
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both Districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change	-	--	-	--
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the Districts	-	--	-	--
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality	-	--	-	--
8	To conserve and manage natural resources	-	--	-	--
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	+	++	+	++
10	To provide a resilient economy for both Districts in the future	+	++	+	++
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	-	--	-	--

5.2.2 Options B and D have the greatest potential for strong adverse effects across seven of the eleven sustainability objectives, on the basis that a greater amount of development increases the likelihood of adverse construction and operational effects. However conversely, options B and D have the greatest potential to deliver strong positive effects in terms of housing and economic

growth as new housing supports the vitality and viability of existing town and local centres and stimulates further economic growth, including in deprived areas. Increased housing provision will generally also result in higher delivery of affordable homes and an increased choice of homes thereby having positive health effects for more deprived members of the population and those with specialist needs.

5.3 Site Allocation Alternatives

5.3.1 As described in section 4.6, residential-led sites and employment sites carried over for allocation in the Preferred Options Plan were subject to assessment in the SA. The preferred site options and alternatives are set out in Table 5.4. The preferred site options proposed to be retained in the Joint Local Plan were first subject to high-level assessment. A summary of the high-level assessment scores is provided at Appendix I; individual high-level assessment site reports are provided in Appendix H. Detailed assessment matrices (DAMs), as described at section 2.3.5, were also prepared for all sites proposed to be retained[5]. DAMs are provided at Appendix J.

5.3.2 Overall, all site allocations attract a range of positive and negative scores across the eleven objectives; however, the DAMs indicate that Land South of Grenoble Road, Rich's Sidings and Broadway, and Northwest Valley Park score most favourably when considering the number and magnitude of positive and negative effects overall. Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre and Land North of Bayswater Brook attract the most positive scores (major positive) across all sites and all objectives in terms of housing provision, whilst Dalton Barracks attracts the most negative score (major adverse) in terms of potential ecological effects given the proximity of SSSIs and the Cothill Fen SAC. Land at Crowmarsh Gifford is also predicted to result in potential moderate adverse effects for three objectives: heritage, landscape and water resources.

5.3.3 The alternative option of site de-allocation for residential and residential-led / mixed use sites was subject to a separate qualitative high-level assessment. In general terms de-allocation of a site would remove both positive and negative effects associated with its development. Negative effects range from loss of best and most versatile agricultural resource to setting impacts to heritage assets and disturbance to ecological sites. Positive opportunities include housing and job creation as well as local infrastructure improvement and provision. The full de-allocation alternatives assessment is presented in Appendix K, together with the assessment of the Dalton Barracks reasonable alternative which uses the site boundary as presented in the adopted Vale of White Horse site allocation.

Table 5.4: Site Allocations and Alternatives

Site Name	Proposed Use	Preferred Option	Alternative
Land at Berinsfield	Mixed	Retain the current allocation subject to minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.

[5] Detailed assessments would only normally be undertaken for any site allocation appraised at the high level stage as having greater negative than positive effects overall, or those with one or more strong negative impacts on at least one SA Objective. However, in this instance, given that the majority of sites were allocated in the adopted plans and policy details established, for robustness all sites have been subject to detailed assessment.

Site Name	Proposed Use	Preferred Option	Alternative
Garden Village			
Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre	Residential	Retain the current allocation subject to minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
Land at Chalgrove Airfield	n/a	De-allocate the site for residential development.	*There are no alternative options as the site is not suitable for residential development in principle.*
Land South of Grenoble Road, Edge of Oxford	Mixed	Retain the current allocation subject to minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
Land at Northfield, Edge of Oxford	Residential	Retain the current allocation subject to minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
Land north of Bayswater Brook, Edge of Oxford	Residential	De-allocate the Sandhills element of the site, but retain the rest of the allocation subject to minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
Land to the West of Priest Close, Nettlebed	n/a	De-allocate the site for residential development.	*There are no alternative options as the site is not suitable for residential development in principle.*
Land south of Nettlebed Service Station	n/a	De-allocate the site for residential development.	*There are no alternative options as the site is not suitable for residential development in principle.*

Site Name	Proposed Use	Preferred Option	Alternative
Vauxhall Barracks	Residential	Retain the current allocation subject to minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
Rich's Sidings and Broadway, Didcot (previously Orchard Centre Phase 2)	Mixed	Amend the current allocation boundary and minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
Didcot Gateway, Didcot	Residential	Amend the current allocation's capacity and make minor presentational changes of the existing criteria / requirements for this site.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
North West of Abingdon-on-Thames	Residential	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
North West of Grove, Grove	Residential	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
North West of Valley Park, Didcot	Residential	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	De-allocate the site for residential development.
Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon	Residential	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	Smaller site boundary as per the allocation in the Vale adopted plan. De-allocate the site for residential development.
Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Benson Lane	To be confirmed	New site	No alternatives considered.
Culham Science Centre	Employment	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	No alternatives considered given existing employment use of the site.
Harwell Campus	Employment	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	No alternatives considered given

Site Name	Proposed Use	Preferred Option	Alternative
			existing employment use of the site.
Milton Park	Employment	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	No alternatives considered given existing employment use of the site.
Southmead Industrial Estate	Employment	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	No alternatives considered given existing employment use of the site.
Grove Technology Park	Employment	The allocation is recommended to be retained in the Joint Local Plan.	No alternatives considered given existing employment use of the site.

5.4 Policy Alternatives

5.4.1 The Preferred Options Plan presents at least two options for each proposed policy. Policies which relate to individual residential and employment site allocations within Chapter 7 and 8 of the Plan were considered separately as explained in section 5.3 above.

5.4.2 Each proposed policy option was subject to high-level assessment. In the case of the preferred option for each policy (option A), the full proposed policy wording has been subject to assessment. Applying the high-level assessment to proposed policy options allows attention to be focused on policy themes which potentially lead to significant negative effects, while identifying those which are broadly neutral or positive overall. The results are given at Appendix L.

5.4.3 The findings show that housing policy options in Chapter 6 of the Plan generally score positively in terms of their contribution to planning for enough housing to meet the needs of residents, including provision of affordable housing. Policies related to affordable housing and ensuring a mix of tenure and types of dwelling to suit specialist groups also score positively in terms of promoting health and wellbeing. For all other SA Objectives, effects are predicted to be largely neutral.

5.4.4 Similarly economy policy options in Chapters 7 and 9 generally score positively in terms of providing a resilient economy for both Districts. Positive effects are also predicted across a number of other objectives particularly in terms of promoting accessible services and employment with knock on benefits in terms of making a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emission, reducing pollution of all kinds and promoting the health and wellbeing of the population in the Districts.

5.4.5 Policy options in Chapters 9 and 10 relating to the creation of well-designed, inclusive communities and healthy places also score positively across a range of objectives. Positive effects are predicted in terms of safeguarding the health and wellbeing of the population, but also in

terms of pollution reduction, accessibility, carbon reduction and biodiversity. Positive effects extend to the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and the protection and management of landscape character for those policies relating to high quality design and local character and identity. More mixed and limited adverse effects are predicted for those policies promoting higher densities, particularly with respect to heritage and landscape. The promotion of new facilities for sport and recreation also bring the possibility of more mixed effects and uncertain effects.

5.4.6 Chapters 4 and 12 of the Plan contain policy options focussing on the reduction of carbon emissions and protection of the natural environment. Intuitively these options score positively across the objectives, particularly carbon reduction policies given the crosscutting nature of climate change impacts. Similarly, policy options requiring green infrastructure provision and biodiversity protection and enhancement score positively not only in terms of biodiversity, but also in terms of health and wellbeing, pollution reduction and water resource management given the critical role that biodiversity and natural capital has to play in maintaining ecosystem services.

6 Assessment of the Preferred Options Joint Local Plan

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 This section of the report draws together the assessment of the individual components of the Plan described in Chapter 5 to present the effects of the Joint Local Plan overall in relation to each SA objective. It is often the case that the Plan's policies will serve to mitigate some of the impacts of other Plan policies or allocations. The chapter includes an assessment of possible cumulative effects when the plan is considered alongside the development plans for neighbouring districts. Figure 6.1 illustrates the distribution of proposed residential and employment site allocations in the Preferred Options Plan.

6.2 SA1: To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water

6.2.1 Air quality is an issue in some areas of the Districts. Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), where national air quality objectives are not being achieved or are not likely to be achieved, are in place in Henley, Wallingford, Watlington, Abingdon, Botley and Marcham. Candidate AQMAs have also been declared in Thame, Didcot, Little Milton and Stadhampton. The Districts also directly adjoin the Oxford City AQMA and South Oxfordshire directly adjoins the Reading AQMA. The main source of air and noise pollution is the road network. The ecological status of the majority of water bodies both Districts is moderate or poor, with all waterbodies failing on chemical status. There are Source Protection Zones (SPZs) in the south and east of the Districts, where groundwater drinking supplies are at risk from pollution. However, none of the proposed site allocations fall within these zones.

6.2.2 Where proposed site allocations are in proximity to existing residential dwellings, those residents may experience negative effects associated with noise and air pollution during construction works, and further noise, air and light pollution effects to a lesser extent during the operation of the new development. However, none of the site allocations are located either wholly or partially within an AQMA and therefore new residents will not be introduced into areas of poor air quality. Land at Berinsfield, Land south of Grenoble Road and Land north of Bayswater Brook have historic landfills wholly or partially within their site boundaries. Construction here could mobilise contaminants; there is a risk to the health of construction workers or even future residents if the site is not properly remediated. The River Thames runs along the northern site boundary of the Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre site and therefore there is a risk of water pollution, particularly during construction. Many of the site allocations are within 250m of the strategic road network and the Didcot sites, the North-West Valley Park and the North-West of Grove site are also in close proximity to The Great Western Mainline. The Land at Crowmarsh Gifford site is less than 1km from RAF benson which could contribute to noise pollution for new residents.

6.2.3 Mitigation in the form of Construction Environmental Management Plans (CEMPs) could serve to counter some of these effects in the short-term. In the longer-term, impacts on residential amenity through light, air and noise pollution are considered to be counterbalanced by the Plan's environmental protection polices, including policy CE8: Water Quality, Policy CE9: Air Quality, Policy CE10: Pollution Sources and Receptors, Policy CE11: Light Pollution and Dark Skies and Policy CE12: Soils and Contaminated Land. Therefore, overall, only minor localised adverse effects are predicted.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.2.4 Pollution effects are generally fairly localised. Therefore, those receptors described in paragraph 6.2.2 are unlikely to be subject to the cumulative effects of neighbouring Local Plans. The exception is the three sites on the border with Oxford City: Land South of Grenoble Road, Land at Northfield and Land north of Bayswater Brook. New residents at these sites will be situated very close to the Oxford City AQMA and therefore could be exposed to poor air quality. Construction and operation of these sites could also adversely impact existing residents on the fringes of Oxford City and in proximity to the road network. However, Plan policies listed in paragraph 6.2.3 will also serve to counter these effects.

6.3 SA2: To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place

6.3.1 Human health and wellbeing in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse is generally better than local and national averages. However, there are particular areas of deprivation that exist within the Districts at Abingdon, Berinsfield and Didcot.

6.3.2 The majority of the proposed site allocations are predicted to have at least a minor positive effect in terms of safeguarding the health and wellbeing of the population. The importance of access to open space in safeguarding health and wellbeing in particular is widely reported. Those site allocations in closer proximity to open spaces as well as existing healthcare facilities, sports / recreation and community facilities score most positively in health terms. These include Berinsfield, Vauxhall Barracks, Rich's sidings and Broadway, Didcot Gateway and Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, although in the case of Didcot Gateway, a sports / recreation facility, primary school and community centre fall within the site boundary so could be lost depending on how the development comes forward. The proposed site allocation policies for the larger sites, including Berinsfield, Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre, Land south of Grenoble Road, Land at Northfield, Dalton Barracks, Land North of Bayswater Brook, North-West of Valley Park and North-West of Grove make provision for the delivery of schools on-site, as well as off-site contributions.

6.3.3 Development within those site allocations in proximity to the most deprived areas of the Districts, including Berinsfield Garden Village, Vauxhall Barracks (which falls within an area of deprivation) and Didcot Gateway, is predicted to impact positively the health and wellbeing of these communities, through regeneration and provision of new local facilities, including employment opportunities, in the case of Berinsfield.

6.3.4 Policies HP1 to HP10 make specific contributions with regard to objective SA2. Policies HP2, HP3 and HP5 safeguard healthcare, education and community facilities as well as supporting redevelopment and new provision where it is demonstrated that there is a local need. Policy HP4 seeks to protect, maintain and enhance existing open space and will only support development proposals resulting in the loss of open space under specific circumstances, including where alternative facilities of equal or better quality will be provided locally. Policies HP6 and HP7 ensure that new development contributes towards provision of green infrastructure and open space. Overall, the Plan is predicted to have positive effects in terms of safeguarding health and wellbeing.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.3.5 The positive health and wellbeing effects reported for all proposed site allocations are unlikely to be subject to cumulative effects from neighbouring Local Plans, as these plans are unlikely to alter the spread of open space, healthcare, education, leisure and community facilities in the Districts which influence the scoring of site allocations for objective SA2. The three sites on the border with Oxford City (Land South of Grenoble Road, Land at Northfield and Land North of Bayswater Brook) are the exception. However, one of the limitations of this SA is that data on the spread of community facilities within Oxford City was not available for assessment and therefore it is likely that further facilities are present in proximity to these three sites which would increase the magnitude of reported positive health effects.

6.3.6 Site 120 (Unipart) in the emerging Oxford City Local Plan is directly north of the Northfield and is being considered for allocation for employment use. Given that the site is already in employment use, cumulative health effects are not predicted with the South & Vale Northfield site.

6.3.7 It is acknowledged that air quality can have a large effect on human health, both during the construction and operational phases of a development, and the potential for cumulative air quality effects is discussed under objective SA1 in section 6.2.4.

6.4 SA3: To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel

6.4.1 Across the Districts 49% of all carbon emissions are attributable to transport. The rural nature of both Districts results in high levels of private vehicle travel. The Joint Local Plan spatial strategy prioritises development in the Science Vale, Garden Communities and highest tiers of the settlement hierarchy where access to existing facilities and the public transport network is comparatively high, thereby reducing the need to travel by private vehicle. The Science Vale generally has established links to the rail and bus network given the existing employment uses.

6.4.2 The site allocations, aligning with the spatial strategy, are predicted to have at least a minor positive effect in terms of reducing the need to travel by car and improving access to services and facilities. The only exception if the Grove Technology Park employment site which is not so well located with respect to the sustainable transport network and existing facilities. Of the residential sites, Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre, and the three Didcot sites score most

positively on account of their location close to train stations as well as bus stops and the walking / cycling infrastructure network.

6.4.3 The Joint Local Plan spatial strategy is set out in policy SP1. The promotion of accessibility is a key theme running through many of the plan's policies. The strategies for Didcot Garden Town (policy SP3) and Abingdon-on-Thames, Faringdon, Henley on Thames, Thame, Wallingford and Wantage (policies SP4 to SP9) promote accessibility in and around these settlements through, for example, new and enhanced walking and cycling infrastructure. Similarly, policies AS14 and 15 setting guiding principles for the Garden Communities at Berinsfield and Dalton Barracks promote sustainable transport and access. Policy IN2 promotes sustainable travel in line with the Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan. Policy DE4 seeks to promote higher densities in the most accessible areas of the Districts. Overall, the Plan is predicted to have positive effects in terms of accessibility.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.4.4 The Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) 2022 – 2050 sets out a long-term vision, targets and policies for the implementation of a net-zero Oxfordshire transport system. Many of the themes of the LTCP are re-iterated in the policies of the Joint Local Plan, however overall positive cumulative effects are predicted in terms of the promotion of accessibility.

6.5 SA4: To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the Districts

6.5.1 There is a range of internationally, nationally and locally designated nature conservation sites within and near to the Districts. There are six Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) wholly or partially within the Districts and a further 11 SACs or Special Protection Areas (SPA) within 20km of District boundaries. 59 SSSIs are located wholly or partially within the Districts of varying condition, and a further 126 local wildlife sites and 43 local geological sites[6]. County designated Conservation Target Areas (CTAs) are spread throughout the Districts, with particular concentrations in the south-east of South Oxfordshire and north of both Districts. Here, targeted conservation action will have the greatest benefit.

6.5.2 Overall, the proposed site allocations avoid strong adverse effects in terms of protecting, restoring and enhancing biodiversity and geodiversity. Notwithstanding this, the potential for some adverse and mixed effects remains where sites are in proximity to designated sites with. possible light or disturbance effects, or where priority habitats are found within the site allocation boundary. Mitigation in the form of Construction Environmental Management Plans could serve to counter some of these effects in the short-term. Ecological surveys and assessment will also be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy.

6.5.3 The most potential adverse biodiversity effects are predicted for the Dalton Barracks site allocation given the proximity to the Cothill Fen SSSI and SAC which are immediately adjacent and 400m to the north of the site allocation respectively. Recreational disturbance and air pollution effects are possible. These issues are considered in greater detail with the Habitats

[6] Taken from 2022 Screening and Scoping Report

Regulations Assessment (UEEC, 2023). However, policy AS1 stipulates that development cannot have adverse effects to the protected areas: a project-level HRA and a minimum of 52ha of suitable alternative natural greenspace is required as part of the proposals. The policy also requires a 10m wildlife buffer between the Sandford Brook and the development.

6.5.4 Conversely, development within or in proximity to CTAs, as in the case of Berinsfield, Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre, Land North of Bayswater Brook and Dalton Barracks, provides opportunities for enhancement wider ecological connectivity through habitat creation.

6.5.5 Policy NH1 seeks to conserve, protect and, where appropriate, restore or enhance habitat connectivity and requires at least 11-25%[7] biodiversity net gain for all development[8]. Policy NH2 provides protection for the existing international, national and local designations described in section 6.5.1.

6.5.6 Overall, it is predicted that a few site-specific adverse effects to ecological receptors are possible in the short to medium term many of which are capable of mitigation. Long-term effects are likely to be both neutral or positive if opportunities to enhance the ecological network are implemented and suitable mitigation strategies implemented.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.5.7 There is potential for the magnitude of potential adverse effects to internationally designated sites to be increased when considered together with development from neighbouring districts. Air pollution effects to Aston Rowant SAC and Oxford Meadows SAC associated with increased vehicular movements could be exacerbated when additional traffic from neighbouring districts is factored in. These issues are considered separately in more depth within the Habitats Regulations Assessment (UEEC, 2023).

6.5.8 Cumulative effects to more local ecological receptors are considered unlikely as the zone of influence for these receptor sites is significantly smaller and the spatial spread of site allocations is such that no two sites are predicted to impact on any one single receptor.

6.6 SA5: To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both Districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change

6.6.1 Whilst carbon emissions in the Districts have decreased over the last 15 years, emissions in both Districts are still above the national average. In 2019, transport accounted for 49% of all carbon emissions in both South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse. The next largest contributor was domestic in both Districts. Both Councils have set targets to become carbon neutral districts, with South Oxfordshire aiming to reach this in 2030, and Vale of White Horse aiming for a 75% reduction in emissions by 2030 and to be carbon neutral by 2045.

[7] Whatever is the maximum assessed as deliverable through the Joint Local Plan Viability Assessment.

[8] Exemptions will be set out in the forthcoming regulations and are expected to include development impacting habitat of an area below a 'de minimis' threshold of 25 metres squared (or 5m for linear habitats such as hedgerows), householder development, biodiversity gain sites (where habitats are being enhanced for wildlife), and small-scale self-build and custom housebuilding.

6.6.2 All proposed site allocations are predicted to result in varying magnitudes of mixed effects in terms of their ability to make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both Districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change. Construction activities and traffic, as well as the consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase on all sites. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase, although those sites better located with respect to the sustainable transport network have better scope for mitigating the scale of operational traffic emissions (see SA3). Larger sites allocated for a mix of uses may also be suitable for district heat networks, although any potential for implementation is unknown at this stage. This includes Berinsfield, Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre, Land south of Grenoble Road, Land at Northfield, Land North of Bayswater Brook, North-West of Grove and Dalton Barracks.

6.6.3 Berinsfield, Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre, Land south of Grenoble Road, Land at Northfield, Land North of Bayswater Brook, Rich's sidings and Broadway, North-West of Valley Park, Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Milton Park (employment) and Southmead Industrial Estate (employment) contain small areas of flood zone 2 and 3. Development here would be at risk of flooding and if not designed appropriately would increase the risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Policy CE6 requires application of the sequential test and requires site-specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for all development in flood zones 2 and 3. Appropriate mitigation and management will be required which should mitigate any adverse effects for the affected sites.

6.6.4 As set out in 6.4.1 and 6.4.3, the spatial strategy set out in policy SP1 promotes accessibility and seeks to minimise the Plan's carbon emissions. Policies CE1 to CE5 set out the Councils' specific requirement for net zero buildings, sustainable design and construction, reduction of embodied carbon, sustainable retrofitting and renewable energy. Overall, some mixed effects remain associated with the site allocations as construction and operational activities will inevitably generate carbon emissions; however, the plan's policies seek to minimise these emissions as far as possible.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.6.5 The effects of atmospheric carbon emissions are not constrained to administrative boundaries and therefore there is potential for cumulative effects with the Local Plans of neighbouring districts. The effects of flooding are more spatially restricted and therefore there is less potential for cumulative effects. The three sites on the border with Oxford City are the exception and could act in combination with potential site allocations in the emerging Oxford City Plan, specifically within the south area to exacerbate flooding impacts. However, policies within both plans, specifically policy CE6 within the South and Vale Plan and policy option set G7 in the emerging Oxford City Plan[9], are predicted to mitigate these effects.

[9] Oxford Local Plan 2040, Preferred Options September 2022 – Chapter 4: A green, biodiverse city that is resilient to climate change

6.7 SA6: To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the Districts

6.7.1 The Districts are host to a wide range of heritage assets, including approximately 5,500 Listed Buildings, 123 designated conservation areas, 128 Scheduled Monuments, one historic battlefield and 20 Registered Parks and Gardens. There are large clusters within settlements, but assets can also be found in the more rural areas of the Districts.

6.7.2 Heritage effects associated with the site allocations are mostly limited to localised minor impacts to the setting of some heritage features. The most adverse predicted heritage effects are associated with Land North of Bayswater Brook and Land at Crowmarsh Gifford. There are two Grade II and one Grade II* Listed Buildings within the site boundary of Land North of Bayswater Brook associated with the Wick Farm buildings. The farmhouse itself is not within the site boundary and the site allocation policy makes provision for a schedule of works to it. There is also potential for archaeological assets within the site. The Land at Crowmarsh Gifford site is located within 200m of one Grade I, one Grade II* and several Grade II Listed Buildings along 'The Street'. Whilst direct impacts are unlikely, impacts to the settings of these features are possible particularly given the townscape of the area. A Heritage Statement should be prepared for any planning application coming forward on these sites and a suitable mitigation scheme devised if impacts are predicted.

6.7.3 The proposed site allocations within the Joint Local Plan are sufficiently distant from each other that heritage assets are unlikely to be affected by multiple site developments, with the exception of listed buildings within the Didcot Old conservation area whose setting may be impacted by development at both the Vauxhall Barracks sites and the Didcot Gateway site.

6.7.4 Policies NH8 to NH12 provide for the protection and enhancement of all heritage assets in the Districts. Policy DE1 also requires high quality design which responds to the history of a site and conserves and enhances historic character. The potential for short-term and long-term minor heritage effects is real. However, it should be possible to reduce negative effects through policy provisions and through sensitive, high-quality design informed by a Heritage Statement.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.7.5 The three sites on the edge of Oxford could result in adverse cumulative heritage effects to features in their proximity. Land at Northfield is predicted to have neutral heritage effects and so cumulative effects can be discounted. There is potential for cumulative effects to heritage assets in and around Land at Bayswater Brook when considered together with the Marston Road and Old Road Area of Focus in the Oxford City emerging Local Plan, and to heritage assets to the north of Land at Grenoble Road when considered together with the Cowley Branch Line and Littlemore Area of Focus in the Oxford City emerging Local Plan. However, policy provisions within the South and Vale Joint Local Plan together with provisions in policy option set DH13-15 in the emerging Oxford City Plan[10] are predicted to limit the extent of adverse setting impacts.

[10] Oxford Local Plan 2040, Preferred Options September 2022 – Chapter 6: A city of culture that respects its heritage and fosters design of the highest quality

6.8 SA7: To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, the countryside and landscape quality

6.8.1 The North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Chiltern Hills AONB run along the southern boundaries covering 42,046 hectares of land within the Districts (approximately 42%). To support the emerging Joint Local Plan a new character assessment is being prepared which will include landscape and sensitivity studies. These will inform potential impacts to more local landscape assets.

6.8.2 In the absence of these studies, at this stage those site allocations located within 2km of the AONBs are considered to have greater potential for adverse landscape effects to these designated landscapes. These include Berinsfield, Rich's sidings and Broadway, Didcot Gateway, North-West of Valley Park, Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Southmead Industrial Estate (employment) and Grove Technology Park (employment). Given the urban setting of the two Didcot sites and existing uses it is considered that landscape impacts to the AONB will be minimal; however, greater potential for adverse impacts remains for the three remaining sites. The Harwell Campus employment site is situated within the North Wessex Downs AONB and therefore there is considered to be greater potential for some adverse landscape effects here albeit the existing employment uses of the site should minimise the magnitude of effects.

6.8.3 Given the spatial distribution of sites, there is potential for the Didcot sites, the North-West Valley Park and Harwell (employment) sites to have cumulative adverse landscape and visual effects to receptors within / using the North Wessex Downs AONB. Ultimately the extent of landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward which is largely unknown at this stage.

6.8.4 Whilst there have been no recent landscape capacity assessments on which to base individual site assessments, policy DE1 sets requirements for high quality design including consideration of the landscape and policy DE2 requires development to respond to local character. Policies NH5 to NH7 protects the Districts' landscapes, countryside and rural areas from harmful development, particularly valued landscape and including tranquil areas. On this basis it is predicted that strong adverse effects will be avoided; however, the potential for minor adverse effects in the short and long term remains.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.8.5 At this stage, no cumulative landscape effects are predicted when considering neighbouring Local Plans.

6.9 SA8: To conserve and manage natural resources

6.9.1 The majority of land in the Districts outside the Tier 1 settlements is classified as ALC Provisional Grade 1, 2, 3 or 4 agricultural land. Small pockets around Didcot, Wantage and Grove have been subject to survey post 1988 and include areas of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land (Grade 1, 2 and 3a). Much of the land east of Didcot and Abingdon-on-Thames and west of

Wallingford and Berinsfield is designated for mineral resources. Areas of high natural capital[11] for regulating and cultural ecosystem services generally coincide with rural, unfarmed land.

6.9.2 The Joint Local Plan spatial strategy presented within policy SP1 seeks to focus development within Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements and on brownfield land which minimises losses of those natural resources described above and presents opportunities for land remediation. However, a number of the site allocations would result in losses of agricultural land, including possible BMV land, as well as resulting in possible sterilisation of mineral resource if these are not extracted prior to development. The most adverse effects are associated with the Berinsfield site and the Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre. At Berinsfield the majority of land is classified as ALC Grade 2 with a small pocket of Grade 1 in the east. The entire site is also subject to a minerals designation. At Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre there are also pockets of ALC Grade 2, with the rest classified as ALC Grade 3 and there are also minerals designations on the southern half of the site.

6.9.3 However, the majority of site allocations are predicted to result in mixed effects overall in terms of conservating mineral resourcing given that whilst there are losses of agricultural land (and minerals in some cases), there are opportunities for remediation of brownfield land and historic landfill sites and opportunities to increase natural capital of land parcels within the site boundaries. For all sites resource use is likely to increase over the short term, as a result of construction materials, and in the medium and long term as a result of household water use and waste production.

6.9.4 Policy DE7 includes requirements to ensure developments have adequate facilities for waste storage, collection and recycling. Policy CE7 sets out water efficiency measures for new development which go beyond current Buildings Regulations. Policies CE12 and CE13 seek to avoid development on BMV and maximise opportunities for remediation and direct development away from minerals safeguarded areas or extract resources prior to development.

6.9.5 These policies will mitigate some of the adverse effects of development coming forward under the Joint Local Plan. However, the location of some of the site allocations within areas of higher value agricultural land, and the inevitable increase in use of natural resources and waste production associated with new development mean that some potential for adverse effects in terms of natural resources remain.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.9.6 Development in neighbouring Districts associated with both adopted and emerging plans will put similar pressure on natural resources, in particular shared water resources. The HRA deals with this issue in greater detail (UEEC, 2023) but there is potential for adverse cumulative effects.

[11] Identified by Oxford Policy Exchange Network fellowship, funded by the University of Oxford

6.10 SA9: To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing

6.10.1 The site allocations are expected to have a major positive effect on the provision of housing in the Districts, including provision of affordable housing. Overall, the Plan provides for 21,616 net dwellings in South Oxfordshire and 19,992 net dwellings in Vale of White Horse. These figures exceed the calculated housing need figures of 17,050 homes for South Oxfordshire and 14,390 homes for Vale of White Horse. The site allocations contribute 10,417 net homes in South Oxfordshire and 3,873 net homes in Vale of White Horse. Those site allocations which make the biggest contribution to housing are Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (3,500 dwellings), Land south of Grenoble Road (3,000 dwellings), Land at Northfield (1,800 dwellings) and Berinsfield (1,700 dwellings). These larger sites also provide the most potential for providing a greater mix and types of homes, including affordable homes with strong positive effects in terms of objective 9.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.10.2 The unmet needs of Oxford City are incorporated into the Joint Local Plan's overall housing requirement. Therefore, positive cumulative effects are predicted for the population of Oxford. Otherwise, no other cumulative effects are predicted.

6.11 SA10: To provide a resilient economy for both Districts in the future

6.11.1 The Plan allocates five employment sites including Culham Science Centre (allocates 2.3ha), Milton Park (allocates 34.5ha), Harwell Campus (allocates 93ha), Southmead Industrial Estate (allocates 2.66ha) and Grove Technology Park (allocates 5.4ha) (see Figure 6.1) All five are already in employment use, at least on the majority of the site. Some of the larger residential-led sites also include employment use within their allocation. These include Berinsfield (5ha), Land south of Grenoble Road (10ha), Rich's sidings and Broadway (yet to be quantified), and possibly Land at Crowmarsh Gifford where different site uses are still under consideration.

6.11.2 Overall, the Plan makes allocations for 20 hectares of employment land in South Oxfordshire and 112.4 hectares of employment land in the Vale of White Horse. Neighbourhood plan allocations and developments in the pipeline provide a further 12 hectares for South and 76.2 hectares for Vale. This compares to a requirement of 23.5 and 115.2 hectares for each district respectively. Strong positive effects are predicted in terms of employment provision.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.11.3 Neighbouring District Local Plans, particularly the Oxford City Local Plan make provision for further employment provision which will result in positive cumulative effects for the population of the Districts in terms of ensuring a resilient economy and job opportunities.

6.12 SA11: To achieve sustainable water resource management

6.12.1 The River Thames dominates the southwest area of South Oxfordshire and has a well-documented history of flooding. Within the Vale of White Horse district there are of a number of

rivers including the River Thames, River Cole, River Ock, Letcombe Brook and Hinksey Stream. A number of towns and villages are at risk from fluvial flooding within the Vale District, including: Shrivenham, Upper Inglesham, Buscot, Hinton Waldrist, Toll, Abingdon-on-Thames, Drayton, Sutton Courtney, Marcham, Garford and Charney Bassett. Of these, Abingdon-on-Thames has the largest area of floodplain, from the River Ock and Thames.

6.12.2 Drinking water is abstracted from the River Thames, from groundwater aquifers and there is a reservoir at Farmoor in the Vale of White Horse. There are SPZs in the south and east of the Districts, where groundwater drinking supplies are at risk from pollution. However, none of the proposed site allocations fall within these zones. All allocations will require supplies of fresh drinking water, and both water use and wastewater production will increase once developments are operational. The Councils have commissioned a water cycle study to inform the Plan's development and the results will be fed into the SA at the next plan stage. Policy CE7 sets out water efficiency measures for new development which go beyond current Buildings Regulations, whilst policy CE8 looks to protect and enhance water quality including through use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) and requires adequate wastewater treatment capacity to serve new development.

6.12.3 Policy IN7 safeguards land within the Vale between the villages of Drayton, East Hanney and Steventon for possible future provision of a South East Strategic Reservoir Option. Thames Water has indicated that they intend to submit the application for a development consent order in 2026. Whilst construction of the reservoir itself is predicted to have mixed environmental effects, provisions of policy IN7 are predicted to maximise opportunities associated with the reservoir including water security but also recreational, biodiversity improvements, renewable technology and employment opportunities.

6.12.4 Berinsfield, Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre, Land south of Grenoble Road, Land at Northfield, Land North of Bayswater Brook, Rich's sidings and Broadway, North-West of Valley Park, Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Milton Park (employment) and Southmead Industrial Estate (employment) contain small areas of flood zone 2 and 3. Development here would be at risk of flooding and if not designed appropriately would increase the risk of flooding downstream. Policy CE6 requires application of the sequential test and requires site-specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for all development in flood zones 2 and 3. Appropriate mitigation and management will be required which should mitigate any adverse effects for the affected sites.

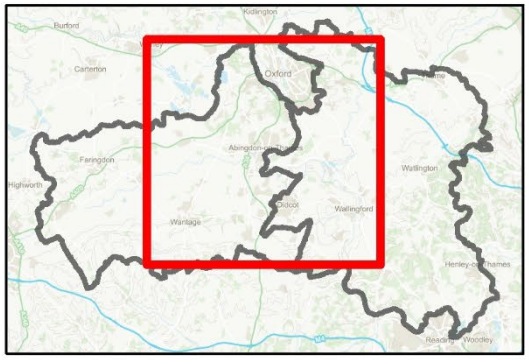
6.12.5 Overall, the potential for adverse effects in terms of sustainable water resource management remains but the Plan's policies should serve to minimise the magnitude of these effects.

Cumulative Effects Assessment

6.12.6 There is potential for water resource needs of new housing within South and Vale together with that of neighbouring districts to increase the magnitude of predicted effects on water supplies and the capacity of waste water treatment facilities. The Council is in the process of commissioning a water cycle study as part of the Joint Local Plan evidence base which will consider the cumulative effect of any increased need.

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

- Residential Site Allocations
- Employment Site Allocations
- District Boundaries



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Scale: 1:150,000 **Created by:** EM
Date: Nov 2023 **Reviewed by:** GC
Drawing number:
UE0597_SEA_Site_Allocations_231030

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AS5
AS4
AS3
NW of Abingdon
AS10
AS2
AS1
Culham Science Centre
Southmead Industrial Estate, Didcot
Milton Park
AS9
AS8
Grove Technology Park
AS7
AS6
Vauxhall Barracks
AS16
Harwell Campus

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Figure 6.1: Residential and Employment Site Allocations

7 Mitigation and Monitoring

7.1 Proposed Mitigation

7.1.1 Table 7.1 summarises the range of mitigation measures proposed through the SA process to date. Many of these measures are recommended against proposals which are predicted to have positive effects and are therefore intended to help maximise the positive sustainability effects of implementing the policy or proposal. The mitigation measures are derived from the Detailed Assessment Matrices presented at Appendix J. A number of these measures have been embedded within the Local Plan policies. Where this is the case the relevant policy numbers have been provided within Table 7.1.

Table 7.1: Summary of Proposed Mitigation

Objective	Recommended Mitigation
SA1: To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be prepared and submitted as part of any planning application coming forward on a particular site, and should include measures to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Following site investigation, the design of any contaminated land remediation strategy should include measures within the CEMP to manage risk of mobilised contaminants entering surface or ground waters. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents. (*Policy CE9: Air quality, Policy CE10: Pollution sources and receptors, Policy CE11: Light pollution and dark skies and Policy CE12: Soils and contaminated land*).
SA2: To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.	For sites with limited accessibility to public open space, opportunities should be explored to provide new public open spaces or improve access to existing areas (*Policy HP7: Open Space in New Developments*). On larger sites, if space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
SA3: To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport. *(Site allocation policies AS1 to AS12 and AS16, the strategies for Didcot Garden Town (policy SP3) and Abingdon, Faringdon, Henley on Thames, Thame, Wallingford and Wantage (policies SP4 to SP9), Policy IN2)*

Objective	Recommended Mitigation
SA4: To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the Districts.	Ecological surveys and assessment may be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats. New planting proposals should seek to tie into the existing ecological areas and maximise opportunities for connectivity aligning with the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategies.
SA5: To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both Districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.	District heating type initiatives should be considered for larger sites with a mix of uses. *(Policy CE5: Renewable Energy)* Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area. (*Policy CE6: Flood risk and drainage*)
SA6: To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the Districts.	It should be possible to reduce negative effects via high quality designs which respond to and enhance the setting of historical features, and through structural landscaping. Heritage Statements should be prepared for schemes with potentially significant constraints and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains). *(Policy DE1: High quality design, Policy NH8 to NH12: Designated heritage assets)*
SA7: To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality.	A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) should be carried out as part of the planning application for any proposals with the potential to have adverse effects to sensitive landscape features, particularly the AONBs. *(Policy NH4: Chilterns and North Wessex Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty)*
SA8: To conserve and manage natural resources.	Waste materials produced during demolition and groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible, or reprocessed off site for future use in aggregates.

Objective	Recommended Mitigation
	Commercially viable mineral deposits should be extracted prior to construction to prevent sterilisation. *(Policy CE13: Minerals Safeguarded Areas)* Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities. *(Policy DE7: Waste collection and recycling)*
SA9: To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.	No significant negative effects predicted.
SA10: To provide a resilient economy for both Districts in the future.	No significant negative effects predicted.
SA11: To achieve sustainable water resource management.	Development should be focussed outside of flood zone areas wherever possible. *(Policy CE6: Flood risk and drainage)*

7.2 Requirements for Monitoring

7.2.1 The SEA Regulations state that *"The responsible authority shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of each plan or programme with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action"* (Regulation 17(1)). In addition, the Environmental Report (or Sustainability Report) should provide *"… a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring"* (Schedule 2(9)).

7.2.2 The SA monitoring framework should be targeted towards the aspects of the environmental, social and economic baseline which are assessed as likely to be significantly affected during implementation of the plan. Ideally SA monitoring proposals should be aligned with or incorporated within monitoring that is scheduled for the plan itself, both to avoid duplication and ensure that appropriate remedial action can be taken.

7.2.3 Monitoring is particularly useful in helping to answer the following questions:

- Were the assessment's predictions of sustainability effects accurate?
- Is the plan contributing to the achievement of desired sustainability objectives?
- Are mitigation measures performing as well as expected?
- Are there any unforeseen adverse effects? Are these within acceptable limits, or is remedial action required?

7.3 Monitoring Framework

7.3.1 Table 7.2 presents preliminary draft proposals for a programme of monitoring to measure the plan's performance in relation to the SA Objectives against which significant effects were identified, and seeks to monitor where uncertainties relating to the appraisal findings arose.

7.3.2 The draft monitoring framework is, at this stage, preliminary and may evolve in response to the results of consultation or changes to the plan. The final monitoring framework will be included in the Post Adoption Statement.

Table 7.2: Draft Monitoring Framework

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
SA1: To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	No. of exceedances of the air pollution objectives, as reported in the Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) – see https://www.oxonair.uk/policies-and-reports)	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent exceedance of air pollution objectives.
	Annual mean, minimum and maximum water conductivity at selected river monitoring stations.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent increase in water pollution indicator.
SA2: To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.	Net change in designated open space.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies for protection of existing open space through a review of the plan if significant losses persist.
	Net floorspace permitted for Use Classes E(d-f) and F.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
SA3: To reduce the need to travel by car and improve access	Proportion of houses delivered in accordance with spatial strategy within Policy SP1.	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.			through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
	Implementation of sustainable transport strategies set out in travel plans submitted alongside planning applications.	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
SA4: To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.	Number of planning approvals that generated any adverse impacts on sites of acknowledged biodiversity importance.	Every two years	Identify opportunities for habitat management / creation.
	Percentage of developments generating overall biodiversity enhancement.	Every two years	Identify opportunities for habitat management / creation.
	Hectares of biodiversity habitat delivered through site allocations.	Every two years	Identify opportunities for habitat management / creation.
SA5: To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.	No. dwellings / amount of non-residential floorspace designed to provide heating through low carbon heating systems / technologies.	Every five years	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
	Total capacity (in kilowatt-hours) of renewable energy permitted within new developments.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
	No. of permissions not accompanied by SuDS.	Every year	Consider introduction of

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
			stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
	No. of dwellings permitted within flood zones 2 and 3.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
SA6: To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the Districts.	Change in number/proportion of heritage assets within South and Vale on the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record.	Every two years	Case-specific
SA7: To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality.	Number of planning permissions accompanied by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
SA8: To conserve and manage natural resources.	Number of safeguarded mineral sites impacted by development and whose operations are affected.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger safeguarding policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
	Area of BMV agricultural land lost to development.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger safeguarding policies through a

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
			review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
SA9: To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.	Net additional dwellings completed against annual target.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery; Work with partners to improve rate of delivery (if delivery falls behind trajectory).
	Sites to deliver a mix of house tenures and sizes in line with that recommended by the most recent housing market assessment – mix to be assessed by percentage permitted annually and over the plan period.	Every year	Encourage developers to meet required mix (where there is an under supply).
	50% affordable housing provision on sites with > 10 dwellings.	Every year	Refuse permission for schemes yielding <50% unless compelling reasons otherwise.
	Affordable element to deliver a mix of house types and sizes in line with that recommended by the most recent housing market assessment – mix to be assessed by percentage permitted annually and over the plan period.	Every year	Encourage developers to meet required mix (where there is an undersupply).
SA10: To provide a resilient economy for both Districts in the future.	Area of non-employment (Class E) uses permitted on allocated employment land.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
	Net floorspace for employment uses permitted.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
			the plan if persistent under delivery.
SA11: To achieve sustainable water resource management.	No. of planning permissions granted within Source Protection Zones.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.
	No. of planning permissions within the River Lambourn nutrient neutrality catchment area.	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies through a review of the plan if persistent under delivery.

8 Summary and Consultation Arrangements

8.1 Summary and Next Steps

8.1.1 The Sustainability Report presents the findings of a combined SA and SEA for the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Joint Local Plan

8.1.2 The report accompanies the Preferred Options Plan published for consultation under Regulation 18 of the 2012 Regulations, forming part of the evidence base upon which the Plan is based, and incorporates the Environmental Report which is required in accordance with the 2004 SEA Regulations. It includes an assessment of the reasonable alternatives which were considered during preparation of the Plan and makes recommendations for mitigating and monitoring its significant effects.

8.1.3 Overall, significant long-term positive sustainability effects are predicted to result from the Joint Local Plan, particularly in relation to health and well-being, accessible travel, housing provision, economy and jobs. Nevertheless, significant negative or mixed effects are also predicted, especially in relation to pollution, biodiversity, carbon emissions, heritage, landscape / townscape character, and natural resources, although many of these impacts have been minimised through the development strategy and are capable of being mitigated.

8.1.4 Following publication of the Preferred Options Plan, its Sustainability Report and evidence base, representations will be analysed by the Councils and the SA team. Modifications to both the Local Plan and its Sustainability Appraisal may be made in response to consultation, and any significant changes to the Plan will be subject to additional appraisal. Further public consultation is scheduled for the Pre-Submission Local Plan and its Sustainability Report prior to an Examination in Public.

8.1.5 SEA Regulations 16.3c)(iii) and 16.4 require that a 'statement' be made available to accompany the plan, as soon as possible after the adoption of the plan or programme. The purpose of the Post Adoption Statement is to outline how the SA process has informed and influenced the development planning process and demonstrate how consultation on the SA was taken into account. The statement will contain the following information:

- The reasons for choosing the plan as adopted in the light of other reasonable alternatives considered;
- How environmental considerations were integrated into the plan;
- How consultation responses were taken into account; and
- Measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant effects of the plan.

8.2 Consultation Arrangements

8.2.1 The Sustainability Report is being made available for consultation as part of the Joint Local Plan Preferred Options consultation running for six weeks from 10 January to 21 February 2024.

8.2.2 An interactive version of this Sustainability Report's Non-Technical Summary (NTS) can be accessed here. The interactive NTS does not replace any of the statutory elements of this main Sustainability Report but rather sits alongside it and presents a summary of the content in an accessible and engaging format using interactive mapping.

References and Bibliography

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European Council (1992): *Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.*

European Council (2001): *Council Directive 2001/42/EC on environmental assessment of plans and programmes.*

European Council (2009): *Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds.*

MHCLG (2015): *Planning Practice Guidance: Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal Paragraph 013.* Reference ID: 11-013-20140306. Updated 06 03 2014. Accessed online [03/05/2022].

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM; 2005a): *A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive.*

Oxfordshire County Council (2022): *Local Transport and Connectivity Plan 2022 – 2050.* Accessed online

Oxford City Council (2020): *Oxford Local Plan 2016 – 2036.* Accessed online.

Oxford City Council (2022): *Oxford Local Plan 2040, Preferred Options September 2022.* Accessed online.

UEEC (2023): *Habitats Regulations Assessment for the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan, Preliminary Screening Report, October 2023*

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Appendix A: Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

Schedule 2: Information for Environmental Reports (referred to in Provision 12(3))

Requirement	Location in this SEA
1. An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	Sections 1.2, 3.3 and 4.1
2. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.	Section 3.4 and Appendix C
3. The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Section 3.4 and Appendix C
4. Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds and the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of habitats and species.	Section 3.4 and Appendix C
5. 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.	Section 3.3
6. The likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the inter-relationship between these factors.	Chapters 5 and 6, and Appendices F to L
7. The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.	Chapter 7, and Appendix J
8. An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.	Chapters 4 and 5
9. A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with regulation 17.	Chapter 7
10. A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 9.	Non Technical Summary

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Appendix B: Consultation Analysis

Accessibility

Appendix B presents a tabulated analysis of all consultation responses received to date relating to the Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment. The information captured within the table includes the name of the organisation making the comment, the date the comment was received, the comment itself, the document the comment relates to, the Councils' response and any additional UEEC comment, if any are needed.

A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

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Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Organisation	Date	Comment	Document	Council response	Additional UEEC comments, if any needed
Individual	May-22	Document is not appropriate for all those prepared to either view the inter-active website or complete the survey. A one or two page summary would have been adequate.	Screening and Scoping Report	We will include a non-technical summary alongside the next iteration of the SA report.	
Individual	May-22	The document says that it is Government's intention to strengthen the requirement for the planning system to provide biodiversity net gains where possible, highlighting a potential consultation on making this requirement mandatory. However, stating 'where possible' is too weak. 'At every stage', would make it a stronger requirement and is needed if we are serious about nature protection and boosting biodiversity. Pleased to see rewilding mentioned.	Screening and Scoping Report	Our SA document cannot introduce anything that exceeds current Government legislative requirements. However, the next iteration of the SA report can provide an update on any changes to national legislation which need to be taken into account.	
Individual	May-22	The Council currently uses the word 'sustainable' on many things which are not, e.g. the housing developments in Wantage & Grove. Few of the houses are being built with adequate insulation, solar panels, electric charging points, heat pumps etc. Worse still, they have no groundwater plan for taking storm water. Mixing storm and sewage water makes removing road detritus harder which ends up in our rivers causing pollution. Developers are allowed to tack onto the existing infrastructure rather than comprehensively plan for how this is dealt with - why is this not referenced in the document? How many more times will Wick Green Sewage Pumping Station be broken by developers like Barrett David Wilson building hundreds of houses and breaking the pipes. How about also mentioning how you will improve the air quality which is often poor here (as demonstrated by daily independent monitoring). The scoping report does not mention an environmental audit - why don't you find out now where the rare and endangered species are and produce a map which can be used in future local plans to protect them? That way our local bat roost would not have been destroyed.	Screening and Scoping Report	The Joint Local Plan will give consideration to how policy can support sustainable development coming forward over the Plan period (including requirements for new development to be built to more stringent standards to help mitigate the impacts of climate change). The sustainability appraisal process includes an assessment of the likely impacts of potential developments in specific locations, as well as an assessment of the potential mitigation measures that would need to be in place for development to meet the Plan's sustainability objectives. This will help guide the Council's decision making on its preferred policy options. A new Sustainability Objective SO11 has been added: to 'achieve sustainable water resource management'. In order to assess whether an option or proposal helps to meet this objective, we will assess whether it: - Maximises the efficient use of water; - Reduces the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure, and improves resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources; - Minimises inappropriate development in Source Protection Zones; and - Ensures sufficient waste water treatment capacity to accommodate new development. Our evidence base will include a Water Cycle Study, which will assess the capacity of wastewater treatment infrastructure and will identify where new/upgraded wastewater treatment infrastructure is required to accommodate proposed development. The Joint Local Plan will include policies that help to align the delivery of development and new/upgraded infrastructure. Policies on air quality will be included in the Local Plan and air quality impacts are already referenced in the SA framework.	
Individual	May-22	The striking issue seems to be that of estimated population increase - a massive bulge in the projected figures for 2028. Further work needs to be done to demonstrate the accuracy and validity of these projections. Further, their robustness needs to be disentangled from sites allocated for development within the Local Plans to 2031. Is the increase in population based simply upon the assumption that developers see profitable sites for development within the area, will develop those sites and fill all of the homes on offer? In that case, should potential provision of new homes take priority over all other issues related to sustainability - for example, will the overloaded sewerage systems in the area continue to fail, resulting in ever declining water quality in the watercourses, if endless new homes are constructed and no adequate investment in sewage treatment made? I believe that far more transparency on this balance between development and sustainability is required.	Screening and Scoping Report	Population projections are derived from Government sources. An explanation of this can be given in the next iteration of the SA report. The sustainability appraisal process includes an assessment of the likely impacts of potential developments in specific locations, as well as an assessment of the potential mitigation measures that would need to be in place for development to meet the Plan's sustainability objectives. This will help guide the Council's decision making on its preferred policy options. A new Sustainability Objective SO11 has been added: to 'achieve sustainable water resource management'. In order to assess whether an option or proposal helps to meet this objective, we will assess whether it: - Maximises the efficient use of water; - Reduces the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure, and improves resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources; - Minimises inappropriate development in Source Protection Zones; and - Ensures sufficient waste water treatment capacity to accommodate new development. Our evidence base will include a Water Cycle Study, which will assess the capacity of wastewater treatment infrastructure and will identify where new/upgraded wastewater treatment infrastructure is required to accommodate proposed development. The Joint Local Plan will include policies that help to align the delivery of development and new/upgraded infrastructure.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Organisation	Date	Comment	Document	Council response	Additional UEEC comments, if any needed
Horspath Neighbourhood Planning Group	May-22	The quality of this Sustainability Appraisal document is good. In particular, the explanation (in Plain English) of the significant requirements for Local Plans introduced by successive legislation and guidance by Central Government and other bodies is excellent. However, in terms of assessing the overall sustainability of development in a Joint Local Plan and its strategies, objectives and policies, some additional focus is required on the provision of sustainable infrastructure to support a growing population in the two districts. Notably, in determining the sustainability of proposed housing developments, there should be an evaluation of the capability of the sewerage and waste water systems, including the future capacity of Oxfordshire's water and sewerage treatment plants, in addition to the consideration of adequate supplies of potable water (as referenced in this SA Document). Another major omission is the failure to include an evaluation of the future capacity of all NHS services (including GP surgeries, dentists, primary care and community health services, general and specialised hospitals), especially in locations where significant additional capacity is already needed to meet existing demand. All these NHS services will require significant investment and expansion to accommodate the projected population increase set out in this Sustainability Appraisal Document and must be taken into account in the formulation of the Joint Local Plan.	Screening and Scoping Report	The sustainability appraisal process includes an assessment of the likely impacts of potential developments in specific locations, as well as an assessment of the potential mitigation measures that would need to be in place for development to meet the Plan's sustainability objectives. This will help guide the Council's decision making on its preferred policy options. New Sustainability Objective SO11 is to 'achieve sustainable water resource management'. In order to assess whether an option or proposal helps to meet this objective, we will assess whether it: - Maximises the efficient use of water; - Reduces the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure, and improves resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources; - Minimises inappropriate development in Source Protection Zones; and - Ensures sufficient waste water treatment capacity to accommodate new development. Our evidence base will include a Water Cycle Study, which will assess the capacity of wastewater treatment infrastructure and will identify where new/upgraded wastewater treatment infrastructure is required to accommodate proposed development. The Joint Local Plan will include policies that help to align the delivery of development and new/upgraded infrastructure. Revised Sustainability Objective SO2 requires an assessment of policies against the need to 'safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for 'healthy places' and 'safe places', with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place'.	
Individual	May-22	Best and Most Versatile land (BMV) to be protected, is Grade 2 and Grade 3a. However, Grade 3a is not defined on the SA maps. This must be corrected.	Screening and Scoping Report	Update agricultural land quality maps within the SA report to include Grade 3a agricultural land.	Updated agricultural land maps provided in Appendix D of the SA report.
Individual	May-22	I do not agree with the statement on Page 28 of the Sustainability Appraisal document that little weight should be given to the draft Nature Recovery Network. I would hope that utilising the draft Nature Recovery Network will ensure that future development and ecological enhancements are directed to locations where they can minimise harm and secure the greatest benefits in supporting nature's recovery and building resilience in communities and ecosystems to climate change. The fact that the enabling Regulations and guidance are still awaited, should not prevent these benefits taking place.	Screening and Scoping Report	Para 5.24 of the report states that the weight to attribute to the Nature Recovery Network in both plan making and decision taking is likely to be low, simply because it is still in draft form and at an early stage of its development. Future iterations of the SA report will need to provide an update on progress, to determine how the NRN will help guide SA of policies/sites.	There is no update at the time of writing
Individual	May-22	Paragraph 4.10 states that the NPPF (at para 105) requires significant development to be focused in locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. Paragraph 4.45 then refers to Objective 3 'Reducing the need to travel by car due to its associated impact on negative air quality and reducing emission from all forms of transport'. These requirements need to be enforced in the Local Plan by providing more local employment to reduce the need for commuting and the creation of dormitory towns and villages. I support fully: Objectives 3, 6, 7, 15, 16 and 20.	Screening and Scoping Report	Support for Objectives 3, 6, 7, 15, 16 and 20 welcomed. Agreed that the Joint Local Plan will need to give consideration to how the provision of local employment opportunities can help reduce the need for commuting and prevent the creation of dormitory towns and villages.	
Individual	May-22	This document states that our area is under extreme water stress. In another briefing, I heard that the Government is planning to suck water from the River Thames to send it to the River Severn. Surely these two things don't go well together? It is unconscionable that Thames Water are considering a new environmentally damaging, large reservoir near Steventon at a time when they are leaking as much (or more) water than that new reservoir would save. It is also immoral for sewage to be released into clean water, whether fresh or salt. Clean and adequate water supply is the main priority in my opinion.	Screening and Scoping Report	New Sustainability Objective SO11 is to 'achieve sustainable water resource management'. In order to assess whether an option or proposal helps to meet this objective, we will assess whether it: - Maximises the efficient use of water; - Reduces the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure, and improves resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources; - Minimises inappropriate development in Source Protection Zones; and - Ensures sufficient waste water treatment capacity to accommodate new development. The sustainability appraisal process includes an assessment of the likely impacts of potential developments in specific locations, as well as an assessment of the potential mitigation measures that would need to be in place for development to meet the Plan's sustainability objectives. This will help guide the Council's decision making on its preferred policy options. Our evidence base will include a Water Cycle Study, which will assess the capacity of wastewater treatment infrastructure and will identify where new/upgraded wastewater treatment infrastructure is required to accommodate proposed development. The Joint Local Plan will include policies that help to align the delivery of development and new/upgraded infrastructure.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Organisation	Date	Comment	Document	Council response	Additional UEEC comments, if any needed
Individual	May-22	I don't understand this 'plan' as it seems to be more about what you will be looking at in order to prepare a plan, rather than an actual proposed plan. As such it is difficult to comment. However, I do have concerns around transport, particularly following the Pandemic. Bus services have suffered considerably, both in frequency and reliability. I also have concerns around the number of new builds generally. Every village and town has a huge number of new buildings being erected. The infrastructure everywhere is suffering - little or no thought seems to be going into the provision of any type of reasonably sufficient infrastructure, whilst shops, banks, post offices, ATMs etc are disappearing. All of this is making life more difficult, particularly for older people. A lot of emphasis seems to have been placed on EV charging points with little apparent regard to the cost of the vehicles, the cost and/or the difficulty of having a charging point at one's home address or the problems for older homes to cope with these additional electricity demands. Increased provision of EV charging points then means fewer ordinary parking places and, at peak times, public car parks often have no normal parking spaces available whilst the EV spaces remain empty. Infuriating. New builds (and any new commercial premises) should be required to include solar panels. They are far cheaper to install during the build than to have them fitted afterwards.	Screening and Scoping Report	This is a scoping document which explains how we intend to integrate Sustainability Appraisal with our plan making process. Future iterations of the SA report will include detail on how alternative policy options have been robustly assessed against our sustainability objectives and how the councils have identified their preferred policy options (including potential site allocations) as a result of these assessments. It is the role of Oxfordshire County Council to plan for the local bus route network and public transport service provision, in consultation with the district councils. However, Sustainability Objectives SO3 and SO5 will test sites in terms of their proximity to the public tansport network (including bus stops, train stations and transport hubs). SO3 is designed to test accessiblity of site options and their ability to reduce the need to travel by car and improve access to facilities. SO5 is designed to test the ability of the site options to contribute to carbon reductions and achieve net zero targets. An Infrastructure Delivery Plan must be prepared alongside our Joint Local Plan, which will set out all the infrastructure requirements associated with planned development, when this will need to be delivered and how it will be funded. As we prepare our Local Plan, we will need to give consideration to how our policies can support climate mitigation, for example through the introduction of solar panels in new development.	
Igloo Planning (Ian Gillespie)	May-22	The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill 2022 (May 2022) proposes the replacement of the Sustainability Appraisal process with a new form of Environmental Outcome Report. These are intended to be clearer and simpler than the current system. It is within this context that we note this Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Screening and Scoping Report extends to over 190 pages. There is a typo at para 9.39, which refers to 'the key challenges for heritage across the districts' when it should refer to 'the key challenges for the landscape across the districts'. It is noted that, in terms of the Green Belt, the key challenge is 'avoiding development in the Oxford Green Belt, where this would erode the functions of the Green Belt'. CEG supports the way in which this key challenge has been presented. The focus should be on ensuring that the function of the Green Belt is not eroded. Unfortunately, this has not been followed through in the related sustainability objective (Objective 11), which we consider should be amended as follows (new words underlined): ' To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place, the countryside, the function of the Green Belt and landscape quality.'	Screening and Scoping Report	We will be mindful of any legislative changes in the SA process and prepare the necessary documentation to demonstrate how we have complied with national requirements at the appropriate stages in our Plan preparation process. Typo in para 9.39 acknowledged. New Sustainability Objective 7 (replacing SO11 & 12) will read as follows: 'To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality.'	
Barton Willmore (now Stantec) on behalf of L&Q Estates and Brasenose College	May-22	There are some deficiencies in the document, where a lack of information results in a potentially opaque SA process. These should be addressed at the next stage of the SA to reduce the risk of future challenge. There is little detail regarding the methodology used to apply the SA Framework, including the approach to assessing the likely significant effects on the environment following implementation of mitigation. The Figure 35 key suggests that scoring against the SA Framework will be post-mitigation, however it is not clear how the level of mitigation (be it embedded, additional or tertiary mitigation) would be applied consistently across the assessment of the Plan. Consistency in scoring is fundamental to a robust SA. Needs to be clarity on how mitigation through site design will be taken into account in the scoring process and it is recommended that the SA framework is used to provide assessment both pre- and post-mitigation. The SA Framework lacks clarity on the temporality of the likely significant effects. The Plan will have varying impacts over different time periods (short, medium or long term impacts). Yet, time periods are not provided to distinguish what might be a short term or temporary effect to a likely significant effect that may be long term and permanent. There is also no indication of any potential differential weighting of the temporality of effects. This is also the case when considering the likelihood of a significant effect on the environment (High, Medium, Low or whatever scale is chosen). The uncertainty of effects occurring could influence decision-making within the SA and needs to be clearly outlined from the outset for consistency. The Framework also lacks detail on the assessment of cumulative/synergistic effects and should include a separate section setting out the methodology used to determine these effects. It is not clear how the SA has taken the Key Challenges for the plan area and chosen the corresponding Sustainability Objectives. Clarity on the iterative nature of the Objectives would be particularly helpful where the Objectives are ambiguous. Clarity is needed on the scope of 'net-zero' and how this would apply in relation to the SA Framework with the provision of mitigation. Over the Plan period there are likely to be significant changes to the regulatory baseline which will impact activities influenced by the Plan (e.g. Building Regulations). The Plan must be cognisant of future regulatory changes to ensure that the SA remains future-proofed but also flexible. The ambiguity on terminology also extends to climate resilience (i.e. what types of resilience are expected from future developments and over what time period). The health and wellbeing objectives focus on the provision of social infrastructure and fail to cover the diversity of policy interventions which could be integrated at the spatial level (including preventative measures to address issues such as social isolation). Also, links between Climate Change and the health and wellbeing of current/future residents (e.g. the rise in climate anxiety) need referencing, so that the sustainability objectives are cognisant of potential future societal change.	Screening and Scoping Report	In the SA report we will add more detail on the methodology used to apply the SA framework, in particular the way that mitigation will be applied consistently. We will clarify how timeframes of significant impacts (eg long term, short term, temporary) will be applied to ensure there is certainty over the effects and consistency with how impacts are assessed. The report will also include details of the methodology used in determining cumulative/synergistic effects. Whilst we don't consider that there is any ambiguity in terminology between the objectives and the baseline information, future iterations of the SA report will re-emphasise the links between the key challenges for the districts and how these have translated into the sustainability objectives.	Refer to section 2 of SA report

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

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Individual	May-22	At the parish level we require a mix of housing for local residents of all types with affordable and rented housing. We have two industrial sites in the parish that provide employment for residents and others. Associated with this extra housing there is an increased requirement for adequate wastewater treatment. Farming is a key element in local GDP. However, it is frequently intensive, involving landlords who do not farm directly and with tenant farmers who must use intensive arable rearing to make money. This has a strong negative effect on the environment and its flora and fauna. This is slowly being reversed but one feels that some farmers and landowners will do little and it may be the next generation of farmers on which need to rely for real change. Coupled with this is an absolute requirement to change energy sources to sustainable production, including locally through PV on domestic and business premises. Vale/South could be serious drivers of this locally.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted. A new Sustainability Objective SO11 has been added: to 'achieve sustainable water resource management'. In order to assess whether an option or proposal helps to meet this objective, we will assess whether it: - Maximises the efficient use of water; - Reduces the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure, and improves resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources; - Minimises inappropriate development in Source Protection Zones; and - Ensures sufficient waste water treatment capacity to accommodate new development. As we prepare our Local Plan, we will need to give consideration to how our policies can support climate mitigation, for example through the introduction of EV charging points and photovoltaic (PV) panels in new development.	
Carter Jonas on behalf of Berkeley Strategic Land	May-22	From an initial view, the scoping exercise appears appropriate. However, it is noted that the legislative framework for both SA and HRA is likely to change during the programme for the Joint Local Plan, so this work must remain flexible.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted.	
Garsington Parish Council	May-22	It was great to see the first objective relating to pollution but it is currently too vague. Perhaps it could be split up to reflect the different elements? For our rivers and streams we would like an objective to completely eliminate raw sewage discharge into South and Vale watercourses under any circumstances by 2025 through effective collaboration with Thames Water and Central Government.	Screening and Scoping Report	Sustainability Objectives need to be relatively broad, in order to prevent having a disproportionate number of objectives which makes the assessment difficult to follow. Instead we will have more specific decision making criteria sitting below each objective against which we can test draft policies and site allocations. Handling sewage discharge is the responsibility of Thames Water, however, we will assess our policy/site options against our sustainability objective SO1 to reduce pollution, including to watercourses running through our districts. A new Sustainability Objective SO11 has been added: to 'achieve sustainable water resource management'. In order to assess whether an option or proposal helps to meet this objective, we will assess whether it: - Maximises the efficient use of water; - Reduces the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure, and improves resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources; - Minimises inappropriate development in Source Protection Zones; and - Ensures sufficient waste water treatment capacity to accommodate new development.	
Individual	May-22	We are very content with the Sustainability Appraisal Screening and Scoping Report and Appendix.	Screening and Scoping Report	Support welcomed.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

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Natural England	May-22	Natural England has not reviewed the plans and programmes listed, but we advise that the following types of plans relating to the natural environment should be considered where applicable to your plan area: Green infrastructure strategies; Biodiversity plans; Rights of Way improvement plans; River basin management plans; AONB and National Park management plans; and any relevant landscape plans and strategies. [Please see email attachment 'Annex A' for our advice on sources of local plan evidence on the natural environment.] We are not aware of any additional sustainability issues in the Plan area. SA Objectives Objective SA2 - We would suggest that reference to Green/Blue Infrastructure provision is added to this objective, to ensure that the authority develops a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure (as required by NPPF para 171). Objective SA5 - We would welcome the commitment to have regard to the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Oxfordshire incorporated within this SA objective. Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) will be the key mechanism for planning and mapping local delivery of the NRN. LNRSs will form a new system of spatial strategies for nature that will be mandated by the Environment Act. They will cover the whole of England and will be developed by Responsible Authorities (RAs) appointed by the Secretary of State, usually at a county scale. Each strategy will: Map the most valuable existing habitat for nature; Map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environment goals; and Agree priorities for natures recovery. Given that national guidance on LNRSs and their relationship to strategic planning is still in development, it is recommended that Local Plan policy recognises and references its support to the delivery of the emerging NRN and LNRS covering the area. Objective SA17 - We suggest additional wording to include the preservation of soils, in particular those of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land Grades 1- 3a. The conservation and sustainable management of soils is reflected in the NPPF, particularly in para 174. When planning authorities are considering land use change, the permanency of the impact on soils is an important consideration. Particular care over planned changes to the most potentially productive soil is needed, for the ecosystem services it supports including its role in agriculture and food production.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments all noted. Under Sustainability Objective SO2, we will add reference to promoting active travel and movement by '..maintaining, connecting and creating publicly accessible open spaces connecting into the wider green/blue infrastructure network.' We will amalgamate SO4 and SO5 into a new overarching Sustainability Objective 4, as follows: 'To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.' Beneath SO4, we will consider options/proposals under a series of more detailed decision making criteria, including whether they help to 'enhance biodiversity through the restoration and creation of well-connected multifunctional green infrastructure, including supporting the delivery of the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy.' Reference to the preservation of soils, in particular those of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land Grades 1- 3a, will be added as a decision making criterion under a new SO8 - 'To conserve and manage natural resources.'	
National Highways	May-22	National Highways notes and agrees with Objective Three (to reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services, facilities, and publicly accessible open space by active modes of travel). Para 3.10 - We agree that construction processes can directly lead to injuries, but that indirect and consequential effects such as pollution and additional traffic movement could also pose risks to human health. Para 4.43 - We note that carbon dioxide emissions from the three key sectors (Industry/Commerce, Domestic and Transport) are falling in South and Vale. Para 4.39 - We note the comments made concerning the air pollution problem in Botley and traffic on the A34. Paras 5.29, 5.46, 5.48 & 5.49 - We note the comments made concerning the Aston Rowant and Oxford Meadows SACs and traffic on the M40 and A34 respectively. Para 6.28, Figures 16 and 17 and Tables 14 and 15 - We note that transport accounted for an estimated 49% of the CO2 emissions in the two Districts in 2019. However, Table 15 appears to have Domestic and Transport emissions transposed. We note the various key challenges that have informed the inclusion of Sustainability Objective Three. Effective from 19 August 2021, Highways England became National Highways - all references to Highways England require amendment.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted. We will use the correct name of National Highways in all future iterations.	
Boyer Planning on behalf of the Copas, Harris and Haigh families	May-22	The SA Framework based upon the sustainability objectives is noted. However, it is considered essential that the SA assesses strategic growth at the various settlement hierarchy levels to ensure that the required levels of housing (including affordable housing) are achieved with appropriate distribution, based upon the level of services within the existing settlements, as well as future potential as part of any development. Whilst a greater proportion of the planned housing growth should be aimed at Market Towns, the SA must also assess the merits of Larger Villages (e.g. Watlington) for accommodating some of this growth. Figure 4 of the SODC AMR (2020/21) shows that the majority of housing delivery has been in the towns (61%) and larger villages (29%). Going forward, more emphasis should be made on delivery at larger villages to more evenly distribute growth between the most sustainable settlements, given their higher rating in terms of settlement hierarchy and the level of services and facilities that this provides. Watlington performs well in this context and has the capacity to accommodate further growth. [Response looks at each of the sustainability objectives in turn, providing commentary on the merits of their client's proposed site when considered against each one, including reference to any proposed mitigation measures.] *Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna* - Figure 5 (Nature Recovery Zones) - the map is not clear and needs amendment to ensure it is more easily readable and you can identify which zones fall within which areas. As required by the NPPF (para. 175) Local Plans should distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites. The draft designations should not be given the highest level of protection, which is reserved for AONBs and National Parks. *Climatic Factors* - Our clients support the JLP's aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and aspirations for development that is resistant to climate change, as set out in the SA at para 6.35.	Screening and Scoping Report	The SA framework will be used to assess all our policy options and sites, which themselves will reflect the councils' emerging spatial strategy for the Joint Local Plan. Comments about the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites are noted and will be reflected in the next iteration of the SA report.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

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Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for Gloucestershire	May-22	Minerals and Waste officers have reviewed the consultation information and have no objection at this time, as they do not consider it likely that any materially significant mineral and waste impacts (i.e. on Gloucestershire's mineral resources, the supply of minerals from and/or into Gloucestershire or the ability of the county's network of waste management facilities to operate at its full permitted potential) will result from implementing the consultation's proposals.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted.	
Ashbury Parish Council	May-22	The SA will likely need revising to align with the requirements of the National Bill. We suggest the following amendments to the Sustainability Objectives: **SO 5 - To protect, and where possible, enhance the status of designated assets, including SACs and SSSIs** - Consideration should be given to the value of National Nature Reserves (NNRs) within this objective and within the scoping report (including the environmental baseline). **SO7 - To ensure new developments are resilient to the effects of climate change, and that proposals do not weaken existing communities' and businesses' resilience to climate change -** Useful to include the words *'and adaptable (where appropriate)'* after **'***..new developments are resilient* **...'** to ensure that certain types of new developments are constructed in a manner that can be modified in the future (e.g. to accommodate increased flood risk etc in 50 years' time). **SO19 - To reduce the risk of (and damage from) flooding and to improve resistance and resilience to flooding -** As increased flooding can be beneficial to biodiversity, it might be helpful to be more specific and reword SO19 to say: 'To reduce the risk of, and damage from flooding to properties and key infrastructure and to improve resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources. It would be useful to include another Objective that considers the re-use of brownfield sites and provides greater protection to greenfield land. This would also tie-in with the LPAs statement in the scoping report relating to developing policies to reduce flood risk. In this document there is much data and evidence that the councils' planning team should be using for decision making (e.g. the availability of agricultural land is laid out and graded for value in food production). As the need to protect land for food production is more widely recognised, it will be important to limit growth/development in many of our settlements where agricultural land quality is high.	Screening and Scoping Report	Future iterations of the SA report will take into account any changes in legislative or policy requirements. We will amalgamate SO4 and SO5 into a new overarching Sustainability Objective 4, as follows: 'To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.' Beneath SO4, we will consider options/proposals under a series of more detailed decision making criteria, including whether they help to 'enhance biodiversity through the restoration and creation of well-connected multifunctional green infrastructure, including supporting the delivery of the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy.' We will also merge SO6 and SO7 as a new SO5 to read: 'To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.' Beneath SO5, options/proposals will be considered against five more detailed criteria, including whether they help to: 'Ensure new developments are resilient and adaptable (where appropriate) to the effects of climate change.' We agree that it would be helpful to highlight flood risk from all sources, as this aligns with the NPPF. This will be captured as a decision making criterion under a new SO11, as follows: 'Reduce the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure and to improve resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources.' Rather than introducing another SO covering brown/greenfield land, we think this could be incorporated into a consolidated SO8 covering the conservation and management of natural resources, with a decision making criterion which 'supports the sustainable management of land for multiple benefits, including maxmising re-use of brownfield sites and providing greater protection for greenfield land'. Where we are assessing site options, consideration will be given to agricultural land quality and the importance of protecting land which has the highest value for agriculture/food production.	
Town Legal LLP on behalf of Ms Anthea Eno	May-22	Our client is supportive of the sustainability objectives identified in Table 26 of the document and, in particular, wishes the councils to promote a strategy which reduces reliance on the private vehicle (as per SO3) and which contributes to the achievement of carbon net zero (SO6). It is, however, evident that a strategy which is reliant on the provision of a bypass to deliver significant development to the south of Abingdon would not support these objectives and would not, therefore, allow the Council to discharge its duty under Section 39 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The safeguarding of land has significant implications for those who own or occupy land that is safeguarded in that it becomes, in practice, blighted (although often not formally qualifying for any form of blight compensation). Accordingly, there is onus on policy makers to consider the implications of including or retaining policies entailing the safeguarding of land for infrastructure schemes. It is clear from the above that the retention of the councils' safeguarding policies would be injurious to the delivery of a sustainable development strategy and that it would actively inhibit the achievement of the stated environmental objectives. Accordingly, the Joint Local Plan 2041 should clearly identify that the safeguarding policies are no longer required.	Screening and Scoping Report	The consideration of whether to safeguard land for necessary infrastructure will be undertaken as part of work on our Joint Local Plan, in consultation with partners, including Oxfordshire County Council, to assess requirements through use of transport modelling tools and assessment of sustainable transport improvements.	
Boyer Planning on behalf of Countryside Properties	May-22	The SA Framework based upon the sustainability objectives is noted. However, it is considered essential that the SA assesses strategic growth at the various settlement hierarchy levels to ensure that the required levels of housing (including affordable housing) are achieved with appropriate distribution, based upon the level of services within the existing settlements, as well as future potential as part of any development. A greater proportion of the planned housing growth should be aimed at Market Towns (such as Faringdon) given their higher rating in terms of settlement hierarchy and the level of services and facilities that this provides. [Response looks at each of the sustainability objectives in turn, providing commentary on the merits of their client's proposed site when considered against each one, including reference to any proposed mitigation measures.] Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna - Figure 5 (Nature Recovery Zones) - the map is not clear and needs amendment to ensure it is more easily readable and you can identify which zones fall within which areas. As required by the NPPF (para. 175) Local Plans should distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites. The draft designations should not be given the highest level of protection, which is reserved for AONBs and National Parks. Climatic Factors - Our clients support the JLP's aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and aspirations for development that is resistant to climate change, as set out in the SA at para 6.35.	Screening and Scoping Report	The SA framework will be used to assess all our policy options and sites, which themselves will reflect the councils' emerging spatial strategy for the Joint Local Plan. Comments about the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites are noted and will be reflected in the next iteration of the SA report.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

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Historic England	May-22	In addition to paras 189-193 of the National Planning Policy Framework, we recommend consideration of the following: •Para 8 – the historic environment as part of the overarching objectives of the NPPF •Paras 17 & 21 – the historic environment as part of strategic policies of the plan •Para 31 – evidence We are satisfied that appropriate sources of baseline information and the key sustainability issues have been identified. We are also satisfied that a suitable objective (SO8) for cultural heritage has been included in the Framework.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted and we will make reference to these paragraphs from the NPPF in the next iteration of our SA report.	See Appendix C of SA report
Boyer Planning on behalf Wates Development Ltd	May-22	The SA Framework based upon the sustainability objectives is noted. However, it is considered essential that the SA assesses strategic growth at the various settlement hierarchy levels to ensure that the required levels of housing (including affordable housing) are achieved with appropriate distribution, based upon the level of services within the existing settlements, as well as future potential as part of any development. Whilst a greater proportion of the planned housing growth should be aimed at Market Towns, the SA must also assess the merits of smaller villages (especially those that have facilities with good highway accessibility like Tetsworth) for accommodating some of this growth. Figure 4 of the SODC AMR (2020/21) shows that the majority of housing delivery has been in the towns (61%) and larger villages (29%). Going forward, more emphasis should be placed on evenly distributing growth between the most sustainable settlements, including some of the smaller villages. [Response looks at each of the sustainability objectives in turn, providing commentary on the merits of their client's proposed site when considered against each one, including reference to any proposed mitigation measures.] As required by the NPPF (para. 175) Local Plans should distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated biodiversity sites. The draft designations should not be given the highest level of protection, which is reserved for AONBs and National Parks. Our clients support the JLP's aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and aspirations for development that is resistant to climate change. Figure 32 of the SA (a map showing Agricultural Land Classifications) is not entirely clear.	Screening and Scoping Report	The SA framework will be used to assess all our policy options and sites, which themselves will reflect the councils' emerging spatial strategy for the Joint Local Plan. Comments about the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites are noted and will be reflected in the next iteration of the SA report. We will amend Figure 32 (Agricultural Land Classifications) so that it is more easily readable.	Updated agricultural land maps provided in Appendix C of the SA report.
Savills on behalf of Miller Homes	May-22	No comment – however we reserve the right to comment at a later stage.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted.	
Barton Willmore on behalf of L&Q Estates	May-22	There are some deficiencies in the document, where a lack of information results in a potentially opaque SA process. These should be addressed at the next stage of the SA to reduce the risk of future challenge. There is little detail regarding the methodology used to apply the SA Framework, including the approach to assessing the likely significant effects on the environment following implementation of mitigation. The Figure 35 key suggests that scoring against the SA Framework will be post-mitigation, however it is not clear how the level of mitigation (be it embedded, additional or tertiary mitigation) would be applied consistently across the assessment of the Plan. Consistency in scoring is fundamental to a robust SA. Needs to be clarity on how mitigation through site design will be taken into account in the scoring process and it is recommended that the SA framework is used to provide assessment both pre- and post-mitigation. The SA Framework lacks clarity on the temporality of the likely significant effects. The Plan will have varying impacts over different time periods (short, medium or long term impacts). Yet, time periods are not provided to distinguish what might be a short term or temporary effect to a likely significant effect that may be long term and permanent. There is also no indication of any potential differential weighting of the temporality of effects. This is also the case when considering the likelihood of a significant effect on the environment (High, Medium, Low or whatever scale is chosen). The uncertainty of effects occurring could influence decision-making within the SA and needs to be clearly outlined from the outset for consistency. The Framework also lacks detail on the assessment of cumulative/synergistic effects and should include a separate section setting out the methodology used to determine these effects. It is not clear how the SA has taken the Key Challenges for the plan area and chosen the corresponding Sustainability Objectives. Clarity on the iterative nature of the Objectives would be particularly helpful where the Objectives are ambiguous. Clarity is needed on the scope of 'net-zero' and how this would apply in relation to the SA Framework with the provision of mitigation. Over the Plan period there are likely to be significant changes to the regulatory baseline which will impact activities influenced by the Plan (e.g. Building Regulations). The Plan must be cognisant of future regulatory changes to ensure that the SA remains future-proofed but also flexible. The ambiguity on terminology also extends to climate resilience (i.e. what types of resilience are expected from future developments and over what time period). The health and wellbeing objectives focus on the provision of social infrastructure and fail to cover the diversity of policy interventions which could be integrated at the spatial level (including preventative measures to address issues such as social isolation). Also, links between Climate Change and the health and wellbeing of current/future residents (e.g. the rise in climate anxiety) need referencing, so that the sustainability objectives are cognisant of potential future societal change.	Screening and Scoping Report	In the SA report we will add more detail on the methodology used to apply the SA framework, in particular the way that mitigation will be applied consistently. We will clarify how timeframes of significant impacts (eg long term, short term, temporary) will be applied to ensure there is certainty over the effects and consistency with how impacts are assessed. The report will also include details of the methodology used in determining cumulative/synergistic effects. Whilst we don't consider that there is any ambiguity in terminology between the objectives and the baseline information, future iterations of the SA report will re-emphasise the links between the key challenges for the districts and how these have translated into the sustainability objectives.	Refer to section 2 of SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	Whilst we recognise that the aim of the scoping stage is to set the context for and propose a proportionate approach, the SA scoping report has a number of deficiencies where a lack of information results in a potentially opaque SA process and should be addressed at the next stage of the SA to reduce the risk of future challenge.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted. Please refer to our responses on separate points below.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

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Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	It is not clear how the SA will influence the preparation of the Plan and how the findings of the SA will be incorporated and considered in decision making. It would be helpful if Figure 1 included a specific timeline of key dates for Joint Local Plan preparation and SA (including likely dates for future SA iterations at Reg 19, Examination and adoption of the Plan).	Screening and Scoping Report	The SA report will include a detailed explanation of how sustainability appraisal has been incorporated into the decision making process at each plan-making stage.	Refer to sections 4 and 5 of SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	It is unclear at this stage how other plans, policy and programmes relate to or have influenced the selection of the Sustainability Objectives (e.g. how is the objective of achieving net-zero carbon emissions aligned to the South Oxfordshire target (net-zero by 2030) and the separate Vale of White Horse target (District to reduce its carbon emissions by 75% by 2030 and become a carbon neutral district by 2045). There must be clarity regarding how existing policy has been translated into the Objectives (particularly when it appears to be a weakening of the existing position) and the SA report must remain cognisant of future regulatory changes, to ensure that SA remains future-proof but also flexible.	Screening and Scoping Report	The review of plans, policies and programmes serves to establish how the Joint Local Plan is affected by outside factors, to suggest ideas for how any constraints can be addressed, and to help identify the SA/ SEA objectives. The PPP together with the baseline information prepared by the Councils informed the initial SA Framework presented in the scoping report. Subsequently, our SA consultants facilitated a scoping workshop attended by council officers, whereby the list of objectives was rationalised and a set of comprehensive decision making criteria developed to sit below each objective. The rationalised list of objectives and the decision-making criteria are informed by the baseline and PPP review, including the net zero targets of the two districts. The SA report will explain this process of SA Framework development, and the purpose of the PPP review and the baseline information. It should be noted that it is beyond the scope of the SA to quantify the contribution that Plan options will make to carbon emissions reduction targets. However, Sustainability Objective 5, in particular, will test Plan options qualitatively in terms of their ability to contribute to carbon reductions, both through the promotion of sustainable modes of transport, thereby reducing transport emissions, and reduction of domestic carbon emissions.	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The health and wellbeing objectives are focused on the provision of social infrastructure and do not aptly cover the diversity of policy interventions which could be integrated at the spatial level. The need to consider broader preventative measures is detailed in many best practice documents (e.g. NHS: Advancing our Health: Prevention in the 2020s). The 25 Year Environmental Plan also emphasises the multitude of health and wellbeing benefits which stem from connecting with green spaces and the natural environment.	Screening and Scoping Report	Under Sustainability Objective SO2, we will include a new decision making criterion, which allows us to assess whether a policy or site allocation will help to 'promote active travel and movement by maintaining, connecting and creating publicly accessible open spaces connecting into the wider green/blue infrastructure network.'	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The next stage of the SA process should outline how the relevant plans and agendas will work holistically to achieve sustainable growth, how they may relate and interact and how their combined effects have been identified and assessed through the SA process to achieve the best outcome and to guide development within the districts.	Screening and Scoping Report	Agreed. This will be highlighted in future iterations of the SA report.	Refer to sections 2, 3 and 6 of the SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	Where there may be emerging baseline information, future iterations of the SA will need to incorporate the latest data from national and local sources as it is released (e.g. 2021 Census).	Screening and Scoping Report	Agreed. Baseline data will be kept under review as the Plan progresses.	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The SA does not identify how the current state of the environment might evolve without the implementation of the Plan, for each environmental topic. A specific section in future versions of the SA should define the likely future evolution of the local area without implementation of the Plan, taking account of past trends and current pressures.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted.	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	It is not clear how the SA has taken the 'Key Challenges' from the report and chosen the corresponding Sustainability Objectives. Clarity on the iterative nature of the Objectives would assist where the Objectives are ambiguous. For example, it is not clear how SO6 (achieving net-zero carbon emissions) is aligned to the South and Vale targets. In addition, clarity should be provided on the scope of 'net-zero' and how this would apply in relation to the SA Framework with the provision of mitigation.	Screening and Scoping Report	Development of our SA Framework (including the refinement of our sustainability objectives and setting of decision-making criteria) has taken account of the baseline information and identified key challenges. The process we have followed in developing our SA Framework will be fully documented in the SA report.	Refer to section 2 and 3 of the SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	In relation to climate resilience, it is not clear from the sustainability objectives and methodology what types of resilience are expected from future developments and over what relevant time period.	Screening and Scoping Report	We will include policies in our emerging Joint Local Plan which set out how developers will need to build climate resilience into their future development proposals.	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	SO2 focuses on planning for 'healthy places' with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place, whilst SO10 focuses on creating safe places that are free from crime/fear of crime and protected from acts of terror. However, key facets of health and wellbeing appear to have been missed (e.g. social isolation of existing and future residents).	Screening and Scoping Report	Under SO2, we will add a decision making criterion, to assess whether policies/site allocations will help to: 'protect against social isolation and loneliness.'	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The report also misses the links between Climate Change and human health and wellbeing, e.g. growing climate anxiety, particularly amongst younger generations.	Screening and Scoping Report	We will update the baseline information to highlight these links - both the baseline and PPP from the scoping report will be appended to our SA report.	See Appendix C of SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	Future iterations of the SA report will need to highlight limitations in available data when assessing likely impacts of developing individual sites (e.g. will up to date ecological surveys be available for all reasonable alternatives?)	Screening and Scoping Report	Agreed. The SA methodology will explain any limitations, as appropriate.	Refer to section 2 of the SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The list of internationally designated sites set out in Section 5 includes the Aston Rowant Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Reference is made to the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) undertaken for the adopted South Oxfordshire Local Plan, but not to the HRA Scoping Report (May 2022) which has been prepared to support the Joint Local Plan. Proximity to the M40 means that traffic could have a potential impact on air quality in the SAC. The SA should confirm that the protection afforded to this site is enforced through the Habitats Regulations (former EU Habitats Directive) and that, following Brexit, these Regulations still apply (The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (2017) SI No. 2017/1012, as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/579)). They require environmental assessment processes to be undertaken in an iterative and integrated way alongside production of the Joint Local Plan, in order to ensure that potentially significant negative effects on protected sites are avoided.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted. The SA report will make this all clear.	Refer to preliminary HRA scoping report produced in support of Preferred Options consultation

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Organisation	Date	Comment	Document	Council response	Additional UEEC comments, if any needed
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	Given regulatory requirements for HRA to be undertaken in parallel to SA throughout the plan making process, the findings of the HRA should inform and be incorporated into the SA before the next consultation and at each subsequent stage in Plan preparation. At present, there is no explanation about how the effects on biodiversity might be assessed, for example whether the HRA will be used to inform the Zones of Influence within which impacts at European sites will be considered, therefore providing an in-depth assessment of the potential for likely significant adverse effects on European sites within and surrounding the Plan area, to inform the SA. This should be explained in the assessment methodology for the biodiversity objective.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted. We will be undertaking HRA preliminary screening of site allocations in advance of our Reg 18 Part 2 Preferred Options public consultation and will ensure that the findings from this (and future stages of HRA) are fully taken into account as we progress with the sustainability appraisal of our Plan.	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	There is little detail on the methodology to be utilised when applying the Sustainability Appraisal Framework (Section 14). Figure 35 misses out key parts of the assessment methodology, including for example the assumptions that will be made for each SA topic. The SA Framework also lacks any clarity regarding the temporality of the likely significant effects. It is clear that the Plan will have varying impacts over different time periods (whether that be short, medium or long term impacts). Yet, time periods are not provided to distinguish what might be a short term or temporary effect to a likely significant effect that may be long term and permanent. Without the detail of how the types of likely significant effect will be categorised, as well as any potential differential weighting of the temporality of effect, the assessment methodology of the SA is not robust. This is also the case when considering the likelihood of a significant effect on the environment (High, Medium, Low – or whatever scale is to be chosen). The uncertainty of effects occurring could influence decision-making within the SA and needs to be clearly outlined from the outset for consistency.	Screening and Scoping Report	Within the SA report, we will add more detail on the methodology used to apply the SA framework, in particular the way that mitigation will be applied consistently. We will also clarify how timeframes of significant impacts (eg long term, short term, temporary) will be applied to ensure there is certainty over the effects and consistency with how impacts are assessed.	Refer to section 2 of the SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The SA Framework does not also provide an approach to the assessment of cumulative/ synergistic effects. The SA should include a separate section setting out the methodology used to determine how cumulative effects have been considered during the scoring of significant effects of the Plan. The assessment criteria for the sustainability objectives should outline how cumulative effects might contribute to determining the category (e.g. minor/significant positive/negative) given in the SA assessment matrices. The SA should also identify how each of the Objectives might interact with one another. All reasonable alternatives should be thoroughly appraised, including for cumulative effects. The SA should also refer to cross-border effects (e.g. in relation to housing provision or downstream flooding).	Screening and Scoping Report	The SA report will be amended to include details of the methodology to be used in determining cumulative/synergistic effects.	Refer to section 2 and 6 of the SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The SA could be clearer in terms of providing recommendations to Plan-makers on how the sustainability performance of the emerging Plan could be improved, based on the assessment of significant effects.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted. This will be reflected within future iterations of the SA report.	
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	Future versions of the SA should set out the limitations and assumptions used, including those arising from the reliance on expert judgement, the influence of a range of factors such as the design and the success of mitigation measures, ensuring alternatives are appraised consistently and reliance on the best available information, including that provided by the Council and information that is publicly available.	Screening and Scoping Report	Agreed. The SA methodology will explain any limitations, as appropriate.	Refer to section 2 of the SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	The SA Framework (Fig 35) requires amendment to explain the approach to assessing the likely significant effects on the environment following implementation of mitigation. Scoring against the SA Framework will be post-mitigation, however there is no detail about the way in which the level of mitigation (be it embedded, additional or tertiary mitigation) would be applied consistently across the assessment of the Plan. This is important to set the framework for later stages of the Plan where potential site allocations are identified and appraised. Differing levels of detail are usually available for sites so it is crucial to be clear in the methodology how mitigation through design will be taken into account in the scoring process. It is recommended that at the site level, an assessment is provided both pre- and post-mitigation using the SA Framework. As the SA progresses through the Local Plan process (and the evidence base for decision making also builds), more detailed appraisals of policy and site options should be undertaken.	Screening and Scoping Report	In the SA report, we will add more detail on the methodology used to apply the SA framework, in particular the way that mitigation will be applied consistently.	Refer to section 2 and 3 of the SA report and Appendix D
Barton Willmore on behalf of University of Reading	May-22	When undertaking site assessments, this should consider design measures such as the creation of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, green space, future proofing to increase mitigation of and adaptation to climate change (e.g. incorporation of SuDS and the Future Homes Standard). In addition, implementation of a CEMP for development sites would mitigate construction effects from noise, air quality and traffic and minimise the likelihood of significant adverse effects arising.	Screening and Scoping Report	The Detailed Assessment Matrices produced for each of the site allocations will include recommendations of measures to mitigate likely significant effects of site options. This will include things like CEMPs and design measures. Where suitable, if not already, these measures / requirements will be embedded within the plan's policies (site allocation policies or otherwise).	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Organisation	Date	Comment	Document	Council response	Additional UEEC comments, if any needed
Barton Willmore on behalf of L&Q Estates	May-22	There are some deficiencies in the document, where a lack of information results in a potentially opaque SA process. These should be addressed at the next stage of the SA to reduce the risk of future challenge. There is little detail regarding the methodology used to apply the SA Framework, including the approach to assessing the likely significant effects on the environment following implementation of mitigation. The Figure 35 key suggests that scoring against the SA Framework will be post-mitigation, however it is not clear how the level of mitigation (be it embedded, additional or tertiary mitigation) would be applied consistently across the assessment of the Plan. Consistency in scoring is fundamental to a robust SA. Needs to be clarity on how mitigation through site design will be taken into account in the scoring process and it is recommended that the SA framework is used to provide assessment both pre- and post-mitigation. The SA Framework lacks clarity on the temporality of the likely significant effects. The Plan will have varying impacts over different time periods (short, medium or long term impacts). Yet, time periods are not provided to distinguish what might be a short term or temporary effect to a likely significant effect that may be long term and permanent. There is also no indication of any potential differential weighting of the temporality of effects. This is also the case when considering the likelihood of a significant effect on the environment (High, Medium, Low or whatever scale is chosen). The uncertainty of effects occurring could influence decision-making within the SA and needs to be clearly outlined from the outset for consistency. The Framework also lacks detail on the assessment of cumulative/synergistic effects and should include a separate section setting out the methodology used to determine these effects. It is not clear how the SA has taken the Key Challenges for the plan area and chosen the corresponding Sustainability Objectives. Clarity on the iterative nature of the Objectives would be particularly helpful where the Objectives are ambiguous. Clarity is needed on the scope of 'net-zero' and how this would apply in relation to the SA Framework with the provision of mitigation. Over the Plan period there are likely to be significant changes to the regulatory baseline which will impact activities influenced by the Plan (e.g. Building Regulations). The Plan must be cognisant of future regulatory changes to ensure that the SA remains future-proofed but also flexible. The ambiguity on terminology also extends to climate resilience (i.e. what types of resilience are expected from future developments and over what time period). The health and wellbeing objectives focus on the provision of social infrastructure and fail to cover the diversity of policy interventions which could be integrated at the spatial level (including preventative measures to address issues such as social isolation). Also, links between Climate Change and the health and wellbeing of current/future residents (e.g. the rise in climate anxiety) need referencing, so that the sustainability objectives are cognisant of potential future societal change.	Screening and Scoping Report	In the SA report, we will add more detail on the methodology used to apply the SA framework, in particular the way that mitigation will be applied consistently. We will clarify how timeframes of significant impacts (eg long term, short term, temporary) will be applied to ensure there is certainty over the effects and consistency with how impacts are assessed. The report will also include details of the methodology used in determining cumulative/synergistic effects. Whilst we don't consider that there is any ambiguity in terminology between the objectives and the baseline information, future iterations of the SA report will re-emphasise the links between the key challenges for the districts and how these have translated into the sustainability objectives.	Refer to section 2 of the SA report
Barton Willmore on behalf of Ptarmigan Land	May-22	A coordinated and master-planned expansion of Harwell Campus will directly contribute to the joint Local Plan's ability to achieve sustainable development and more specifically, towards sustainability objectives 2, 3, 6, 15 and 16. The SA must therefore consider Harwell Campus objectively, so as to demonstrate the unique and unparalleled opportunity to deliver sustainable development. The corollary of such a planned approach to the expansion of Harwell Campus would be the status quo whereby the planned and relied upon expansion and growth of the campus, including for Big Science, would continue to be subject to ad-hoc, uncoordinated proposals. This would result in a far less certain future of this globally important science and innovation campus, jeopardising its full potential. Furthermore, it would prevent the opportunities for sustainable development, maximising opportunities as well as mitigating impacts on the AONB and that only a plan-led, coordinated and masterplanned approach would offer.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted.	
Boyer Planning on behalf of Croudace Homes Ltd	May-22	The SA Framework based upon the sustainability objectives is noted. However, it is considered essential that the SA assesses strategic growth at the various settlement hierarchy levels to ensure that the required levels of housing (including affordable housing) are achieved with appropriate distribution, based upon the level of services within the existing settlements, as well as future potential as part of any development. A greater proportion of the planned housing growth should be aimed at Market Towns (such as Wallingford) given their higher rating in terms of settlement hierarchy and the level of services and facilities that this provides. [Response looks at each of the sustainability objectives in turn, providing commentary on the merits of their client's proposed site when considered against each one, including reference to any proposed mitigation measures.] As required by the NPPF (para. 175) Local Plans should distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated biodiversity sites. The draft designations should not be given the highest level of protection, which is reserved for AONBs and National Parks. Our clients support the JLP's aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and aspirations for development that is resistant to climate change. Figure 32 of the SA (a map showing Agricultural Land Classifications) is not entirely clear.	Screening and Scoping Report	The SA framework will be used to assess all our policy options and sites, which themselves will reflect the councils' emerging spatial strategy for the Joint Local Plan. Comments about the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites are noted and will be reflected in the next iteration of the SA report. We will amend Figure 32 (Agricultural Land Classifications) so that it is more easily readable.	See Appendix C of SA report
Arron Twamley Planning on behalf of MacTaggart and Mickel	May-22	No comments to make in respect of SA.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted.	
Carter Jonas on behalf of Science and Technology Facilities Council	May-22	STFC has reviewed the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) scoping report and has no comments to make at this stage.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted.	
Carter Jonas on behalf of UKAEA	May-22	UKAEA has reviewed the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) scoping report and has no comments to make at this stage.	Screening and Scoping Report	Noted.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Organisation	Date	Comment	Document	Council response	Additional UEEC comments, if any needed
Oxfordshire County Council	May-22	Archaeology Pg. 83 – Para 7.46 should also consider: 'In addition, a number of important historic landscape areas are identified in the Historic Landscape Characterisation and these would need appropriate consideration.' Pg. 83 – Para 7.47 should also include: • Vale of White Horse has 1988 recorded archaeological monuments and 3939 archaeological findspots. • South Oxfordshire has 1826 recorded archaeological monuments and 1011 archaeological findspots. It should emphasise that these recorded remains will also need to be taken into account in relation to any proposed development. Minerals and Waste We are pleased to see Objectives 13 (prior extraction) and 14 (prioritising reuse and recycling). We are also pleased to see reference to the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 1 – Core Strategy.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted and these will be addressed in the next iteration of the SA report. We will discuss the availability of potential archaeological datasets, which could be used for SA purposes, with the county council.	See Appendix C of SA report
David Lock on behalf of Hallam Land Management	May-22	The proposed SA methodology, as currently presented, is considered to generally align with National Planning Practice Guidance. There is, however, little reference as to how the SA for the JLP will interact or interface with the SA being prepared for the Oxfordshire Plan. There will need to be alignment as each progresses.	Screening and Scoping Report	The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is no longer being prepared.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	There are some good objectives and analysis in the SA scoping report and the Framework will be a useful tool to focus and guide the SA process and identify where policies need mitigation or further scrutiny. However, without amendment, applying this Framework will not adequately address the climate and ecological emergencies and the Local Plan process will (unintentionally) lack transparency.	Screening and Scoping Report	Comments noted. We will amend the Sustainability Framework and future iterations of our SA report, as appropriate, to take account of your comments below.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	We recommend testing policies first against Climate and Ecological objectives. This will ensure that all policies and strategic allocations fit in with the districts' carbon budgets, climate mitigation and action to halt and reverse the ecological emergency. Any draft policy or strategic allocation which negatively impacts on any of the climate change or biodiversity objectives (including the new ones we are proposing) should be **Red Flagged** as unsustainable and ruled out, even if there are strong positives against other sustainability objectives.	Screening and Scoping Report	The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations do not assign differing weight to receptors. However, our revised SA Framework will use colour coding as to visual tool to highlight the impact that a draft policy or site allocation would on each sustainability objective. Future iterations of the SA report will also provide details on whether or not the implementation of mitigation measures could offset any identified negative impacts.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	The SA process could be made more transparent and correctly applied if: i) Missing baseline information was included and the wording of some of the objectives was strengthened to meet the key challenges ii) For each objective, the criteria and evidence (including the quality of the evidence) used to judge whether the policy would help or prevent delivery of the objective was clearer iii) There was an explicit rule that users could not aggregate the + and – scores to identify the relative sustainability of policy options iv) There was a clear rule that two objectives could not be combined in any interpretation of the Framework, thereby obscuring significant negative impacts.	Screening and Scoping Report	We will consider each of your individual comments on the baseline information and objectives for each subject area and make any amendments to the Framework or SA report, as appropriate. Decision making criteria will be added to the SA Framework, which in turn will strengthen our approach to assessing policies/site allocations against each sustainability objective. Other comments on methodology noted.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	We believe that the current targets on air, water and soils are not ambitious enough to be sustainable and that the SA should set a higher bar, based on current research.	Screening and Scoping Report	Our SA document cannot introduce anything that exceeds current Government legislative requirements. However, the next iteration of the SA report can provide an update on any changes to national legislation which need to be taken into account.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	Air Quality - Paras 4.4 to 4.27 make worrying reading since the targets are all rather lenient and worse than the WHO levels. The baseline section needs interpretation of the significance of the data and a statement about the gaps in data and/or understanding of the impact of air pollution. The objectives can only be effective with much better baseline information and targets that deliver significantly better air quality. Relying on existing mechanisms and targets is not working.	Screening and Scoping Report	The baseline data in the Scoping Report provides the background information on which the Sustainability Objectives are set - i.e. it helps us to determine the key challenges for our districts and what we should be assessing our emerging policies and site allocations against, in sustainability terms. Our revised SO1 now reads as follows: 'To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.' Under SO1, we will assess all our policies/sites against five new decision making criteria, including whether they will help to 'maintain and, where possible, improve air quality.'	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

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Bioabundance CIC	May-22	**Biodiversity** - The Sustainability Objectives must reflect the universal priority given to reversing ecological decline and the national policy emphasis on landscape-scale action, ecological networks and large-scale habitat creation. The current proposed objectives fail to cover all wildlife assets and protection and enhancement for priority species. We recommend removing SO4 (10% net biodiversity gain of development) because on its own it cannot guarantee adequate or strategic allocation of spending to deliver nature recovery. The test of whether the Plan is supporting nature recovery is the protection and enhancement of National and Local Nature Recovery Networks, substantial increase in natural habitat, wildlife flourishing in the Green Belt and growing and expanding populations of Priority Species. Consequently, we recommend a new Objective: **To achieve nature recovery at a landscape-scale by: protecting and enhancing National and Local Nature Recovery Networks; achieving the fair share of new substantial areas of natural habitat for both districts; and achieving flourishing wildlife in the Green Belt.**	Screening and Scoping Report	We agree that delivering biodiversity net gains is a tool to achieve Objective SO5 and doesn't require it's own Objective. We therefore propose to consolidate SO4 and SO5 into a new overarching Sustainability Objective 4, as follows: 'To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.' Beneath SO4, we will consider options/proposals under a series of more detailed decision making criteria, including whether they help to 'enhance biodiversity through the restoration and creation of well-connected multifunctional green infrastructure, including supporting the delivery of the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy.'	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	Priority Species can be found district-wide, not just in natural habitats, so need their own Objective: **For priority species, increase their resilience to climate change and risk of local extinction, by: delivering protection of their habitats (their feeding, breeding and overwintering places); and achieving larger populations over an increased range.**	Screening and Scoping Report	Having too many objectives would make the assessment of policies/site allocation disproportionate and difficult to follow. Instead, we will include specific decision making criteria, which will sit below the broader high-level sustainability objectives. Under the new SO4, we will include the following criterion: 'Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species.'	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	Page 89 needs to include references to access to nature and green infrastructure from the NPPF and the Environment Plan. The baseline information also needs to mention access to nature and tranquillity, as well as a strategic approach to green infrastructure, or identify any gaps that need to be filled. Under the key human health and wellbeing challenges, please add 'making wildlife flourish in the Green Belt and giving access to nature for urban dwellers' and 'delivering Green Infrastructure at a district level'. Suggest a new Objective that reflects the mental and physical health benefits of being in nature through green infrastructure and the Green Belt: **'To deliver the health benefits of being in nature, by creating district frameworks and local provision of Green Infrastructure and securing access to flourishing wildlife in the Green Belt for urban dwellers.'**	Screening and Scoping Report	Future iterations of the SA report will acknowledge human health & wellbeing challenges. Under Sustainability Objective SO2, we will also add reference to promoting active travel and movement by '..maintaining, connecting and creating publicly accessible open spaces connecting into the wider green/blue infrastructure network.'	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	SO5 should be widened to cover all biodiversity assets to reflect the SA's own assessment of the challenges to deliver biodiversity policy. We recommend rewording as follows: 'To protect, and where possible, enhance the status of ~~designated~~ **all wildlife** assets, including SACs and SSSIs**, local wildlife sites and priority habitats**.	Screening and Scoping Report	We will amalgamate Sustainability Objectives SO4 and SO5 to read: 'To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.' Four decision making criteria will then sit below this new objective and will include reference to the protection and enhancement of internationally, nationally and locally designated assets and habitats.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	Under section 5 (biodiversity, flora and fauna), the report needs to highlight that there is a current lack of evidence in a number of important areas including: supporting national planned targets on habitat creation; making wildlife flourish in the Green Belt and giving access to nature for urban dwellers; delivering green infrastructure at a district level; tackling the threats to biodiversity thrown up by recent research including the impact of noise, light and dog interference on wildlife); and the impact of major development within 1 ½ miles of sensitive habitats.	Screening and Scoping Report	Future iterations of the SA will acknowledge any data limitations.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	In para 5.24, saying that the Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Network proposal has little weight in planning is not enough - Districts have a duty to have their own local recovery network and take into account the National Network. The NPPF is clear the districts need to map ecological networks.	Screening and Scoping Report	Para 5.24 of the report states that the weight to attribute to the Nature Recovery Network in both plan making and decision taking is likely to be low, simply because it is still in draft form and at an early stage of its development. Future iterations of the SA report will need to provide an update on progress, to determine how the NRN will help guide SA of policies/sites.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	The key challenges section (pages 54/55) fails to include all the challenges that flow from the policies and baseline information. Additional challenges could include: Achieving protection and enhancement of National and Local Nature Recovery Networks (including contributing to national habitat creation targets); Achieving increases in the population, extent and resilience of Priority Species; Achieving significant increases in wildlife value of Green Belt, while providing enhanced public access; and Achieving a strategic network of Green Infrastructure with links to development sites.	Screening and Scoping Report	Future iterations of the SA will reference these highlighted areas of concern, as appropriate.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	At para 5.59, we recommend amending the second bullet point to read: 'Protecting (and where possible enhancing) all biodiversity assets in the districts and surrounding areas ~~not just designated assets~~ **from direct and indirect impacts, including air and water pollution, water quantity and timing, noise, light, excess visitor (and dog) pressure and soil enrichments from dogs.**	Screening and Scoping Report	These suggested amendments would change the overall emphasis of the paragraph - we want to highlight the challenge we face in protecting all biodiversity assets, not just specifically designated assets.	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

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Bioabundance CIC	May-22	**Climate mitigation** - Baseline section needs to set out what carbon budget can be allocated to development, if the districts are to meet their carbon budget goals. This will require understanding the likely contribution of renewable energy production, the scope for carbon sinks and modal transport change, as well as scope for retrofit of domestic houses. Only then can the SA make judgements about whether Local Plan policies will deliver the carbon reduction to limit climate change to 1.5 degrees. Timing will be a key part of this e.g. if retrofit takes longer, then new housing will have to be delayed (see reference to Tyndall Centre calculations in original representation). We also think you should add the embodied carbon in houses and roads when assessing the emissions of development.	Screening and Scoping Report	It is beyond the scope of the SA to quantify the contribution that Plan options will make to carbon emissions reduction targets. However, Sustainability Objective SO5, in particular, will test Plan options qualitatively in terms of their ability to contribute to carbon reductions, both through the promotion of sustainable modes of transport, thereby reducing transport emissions, and reduction of domestic carbon emissions.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	SO6 needs rewording to make it clear that the policies and development site allocations in the Local Plan have to limit carbon emissions to a level that enables the councils to meet their carbon budgets. Suggested wording is as follows: **'Limit net carbon emissions resulting from policies to a level that enables the councils to achieve their carbon budgets, taking into account likely reduction in carbon emissions from existing carbon emitters.'**	Screening and Scoping Report	As above.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	SO3 needs to make it clear that policies must combine a carrot and stick approach to move journeys from the car to active travel and mass-transit network. Facilitating actions could include siting services and facilities within active transport journey distances, whilst deterring car journeys could involve giving other forms of transport priority through junctions, making road access longer, reducing both road space and car parking. We recommend SO3 is amended to read: **'To achieve a mode change from journeys by car to walking, cycling and public transport.'**	Screening and Scoping Report	Our Joint Local Plan policies will encourage active travel and seek to reduce the need to travel by private car. We will amend Sustainability Objective SO3 to read: 'To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services, facilities and publicly accessible open space by active modes of travel.' Under SO3, we will also assess policies and site allocations against three decision making criteria, including whether they will help to: 'actively encourage sustainable modes of transport, including public transport, walking and cycling' and 'provide infrastructure that facilitates accessibility and limits the need to travel, particularly for most deprived communities.'	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	**Population** – On page 118, please add reference to the paragraphs in the NPPF that allow the reduction in housing need numbers where there are environmental and other constraints.	Screening and Scoping Report	These comments relate to proposed future changes to the NPPF. Future iterations of the SA report will need to reflect any changes in policy emphasis, where appropriate.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	Page 122 - we welcome your use of these independent data sources for the current and future trends on population characteristics. We believe the SA needs to use the ONS data for setting the housing numbers to achieve the sustainable social and economic objectives. We would like to see those figures in the Baseline section and see no logical reason for using the housing-led population numbers. They are very misleading, as SODC has not been able to build all the houses it allocates in its Local Plans. Also, ONS and the latest Housing Need Assessment give lower housing need and we are facing an unforeseen deep recession (with high costs and limited supply of building workforce and materials) that will reduce demand and supply of built homes. Any decision to use the housing-build/target-led estimate of population is one that should be taken by all councillors (particularly as many were elected on a platform of lower, environmentally sustainable growth).	Screening and Scoping Report	These comments are not SA related, however, we will provide a detailed explanation of our proposed approach to assessing housing need in a Topic Paper, which will accompany the next public consultation on our Joint Local Plan.	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	**Soils** – The introduction (page 134) should state the importance of best agricultural land and the need to retain it in agricultural use, particularly in light of uncertainties in food supply brought about by climate change. This also needs further exploration in the Baseline Section of the report, as securing the highest food production for our population is an essential sustainability measure. We agree with the Challenges section (pages 136-137) that states the importance of best agricultural land and contamination. However, reference should also be made to other challenges such as soil compaction, loss of organic matter etc. We want to see protection of the best agricultural land for food production, which is vital for food security as climate change hits. So, we recommend a new Objective: **'To protect our food production capabilities by maintaining our best soils in agricultural production'.**	Screening and Scoping Report	Agree, Section 12 needs to emphasise the importance of retaining best agricultural land to support food production. We will produce a Baseline addendum, which will include reference to these additional challenges. Reference to the preservation of soils, in particular those of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land Grades 1- 3a, will be added as a decision making criterion under a new SO8 - 'To conserve and manage natural resources.'	See Appendix C of SA report
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	SO1 on pollution should set the reduction to lower targets that reflect current research. It is clear that the targets are lagging behind and the SA regulations do require an assessment to take into account up-to-date knowledge. We recommend S01 is reworded as follows: **'To reduce pollution to safe levels and reverse the compaction and loss of organic matter of the districts' soils, based on best current knowledge.'**	Screening and Scoping Report	Future iterations of the SA report will take into account any changes in legislative or policy requirements or most recent research findings. It is beyond the remit of the Sustainability Appraisal process to ensure that specific, measurable targets are achieved. However, reference to ensuring the preservation of soils, in particular those of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land Grades 1- 3a, will be added as a decision making criterion under a new SO8 - 'To conserve and manage natural resources.'	

Analysis of Consultation Responses

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Organisation	Date	Comment	Document	Council response	Additional UEEC comments, if any needed
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	SO17 on sustainable management for land for 'multiple benefits' needs explaining. How does it relate to baseline information? How does it meet the challenges you have identified? We suggest it could be amended as follows: '**To support sustainable management for land that delivers multiple benefits for flood control, soil condition, biodiversity, landscape, access to nature and carbon sequestration**.'	Screening and Scoping Report	We agree that SO17 required further clarity and we will amalgamate Sustainability Objectives 13, 14 and 17 to read: 'To conserve and manage natural resources.' Under the new SO8, we will also include five decision making criteria including: 'To support the sustainable management of land for multiple benefits, including maximising re-use of brownfield sites and providing greater protection of greenfield land'; and 'Ensure preservation of soil, particularly those of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land Grades 1-3a.'	
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	**Flooding** - Baseline section needs to include information on the impact of surface and groundwater flooding and the risk from heavy, sustained downpours of rain (made more likely by Climate Change).	Screening and Scoping Report	Para 13.28 already makes reference to the impact of climate change on rainfall patterns, but we will include some additional text as suggested.	See Appendix C of SA report
Bioabundance CIC	May-22	We welcome the inclusion of SO18 on water supply, but it needs to make it clear that new development should not worsen the water supply for existing residents (resulting in extended use of standpipes). Timing is important because of the lead time for the provision of a new reservoir or long distance pipeline, which could delay the provision of new development. We suggest the following amendment, which can be achieved by maximising efficient use of water and water collection for grey water use: '**To achieve secure sustained water supply for existing communities and new developments in the face of climate change**.'	Screening and Scoping Report	We will amend Sustainability Objective 18 (as a new SO11) to read: 'To achieve sustainable water resource management.' Under SO11, a decision making criterion will also allow us to assess the extent to which a draft policy or site allocation will help to 'maximise the efficient use of water.'	
Natural England	Jun-23	I have no comments on the revised SA objectives, other than to say that they look reasonable and appropriate. Regarding decision-making criteria, while the two criteria alongside SA objective 6 look fine, the way they are worded means that the framework's criteria do not relate to archaeological remains. I suggest further thought is given on that point, facilitating a broader and more comprehensive assessment. Also, I encourage the addition of a criterion linked with heritage at risk. Our advice note on SA/SEA includes a large number of ideas for criteria on page 9. From these, might wording along the following lines be appropriate: 'Contribute to the better management of heritage assets and tackle heritage at risk?'	Revised SA Framework		See comments in section 4 of Appendix C regarding archaeology. Additional decision-making criteria and heritage at risk datasets added into SA Framework (see Appendix D of main SA report)
Historic England	Jun-23	Natural England has no specific comments to make regarding the revised Sustainability Appraisal Framework. We are content that all of our interest areas are adequately covered within the revised framework and therefore have no comments to make on this submission.	Revised SA Framework		

Appendix C: Baseline Addendum

Accessibility

Appendix C provides relevant updates and clarifications to the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan Screening and Scoping Report published in May 2022 by the Councils.

The appendix has been produced in word format, and the pdf version provided as part of this report is suitable for use by special assistive technology.

Contents

List of Tables and Figures

1 Introduction

1.1.1 This document provides relevant updates and clarifications to the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan Screening and Scoping Report[1] published in May 2022 by the Councils. These updates and clarifications have been made in response to consultation responses received during the Issues consultation which ran from 12 May to 23 June 2022.

1.1.2 The headings in the following sections correspond to the sections in the Screening and Scoping Report. There are no updates or additions to Section 4: Air Quality, Section 10: Material Assets and Section 11: Population of the Screening and Scoping Report and hence these sections are omitted from this report.

[1] Sustainability Appraisal Screening and Scoping Report

2 Section 5: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

2.1 Updates to Policy Context

2.1.1 In addition to those policies set out in section 5 of the Screening and Scoping Report, the following plans and policies will also have a bearing on the SA process and the development of the Joint Local Plan:

- **Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017)[2]:** the UK' transposition of *European Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora* ('the Habitats Directive'). Now that the UK has left the EU the Habitats Directive no longer applies directly to the assessment of plans and projects in the UK. The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 amend parts of the 2017 Regulations so that they continue to operate effectively[3]. Where a plan or project proposal could significantly harm the features of a site protected under the Habitats Regulations a competent authority must carry out a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).
- **Biodiversity and Planning in Oxfordshire[4]:** this document provides guidance for those involved in planning in Oxfordshire to ensure that development in the County protects and enhances local biodiversity. It includes the identification of Conservation Target Areas which identify the most important areas for wildlife and conservation in Oxfordshire, where targeted conservation action will have the greatest benefit.

2.2 Updates to Current Baseline

Nature Recovery Network

2.2.1 At the time of writing, there is no update with respect to the draft Nature Recovery Network described in the 2022 SA Screening and Scoping Report and we have been unable to secure a higher quality image than that replicated within that report.

[2] *Habitats Regulations* (2017)

[3] Defra (2021): *Changes to the Habitats Regulations Assessment 2017*. Accessed online [12/09/2023].

[4] Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT), Oxfordshire County Council and the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) (2014): *Biodiversity and Planning in Oxfordshire*

3 Section 6: Climate Factors

3.1 Updates to Policy Context

3.1.1 In addition to those policies set out in section 6 of the Screening and Scoping Report, the following plans and policies will also have a bearing on the SA process and the development of the Joint Local Plan:

- **Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Greener Britain**[5]: this 2023 document sets out the Government's commitments and the actions needed to decarbonise the entire transport system in the UK, including the pathway to net zero transport in the UK.
- **The Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan 2022 - 2050** (and supporting strategies)[6]: the LTCP outlines the vision for delivery of a net zero Oxfordshire transport and travel system and includes a series of headlines targets associated with reduction of car trips and delivering of a net zero transport network by 2040.

4 Section 7: Cultural Heritage and Townscape

4.1 Updates to Policy Context

4.1.1 In addition to those policies set out in section 7 of the Screening and Scoping Report, the following plans and policies will also have a bearing on the SA process and the development of the Joint Local Plan:

- **The Historic Environment in Local Plans: Good Practice Advice Note**[7]: The purpose of this guidance note is to provide information to assist local authorities, planning and other consultants and other interested parties in implementing historic environment policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the related guidance given in the National Planning Practice Guide (NPPG).
- **National Planning Policy Framework**: Since publication of the Screening and Scoping Report an updated version of the NPPF has been published[8]. In addition, in their scoping response Historic England recommended that the following paragraphs should also be considered in the development of the Joint Local Plan[9]:

[5] UK Government, Department for Transport (2023): *Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Greener Britain*

[6] Oxfordshire County Council (2022): *Local Transport and Connectivity Plan*

[7] Historic England (2015): *The Historic Environment in Local Plans, Good Practice Advice Note*

[8] UK Government, Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (2023): *National Planning Policy Framework*

[9] These paragraph references remain unchanged in the 2023 NPPF.

- Paragraph 8 – the historic environment as part of the overarching objectives of the NPPF;
- Paragraphs 17 & 21 – the historic environment as part of strategic policies of the plan; and
- Paragraph 31 – evidence.

4.2 Updates to Current Baseline

4.2.1 In response to the Issues consultation Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) flagged the presence of a number of important historic landscape areas identified in the Historic Landscape Characterisation [10]. Similarly, OCC flagged that there are 1,988 recorded archaeological monuments and 3,939 archaeological findspots within Vale of White Horse and 1,826 recorded archaeological monuments and 1,011 archaeological findspots within South Oxfordshire. At this stage of assessment given the number of features within the datasets, these were not considered proportionate for inclusion in the site assessment. However, several other heritage datasets have been included within the site assessment as set out in Appendix E of the main SA Report.

5 Section 8: Human Health and Wellbeing

5.1 Updates to Current Baseline

5.1.1 In addition to those health challenges described in section 8 of the Screening and Scoping Report, climate change presents a fundamental threat to human health. There are many pathways by which climate change could impact the human health and well-being of the population within South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, from increasingly frequent extreme weather events through to mental health issues, including growing climate anxiety.

6 Section 9: Landscape

6.1 Updates to Policy Context

6.1.1 In addition to those policies set out in section 7 of the Screening and Scoping Report, the following plans and policies will also have a bearing on the SA process and the development of the Joint Local Plan:

[10] OCC (2017): Historic Landscape Characterisation

- **An approach to Landscape sensitivity assessment**[11]: this guidance sets out a generic process of landscape sensitivity assessment to inform strategic spatial planning and land management.

7 Section 12: Soil

7.1 Updates to Current Baseline

7.1.1 Figure 32 within the 2022 Screening and Scoping Report has been updated to make clearer the spatial distinction between the different agricultural land classifications, see Figure 7.1 and Figure 7.1. In addition, Figure 7.2 and Figure 7.3 show the agricultural land classification of areas subject to survey post 1988.

7.1.2 The term 'best and most versatile land' refers to land defined as Grade 1, 2 or 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification. This land is considered the most flexible, productive, and efficient and is most capable of delivering crops for food and non-food uses. The Local Plan should seek to retain best and most versatile agricultural land as far as possible.

8 Section 13: Water

8.1 Updates to Current Baseline

8.1.1 Paragraph 13.28 of the 2022 Screening and Scoping Report acknowledges the impact of climate change on rainfall patterns. Further detail is provided in the paragraphs below.

8.1.2 The outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released by the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) team in 2009 (Murphy et al., 2009) and has subsequently been updated in 2018 (UKCP18). UKCP18 gives climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are provided, based on simulations from climate models.

[11] Natural England (2019): *An approach to Landscape sensitivity assessment – to inform spatial planning and land management*

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Provisional ALC grade

- Grade 1
- Grade 2
- Grade 3
- Grade 4
- Grade 5
- Non Agricultural
- Urban
- District Boundaries

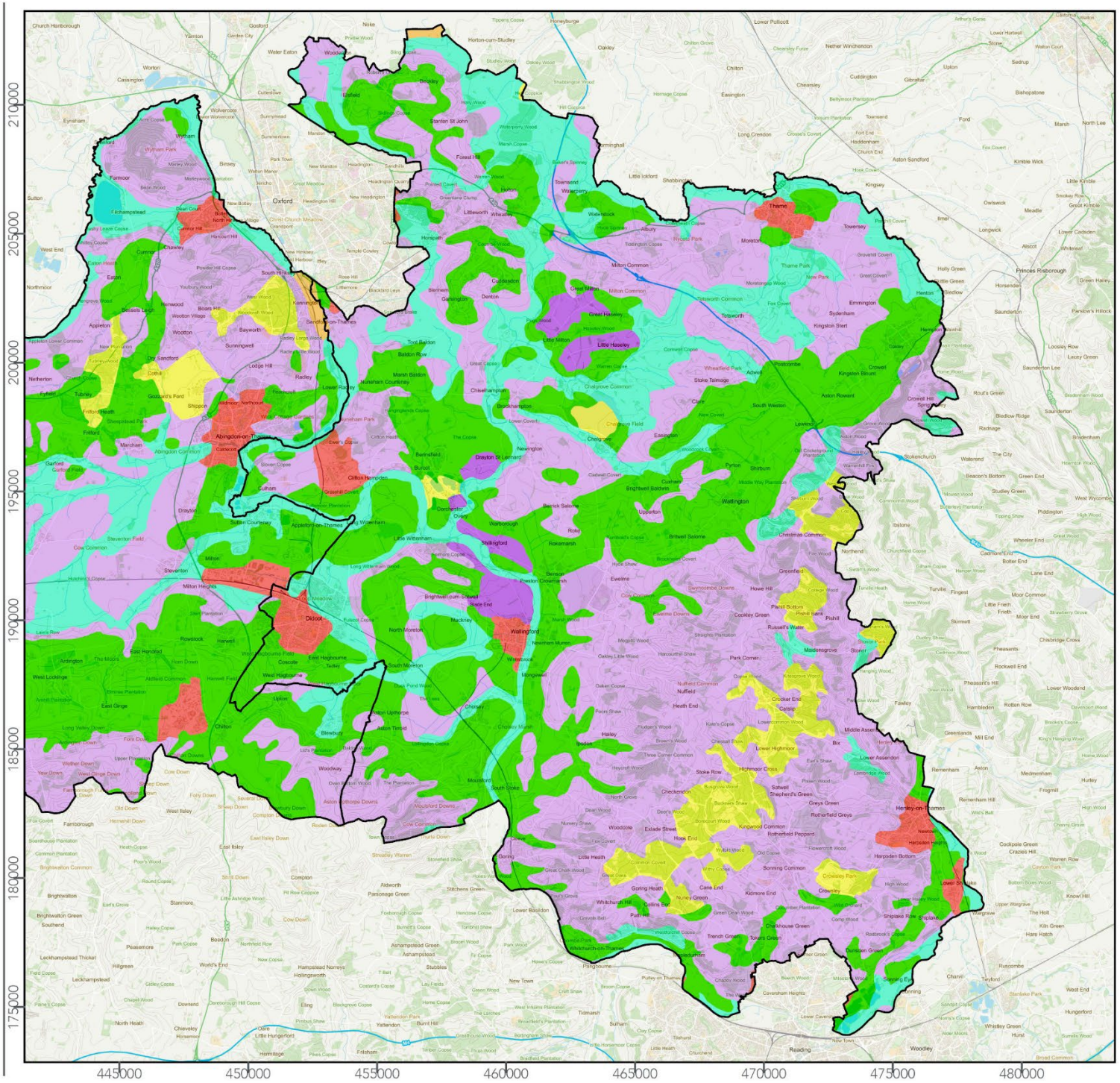

Figure 7.1: Provisional Agricultural Land Classification (South Oxfordshire)

0 6,000 12,000 N

Metres

Scale (at A4): 1:220,000 **Created by:** EM

Date: Oct 2023 **Reviewed by:** NP

Drawing number:

UE0597_SEA_Provisional_ALC_231016

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South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Provisional ALC grade

- Grade 1
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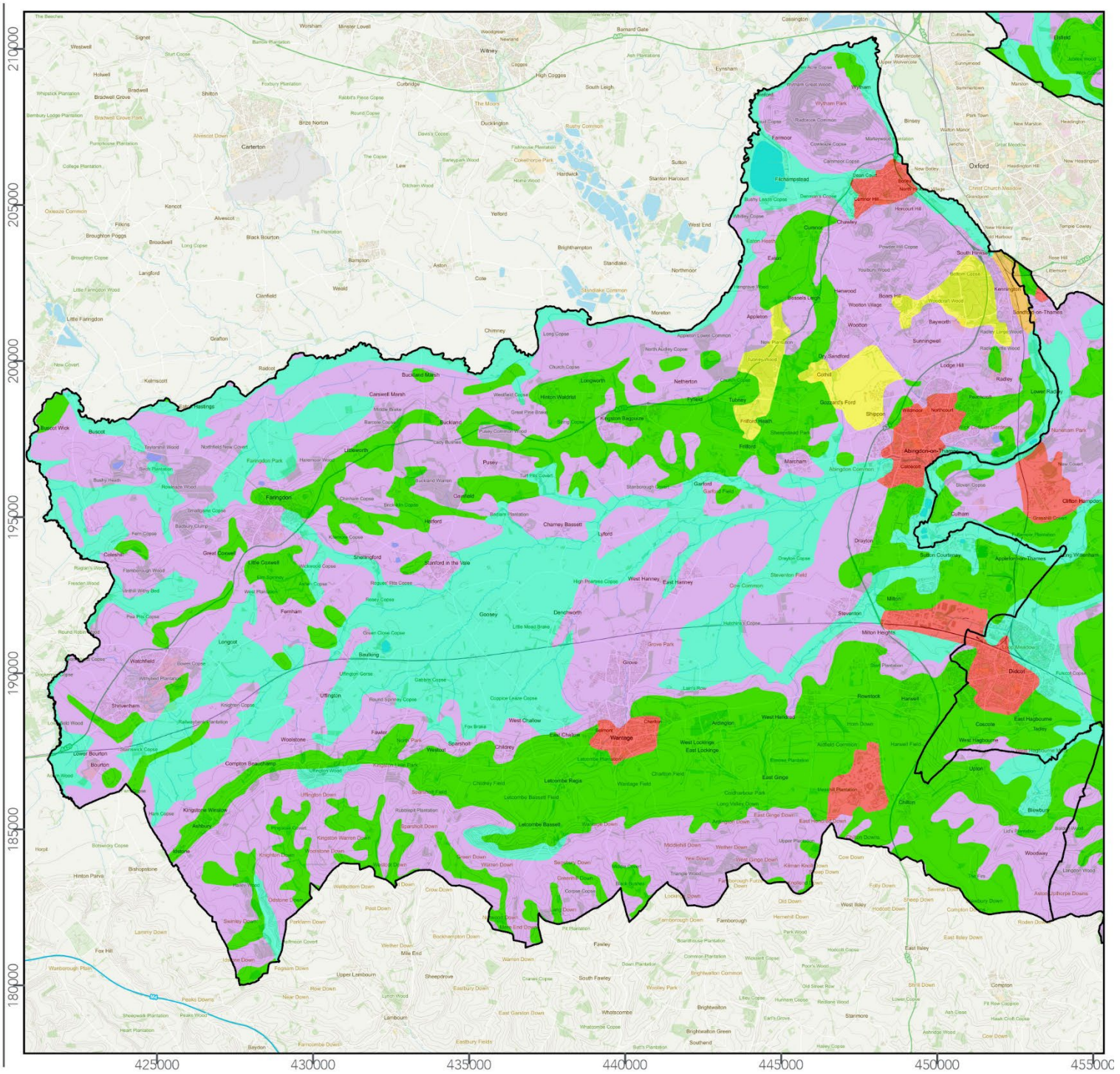

Figure 7.2: Provisional Agricultural Land Classification (Vale of White Horse)

0 5,000 10,000 N

Metres

Scale (at A4): 1:180,000 **Created by:** EM

Date: Oct 2023 **Reviewed by:** NP

Drawing number:

UE0597_SEA_Provisional_ALC_231016

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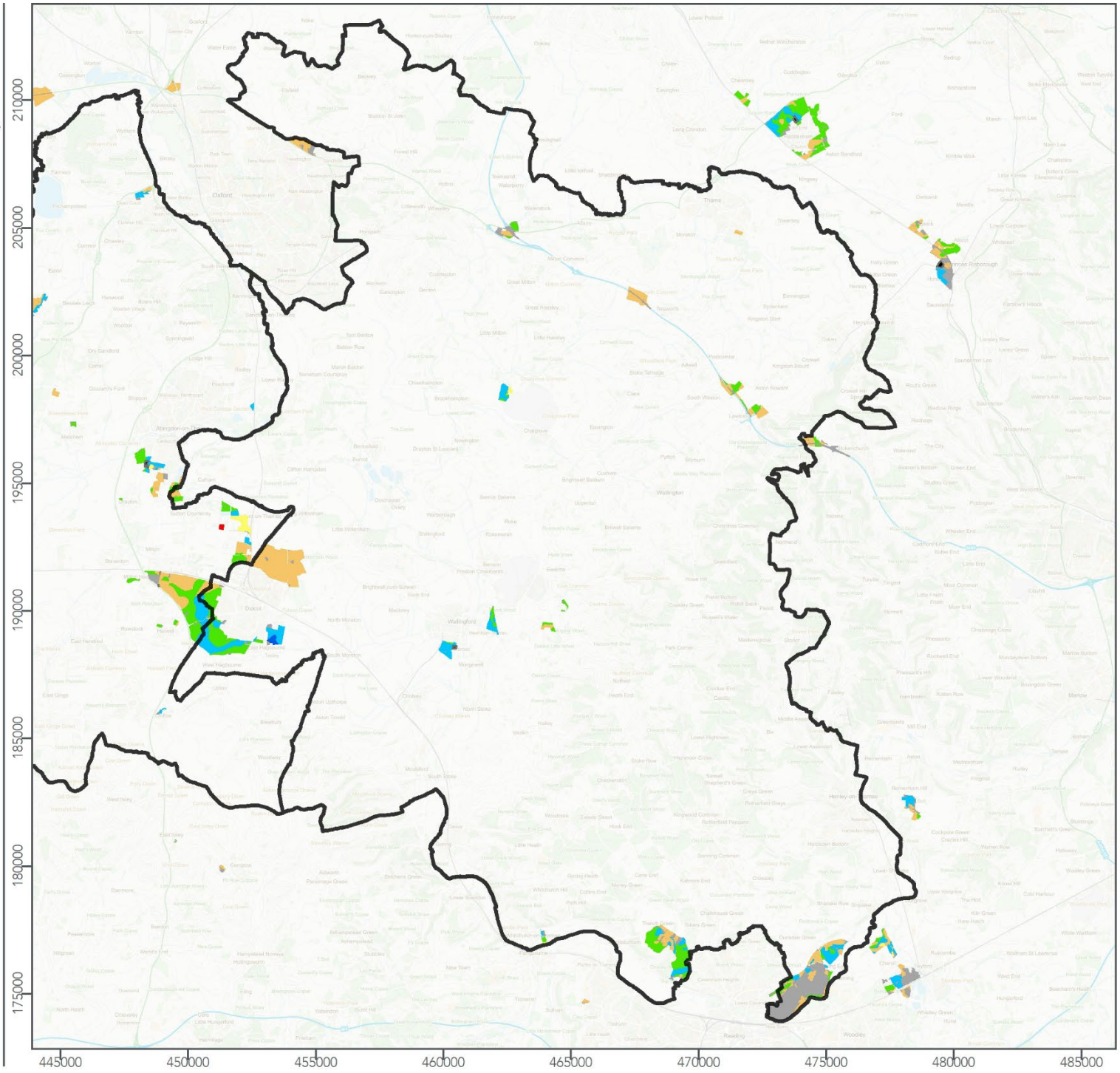

Figure 7.3: Post 1988 Agricultural Land Classification (South Oxfordshire)

0 5 10
Kilometers

N

Scale: 1:220,000 **Created by:** EM
Date: Oct 2023 **Reviewed by:** GC
Drawing number:
UE0597SEA_ALC_Post1988_231016

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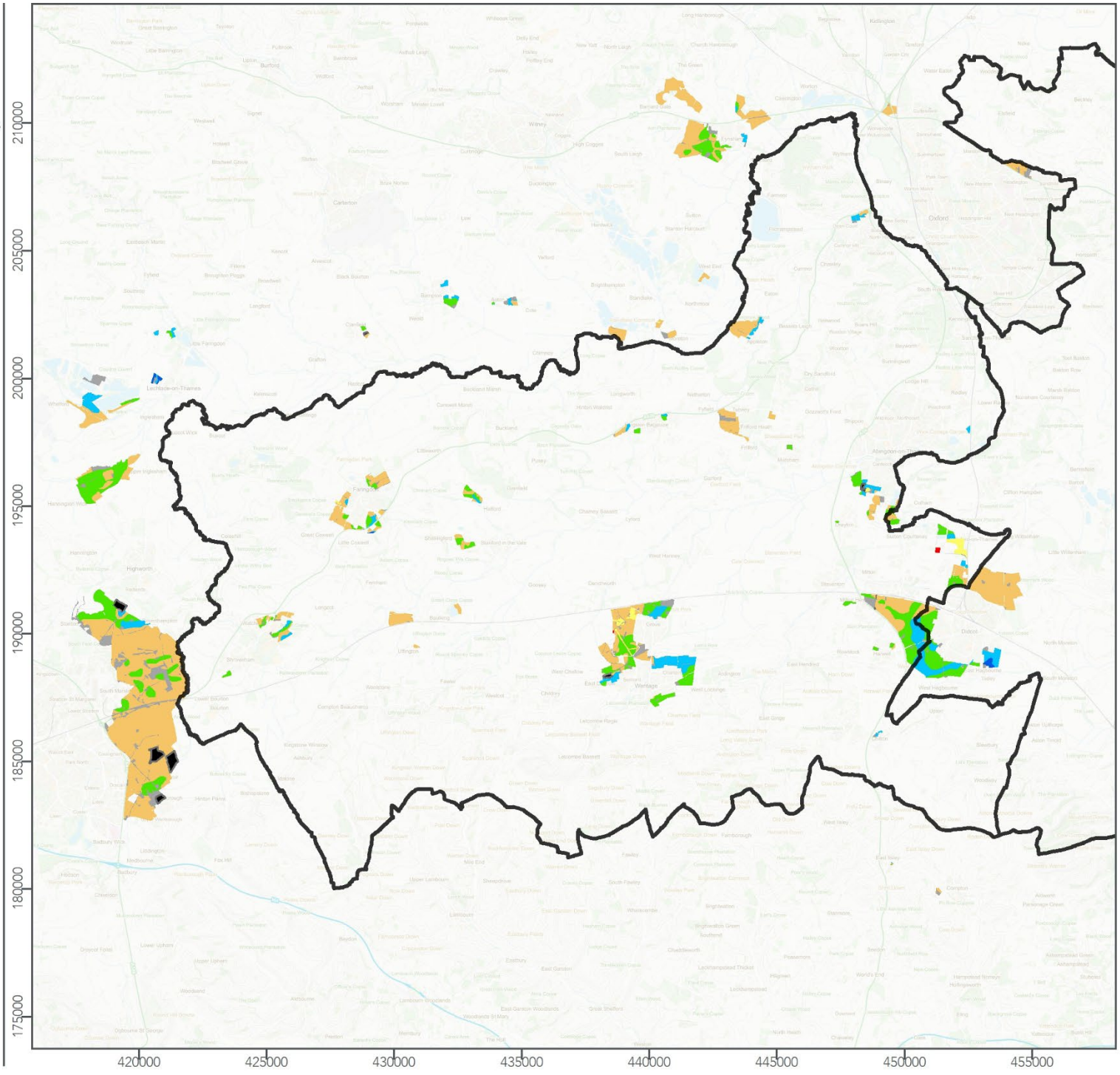

Figure 7.4: Post 1988 Agricultural Land Classification (Vale of White Horse)

0 5 10
Kilometers

N

Scale: 1:220,000 **Created by:** EM
Date: Oct 2023 **Reviewed by:** GC
Drawing number:
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8.1.3 Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and are shown in probabilistic form, which illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction. UKCP18 uses scenarios for greenhouse gases called representative concentrative pathways (RCP) of which there are four: RCP2.6, RCP4.5, RCP6.0 and RCP8.5. RCP2.6 represents a future in which the world aims for and is able to implement sizeable reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases. RCP8.5 represents a world in which global greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise and where the nations of the world choose not to switch to a low-carbon future. RCP2.6 is thought to be consistent with the long-term target specified in the UK Climate Change Act of limiting global warming to 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

8.1.4 Figure 8.4 and Figure 1.5 show the estimates for a scenario for the 25 km grid squares covering South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse where greenhouse gas emissions are reduced in line with the Paris climate agreement targets by 2030 and then after 2030, no further emission reductions are achieved but emissions do not rise (RCP4.5). The figures show change in annual average change in precipitation during the summer months between 2010 and 2100 for seven probability levels.

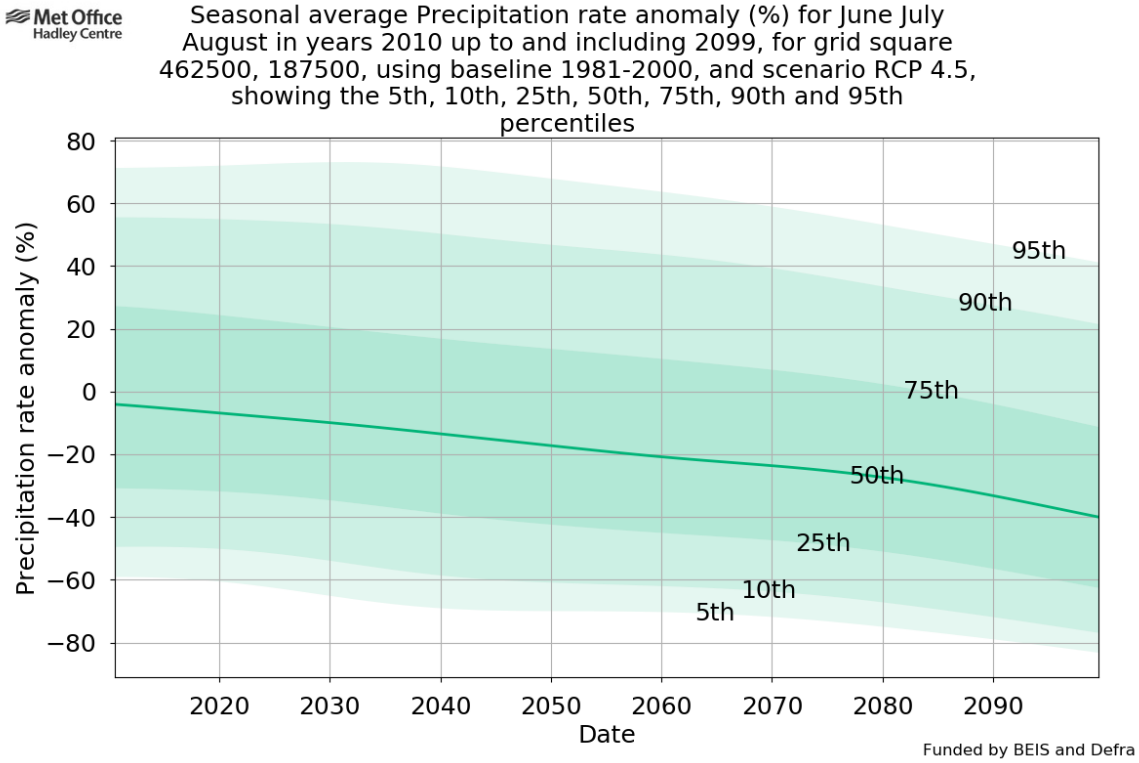

Figure 8.1: Changes in Summer Mean Precipitation in South Oxfordshire to 2100 as a Result of the RCP4.5 Emissions Scenario (Source: UK Climate Change Projection 18)

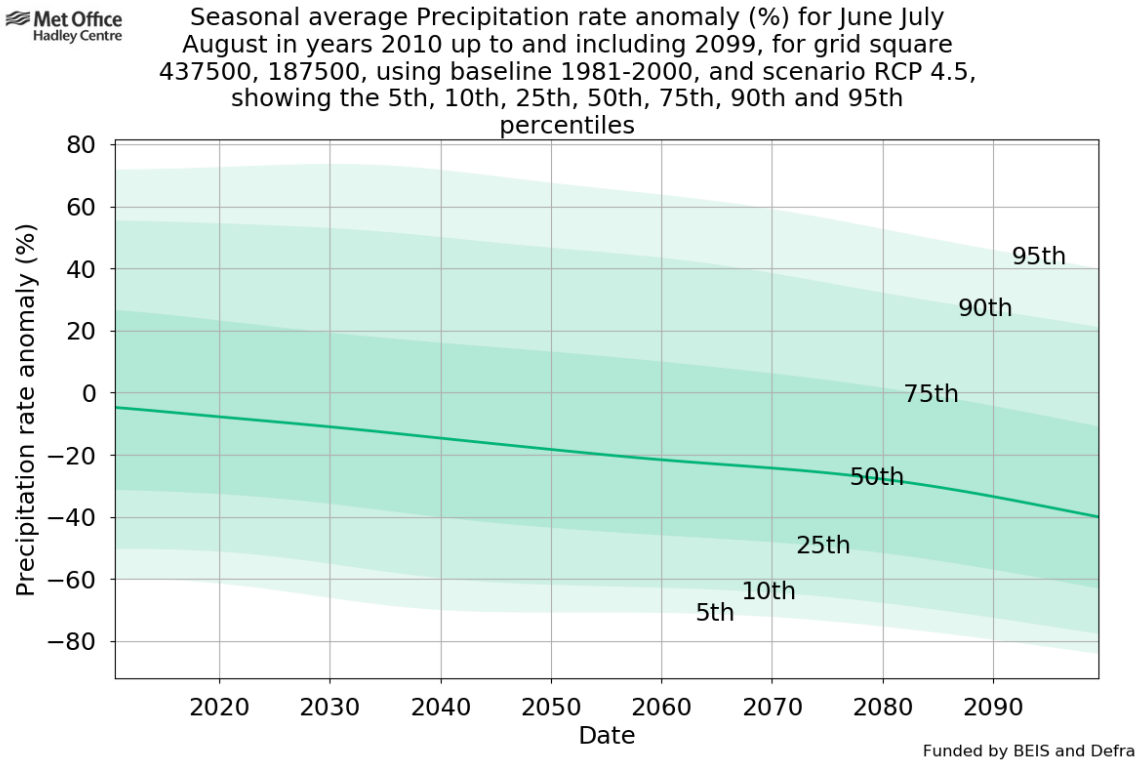

Figure 1.2: Changes in Summer Mean Precipitation in Vale of White Horse to 2100 as a Result of the RCP4.5 Emissions Scenario (Source: UK Climate Change Projection 18)

Appendix D: Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Accessibility

Appendix D presents the Sustainability Appraisal Framework. The Framework displays eleven sustainability objectives, and each objective is supported by a series of decision-making criteria. Together these form the SA Framework.

A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

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SEA Framework

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan

Revised SA Objectives	Decision making criteria - will the option / proposal help to....
1. To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Maintain and where possible improve air quality
	Maintain and where possible improve water quality, and assist in achieving WFD objectives (Good Status)
	Promote nutrient neutrality within the River Lambourn catchment
	Limit and reduce light pollution across the Districts
	Limit contributions to noise pollution and reduce exposure to existing sources of pollution
2. To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.	Provide accessible and appropriate healthcare services and facilities for all residents, especially for the most deprived communities
	Provide an appropriate range of formal and informal sports and recreation facilities that are accessible to all
	Protect against social isolation and loneliness
	Provide suitable education services for all who require it, especially for the most deprived communities
	Promote active travel and movement by maintaining, connecting and creating publically accessible open spaces connecting into the wider green / blue infrastructure network
	Ensure new developments are free from crime and free from the fear of crime, and protected from acts of terror
3. To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.	Actively encourage sustainable modes of transport including public transport, walking and cycling
	Provide appropriate travel choices for all residents including the needs of specific groups (e.g. the elderly, disabled, young, families)
	Provide infrastructure that facilitates accessibility and limits the need to travel, particularly for most deprived communities
4. To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.	Protect and enhance internationally, nationally and locally designated assets and habitats
	Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species
	Enhance biodiversity through the restoration and creation of well-connected multifunctional green infrastructure, including supporting the delivery of the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy
	Achieve net gains in biodiversity, with new developments expected to secure at least 10% net gain
5. To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.	Actively pursue reductions to domestic emissions
	Pursue sustainable transportation in both districts, prioritising public and active transport
	Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources
	Sustainably manage water run-off, ensure that the risk of flooding is not increased (either on site or downstream) and where possible reduce flood risk
	Ensure new developments are resilient and adaptable (where appropriate) to the effects of climate change
6. To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.	Preserve and enhance buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest
	Preserve and enhance the setting of cultural heritage assets
7. To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality.	Ensure great weight is given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty of the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty including development within their setting
	Promote and protect tranquillity across the Districts
	Protect and enhance the setting of, and views to and from important landscape features including Valued Landscapes
8. To conserve and manage natural resources.	Ensure that extraction of resources takes place prior to any development in Mineral Resource Areas, Mineral Safeguarding Areas, Mineral Consultation Areas
	Avoid development in Mineral Infrastructure Zones
	To minimise the use of new materials and prioritise the reuse and recycle of existing materials and aggregate
	To support the sustainable management of land for multiple benefits, including maximising re-use of brownfield sites and providing greater protection to greenfield land
	Ensure preservation of soils, particularly those of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land Grades 1-3a

SEA Framework	
Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan	
Revised SA Objectives	**Decision making criteria - will the option / proposal help to….**
9. To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.	Deliver accessible and affordable housing to meet local needs
	Provide a mix of dwelling sizes and types to support the local housing market
	Meet the needs of specific groups (e.g. the elderly, disabled, young, families, gypsies and travellers)
10. To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.	Contribute to provision of jobs across the Districts over the Plan period
	Provide jobs accessible by sustainable modes of transport
	Contribute to a low carbon economy
	Support a wide range of jobs in the science and innovation sector and across the foundational economy
	Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town and local centres in the Districts
11. To achieve sustainable water resource management.	Maximise the efficient use of water
	Reduce the risk of (and damage from) flooding to properties and key infrastructure, and to improve resistance and resilience to flooding from all sources
	Minimise inappropriate development in Source Protection Zones
	Ensure sufficient waste water treatment capacity to accommodate new development

Appendix E: High-Level Assessment GIS Datasets

Accessibility

Appendix E presents a tabulated list of all those GIS datasets included in the assessment alongside the relevant SEA objectives. For each dataset, the appendix also includes information about the GIS data type (polygon, polyline or point), the data source and the buffer distance applied in the GIS model in meters.

A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

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SA Objective	Corresponding GIS datasets	Data type	Data source	Buffer distance applied (m)
1. To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.	AQMAs	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	0
	Historic Landfills	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	0
	Contaminated Land	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	0
	RAF Benson	Polygon	Digitised by UEEC	5,000
	Didcot to London railway	Polyline	SO & VoWH District Councils	150
	Strategic road network	Polyline	Ordnance Survey	250
2. To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.	Healthcare Facilities (GPs, Hospitals)	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	1,000
	Sports and Recreational Facilities	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	750
	Community Facilities	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	1,000
	Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2019)	Polygon	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	800
	Open space	Polygon	Oxford University Natural Capital Study	300
	Primary schools	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	500
	Secondary schools	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	1,000
3. To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.	Cycle Routes	Polyline	Sustrans	500
	Public Rights of Way	Polyline	SO & VoWH District Councils	100
	Bus Stops	Point	Department for Transport	500
	Transport Hubs (Park & Ride)	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	1,000
	Train Stations	Point	Department for Transport	2,000
	Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2019)	Polygon	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	800
4. To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.	SAC	Polygon	Natural England	2,000
	SSSI	Polygon	Natural England	500
	Local Geological Sites	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	0
	National Nature Reserves	Polygon	Natural England	500
	Ancient Woodland	Polygon	Natural England	400
	Local Wildlife Sites	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	400
	Conservation Target Areas	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	500
	Areas of High and Low Natural Capital	Polygon	Oxford University Natural Capital Study	0
5. To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.	Cycle Routes	Polyline	Sustrans	800
	Public Rights of Way	Polyline	SO & VoWH District Councils	100
	Bus Stops	Point	Department for Transport	400
	Transport Hubs (Park & Ride)	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	800
	Train Stations	Point	Department for Transport	800
	Existing renewable generation sites	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	2000
	Flood Zone 2	Polygon	Environment Agency	0
	Flood Zone 3	Polygon	Environment Agency	0
6. To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.	Listed Buildings	Point	Historic England	500
	Scheduled Monuments	Point	Historic England	500
	Registered Parks and Gardens	Polygon	Historic England	500
	Battlefields	Polygon	Historic England	500
	Local Heritage Assets	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	500
	Heritage at Risk	Point	SO & VoWH District Councils	500
	Conservation Areas	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	500
7. To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place and landscape quality	AONB	Polygon	Natural England	2,000

SA Objective	Corresponding GIS datasets	Data type	Data source	Buffer distance applied (m)
8. To conserve and manage natural resources.	Mineral Resource Areas	Polygon	Oxfordshire County Council	0
	Mineral Safeguarding Areas	Polygon	Oxfordshire County Council	0
	Mineral Consultation Areas	Polygon	Oxfordshire County Council	0
	Contaminated Land	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	0
	Historic Landfills	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	0
	Agricultural land classification (provision and post 1988)	Polygon	Natural England	0
9. To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.	*None*			
10. To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.	Existing Employment Sites	Polygon	SO & VoWH District Councils	1,500
11. To achieve sustainable water resource management.	Flood Zone 2	Polygon	Environment Agency	0
	Flood Zone 3	Polygon	Environment Agency	0
	Source Protection Zones	Polygon	Environment Agency	0

Appendix F: Spatial Strategy Alternatives Assessment

Accessibility

Appendix F presents an assessment of the four spatial strategy options presented in Chapter 5 of the Joint Local Plan. The assessment of each spatial strategy option is presented as a separate table, organised by SA objective. Each spatial strategy option is given a score ranging from strong positive to strong adverse for each SA objective. Supporting commentary is also provided for each objective score.

The appendix has been produced in word format, and the pdf version provided as part of this report is suitable for use by special assistive technology.

Spatial Strategy SA

Project	South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Local Plan SA	**Date**	November 2023
Note	Chapter 5 Spatial Strategy SA	**Ref**	n/a
Author	Giulia Civello	**Page**	1 of 13
Status	FINAL		

1 Introduction

1.1 This document includes the Sustainability Appraisal of the Joint Local Plan draft Spatial Strategy. Four options have been appraised including the preferred option A and three alternatives (B, C and D). The assessment of each option is presented as a standalone table with explanatory commentary supporting a sustainability score against each sustainability objective. Table 1.1 provides a key to the scoring. These tables will form part of the full Sustainability Appraisal Report. A summary of the scores for all options alongside each other is provided within the policy assessment tables for ease of comparison.

Table 1.1: Scoring Guide

Sustainability score	Description of effect
++	Strong positive effect
+	Minor positive effect
0	Neutral effect
-	Minor adverse effect
--	Strong adverse effect
+/-	Mixed effect
?	Uncertain effect

Table 1.2: Spatial Strategy Option A Appraisal

SA Objective	SA Score	Spatial Strategy Option A – Preferred
		The Councils want to guide new development to Science Vale, to the Garden Communities and to locations in the highest tiers of the settlement hierarchy (Tiers 1, 2 and 3) as set out in Policy SP1. In smaller settlements in Tier 4, some more specific brownfield development is also appropriate within the built-up area. This helps to reduce the need to travel and help people shift towards more sustainable travel patterns. They also want to take opportunities for renewal and regeneration, by supporting the redevelopment of well-located brownfield land, and will introduce some new site allocations to help support this aim, as well as supporting brownfield developments that come forward as windfalls where it helps to achieve our other aim to reduce the need to travel. The Councils will also support the delivery of our viable and developable existing allocations, which align with our new spatial strategy. Site allocations have been reviewed to see how they perform against the new spatial strategy. The Councils want to support the preparation of new neighbourhood plans that will reinforce this spatial strategy, but also encourage ambitious projects if parish or town councils want to deliver more. The spatial strategy should protect Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Green Belt. A review has started to look for the potential to enhance and even possibly extend the Oxford Green Belt in our Districts.
SA1 Pollution	+/-	A number of Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements in the districts have Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in place, including Abingdon-on-Thames, Wallingford, Henley-on-Thames, Botley, Watlington and Marcham. Directing residential development towards these and other Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements risks exacerbating pollution effects to existing receptors and introducing new residents to areas of poor air quality. Many of the existing site allocations, including the garden villages, are located on the urban fringes and therefore are not predicted to result in these same effects. Residential development in proximity to the strategic road network in and around the Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements also risks adverse noise and air pollution effects for new residents. These effects will be highly localised and will be dependent on the exact location of sites.

SA Objective	SA Score	Spatial Strategy Option A – Preferred
		Development within the built-up area is however likely to reduce the need for travel, particularly by car, with knock on benefits in terms for air pollution in particular. Some of the existing allocations are located outside the existing urban area on the urban fringes and therefore may have the opposite effect with adverse pollution impact. Directing development within existing urban areas is predicted to minimise risks associated with light pollution, but as explained above, not all existing allocations within this option conform to this distribution of development. The River Lambourn SAC catchment extends into the south-west corner of Vale. Option A protects this area from development as it falls within the North Wessex Downs AONB and therefore there are no nutrient impacts predicted for this option. Overall, mixed pollution effects are predicted for Option A.
SA2 Health and wellbeing	+	Residential development within Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements is likely to provide new residents with good access to existing facilities including healthcare, education and community facilities which are all indicators of good health and wellbeing. This good accessibility is also predicted to promote opportunities for active travel with associated health benefits. Many of the existing allocations are located outside the existing urban areas and hence will be located further from existing facilities, however the large size of many allocations means that the allocation policies require the provision of services as part of the proposed developments. Existing allocations in and around Didcot and at Berinsfield are located close to the most deprived communities in the districts, providing opportunities for improving access to facilities for these communities. Overall, positive health effects are predicted for Option A.
SA3 Accessibility	++	As described for SA2, development within Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements is likely to provide new residents with good access to existing facilities. This is predicted to reduce travel by private vehicle and promote sustainable modes of transport. The larger settlements are also anticipated to have better access to the public transport network. Many of the existing allocations and the garden villages are located outside the main urban areas and therefore may be less well located

SA Objective	SA Score	Spatial Strategy Option A – Preferred
		with respect to the public transport network. The Science Vale generally has established links to the rail and bus network given the existing employment uses. Overall, positive effects are predicted for Option A.
SA4 Biodiversity	0	Biodiversity interest in the districts is predominantly focussed outside of the existing urban areas and outside of the Science Vale area. Internationally and nationally designated sites are spread throughout the districts but with larger concentrations of sites in the north of both districts and in the east of South Oxfordshire. For the most part, the same spatial pattern also applies for locally designated biodiversity sites. The garden communities at Didcot, Berinsfield and Dalton Barracks largely avoid impacts to ecologically designated sites, although the proposed extension of Dalton Barracks allocation, takes the site within 400m of the Cothill Fens SAC and therefore the development will need to be designed sensitively to minimise any possible impact. As a result, Option A, focussing on development within existing settlements and re-development of brownfield land, is predicted to largely avoid adverse biodiversity effects with neutral effects predicted overall.
SA5 Climate change	+	The positive accessibility effects described for SA3 will contribute to reduced transport carbon emissions. In terms of domestic carbon, there are renewable energy generation sites within the districts with larger sites located within Vale. It is not possible to differentiate between spatial options based on their ability to connect directly into a renewables generation site however larger sites, such as many of the site allocations, are likely to be better suited to having a direct connection and also have greater potential for district-heating networks. There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts particularly within Vale. The risk of flooding to development within the floodplain will be exacerbated by climate change. Overall positive effects are predicted for Option A.
SA6 Heritage	-	Heritage assets are spread throughout the districts with listed buildings and conservation areas concentrated within urban areas for the most part, including small villages. There are also a number of scheduled monuments and one battlefield at Chalgrove. Heritage impacts both direct and indirect through impacts to setting will be highly location specific, however directing development in the urban areas carries a greater risk of impact to listed buildings and conservation areas as this is where the majority are located. There are heritage features in proximity to some of the existing allocations with potential for adverse effects. Overall adverse effects are predicted for Option A although these will be highly location specific.
SA7 Landscape	0	This option includes strong protection of the two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) within the districts and the Green Belt and therefore the risk of adverse, especially strong adverse, effects is low. More localised landscape

SA Objective	SA Score	Spatial Strategy Option A – Preferred
		effects can be more easily mitigated through sensitive layout and design. Overall, neutral landscape effects are predicted for Option A.
SA8 Natural resources	++	Focussing development to the Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements and on brownfield land will largely avoid impacts to natural resources, including the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. It also presents opportunities for land remediation. Mineral resources and facilities are predominantly focussed in the north of Vale and in the west of South Oxfordshire. Some of the existing allocations are within such mineral areas. Mineral resources here should be extracted prior to development to avoid any sterilisation of resource. Overall positive effects are predicted for Option A in terms of natural resources.
SA9 Housing	++	Option A will have positive effects in terms of housing provision within the districts. The option provides opportunities for a range of dwelling sizes and types to support the local housing market, including provision of affordable housing.
SA10 Economy	+	Option A is predicted to support the vitality and viability of Tier 1, 2 and 3 centres through development in these settlements and also strengthen the Science Vale through re-development of employment sites here. Overall positive effects are predicted in terms of contributing to a resilient economy in the districts.
SA11 Water resources	-	There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts including within parts of Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements. Some of the existing allocations also encroach partially into the flood plain. Henley-on-Thames and other Tier 2 and 3 settlements within the south-east corner of South Oxfordshire also fall within the Source Protection Zones with possible contamination effects to the aquifer. Effects will be highly localised but overall adverse effects are predicted in terms of management of water resources.

Table 1.3: Spatial Strategy Option B Appraisal

SA Objective	SA Score	Spatial Strategy Option B – Greenfield expansion at Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements
		This option would permit some suitable greenfield sites adjacent to Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements which would give more housing supply and choice at our most sustainable settlements.
SA1 Pollution	-	Greenfield development adjacent to Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements is likely to increase the need to travel by car as these locations may not all be well situated with respect to the public transport / active travel network. There is therefore potential for adverse air quality effects associated with increased car travel. Any residential development in proximity to the strategic road network also risks adverse noise and air pollution effects for new residents. These effects will be highly localised and will be dependent on the exact location of sites. Greenfield locations also carry a greater risk of adverse light pollution effects. Overall adverse pollution effects are predicted for Option B.
SA2 Health and wellbeing	-	Greenfield sites are less likely to be well-situated with respect to existing facilities with fewer opportunities for active travel. Whilst there may be fewer designated open spaces close to greenfield sites, public rights of way provide access to the nearby countryside. Overall, adverse effects are predicted in terms of health and well-being.
SA3 Accessibility	-	The ability of new residents to access key services including healthcare, education, leisure and open space is predicted to be lower for greenfield sites, with fewer connections to the public transport network. This will encourage travel by private vehicle. Overall, adverse accessibility effects are predicted for Option B.
SA4 Biodiversity	+/-	There are several nationally and locally designated ecological sites in the north of the districts around the outskirts of Botley, and in the south-east of South Oxfordshire around Goring-on-Thames, Henley-on-Thames, Watlington and Chinnor. Here there is greater potential for adverse ecological effects associated with the development of greenfield sites adjacent to Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements. Conversely, many of the Tier 1, 2, 3 settlements have Conservation Target Areas around their outskirts providing opportunities for meaningful habitat creation within development sites and positive biodiversity effects contributing to biodiversity net gain and broader habitat connectivity across the districts, supporting delivery of the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Therefore, mixed biodiversity effects are predicted for Option B overall.
SA5 Climate change	-	The adverse accessibility effects described for SA3 are likely to contribute to an increase in transport carbon emissions. In terms of domestic carbon, there are renewable energy generation sites within the districts with larger

SA Objective	SA Score	Spatial Strategy Option B – Greenfield expansion at Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements
		sites located within Vale. It is not possible to differentiate between spatial options based on their ability to connect directly into a renewables generation site, however smaller greenfield sites are less well suited to having a direct connection and also have less potential for district-heating networks. There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts particularly within Vale, and greenfield sites are considered more likely to be located within the flood zone. The risk of flooding to development within the floodplain will be exacerbated by climate change. Overall adverse effects are predicted for Option B.
SA6 Heritage	0	Heritage impacts both direct and indirect through impacts to setting will be highly location specific, however greenfield development is less likely to impact listed buildings and conservation areas as these are primarily associated with the urban area. There is some potential for impacts to scheduled monuments, but these will be dependent on the location of greenfield sites. Overall neutral heritage effects are predicted for Option B.
SA7 Landscape	-	The development of greenfield sites carries greater potential for adverse landscape effects, particularly around settlements within the Chilterns AONB and the North Wessex Downs AONB. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted for Option B.
SA8 Natural resources	-	Greenfield development is more likely to result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural resource and presents fewer opportunities for the re-use and remediation of land. Mineral resources and facilities are predominantly focussed in the north of Vale and in the west of South Oxfordshire. Any greenfield sites within mineral areas should have these resources extracted prior to development to avoid any sterilisation of resource. Overall adverse effects are predicted for Option B in terms of natural resources.
SA9 Housing	+	Smaller greenfield sites may provide more limited opportunities to provide for a range of dwelling sizes and types to support the local housing market, including provision of affordable housing. However, the option is still expected to have positive effects in terms of housing provision in the districts.
SA10 Economy	-	Greenfield development is less likely to support the vitality and viability of Tier 1, 2 and 3 centres. Other employment effects will be dependent on where greenfield development is located but overall adverse effects are predicted in terms of contributing to a resilience economy in the districts.
SA11 Water resources	-	There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts particularly in Vale and greenfield sites are considered more likely to be located within the flood zone. Any greenfield development in the south-east corner of South Oxfordshire could also fall within the Source Protection Zone. Effects will be highly localised but overall adverse effects are predicted in terms of management of water resources.

Table 1.4: Spatial Strategy Option C Appraisal

SA Objective	Score	Spatial Strategy Option C – Co-location of housing and employment, including development on greenfield sites
		This could be achieved by the Joint Local Plan setting development targets at settlements where co-location of housing and employment already exists (Tier 1 settlements), or it could be achieved by making new allocations at strategically important employment locations. This option would be a choice to allocate more development than we need to deliver. As such it may add pressure on community facilities and transport networks. This alternative is very likely to support new sustainable transport networks and connections because of our focus for development within Tier 1 settlements. The current spatial strategies for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse (and partly option A) overlaps with this alternative, because some of the existing allocated sites fall within the Science Vale area where it could support co-location of housing and employment within that cluster of sites and Tier 1 settlements.
SA1 Pollution	+/-	The co-location of housing and employment in general carries a greater risk of adverse pollution effects, as employment uses can themselves be a source of noise, air and light pollution. However, these risks can generally be minimised through sensitive layout and design. Co-locating residential development with employment uses within the Science Vale is predicted to increase pollution risk through location of residential development in proximity to existing and new employment sites. The Tier 1 settlements of Abingdon-on-Thames, Wallingford, Henley-on-Thames have AQMAs in place and therefore directing development towards these settlements risks exacerbating pollution effects to existing receptors and introducing new residents to areas of poor air quality. However, development within the built-up area is also likely to reduce the need for travel, particularly by car, with knock on benefits in terms for air pollution in particular. Overall, mixed pollution effects are predicted for Option C.
SA2 Health and wellbeing	+/-	Sites suitable for the co-location of housing and employment within Tier 1 settlements are likely to be better located with respect to services, including designated open spaces, with good opportunities for active travel and associated

SA Objective	Score	Spatial Strategy Option C – Co-location of housing and employment, including development on greenfield sites
		health benefits. Strategically important employment locations within Science Vale are less likely to be so well located and hence are likely to present fewer opportunities for active travel compared to Tier 1 settlements. Therefore, overall mixed health effects are predicted for Option C.
SA3 Accessibility	+	Sites within Tier 1 settlements are predicted to be well located with respect to facilities reducing the need to travel, but also better connected to the public transport network promoting sustainable modes of transport where residents do need to travel. The Science Vale generally has established links to the rail and bus network given the existing employment uses. Therefore, overall Option C is predicted to have positive accessibility effects.
SA4 Biodiversity	0	The co-location of housing and employment within Tier 1 settlements is predicted to largely avoid biodiversity impacts due to the lack of ecological designations within the urban areas. Broadly speaking, the Science Vale area where housing could be co-located on strategically important employment sites also contains fewer sensitive ecological features. Overall, Option C is therefore predicted to have neutral biodiversity effects.
SA5 Climate change	+	The positive accessibility effects described for SA3 will contribute to reduced transport carbon emissions. In terms of domestic carbon, there are renewable energy generation sites within the districts with larger sites located within Vale. It is not possible to differentiate between spatial options based on their ability to connect directly into a renewables generation site however larger sites, such as strategic employment locations, are likely to be better suited to having a direct connection. A mix of uses also provides greater potential for efficient district-heating networks. There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts including within the Tier 1 settlements and small areas within the Science Vale. The risk of flooding to development within the floodplain will be exacerbated by climate change. Overall positive effects are predicted for Option C.
SA6 Heritage	+/-	Heritage impacts both direct and indirect through impacts to setting will be highly location specific, however directing development in Tier 1 settlements carries a greater risk of impact to listed buildings and conservation areas as this is where the majority are located. There are less likely to be heritage assets in proximity to strategy employment sites with less potential for effects. Overall mixed heritage effects are predicted for Option C.
SA7 Landscape	0	The co-location of housing and employment within Tier 1 settlements and within the Science Vale is predicted to largely avoid adverse landscape effects as they will avoid the districts' most sensitive landscapes. More localised landscape effects can be more easily mitigated through sensitive layout and design. Overall, neutral landscape effects are predicted for Option C.

SA Objective	Score	Spatial Strategy Option C – Co-location of housing and employment, including development on greenfield sites
SA8 Natural resources	+	Focussing development to the Tier 1 settlements and on strategic employment sites within Science Vale is predicted to largely avoid impacts to natural resources, including the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. It also presents opportunities for land remediation. Minerals resources and facilities are predominantly focussed in the north of Vale and in the west of South Oxfordshire and therefore Option C is predicted to largely avoid mineral impacts. Overall positive effects are predicted for Option A in terms of natural resources.
SA9 Housing	+	The co-location of housing and employment may restrict opportunities for a range of dwelling sizes and types to support the local housing market, including provision of affordable housing. However, the option is still expected to have positive effects in terms of housing provision in the districts.
SA10 Economy	+	Option C is predicted to contribute to the vitality and viability of Tier 1 centres and also to the development of the Science Vale through the colocation of employment and residential development in these areas. Overall positive economic effects are predicted for this option.
SA11 Water resources	-	There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts including within the Tier 1 settlements and small areas within the Science Vale. Henley-on-Thames is also located within the Source Protection Zones and development here carries contamination risks to the aquifer. Effects will be highly localised but overall adverse effects are predicted in terms of management of water resources.

Table 1.5: Spatial Strategy Option D Appraisal

SA Objective	Score	Spatial Strategy Option D – More dispersed pattern of development including at smaller villages (Tier 4) within the Settlement Hierarchy
		This would involve setting development targets for parishes or settlements in the districts. This would reflect the approach in the current spatial strategy of the South Oxfordshire local plan to support more development at smaller settlements (the equivalent of Tier 4) as well as at Tiers 1, 2 and 3. This approach could support smaller villages and maintaining their vitality and it encourages a high level of participation in neighbourhood plan making.
SA1 Pollution	-	Whilst directing development to the smaller settlements is likely to avoid new housing in areas of existing poor air quality, it will likely increase reliance on travel by private car with associated pollution effects, air quality in particular. Development in these areas also carries a greater risk of adverse light pollution effects. Any development conferring overnight use within smaller settlements in the River Lambourn SAC catchment could risk adverse nutrient pollution effects. Overall, adverse pollution effects are predicted for Option D.
SA2 Health and wellbeing	-	Development sites around the smaller Tier 4 settlements are likely to be less well-located with respect to key services and as a result there are also likely to be fewer opportunities for active travel with increased reliance on private vehicles. Whilst there may be fewer designated open spaces in and around smaller settlements, public rights of way provide access to the nearby countryside. However, development sites are likely to be smaller for this option, with reduced likelihood of on-site open space provision. Overall, adverse effects are predicted for this option with respect to health and wellbeing.
SA3 Accessibility	-	As described for SA2, developments within smaller settlements are likely to be less well-located with respect to key services increasing reliance on travel by private vehicle. Overall adverse accessibility effects are predicted for Option D.
SA4 Biodiversity	+/-	Directing more development to smaller settlements (Tier 4), in addition to Tiers 1, 2 and 3, is predicted to increase the chances of adverse biodiversity effects given that there are a greater number of ecological features around the outskirts of these smaller settlements, particularly in the north of the districts, in the south-east of South Oxfordshire, and also in the west of Vale to some extent. However, there may also be opportunities for habitat creation associated

SA Objective	Score	Spatial Strategy Option D – More dispersed pattern of development including at smaller villages (Tier 4) within the Settlement Hierarchy
		with Conservation Target Areas, providing positive biodiversity effects contributing to biodiversity net gain and broader habitat connectivity as for Option B. Therefore overall, mixed biodiversity effects are predicted for Option D.
SA5 Climate change	-	The adverse accessibility effects described for SA3 are likely to contribute to an increase in transport carbon emissions. In terms of domestic carbon, there are renewable energy generation sites within the districts with larger sites located within Vale. It is not possible to differentiate between spatial options based on their ability to connect directly into a renewables generation site however smaller sites are less suited to having a direct connection and also have less potential for district-heating networks. There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts particularly within Vale. The risk of flooding to development within the floodplain will be exacerbated by climate change. Overall adverse effects are predicted for Option D.
SA6 Heritage	-	Heritage impacts both direct and indirect through impacts to setting will be highly location specific, however directing development to smaller settlements carries a greater risk of impact to listed buildings and conservation areas as this is where many are located. Overall adverse effects are predicted for Option D although these will be highly location specific.
SA7 Landscape	-	A more dispersed spatial strategy carries a greater risk of adverse landscape effects particularly in and around the smaller settlements in the south of the districts closer to the two AONBs. Overall, adverse landscape effects are predicted for Option D.
SA8 Natural resources	+/-	Option D could involve development of a combination of greenfield and brownfield land. Therefore, overall mixed effects are predicted for this option in terms of natural resources.
SA9 Housing	+	The focus on development sites in and around smaller settlements may restrict opportunities for a range of dwelling sizes and types to support the local housing market, including provision of affordable housing. However, the option is still expected to have positive effects in terms of housing provision in the districts.
SA10 Economy	+/-	A more dispersed pattern of development will help to support the vitality and viability of the smaller settlements and villages within the districts, although development is predicted to be located further from existing employment sites. Overall mixed effects are predicted for this option.
SA11 Water resources	-	There are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the districts including around the smaller settlements. Development in and around smaller settlements in the south-east corner of South Oxfordshire would also fall within the Source

SA Objective	Score	Spatial Strategy Option D – More dispersed pattern of development including at smaller villages (Tier 4) within the Settlement Hierarchy
		Protection Zone. Effects will be highly localised but overall adverse effects are predicted in terms of management of water resources.

Appendix G: Housing Requirement Alternatives Assessment

Accessibility

Appendix G presents an assessment of the four housing requirement options presented in Chapter 6, policy HOU1 of the Joint Local Plan. The assessment of each housing requirement option is presented by SA objective. Each option is given a score ranging from strong positive to strong adverse for each SA objective. Supporting commentary is also provided for each objective.

The appendix has been produced in word format, and the pdf version provided as part of this report is suitable for use by special assistive technology.

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HOU1 Housing Requirement SA

URBAN EDGE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

Project	South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse Local Plan SA	**Date**	November 2023
Note	Chapter 6 Housing Requirement Policy HOU1 SA	**Ref**	n/a
Author	Giulia Civello	**Page**	1 of 4
Status	FINAL		

1 Introduction

1.1 This document includes the Sustainability Appraisal of the Joint Local Plan Chapter 6 Policy HOU1: Housing Requirement. Four alternative housing requirements are tested. Sustainability impacts are largely driven by the location of new homes. However, a high-level assessment of the sustainability impacts associated with different housing requirements is provided in Table 1.2 based solely on the likely quantum of housing which would come forward with each option. The sustainability scores provided in Table 1.2 are indicative and provide a score relative to other options as opposed to absolute scores which require more information on spatial distribution of new housing.

Table 1.1: Scoring Guide

Sustainability score	Description of effect
++	Strong positive effect
+	Minor positive effect
0	Neutral effect
-	Minor adverse effect
--	Strong adverse effect
+/-	Mixed effect
?	Uncertain effect

Table 1.2: HOU1 Housing Requirement Options Assessment

SA Objective	Option A – Using the Standard Method, with an increase to allow for existing agreed unmet need from Oxford City ***South Ox total need: 17,050 homes*** ***Vale total need: 14,390 homes***	Option B – Maintain existing levels of housing need ***South Ox total need: 20,450 homes*** ***Vale total need: 22,394 homes***	Option C – Using only the standard method ***South Ox total need: 12,100 homes*** ***Vale total need: 12,560 homes***	Option D – Reflecting the Oxfordshire Growth Deal in a new housing needs assessment ***No definitive need figure but will be similar to Option B***
SA1 Pollution	-	--	-	--
	Pollution effects are localised and will be dependent on where development comes forward. However, in general terms, with an increased housing requirement, comes increased risk of higher levels of noise, air, water and light pollution in the districts.			
SA2 Health and wellbeing	+	++	+	++
	The potential to safeguard the health and well-being of the population will largely be driven by the location of new housing. However, increased housing provision will generally result in higher delivery of affordable homes and an increased choice of homes thereby having positive effects for more deprived members of the population and those with specialist needs.			
SA3 Accessibility	Not assessed	Not assessed	Not assessed	Not assessed
	Accessibility of new developments and the ability to promote sustainable modes of transport will be entirely dependent on the location of new housing. Therefore, it is not considered possible to attribute scores to options A to D based solely on the quantum of houses to be provided.			
SA4 Biodiversity	-	--	-	--
	Biodiversity effects are localised and will be dependent on where development comes forward. However, in general terms, the more housing the plan provides for, the greater the potential for biodiversity impacts.			

SA Objective	Option A – Using the Standard Method, with an increase to allow for existing agreed unmet need from Oxford City *South Ox total need: 17,050 homes* *Vale total need: 14,390 homes*	Option B – Maintain existing levels of housing need *South Ox total need: 20,450 homes* *Vale total need: 22,394 homes*	Option C – Using only the standard method *South Ox total need: 12,100 homes* *Vale total need: 12,560 homes*	Option D – Reflecting the Oxfordshire Growth Deal in a new housing needs assessment *No definitive need figure but will be similar to Option B*
SA5 Climate change	-	--	-	--
	The potential to reduce carbon emissions associated with new housing through connectivity with existing transport infrastructure networks will be largely dependent on the location of new housing. However, greater housing numbers carry an increased footprint associated with construction and embodied carbon.			
SA6 Heritage	-	--	-	--
	Generally, the more housing the plan provides for, the greater the potential for impacts to heritage assets particularly in and around urban areas, due to an increased amount of development going on in the districts.			
SA7 Landscape	-	--	-	--
	Generally, the more housing the plan provides for, the greater the potential for landscape impacts associated with development in sensitive areas, particularly within the Green Belt outside of the urban areas.			
SA8 Natural resources	-	--	-	--
	Generally, the more housing the plan provides for, the greater the potential for loss of agricultural land and sterilisation of mineral resource as there is a greater likelihood that land will need to be allocated outside of the urban areas on greenfield land safeguarded for minerals and containing pockets of higher value agricultural land.			
SA9 Housing	+	++	+	++
	The more housing the plan provides for the more homes, including affordable homes, will be created with increasingly positive effects against this sustainability objective.			

SA Objective	Option A – Using the Standard Method, with an increase to allow for existing agreed unmet need from Oxford City ***South Ox total need: 17,050 homes*** ***Vale total need: 14,390 homes***	Option B – Maintain existing levels of housing need ***South Ox total need: 20,450 homes*** ***Vale total need: 22,394 homes***	Option C – Using only the standard method ***South Ox total need: 12,100 homes*** ***Vale total need: 12,560 homes***	Option D – Reflecting the Oxfordshire Growth Deal in a new housing needs assessment ***No definitive need figure but will be similar to Option B***
SA10 Economy	+	++	+	++
	The ability of new housing development to support the vitality and viability of existing town and local centres and stimulate further economic growth, including in deprived areas, will be largely dependent on the location of new housing. However, in most cases increased housing provision will have a positive effect on existing centres as new residents use these existing services.			
SA11 Water resources	-	--	-	--
	Generally, the more housing the plan provides for, the more potential for development in flood zones 2 and 3 and within Source Protection Zones resulting in the potential risk of contamination of groundwater resources during construction works. In addition, increased housing numbers will result in an increased volume of sewage reaching waste water treatment facilities with potential adverse effects associated with sewage discharge into watercourses in the districts.			

Appendix H: High-Level Assessment Site Reports

Accessibility

Appendix H presents a series of high-level assessment tabulated site reports, one for each of the proposed site allocations in the Joint Local Plan. Each report is organised by SEA objective. A series of decision-making criteria sit below each objective with corresponding feature counts determined through GIS analysis. On the basis of these counts, each objective is given a score ranging from strong positive to strong adverse.

A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

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Site ID: AS1		Site Name: Land at Berinsfield Garden Village			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	1		Wally Corner Historic Landfill (some overlap with the site, score assumes no development on the landfill, digitisation error - currently in use as solar farm).
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	1		A4074 - Oxford Road
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		++	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	2		Berinsfield Health Centre (GP) and Dental Surgery
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	10		
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	7		
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	2		Abbey Wood Academy, Berinsfield Early Years Preschool
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300m of the site	2		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		South Oxfordshire 006B
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	4		4 Public Rights of Way
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	8		8 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	4		2 Medical Facilities, 10 Sports and Recreation Facilities, 7 Community Facilities, and 2 Primary Schools
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		South Oxfordshire 006B
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		+/-	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		Local Wildlife Site directly adjacent across Burcot Lane, some potential for indirect effects
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	1		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		Public Rights of Way and 8 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	1		Aerial photography also shows solar farm immediately adjacent to south-east corner of site
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 (SW & NE Corners) & 3 (SW Corner)

Site ID: AS1		Site Name: Land at Berinsfield Garden Village			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		0	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		-	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	1		North Wessex AONB
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	3		Thames, Lower Thame Valley Mineral Resource Area, Mineral Safeguarding Area, and Mineral Consultation Area.
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	1		Wally Corner Historic Landfill (some overlap with the site, score assumes no development on the landfill, digitisation error - currently in use as solar farm).
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary?	Yes		Provisional ALC Grades 1 & 2.
	8.5	Does the site contain areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Does the site contain areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	1700		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		+	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	0		
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	5		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		-	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 (SW & NE Corners) & 3 (SW Corner)
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS2		Site Name: Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (including Culham No.1 site)			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	3		Major Railways, A415 (Abingdon Road)
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	4		Darren's Gym and The Gym (within site boundary), The White Horse Leisure Centre and High Ropes Oxford.
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	1		Culham Community & Recreation Committee
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	3		Culham Science Centre Nursery & Preschool, European Primary and Secondary School
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300m of the site	4		Four open spaces (one within site boundary)
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	3		National Cycle Route #5 & PRoWs
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	4		3 Bus Stops, Culham Train Station
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	3		4 sports /recreation facilities, 1 community centre, 1 primary school, 1 secondary school and 1 preschool
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		+/-	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	3		Culham Brake SSSI, 2 Areas of Ancient Woodland
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	1		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	4		National Cycle Route #5, PRoWs, Culham Train Station, and 3 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	2		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (North end of site), and small area of Flood Zone 2 in southeast

Site ID: AS2		Site Name: Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (including Culham No.1 site)			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		-	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		Culham Station Overbridge and Thame Lane Bridge Grade II ,and Culham Station Ticket Office Grade II* Listed Buildings directly adjacent to the site. Included as indirect impacts.
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	7		5 Grade II, and 1 Grade II* Listed Buildings, and Nuneham Courtenay Grade I Registered Park and Garden
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	1		Nuneham Courtenay Conservation Area directly adjacent to the east of the site.
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	3		Thames and Lower Thame Valleys - Oxford to Cholsey Mineral Consultation, Safeguarding, and Resource Areas
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Both		Site west of railway is greenfield. Site east of railway is part greenfield and part brownfield.
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grades 2 & 3.
	8.5	Does the site contain areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
	8.6	Does the site contain areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	3,500		3 pitches for gypsies and travellers to also be provided
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	4		Abingdon Science Park, Barton Mill in Audlett Drive, Culham Science Centre for Research, Radley Road Industrial Estate
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	Mixed		Site considered for allocation for mixed use, however quantum of employment uses not known at this stage. Culham No.1 site includes 10ha of existing employment land to be retained.
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		--	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (North end of site), and small area of Flood Zone 2 in southeast
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS3		Site Name: Land South of Grenoble Road			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		Adjacent to Oxford City AQMA
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	2		Henley Road and Nuneham Road Historic Landfills
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	1		A4074
Objective 2		To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place		+/-	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	2		Sandford Village Hall Sandford Talking Shop. *No data available for Oxford City*
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	2		2 Open Spaces, one of which is within the site
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		Adjacent to Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys in Oxford City
Objective 3		To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	6		Features in close proximity: Public Rights of Way
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	20		20 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	1		Sandford Village Hall (Community Centre)
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		Adjacent to Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys in Oxford City
Objective 4		To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts		-	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	1		Ancient Woodland
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	1		Local Wildlife Site
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		Public Right of Ways, and 20 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (North Corner)

Site ID: AS3		Site Name: Land South of Grenoble Road			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		-	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	4		2 Grade II, and 1 Grade II* Listed Buildings, and 1 Scheduled Monument
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	2		Henley Road and Nuneham Road Historic Landfills
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 3
	8.5	Does the site contain areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Does the site contain areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	3000		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		+	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	0		
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	10		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		-	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (North Corner)
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS4		Site Name: Land at Northfield			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		Adjacent to Oxford City AQMA
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	1		B480
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		++	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City.*
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	2		Oxford & Horspath Cricket Club, Oxford City Athletics Clubs. *No data available for Oxford City.*
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	2		Horspath Hub and the Village Hall. *No data available for Oxford City.*
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City.*
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300m of the site	0		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		Adjacent to Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys in Oxford City
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	2		Features in close proximity: Public Rights of Way, National Cycle Route #57
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	6		6 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	2		2 Community Centres and 2 Leisure Facilities
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		Adjacent to Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys in Oxford City
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	3		6 Bus Stops, PRoWs, and National Cycle Route #57
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (East Side)

Site ID: AS4		Site Name: Land at Northfield			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		0	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 3
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	1800		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		0	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	0		
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	0		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		--	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (East Side)
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS5		Site Name: Land North of Bayswater Brook			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		Adjacent to Oxford City AQMA
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	1		Wick Farm Historic Landfill
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	2		A40
Objective 2		To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place		+	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300m of the site	8		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		Adjacent to Barton in Oxford City
Objective 3		To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	6		Features in close proximity: Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	16		15 Bus Stops, 1 Transport Hub
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		Adjacent to Barton in Oxford City
Objective 4		To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts		?	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	5		The Osiers, Wick Copse, Sidings Copse Ancient Woodlands, Sidling's Copse and College Pond SSSI
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	1		
Objective 5		To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	3		Public Right of Ways, 15 Bus Stops, 1 Transport Hub
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (south end of the site)

Site ID: AS5		Site Name: Land North of Bayswater Brook			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		--	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	3		2 Grade II, and 1 Grade II* Listed Buildings
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	8		8 Grade II Listed Buildings
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	1		Well House (Wick Farmhouse) Heritage at Risk Feature
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, inclusing mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	1		Wick Farm Historic Landfill
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grades 2 & 3
	8.5	Does the site contain areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Does the site contain areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	1100		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		0	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		*No data available for Oxford City*
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	0		*No data available for Oxford City*
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	0		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		--	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (south end of the site)
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS6		Site Name: Rich's Sidings and Broadway			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	4		B4016 (Broadway & Jubilee Way), Major Railways
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		++	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	2		Busby House Dental Practice & Ladygrove Dental Practice
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	12		12 Leisure Facilities
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	11		11 Community Centres, 1 partially within site boundary
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	5		3 Primary Schools, 2 Secondary School
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	4		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	2		Features in close proximity: NCR # 5 & 544
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	8		7 Bus Stops, Didcot Parkway Train Station
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	5		2 Medical Facilities, 11 Leisure Facilities, 11 Community Centres, 3 Primary Schools, 1 Secondary School
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	3		NCR # 5 & 544, 7 Bus Stops, Didcot Parkway Train Station
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS6		Site Name: Rich's Sidings and Broadway			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	2		Didcot Northbourne Conservation Area, Didcot Station Road Conservation Area
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		-	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	1		North Wessex Downs AONB
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	No		
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	No		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		+	
	9.1	Residential yield	100		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	1		Southmead Industrial Estate East
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	Mixed Use		Site considered for allocation for mixed use, however quantum of employment uses not known at this stage.
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS7		Site Name: Didcot Gateway			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	5		Major Railway Lines
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+/-	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	2		Busby House Dental Practice & Ladygrove Dental Practice
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	11		11 Leisure Facilities, including one within site boundary
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	13		13 Community Centres, including one within site boundary
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	10		7 Primary Schools, 3 Secondary Schools. Lydalls Nursery School within site boundary
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	4		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		South Oxfordshire 010A
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	5		Features in close proximity: NCR #5 & 544 & Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	13		12 Bus Stops, Didcot Parkway Train Station
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	5		2 Healthcare Facilities, 7 Primary Schools, 3 Secondary Schools, 11 Leisure Facilities, 13 Community Centres.
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		South Oxfordshire 010A
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		++	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	4		Features in close proximity: NCR #5 & 544, Public Right of Ways, 12 Bus Stops, Didcot Parkway Train Station
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS7		Site Name: Didcot Gateway			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	14		13 Grade II, 1 Grade II* Listed Buildings
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	2		Didcot Old Conservation Area, and Didcot Station Road Conservation Area
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		-	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	1		North Wessex Downs AONB
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	No		
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		+	
	9.1	Residential yield	200		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		Didcot Power Station, Southmead Industrial Estate East, Southmead Industrial Estate West
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	0		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS8		Site Name: North-West of Grove			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	1		Major Railway
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		++	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	2		Cherrytree Dental Practice and 2 Westbrook Grove
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	1		Grove Library
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	2		The Village Hall, Grove Parish Council
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	6		6 Primary Schools
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	1		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	2		Features in close proximity: Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	3		3 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	4		2 Healthcare Facilities, 2 Community Centres, 6 Primary Schools, 1 Leisure Facility
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		++	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		3 Bus Stops, and Public Right of Ways
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	2		2 Renewable Energy Generation Facilities
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS8		Site Name: North-West of Grove			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	11		11 Grade II Listed Buildings
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	1		Grove Conservation Area
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		--	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 3
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	800		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		+	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		Downsview Road, Grove Technology Park, and Monks Farm Existing Employment Sites
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	0		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS9		Site Name: North West of Valley Park			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	3		A34 & A4130 Major Roads, and Major Railways
Objective 2		To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place		+	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	5		Bowling Club (Milton), Milton Playing Field, Milton United FC, Soll Vale, Max Events (Grove Farm)
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	1		Milton Heights Day Care Centre
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	2		Kid of Wilmslow, and St Blaise C of E Primary Schools
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	0		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	2		Features in close proximity: Public Right Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	8		8 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	3		4 Leisure Facilities, 1 Community Centre, 2 Primary Schools
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		Public Right of Ways and 8 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3

Site ID: AS9		Site Name: North West of Valley Park			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		0	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		-	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 1km of the site	1		North Wessex Downs AONB 1900 m south of the site
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		--	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, inclusing mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 3, and Post 1988 ALC Grade 3a
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	No		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	800		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		+	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	1		Didcot Power Station & Milton Park Employment Sites
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	0		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		-	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS10		Site Name: Dalton Barracks			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		0	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	0		
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	1		Tilsey Park (Abingdon)
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	3		1 Primary School, 2 Secondary Schools
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300m of the site	4		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	1		Features in close proximity: Public Right of Ways (within site)
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	6		6 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	3		1 Primary School, 2 Secondary School, 1 Leisure Facility
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		--	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	1		Cothill Fen SAC
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	4		Dry Sandford Pit SSSI directly adjacent (North end of site), Barrow Farm Fen SSSI, Cothill Fen SSSI, 1 stand of Ancient Woodland
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	1		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		Public Right of Ways, 6 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		Flood Zones 2 & 3 directly adjacent to the site boundary (west)

Site ID: AS10		Site Name: Dalton Barracks			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	14		14 Grade II Listed Buildings
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	1		Corallian Ridge - Oxford to Faringdon Mineral Consultation Area
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield & Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 3
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	2,750		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		Ashville Trading Estate and Nuffield Way, Drayton Road Industrial Estate, Fitzharris Trading Estate
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	Unknown		Mixed uses proposed onsite although employment use unknown at this stage.
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		Flood Zones 2 & 3 borders the site to the west
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS16		Site Name: Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Benson Lane - Site of former district council offices			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	1		RAF Benson
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		++	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	2		Castles Osteopathic & Natural Heath Clinic, Dental Surgery (25 St Mary Street)
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	11		11 Leisure Facilities
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	5		5 Community Centres
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	3		Crowmarsh Gifford C of E Primary School, Virginia Chell Academy of Dance & and Wallingford Secondary School
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	6		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	4		Features in close proximity: Public Right of Ways, NCR #5
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	3		3 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	5		11 Leisure Facilities, 5 Community Centres, 1 Primary School, 2 Secondary Schools, 2 Healthcare Facilities
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	3		3 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	2		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	1		Flood Zone 2 (west half of site)

Site ID: AS16		Site Name: Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Benson Lane - Site of former district council offices			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	27		2 Grade I, 23 Grade II, and 2 Grade II* Listed Buildings
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	1		Wallingford Conservation Area
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	2		Motte of Wallingford Castle & Remains of St Nicholas' College Heritage at Risk Features
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		--	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	2		North Wessex Downs and Chilterns AONBs
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, inclusing mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 2
	8.5	Does the site contain areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	No		
	8.6	Does the site contain areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	75		If allocated for residential use it is likely to have capacity for 75 homes or alternatively option to allocate for specialist housing (quantum unknown)
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		0	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	0		
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	Unknown		Site of previous Council offices. Option to allocate for employment use, quantum unknown at this stage.
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		-	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	1		Flood Zone 2 (west half of site)
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: HOU2w		Site Name: North-West of Abingdon-on-Thames			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	2		A34 & B4017
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		++	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	1		Long Furlong Medic Centre
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	5		5 Leisure Facilities
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	4		Scout Group Hall, Northcourt Centre, Meeting Rooms Adjacent to Christ Church, Long Furlong Community Hall.
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	7		3 Primary Schools, 4 Secondary Schools
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	0		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	2		Features in close proximity: Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	8		8 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	5		3 Primary School, 4 Secondary Schools, 2 Medical Facilities, 5 Leisure Facilities and 4 Community Centres
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		Public Right of Ways, 8 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3

Site ID: HOU2w		Site Name: North-West of Abingdon-on-Thames			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		0	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		--	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grades 2 & 3
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	No		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		+	
	9.1	Residential yield	200		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		Ashville Trading Estate and Nuffield Way, Fitzharris Trading Estate, Radley Road Industrial Estate
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	0		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		--	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		Flood Zones 2 & 3 (North Corner of the Site)
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: HOU2e		Site Name: Vauxhall Barracks			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	6		A4130, B4493 (Foxhall Road), Major Railways
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		++	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	2		Didcot Dental Access Centre and Woodlands Medical Centre
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	12		12 Leisure Facilities
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	11		11 Community Centres
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	5		4 Primary Schools, 1 Secondary School
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	10		7 Open Spaces, one of which is within the site
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		South Oxfordshire 010A
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	6		Features in close proximity: NCR #5, Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	9		8 Bus Stops, 1 Train Stations
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	5		2 Healthcare Facilities, 12 Leisure Facilities, 11 Community Centres, 4 Primary School, 1 Secondary School
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		South Oxfordshire 010A
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	4		8 Bus Stops, NCR #5, Public Right of Ways, 1 Train Station
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: HOU2e		Site Name: Vauxhall Barracks			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	15		14 Grade II & 1 Grade II* Listed Buildings
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	1		Didcot Old Conservation Area
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	No		
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		+	
	9.1	Residential yield	300		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		+	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		Didcot Power Station (East & West), Southmead Industrial Estate (East & West)
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	0		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: n/a		Site Name: Dalton Barracks Reasonable Alternative - boundary as per the adopted Local Plan			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		0	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	0		
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	3		1 Primary School, 2 Secondary Schools
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300m of the site	2		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	1		Features in close proximity: Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	4		4 Bus Stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	3		1 Primary School, 2 Secondary Schools
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		?	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	1		Barrow Farm Fen SSSI
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	1		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		Public Right of Ways, 4 Bus Stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		Flood Zones 2 & 3 directly adjacent to the site boundary (west)

Site ID: n/a		Site Name: Dalton Barracks Reasonable Alternative - boundary as per the adopted Local Plan			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	11		11 Grade II Listed Buildings
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	1		Corallian Ridge - Oxford to Faringdon Mineral Consultation Area
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		Airstrip
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 3
	8.5	Has areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
	8.6	Has areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services?	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		++	
	9.1	Residential yield	1,200		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	Unassessed		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		Ashville Trading Estate and Nuffield Way, Drayton Road Industrial Estate, Fitzharris Trading Estate
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	Unknown		Mixed uses proposed onsite although employment use unknown at this stage.
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		Flood Zones 2 & 3 borders the site to the west
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS11		Site Name: Culham Science Centre			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	2		A415 & Major Railways
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+/-	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	7		7 Sports / Recreation Facilities
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	2		
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	3		Clifton Hampden Pre-School & Primary School, Culham Science Centre Nursery & Pre-School.
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	3		1 Large Open Space within the western side of the site
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	3		Features in close proximity: Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	5		4 Bus Stops, Culham Train Station
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	3		3 Primary Schools, and 7 Leisure Facilities
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		++	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	3		3 Bus Stops, Culham Train Station, and Public Right of Ways
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	1		1 Renewable Energy Generation Facility directly adjacent to the south-east of the site.
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		?	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	13		10 Grade II, and 1 Grade II* Listed Buildings, 1 Registered Parks and Gardens, and 1 Scheduled Monument
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	1		Chalgrove Conservation Area

Site ID: AS11		Site Name: Culham Science Centre			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		**0**	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 1km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		**+/-**	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	1		Thames and Lower Thame Valleys - Oxford to Cholsey Mineral Consultation Area in the southern portion of the site.
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	No		
	8.5	Number of areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
	8.6	Number of areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		**0**	
	9.1	Residential yield	0		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		**+**	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	0		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	1		The entire site is considered an existing employment site.
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	2.3		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		**0**	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS12		Site Name: Harwell Campus			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	2		A34 and A4185
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+/-	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	3		Aquarius Holistic Therapy Centre, Harwell Dental Practice, Mary Lyon Centre
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	8		8 Leisure Facilities
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	2		Chilton Field Community Room, and Village Hall (Chilton)
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	3		Chilton CP School, Kids of Wilmslow Ltd, Workplace Nursery - Rutherford Appleton Laboratory
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	6		5 Open Spaces within the site, and 1 nearby outside of the site.
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	12		Features in close proximity: Cycle Routes and Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	8		7 Bus Stops either within or directly bordering the site, an additional 1 within 400 m of the site.
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	4		3 Healthcare Facilities, 8 Leisure Facilities, 2 Community Centres, and 3 Primary Schools.
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	2		1 National Cycle Route, and Public Right of Ways.
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: AS12		Site Name: Harwell Campus			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		-	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	3		Milestone Grade II Listed Building directly bordering the site. 2 Scheduled Monuments
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		-	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	1		North Wessex Downs AONB
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Urban and Grade 2 Provisonal ALC
	8.5	Number of areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
	8.6	Number of areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		0	
	9.1	Residential yield	0		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		+	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	0		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	1		The entire site is considered an existing employment site.
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	93		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: JT1b		Site Name: Milton Park Employment Site			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	3		A34 and A4130, and Major Railways
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+/-	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	5		5 Leisure Facilities
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	1		Milton Heights Day Care Centre
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	4		Kids of Wilmslow, St Blaise C of E Primary School, Sutton Courtenay Primary School, Sutton Pre School
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	1		1 Open Space within the site. 4 Open Spaces within 400 m of the site.
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		++	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	8		Features in close proximity: National Cycle Route #5, and Public Right of Ways
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	17		13 Bus Stops within the site boundary, 4 within 400m
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	3		5 Leisure Facilities, 1 Community Centre, 4 Primary Schools
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	3		17 Bus Stops, 1 National Cycle Route, and Public Right of Ways
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		A small fringe of Flood Zones 2 & 3 are along Moor Ditch on the northern border, and north-east corner of the site.

Site ID: JT1b		Site Name: Milton Park Employment Site			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		-	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	19		1 Grade I, 15 Grade II, and 2 Grade II* Listed Buildings, 1 Scheduled Monument directly adjacent, forms the north-east border of the site.
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	1		4 buildings in the northwest corner of the proposed site fall within a conservation area.
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	1		Milton Manor House Grade I Listed Building
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		0	
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	0		
Objective 8		**To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)**		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Brownfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Post 1988 ALC Grades 3a, 3b and Other, and Provisional ALC Grades Urban, and Grade 2.
	8.5	Number of areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
	8.6	Number of areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
Objective 9		**To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing**		0	
	9.1	Residential yield	0		
Objective 10		**To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future**		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	0		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	2		The entire site is considered an existing employment site. Additionally, the Didcot Power Station is within 1500 m of the site.
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	14		
Objective 11		**To achieve sustainable water resource management**		-	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		A small fringe of Flood Zones 2 & 3 are along Moor Ditch on the northern border, and north-east corner of the site.
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: JT1a		Site Name: Southmead Industrial Estate			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		-	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	4		A4130 and Didcot to Oxford railway line
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		+	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	2		
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	0		
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	0		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		+	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	5		Cycle Route #5 and 4 PRoWs
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	4		4 bus stops
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	1		
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	Yes		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		0	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	0		
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	Unassessed		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		+/-	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	3		Cycle route, PRoW and bus stops
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		FZ2 and 3
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		0	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	1		Grade II listed train shed
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		-	

Site ID: JT1a		Site Name: Southmead Industrial Estate			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	1		North Wessex Downs AONB
Objective 8		To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)		+/-	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	1		Thames and Lower Thame Valleys - Oxford to Cholsey Mineral Consultation Area
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Greenfield		
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	No		
	8.5	Number of areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	1		
	8.6	Number of areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	2		
Objective 9		To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing		0	
	9.1	Residential yield	0		
Objective 10		To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	0		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	2.66		
Objective 11		To achieve sustainable water resource management		-	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	2		FZ2 and 3
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Site ID: JT1c		Site Name: Grove Technology Park			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
Objective 1		**To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water**		0	
	1.1	Number of AQMAs directly impacted by the site	0		
	1.2	Number of potential sources of water pollution directly impacted by the site, including historic landfills and areas of contaminated land	0		
	1.3	Number of major sources of noise pollution in proximity to the site, including the strategic road network, major railway lines and RAF Benson	0		
Objective 2		**To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place**		0	
	2.1	Number of healthcare facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.2	Number of sports and recreation facilities within 800m of the site	1		The First Drop Health & Fitness within site boundary
	2.3	Number of community facilities within 800m of the site	0		
	2.4	Number of primary and / or secondary schools within walking distance of the site	0		
	2.5	Number of open spaces within 300 m of the site	0		
	2.6	Does the site fall within walking distance of the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 3		**To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel**		0	
	3.1	Number of national cycle routes or Public Rights of Way in close proximity to the site	1		Features in close proximity: 1 PRoW
	3.2	Number of bus stops, train stations and transport hubs within walking distance of the site	0		
	3.3	Number of categories of essential facilities within walking distance of the site (out of a possible five from the following: including primary schools, secondary schools, healthcare facilities, leisure centres and community centres)	1		
	3.4	Does the site fall within the most deprived areas in the Districts?	No		
Objective 4		**To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts**		?	
	4.1	Number of international ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (Ramsar & SAC)	0		
	4.2	Number of national ecological designations indirectly impacted by the site (SSSI, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland)	1		Woodhill Copse Ancient Woodland
	4.3	Number of local ecological or geological designations directly impacted by the site (Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites)	0		
	4.4	Number of priority habitats directly impacted by the site	0		
	4.5	Number of Conservation Target Areas within 100m of the site	0		
Objective 5		**To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change**		0	
	5.1	Number of categories of connections to the sustainable transport network in close proximity to the site (out of a possible five from the following: cycle routes, public rights of way, bus stops, train stations and transport hubs)	1		PRoW
	5.2	Number of existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site	0		
	5.3	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
Objective 6		**To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts**		0	
	6.1	Number of nationally designated heritage features directly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.2	Number of nationally designated heritage features indirectly impacted by the site (listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, battlefields and scheduled monuments)	0		
	6.3	Number of locally designated heritage assets directly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.4	Number of locally designated heritage assets indirectly impacted by the site (local heritage assets and conservation areas)	0		
	6.5	Number of heritage at risk features indirectly impacted by the site	0		
Objective 7		**To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality**		-	

Site ID: JT1c		Site Name: Grove Technology Park			
SA Objective			Number	Score	Comments
	7.1	Number of AONBs within 2km of the site	1		North Wessex Downs AONB
Objective 8		To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)		0	
	8.1	Number of mineral designations within the site boundary, including mineral resource areas, mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas	0		
	8.2	Number of areas of contaminated land and / or historic landfills within the site presenting opportunities for remediation	0		
	8.3	Greenfield or brownfield site	Both		Northern part of the site is greenfield whilst southern half is brownfield
	8.4	ALC provisional OR post-1988 Grades 1, 2 or 3 wholly or partially within site boundary.	Yes		Provisional ALC Grade 3
	8.5	Number of areas of high natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	No		
	8.6	Number of areas of low natural capital value for regulating and cultural ecosystem services	Yes		
Objective 9		To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing		0	
	9.1	Residential yield	0		
Objective 10		To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future		++	
	10.1	Number of centres (town / local) within 1,500m of the site	0		
	10.2	Number of existing employment sites within 1,500 m of the site	3		
	10.3	Employment land provision (ha)	5.4ha		
Objective 11		To achieve sustainable water resource management		0	
	11.1	Number of areas of flood zone 2 or 3 wholly or partially within the site	0		
	11.2	Number of Source Protection Zones (SPZ) wholly or partially within the site	0		

Appendix I: High-Level Assessment Summary

Accessibility

Appendix I presents a tabulated summary of the high-level assessment site scores. Each proposed site allocation is represented by a row in the table. Alongside it is a summary of the score for SEA objective.

A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan Site Allocation Options			SEA Objective									
			SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11
	Policy no.	Name											
	AS1	Land at Berinsfield Garden Village	-	++	++	+/-	+/-	0	-	+/-	++	+	-
	AS2	Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre	-	+	++	+/-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	++	--
	AS3	Land South of Grenoble Road	-	+/-	++	-	+/-	-	0	+/-	++	+	-
	AS4	Land at Northfield, Edge of Oxford	-	++	++	0	+/-	0	0	+/-	++	0	--
	AS5	Land North of Bayswater Brook	-	+	++	?	+/-	--	0	+/-	++	0	--
	AS6	Rich's Sidings and Broadway	-	++	++	0	+	?	-	+	+	++	0
	AS7	Didcot Gateway	-	+/-	++	0	++	?	-	+	+	++	0
	AS8	Northwest of Grove	-	++	++	0	++	?	0	--	++	+	0
	AS9	Northwest of Valley Park	-	+	++	0	+/-	0	-	--	++	+	-
	AS10	Dalton Barracks	0	+	++	--	+	?	0	+/-	++	++	0
	n/a	Dalton Barracks reasonable alternative (boundary as per the adopted Vale plan)	0	+	++	?	+	?	0	+/-	++	++	0
	AS16	Land at Crowmarsh Gifford	-	++	++	0	+/-	?	--	+/-	++	0	-
	HOU2w	Northwest of Abingdon-on-Thames	-	++	++	0	+/-	0	0	--	+	++	--
	HOU2e	Vauxhall Barracks	-	++	++	0	+	?	0	+	+	+	0
	AS11	Culham Science Centre (employment site)	-	+/-	++	0	++	?	0	+/-	0	+	0
	AS12	Harwell Campus (employment site)	-	+/-	++	0	+	-	-	+/-	0	+	0
	JT1b	Milton Park (employment site)	-	+/-	++	0	+/-	-	0	+/-	0	++	-
	JT1a	Southmead Industrial Estate (employment site)	-	+	+	0	+/-	0	-	+/-	0	++	-
	JT1c	Grove Technology Park (employment site)	0	0	0	?	0	0	-	0	0	++	0

	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix
++	Significant positive effects likely
+	Minor positive effect
+/-	Mixed minor effects likely
-	Minor negative effects likely
--	Significant negative effect likely
0	Negligible effect likely
?	Likely effect uncertain

	SEA Objectives
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.

Appendix J: Detailed Assessment Matrices

Accessibility

Appendix J presents a series of detailed assessment matrices, one for each of the proposed site allocations in the Joint Local Plan. Each matrix is organised by SEA objective. For each SEA objective, a description of the predicted effects associated with the construction and operation of residential and / or employment development on the site allocation is provided. The following parameters of the predicted effects are also set out: duration; frequency; temporary or permanent; geographic description; level of certainty that the effect will be realised; significance of effect; and whether the effect is positive, negative or mixed. Finally, proposed mitigation is described for each SEA objective.

A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS1: Berinsfield Garden Village

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the west in Berinsfield. During operation, noise, air and light pollution are possible for existing residents. The south-eastern site boundary extends into the Wally Corner Historic Landfill, however, it is expected that development will avoid the landfill area itself and therefore avoid any potential for contamination effects to construction workers, future residents and to groundwater. The site is also within 250m of the A4074 (Oxford Road) which is predicted to serve as a noise and air pollution source for new residents, but only in the south-west corner of the site. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include two open spaces, two medical facilities, a variety of sports / recreation facilities and community centres, and two primary schools. Additionally, one primary school is expected to be delivered on-site, with contributions to the existing nearby schools, and a future secondary school off-site. Together, there is a robust network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. The site is also located in proximity to some of the most deprived areas in the districts impacting positively on these communities. Overall moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport with eight bus stops in close proximity, although these appear to all be associated with a single, potentially low frequency route around Berinsfield. Two PRoWs (one of which dissects the site) are also within walking distance. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. In addition, the site allocation policy provides for new high quality infrastructure to facilitate walking and cycling, although the site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. The site is also located in proximity to some of the most deprived areas within the districts, which is predicted to have positive regenerative effects for communities here. Overall, the site is considered to have moderate accessibility and minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS1: Berinsfield Garden Village

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
SEA Objectives	4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly in agricultural use. Boundary hedgerows and small pockets of woodland may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. The site is directly adjacent to a Local Wildlife Site to the south across Burcot Lane. Indirect impacts are possible as a result of light or disturbance, although the lakes are already in recreational use and therefore already likely to be subject to high levels of disturbance. The LWS forms part of a wider conservation target area where targeted conservation action will have the greatest benefit, and habitat creation as part of the proposals could provide connectivity to this area. The site allocation policy requires a net gain in biodiversity to be delivered as part of the proposals. Negligible mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats. New planting proposals should seek to tie into the existing ecological areas to the south and maximise opportunities for connectivity.
	5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is of a sufficient scale and is allocated for a mix of uses such that a district heat network could be considered but this is unknown at this stage; any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. There is a solar farm directly to the south of the site boundary which may present opportunities for direct connection (private wire). The south-west corner of the site falls in both flood zones 2 & 3. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall minor mixed effects are predicted, with more adverse effects during the construction phase.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS1: Berinsfield Garden Village

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	There are no designated heritage features in proximity to the site and therefore neutral heritage effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site falls within 2 km of the North Wessex Downs AONB and given the topography of the land, particularly around Little Wittenham, there is considered to be some potential for adverse landscape / visual effects. The extent of any effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward and would need to be confirmed by site specific landscape studies. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will also be dependent scale, layout and massing. Overall there is considered to be potential for adverse landscape effects.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Medium	Low	Minor	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required as part of the planning application to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features, particularly the AONB.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is greenfield and is predominantly designated as provisional ALC Grade 2, with small section of Grade 1 along the eastern most part of the site. Therefore development of the site will result in the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land during construction. The entire site forms part of the Thames & Lower Thame Valleys Mineral Consultation Area, Safeguarding Area, and Resource Area. Deposits of sand and gravel here could be sterilised if not extracted prior to development. Whilst there are pockets of land within the site with high natural capital for regulating and cultural ecosystem services coinciding with the woodland and waterbody features, the majority is of low value for natural capital. Therefore potential losses of natural capital associated with development of the site are considered to be comparatively low with opportunities for improvement. Moderate negative effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	--	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	1,700 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided, and supporting services and facilities. Moderate positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	High	Moderate	Positive	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS1: Berinsfield Garden Village

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for 5 ha of employment land on-site contributing positively to the districts' overall employment land needs. There are no existing employment sites within 1,500m of the site. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. Approximately 10% of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3. Development in this area will increase the risk of flooding downstream. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS2: Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (including Culham No. 1 site)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby students and staff at Europa School UK to the southwest, and existing nearby residents to the east. The site is also in close proximity to the A415 (Abingdon Road) and the railway which could serve as noise and air pollution sources for new residents, especially in the south of the site. The River Thames runs along the northern site boundary which provides a surface water pathway to the local wildlife site to the north. Water pollution during construction is therefore a risk. Overall, minor negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include four sports / recreation facilities (two of which are within the Culham No. 1 site boundary), one community centre, one primary / secondary school (immediately adjacent) and one preschool associated with the science centre. Additionally, the site policy provides for two onsite primary schools and one onsite secondary school with sixth form, with appropriate contributions towards Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND), as well sufficient healthcare capacity (likely one new GP surgery). There are three areas of open space within 300m of the site. Culham Park Mx also falls within the site boundary. Overall there is considered to be a robust network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. Minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport: Culham train station is immediately to the south-east of the main site providing direct connections to Didcot and Oxford; three bus stops are within walking distance of the site, including two along the Abingdon Road; and National Cycle Route #5 and two PRoWs (one of which dissects the site) are also within walking distance. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. In addition, the site allocation policy provides for new high quality infrastructure to facilitate walking and cycling, although the site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have good accessibility and moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access to Culham Train Station.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS2: Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (including Culham No. 1 site)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly in agricultural use. Boundary hedgerows may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. The site is directly adjacent to a Local Wildlife Site to the north across the River Thames. Indirect impacts are possible as a result of light or disturbance, although the scale of impact will be dependent on the layout of the development and nature of the works. The LWS forms part of a wider conservation target area where targeted conservation action will have the greatest benefit, and habitat creation as part of the proposals could provide connectivity to this area. The Culham Brake SSSI and associated Ancient Woodland have the potential to be negatively affected by development, especially during construction, although this will be dependent on the nature and scale of works / development. The site allocation policy requires a net gain in biodiversity to be delivered as part of the proposals. Minor mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats. New planting proposals should seek to tie into the existing ecological areas to the north and maximise opportunities for connectivity.
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is of a sufficient scale and is allocated for a mix of uses such that a district heat network could be considered but this is unknown at this stage; any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. There are two existing renewable energy generation facilities within 2km of the site but these are small and are not predicted to present opportunities for direct connection. The northernmost section of the site falls in both flood zones 2 & 3 and there is an additional small section of flood zone 2 in the southeast. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall moderate mixed effects are predicted, with more adverse effects during the construction phase.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS2: Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (including Culham No. 1 site)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500m of 5 Grade II Listed Buildings and 1 Grade II* Listed Building (Culham station ticket office and waiting room). The features associated with the railway are less likely to suffer setting impacts, but the setting of the Europa school to the west may be impacted. Nuneham Courtenay Grade I Registered Park and Garden/ conservation area is immediately to the east of the site and there is potential for setting impacts associated with views towards the development depending on scale and massing. Overall, minor adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement may be required to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore it is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is greenfield and is designated as provisional ALC Grades 2 & 3, with the highest quality Grade 2 land located in the north-west corner. Therefore development of the site may result in the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land during construction. The southern half of the site forms part of the Thames & Lower Thame Valleys Mineral Consultation Area, Safeguarding Area, and Resource Area. Deposits of sand and gravel here could be sterilised if not extracted prior to development. Whilst there are pockets of land within the site with high natural capital for regulating and cultural ecosystem services coinciding with the woodland and waterbody features, the majority is of low value for natural capital. Therefore potential losses of natural capital associated with development of the site are considered to be comparatively low with opportunities for improvement. Moderate negative effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	--	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS2: Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (including Culham No. 1 site)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	3,500 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided, as well as three pitches for gypsies and travellers, and supporting services and facilities. Major positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Operation	Local	High	High	Major	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for employment land, the quantum of which has not yet been finalised, but this contribute to the districts' overall employment land needs. The Culham No. 1 site comprises 10ha of existing employment land which policy AS2 proposes to be retained for employment uses and optimised. The site is also adjacent to the Culham Science Centre a major existing employment site, and three further existing employment sites in Abingdon are within 1,500m. Moderate positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. Approximately 20% of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3. Development in this area will increase the risk of flooding downstream. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS3: Land south of Grenoble Road, Edge of Oxford

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents north of Grenoble Road. The western end of the site runs along the A4074 which is could serve as a noise and air pollution source for new residents, especially in the west of the site. The site is immediately adjacent to the Oxford City AQMA, therefore new residents could be exposed to areas of poor air quality. There are two small historic landfills within the site boundaries and therefore there is potential for contamination effects during construction, and new residents could be exposed to areas of contamination once the scheme is operational if remediation is not carried out appropriately. Overall, minor negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are two community centres within walking distance of the site. There are no healthcare or sports / recreation facilities or schools within walking distance of the site*. However the site allocation policy makes provision for onsite primary and secondary schools with the ability to expand to meet future needs, and appropriate contributions towards Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND). There is one accessible open space in walking distance from the site, and another within the site boundary. The site is immediately adjacent to two of the most deprived areas in Oxford City (Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys) and therefore development could have positive regenerative effects for these communities. Overall moderate positive effects are predicted. **Note no data was available at the time of assessment regarding the location of healthcare facilities, sports / recreation facilities or schools within Oxford City.*	-	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS3: Land south of Grenoble Road, Edge of Oxford

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network. There are 20 bus stops in close proximity within Blackbird Weys although it appears that not all of these have high-frequency of services. The site is within walking distance of limited essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site allocation policy does however provide for new high quality infrastructure to facilitate walking and cycling, a new transport hub onsite, and improvements to the bus services, although the site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have moderate accessibility and minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access into Oxford.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly in agricultural use. Boundary hedgerows and small pockets of woodland may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. The Sandford Brake local wildlife site is directly adjacent to the east and encroaches into the site boundary in the south-east corner. Whilst the site allocation policy provides for an extension to this woodland, adverse disturbance effects, and small losses of the LWS, are possible. Additionally, there is one area of Ancient Woodland 375 m east of the site, albeit very small. The site allocation policy requires a net gain in biodiversity to be delivered as part of the proposals. Negligible adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS3: Land south of Grenoble Road, Edge of Oxford

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is of a sufficient scale and is allocated for a mix of uses such that a district heat network could be considered but this is unknown at this stage; any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. It is noted that land to the south has been approved for a solar farm (P20/S4360/FUL) and then opportunities for a direct connection should be explored. There is a very small section of flood zone 2 and 3 in the north of the site. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall minor mixed effects are predicted, with more adverse effects during the construction phase.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500m of two Grade II and one Grade II* Listed Buildings, and one Scheduled Monument. The closest feature is the Michery Farmhouse (GII*) on the northern side of Grenoble Road. Whilst setting impacts are possible, the setting looks to already be partially compromised by surrounding industrial uses. The site allocation policy makes provision for protection of its setting through sensitive planting. The Scheduled Monument to the south-west is a pottery site with ring-ditches and ridge and furrow. Setting impacts are unlikely. Overall negligible negative effects are predicted.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Regional	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement may be required to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore it is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS3: Land south of Grenoble Road, Edge of Oxford

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is greenfield and is designated predominantly as provisional ALC Grades 3. Therefore development of the site may result in the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land during construction. There are two historic landfills within the site (Henley Road and Nuneham Road) which present opportunities for remediation. Whilst there are pockets of land within the site with high natural capital for regulating and cultural ecosystem services, the majority is of low value for natural capital. Therefore potential losses of natural capital associated with development of the site are considered to be comparatively low with opportunities for improvement. Minor mixed are predicted.	+/-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	3,000 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided (1,400 within plan period), and supporting services and facilities. Major positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	High	Major	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for 10 ha of employment land on-site contributing positively to the districts' overall employment land needs. There are existing employment sites adjoining the site in Oxford City. Moderate positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. Approximately 20% of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3. Development in this area will increase the risk of flooding downstream. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:		Negative	Positive
	Positive effect	+		Severe		Optimal
	Neutral effect	0		Major		Major
	Negative effect	-		Moderate		Moderate
	Major negative effect	--		Minor		Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-		Negligible		Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?		Mixed		

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS4: Land at Northfield

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the north. The Watlington Road (B480) runs along the western boundary of the site which could serve as a noise and air pollution source for new residents in the western portion of the site. The site is immediately adjacent to the Oxford City AQMA, therefore new residents could be exposed to areas of poor air quality. There are no other identified sources of potential pollution within the site boundary. Overall, negligible adverse effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are two sport / leisure facilities and two community centres within walking distance of the site*. There are no health care facilities, open spaces or schools within walking distance however there is provision for an onsite primary school, and appropriate contributions towards offsite secondary school and Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) within the site allocation policy. The site is immediately adjacent to two of the most deprived areas in Oxford City (Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys) and therefore development could have positive regenerative effects for these communities. Overall moderate positive effects are predicted with respect to health and wellbeing. **Note no data was available at the time of assessment regarding the location of healthcare facilities, sports / recreation facilities or schools within Oxford City.*	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network. There are six bus stops nearby, served by two routes, one of which appears to have one or less services an hour. There are also several PRoWs and a National Cycle Route #57 in close proximity. The site is within walking distance of limited essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site allocation policy does provide for new high quality infrastructure to facilitate walking and cycling, and improvements to the bus services within the site, and infrastructure for the bus routes offsite. Overall, the site is considered to have moderate accessibility and minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access into Oxford.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS4: Land at Northfield

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly in agricultural use. Boundary hedgerows and small pockets of woodland may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. There are no formal ecological designations in and around the site. The site allocation policy requires a net gain in biodiversity to be delivered as part of the proposals. Neutral effects are predicted overall.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is of a sufficient scale and is allocated for a mix of uses such that a district heat network could be considered but this is unknown at this stage; any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. The southern part of the site falls within flood zone 2 and 3. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall moderate mixed effects are predicted, with more adverse effects during the construction phase.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is located more than 500m from any nationally designated heritage assets, more than 100m from any locally designated assets, and more than 300m from a conservation area. Therefore neutral heritage effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore it is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS4: Land at Northfield

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is greenfield and is designated predominantly as provisional ALC Grades 3. Therefore development of the site may result in the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land during construction. The majority of the site is of low value for natural capital and regulating and cultural ecosystem services. Therefore potential losses of natural capital are considered to be comparatively low with opportunities for improvement. Minor mixed effects are predicted.	-	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	1,800 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided, and supporting services and facilities. Moderate positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	High	Moderate	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy does not provide for any employment land on-site. There are existing employment sites adjoining the site in Oxford City. Negligible positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	0	0	Initial	Construction	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. Less than 5% of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3. Development in this area will increase the risk of flooding downstream. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS5: Land North of Bayswater Brook

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the north. The A40 runs adjacent to the south west corner of the site which could serve as a noise and air pollution source for new residents in the western portion of the site. The site is immediately adjacent to the Oxford City AQMA, therefore new residents could be exposed to areas of poor air quality. Wick Farm historic landfill site falls within the site boundary therefore there is potential for contamination effects during construction, and new residents could be exposed to areas of contamination once the scheme is operational if remediation is not carried out appropriately. Overall, minor adverse effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are no identified healthcare, community or sports / recreational facilities within walking distance of the site*. However, the site allocation policy makes provision for a new primary school, including early year, and appropriate contributions towards an offsite secondary school and Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND). There are nine existing areas of open space within 300m of the site. The site is immediately adjacent to one of the most deprived areas in Oxford City (Barton) and therefore development could have positive regenerative effects for these communities. Overall minor positive effects are predicted with respect to health and wellbeing. **Note no data was available at the time of assessment regarding the location of healthcare facilities, sports / recreation facilities or schools within Oxford City.*	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network. There are 13 bus stops to the south in Barton. There are also several PRoWs dissecting the south from north to south. The site is within walking distance of limited essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site allocation policy does provide for new high quality infrastructure to facilitate walking and cycling and public transport connections. Overall, the site is considered to have moderate accessibility and minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access into Oxford.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS5: Land North of Bayswater Brook

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly in agricultural use. Boundary hedgerows and small pockets of woodland may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. There are no formal ecological designations within the site boundary but the Sidlings Copse and College Pond SSSI and associated ancient woodland is immediately adjacent to the north. The site allocation policy requires development to ensure no demonstrative negative effects to this area as well a net gain in biodiversity to be delivered as part of the proposals. The whole area to the north forms part of a wider conservation target area where targeted conservation action will have the greatest benefit, and habitat creation as part of the proposals could provide connectivity to this area. Moderate mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Ongoing	Permanent	National	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Mixed	Yes	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats. New planting proposals should seek to tie into the existing ecological areas to the north and maximise opportunities for connectivity.
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is of a sufficient scale and is allocated for a mix of uses such that a district heat network could be considered but this is unknown at this stage; any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. The southern part of the site falls within flood zone 2 and 3. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall moderate mixed effects are predicted, with more adverse effects during the construction phase.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS5: Land North of Bayswater Brook

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	There are two Grade II and one Grade II* listed buildings within the site boundary on the western side of the caravan park associated with Wick Farm buildings. The site allocation policy makes provision for a schedule of works to the Grade II Wick Farm Farmhouse just beyond the site boundary. The settings of two other Grade II listed buildings, one at Barton Fields and Stowford Farmhouse, may be impacted depending on the layout and scale of the development and any landscaping works. The site allocation policy also recognises potential archaeological assets within the site boundary. Overall, moderate negative heritage effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement should be prepared to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore it is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is greenfield and is designated as provisional ALC Grades 2 & 3. Therefore development of the site may result in the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land during construction. The site does not fall within any areas designated for minerals. Whilst there are pockets of land within the site with high natural capital for regulating and cultural ecosystem services coinciding with woodland features, the majority is of low value for natural capital. Therefore potential losses of natural capital associated with development of the site are considered to be comparatively low with opportunities for improvement. Minor mixed effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	1,100 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided, and supporting services and facilities. Moderate positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	High	Moderate	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy does not provide for any employment land on-site. There are existing employment sites adjoining the site in Oxford City. Negligible positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	0		Initial	Construction	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS5: Land North of Bayswater Brook

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. Less than 10% of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3 along the southern boundary. Development in this area will increase the risk of flooding downstream. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:		Negative	Positive
	Positive effect	+		Severe		Optimal
	Neutral effect	0		Major		Major
	Negative effect	-		Moderate		Moderate
	Major negative effect	--		Minor		Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-		Negligible		Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?		Mixed		

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS6: Rich's Sidings and Broadway

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents, particularly to the south and west. The site is also in close proximity to a major railway line and the B4016 (Broadway and Jubilee Way) which are predicted to serve as noise and air pollution sources for new residents. Overall, minor negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include two medical facilities, twelve sports / recreation facilities, and eleven community centres (one of which is within the site boundary), three primary schools, and two secondary schools. Finally, there are is one accessible area of open space on the southern side of the railway. Together, there is a robust network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. Overall, moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is well located with respect to existing modes of sustainable transport, with Didcot Parkway Train Station, seven bus stops and National Cycle Routes #5 & 544 within walking distance. The bus stops are served by various and frequent bus services. The site is within walking distance of numerous key facilities as set out for SA2. Overall, moderate positive effects are expected.	0	++	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	No	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access to Didcot Parkway.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is brownfield and currently in industrial use. There are no international, national, or local ecological designations in and around the site. Given the existing use and lack of ecological features there are opportunities for biodiversity enhancement within the site. Overall, negligible positive effects are predicted in the long term.	-	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Positive	Yes	New urban habitats should be created via landscaping plans maximising ecological network opportunity areas as far as possible.
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase although given the size of development proposed contributions will be relatively small. The site is well located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. A small area of the site to the north falls within flood zone 2 and 3. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Minor mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS6: Rich's Sidings and Broadway

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The Didcot Northbourne Conservation Area is immediately south of the site across Broadway. The extent of any impacts to setting will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. The Station Road Conservation Area to the west is likely to be subject to setting impacts due to intervening development. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement may be required to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located within 2 km (~925 m at the nearest point) of the North Wessex Downs AONB. However, given the location of the site and existing uses it is considered that landscape impacts to the AONB will be minimal. The extent of any effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. In the short term during construction, construction equipment may result in temporary adverse landscape and visual effects. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required as part of the planning application to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is brownfield and doesn't contain agricultural land resources. It does contains land that is low in natural capital, which presents opportunity to provide uplift to low capital areas if the site is developed. Development that seeks to preserve and improve the natural capital on site will further improve the state of natural resources on site. Negligible mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	100 dwellings of mixed use/tenure to be provided, and supporting services and facilities. Minor positive effects predicted in the medium and long term.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Operation	Local	High	High	Minor	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities; allocation provides for a mix of uses, including employment land, the quantum of which has not been finalised, which will contribute to the districts' overall employment land needs. Additionally, the site is within 1,500 m of Southmead Industrial Estates existing employment sites. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	+	Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Sub-regional	High	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS6: Rich's Sidings and Broadway

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. None of the site falls in a Flood Zone (2 or 3), or a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS7: Didcot Gateway

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents, particularly to the south and west. The site is also in close proximity to a major rail line, which is predicted to serve as a noise source for new residents. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include two medical facilities, eleven sports / recreation facilities (one of which is within the site boundary), thirteen community centres (one of which is within the site boundary), six primary schools, one nursery within the site boundary, and three secondary schools. There are also four areas of open space within walking distance from the site, although only one south of the railway. Together, there is a robust network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. The site also falls within one of the most deprived areas within the districts, with positive regenerative effects for residents here. Overall, moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is well located with respect to existing modes of sustainable transport, with Didcot Parkway train station, 12 Bus Stops, National Cycle Routes #5 & 544 and Public Right of Ways in close proximity. The bus stops are served by various and frequent bus services. The site is within walking distance of numerous key facilities as set out for SA2. Overall, moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	No	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access to Didcot Parkway.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is brownfield and large parts are currently in use for car parking. There are small pockets of vegetation which could support protected species. There are no international, national, or local ecological designations in and around the site. Given the existing use and minimal ecological features there are opportunities for biodiversity enhancement within the site. Overall, negligible positive effects are predicted in the long term.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Positive	Yes	New urban habitats should be created via landscaping plans maximising ecological network opportunity areas as far as possible.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS7: Didcot Gateway

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase although given the size of development proposed contributions will be relatively small. The site is well located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site does not fall within either flood zone 2 or 3. Negligible mixed effects predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500m of 13 Grade II, and one Grade II* Listed Buildings. Most of these features are located within the Didcot Old Conservation Area and Didcot Station Road Conservation Area which, at its nearest point is adjacent across Foxhall Road at the southeast corner of the proposed site. Direct impacts are not likely, however the possibility of impacts to the setting of the designated features may be greater given the proximity of development to the conservation area. Minor adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement may be required to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site falls within 2 km (~1500 m at the nearest point) of the North Wessex Downs AONB. However, given the location of the site and existing uses it is considered that landscape impacts to the AONB will be minimal. The extent of any effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. In the short term during construction, construction equipment may result in temporary adverse landscape and visual effects. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required as part of the planning application to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is brownfield and doesn't contain mineral or agricultural land resources. The site contains a small pocket of land of high natural capital value in the centre associated with what appears to be a water feature; however, the majority of the site is land that is low in natural capital, which presents opportunity to provide uplift if the site is developed. Negligible mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS7: Didcot Gateway

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	200 dwellings to be provided, as well as supporting services and facilities. Minor positive effects predicted in the short and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Operation	Local	High	High	Minor	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. Additionally, the site is within 1,500 m of Didcot Power Station and Southmead Industrial Estates existing employment sites. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Sub-regional	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. None of the site falls in a Flood Zone (2 or 3), or a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key							
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive		
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal	
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major	
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate	
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor	
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible	
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed				

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS8: North-West of Grove

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the south-west in Grove. The site is also adjacent to a major railway line, which is predicted to serve as a noise source for future residents. Overall, minor negative effects are expected.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include two medical facilities, one sports / recreation facility, and two community centres and six primary schools. The site allocation policy makes provision for sufficient primary and early years education provision. Grove Cemetery is the only open space within 300m of the site. Together, there is a network of facilities that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. Overall minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport, with 3 Bus Stops, and Public Right of Ways in the vicinity of the site. However, the bus stops are only served by two lines; one terminating at Didcot that runs twice an hour, and the other to Wantage that runs three times an hour. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. Overall, minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access to Didcot Train Station.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly in agricultural use. Boundary hedgerows may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. The site is not within any international, national, or local ecological designation. Negligible adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS8: North-West of Grove

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. While the policy doesn't have make any provision for renewable energy, the site is within 2 km of a large solar farm, however the intervening settlement would appear to limit opportunities for direct wire. There is no flood zone within the site. Minor mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500 m of 11 Grade II Listed Buildings. Most of these features are located within the Grove Conservation Area, which, at its nearest point is 285m away from the southeast corner of the site. There is a cluster of 3 Listed Buildings around Monk's Farmhouse. Impacts to the setting of all these features are possible depending on the scale and massing of development proposed. Minor adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Low	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement may be required to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore it is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is greenfield and includes land designated as Provisional ALC Grade 3, therefore there is potential for the loss of BMV agricultural land. Minor negative effects are predicted overall, particularly during the construction phase.	--	-	-	Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS8: North-West of Grove

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	800 dwellings to be provided, as well as supporting services and facilities. Moderate positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Operation	Sub-Regional	Medium	High	Moderate	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site is within 1,500 m of Downsview Road, Grove Technology Park, and Monks Farm existing employment sites. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	+	Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. None of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3, and the site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key

The 'Duration' column is noted as:		
	Major positive effect	++
	Positive effect	+
	Neutral effect	0
	Negative effect	-
	Major negative effect	--
	Mixed effects	+/-
	Uncertain effect	?

Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
Severe			Optimal
Major			Major
Moderate			Moderate
Minor			Minor
Negligible			Negligible
Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS9: North-West of Valley Park

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the north. However the major railway line to Didcot is likely to be the main noise source for both existing and new residents. Additionally, the nearby A4130 and A34 could serve as noise and air pollution sources, affecting residents in the north and south-west of the site the greatest. Overall, minor adverse effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include five sports / recreational facilities, one community centre, and two primary schools. The site allocation also makes provision for sufficient education provision, likely to require one primary school, as well as contributions towards to secondary education and Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) off-site. The nearest open space is over 400 m from the site and they are separated by the A34. Together, there is a network of facilities that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. Overall, minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well situated with respect to the sustainable transport network. There are eight Bus Stops, and Public Right of Ways in the vicinity of the site. The bus stops in the area have frequent service and varied destinations. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site allocation policy provides for new high quality infrastructure to facilitate walking and cycling, however the benefits delivered by this infrastructure may be counteracted by the provision for increased access and capacity to the A Road network. Overall, minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	No	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access to Didcot Train Station.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly in agricultural use. Boundary hedgerows may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. The site is not within any international, national, or local ecological designation. Negligible adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS9: North-West of Valley Park

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The north-west corner of the site falls in both flood zones 2 & 3. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall minor mixed effects are predicted, with more adverse effects during the construction phase.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is located further than 500 m from any nationally designated heritage assets, further than 100 m from any locally designated heritage assets, and further than 300 m from a conservation area. Overall neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site falls within 2 km (~1900 m at the nearest point) of the North Wessex Downs AONB. However, given the location of the site, topography, and the surrounding intervening major roads, adverse landscape effects are considered unlikely. The extent of any effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward and would need to be confirmed by site specific landscape studies. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will also be dependent on scale, layout and massing. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is greenfield and contains BMV land resources (Provisional ALC Grade 3, and Post 1988 ALC Grade 3a). Therefore development of the site will result in the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land during construction. The site does contains land that is low in natural capital, which presents opportunity to provide uplift to low capital areas. Development that seeks to preserve and improve the natural capital on site will further improve the state of natural resources on site. Minor negative effects are predicted overall.	--	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS9: North-West of Valley Park

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	800 dwellings to be provided, as well as supporting services and facilities. Moderate positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Operation	Sub-regional	Medium	High	Moderate	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. Additionally, the site is within 1,500 m of Didcot Power Station & Milton Park existing employment sites. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. Approximately 20% of the site in the north-east corner falls within flood zone 2 and 3. Development in this area will increase the risk of flooding downstream. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS10: Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents in Shippon. The site is not in close proximity to any major sources of air or noise pollution. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site, these include one sports / recreation facility, one primary school and five secondary schools. The site allocation policy requires the development to provide sufficient education provision, expected to include a primary school on site. Additionally, there is one large area of accessible open green space directly bordering the site, across Choswell Road, and a further three small open areas in walking distance from the site. Together, there is a network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. Overall minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network, with six Bus Stops within walking distance although these all appear to be associated with a single, potentially low frequency service to nearby town centres. Two Public Rights of Way, one of which joins the site in the north corner, are within walking distance of the site. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. In addition, the site allocation policy provides for new high quality infrastructure to facilitate walking and cycling, although the site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have moderate accessibility and minor positive effects.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS10: Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	Ecological interest is focussed to the north of the site: The site is directly adjacent to a Dry Sandford Pit SSSI. Cothill Fen SAC & SSSI are ~375 m north of the site and air pollution and recreational disturbance impacts are possible. The site allocation policy stipulates that development cannot have adverse effects to these protected sites. There is one small stand on ancient wood on the north side of Honeybottom Lane. The indicative concept plan includes predominantly green infrastructure in the north west portion which may limit the extent of possible adverse effects to these features. The whole area to the north and west of the site is designated as a conservation target area where targeted conservation action will have the greatest benefit, and habitat creation as part of the proposals could provide connectivity to this area. The site allocation policy requires a net gain in biodiversity to be delivered as part of the proposals. Major adverse effects are predicted overall, although it is acknowledged that the indicative concept plan and SSSI buffer therein provides potential for limiting the magnitude of some adverse effects.	-	-	--	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Major	Negative	Yes	Impacts to sites designated under the EU Habitats Directive are being addressed separately through the HRA. Impacts to SSSI and other important ecological features should be addressed through formal EcIA, either standalone or as part of an EIA. Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats.
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is of a sufficient scale and is allocated for a mix of uses such that a district heat network could be considered but this is unknown at this stage; any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. There is no flood zone within the site, although there are areas immediately to the west associated with the Sandford Brook. The site allocation policy does however require a wildlife buffer of 10m between the Brook and the site. Overall minor mixed effects are predicted.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS10: Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500m of 14 Grade II Listed Buildings. The features on the west end of Shippon on Barrow Road, and the Grade II Listed Building in Gozzard's Ford are the closest to the development, and thus have the highest chance to suffer impacts to their setting. Listed Buildings to the north in Cothill are less likely to suffer heritage impacts given the natural intervening vegetation and proposed GI areas to the north of the indicative concept plan. Overall, minor adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Low	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement may be required to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is brownfield, previous use as a barracks and neighbouring airfield. A small portion of the site is classified as provisional ALC Grade 3, but given the site is brownfield its development would not result in any further loss of agricultural resource. The western part of site forms part of the Corallian Ridge - Oxford to Faringdon Mineral Consultation Area. Deposits of soft sand here could be sterilised if not extracted prior to development. Whilst the paved areas of the site have been classified of low natural capital for regulating and cultural ecosystem services, the large areas of grass around the airfield have been classified as of high value for natural capital. Therefore potential losses of natural capital associated with development of the site are considered to be comparatively high, with other opportunities for improvement. Overall minor negative effects are predicted.	--	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS10: Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	2,750 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided (1,550 within plan period), and supporting services and facilities. Major positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	High	Major	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for opportunities for employment, however the quantum of land on-site contributed is not yet quantified, but is predicted to positively impact the districts' overall employment land needs. Ashville Trading Estate and Nuffield Way, Drayton Road Industrial Estate, Fitzharris Trading Estate are all within 1,500m of the site. Moderate positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	++	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. None of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3, and the site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS16: Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Benson Lane - Site of former district council offices

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the south and east. The site is less than 1km south of RAF Benson, which could contribute to noise pollution for new residents. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include two medical facilities, eleven sports / recreation facilities, five community centres, two primary schools, and one secondary school. The Crowmarsh Gifford recreation ground adjoins the site to the west, and there are five further areas of open pace within walking distance, including Riverside park. Together, there is a robust network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. Overall moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport, with three Bus Stops, National Cycle Route #5 and Public Right of Ways in close proximity. The bus stops along The Street appear to be served by frequent services. The site is within walking distance of numerous key facilities as set out for SA2. Overall, minor positive effects are expected.	0	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	No	
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is brownfield and is the former site of the District Council offices and associated car parking. Boundary hedgerows and small pockets of woodland may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. There are no international, national, or local ecological designations in and around the site. Given the existing use and minimal existing ecological features there are opportunities for biodiversity enhancement within the site. Overall, negligible positive effects are predicted in the long term.	-	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Positive	Yes	New urban habitats should be created via landscaping plans maximising ecological network opportunity areas as far as possible.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS16: Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Benson Lane - Site of former district council offices

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase although given the size of development proposed contributions will be relatively small. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is considered to be susceptible to flooding as its western half falls within Flood Zone 2. Development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Minor mixed effects predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500m of 2 Grade I, 21 Grade II and 2 Grade II* Listed Buildings as well as 2 Scheduled Monuments. Most of these features are located along "The Street" and within the Wallingford Conservation Area which, at its nearest point is 275m to the west of the proposed site. The nearest designated features are located on "The Street", about 275m to the south, including St Mary Magdalene's Church Grade I Listed Building. Wallingford Castle / St Nicholas' College Scheduled Monument / Heritage at Risk are located c.450m to the west across the river. Direct impacts are not likely to any of these features, however impacts are possible given the proximity and landscape in the areas. Moderate adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	--	--	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Regional	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement should be prepared to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site falls within 2 km (~250 m at the nearest point) of the Chilterns AONB and North Wessex Downs AONB (~650 m to the north at the nearest point). Depending on the scale, layout and massing of development there is potential for adverse impacts to these national landscape features. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will also be dependent scale, layout and massing. Overall there is considered to be potential for adverse landscape effects.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required as part of the planning application to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS16: Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Benson Lane - Site of former district council offices

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is brownfield, but is classified as Provisional ALC Grade 2. However it is likely that these resources will have already been removed by previous development. The site also contains land that is low in natural capital, which presents opportunity to provide uplift. Overall, negligible mixed effects are predicted.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	The Council is still considering different uses for this site (policy AS16 option). However one option is for residential use and the site is considered to have capacity for 100 dwellings. In this scenario, minor positive effects are predicted with respect to the housing objective.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Operation	Local	High	High	Minor	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site is the former location for the Council's offices. The Council is still considering different uses for this site (policy AS17 option). However one option is for employment use although the quantum will depend on the evidence around employment needs. Assuming some employment provision onsite, minor positive effects are predicted. **magnitude could increase depending on quantum of floorspace provided.*	+	+	+	Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. Approximately 50% of the site falls within flood zone 2. Development in this area will increase the risk of flooding downstream. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall moderate adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	--	--	Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	High	High	Moderate	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

North West of Abingdon-on-Thames (Site HOU2w)

NB: Majority of the site is completed, no application for the remaining part of the site (west of Dunmore Road, south of the new Aldi), remains appropriate for development. DAM based solely on this area of the site

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the north. The site is also in close proximity to A34 & B4017 which may serve as a noise and pollution source for new residents. Overall, minor negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include three sports / recreational facilities centres, one primary school and three secondary schools. Finally, there are three areas of open space within 300m of the site. Together, there is a network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. Overall minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is moderately well located with respect to the sustainable transport network, with 8 Bus Stops and Public Right of Ways in close proximity. These bus stops are only served twice an hour, mostly by one route. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. Overall, minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	This portion of the site is greenfield. Boundary hedgerows and woodland may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. As such negligible positive effects are predicted in the long term.	-	0	0	Initial	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans maximising ecological network opportunity areas as far as possible.
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is moderately well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. This portion of the site does not fall within the flood zone. Minor mixed effects are predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is located more than 500m from the nearest heritage asset and therefore neutral effects are predicted with respect to heritage.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

North West of Abingdon-on-Thames (Site HOU2w)

NB: Majority of the site is completed, no application for the remaining part of the site (west of Dunmore Road, south of the new Aldi), remains appropriate for development. DAM based solely on this area of the site

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore it is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is designated as provisional ALC Grades 2 and therefore there is the potential for loss of BMV agricultural resource. Minor negative effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	Residential development on the remaining site. Minor positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Operation	Local	Medium	High	Minor	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. Additionally, the site is within 1,500m of Ashville Trading Estate and Nuffield Way Fitzharris Trading Estate and Radley Road existing employment sites. Minor positive effects are predicted.	+	+	+	Ongoing		Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. This portion of the site does not fall in the flood zone. Overall negligible negative effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:		Negative	Positive
	Positive effect	+		Severe		Optimal
	Neutral effect	0		Major		Major
	Negative effect	-		Moderate		Moderate
	Major negative effect	--		Minor		Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-		Negligible		Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?		Mixed		

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Vauxhall Barracks (Site HOU2e)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents to the north. The site is also in close proximity to a major railway line, the A4130 and Foxhall Road (B4493) which are predicted to serve as noise and air pollution sources for new residents, particularly those in the northern portion of the site. Overall, minor negative effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site given the site's location in the Didcot urban area. These include two medical facilities, twelve sports / recreation facilities, eleven community centres, four primary schools and one secondary school. Finally, there are a number of accessible open spaces in walking distance from the site, one of which is within the site, and comprises the majority of the south-western polygon of the proposed site. Together, there is a robust network of facilities nearby that are predicted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the new population. The site also falls within one of the most deprived areas within the districts, which is predicted to have positive regenerative effects for communities here. Overall, moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is well located with respect to existing modes of sustainable transport, with Didcot Parkway train station, seven Bus Stops, National Cycle Route #5 and multiple PRoWs within walking distance. The bus stops are served by various and frequent bus services. The site is within walking distance of numerous key facilities as set out for SA2. Overall, moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	++	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing bus/cycle access to Didcot Parkway.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is currently used as an army barracks with the south-west polygon in agricultural use. There are areas of greenspace bounded by hedgerows and small pockets of woodland which may support protected / notable species which could be impacted by the works. There are no formal ecological designations in and around the site. Neutral effects are predicted overall.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	Yes	New urban habitats should be created via landscaping plans maximising ecological network opportunity areas as far as possible.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Vauxhall Barracks (Site HOU2e)

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
SEA Objectives	5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase although given the size of development proposed contributions will be relatively small. The site is well located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site does not fall within either flood zone 2 or 3. Negligible mixed effects predicted overall.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
	6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500 m of 14 Grade II, and one Grade II* Listed Buildings. Most of these features are located within the Didcot Old Conservation Area, which, at its nearest point is adjacent across Foxhall Road at the southeast corner of the proposed site. Direct impacts are not likely, however impacts to the setting of the designated features are possible depending on the nature and scale of development coming forward. Minor adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement should be prepared to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
	7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2km from any AONB and therefore it is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral		
	8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site contains a mix of brownfield and greenfield land, and doesn't contain agricultural land resources. The southwest polygon north of Freeman Road has high natural capital and its loss would result in loss of associated ecosystem services. The main area of the site at the barracks is however of low natural capital value and here there are opportunities for enhancement. Minor mixed effects are predicted overall.	--	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
	9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	300 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided, and supporting services and facilities. Minor positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Operation	Local	High	High	Minor	Positive	No	
	10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. Additionally, the site is within 1,500 m of Didcot Power Station and Southmead Industrial Estates existing employment sites. Minor positive effects are predicted.	+	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Sub-regional	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Vauxhall Barracks (Site HOU2e)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. The site does not fall within flood zones 2 and 3 or a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible negative effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS11: Culham Science Centre Employment Site

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects and during operation, noise, air and light pollution are possible. However there are limited residential receptors nearby. Although the site is adjacent to the A415 and close to a railway line, the proposed employment use means the sensitivity of receptors will be limited. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include seven sports / recreation facilities, three schools and three open spaces, although one open space falls within the site boundary. Given that proposals are for employment use, the proximity of facilities will be less significant than for residential sites in terms of safeguarding health and wellbeing, however minor positive effects are still predicted for site users (workers).	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport with four bus stops and Culham train station in close proximity. Three PRoWs (one of which skirts the northern boundary of the site) are also within walking distance. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have good accessibility and moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is already in use as a science centre with small pockets of open space and vegetation. Disturbance levels are already expected to be high. Therefore neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS11: Culham Science Centre Employment Site

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
SEA Objectives	5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. Any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. There is a very small renewable energy generation facility immediately to the east but this is not predicted to present opportunities for direct connection. Overall negligible mixed effects are predicted.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
	6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The Nuneham House RPG lies to the north of the site and there are several Grade II Listed Buildings nearby, particularly within the village of Clifton Hampden. Development has the potential for adverse effects on the registered parkland. However preparation of a masterplan for the site to take into account heritage and landscape impacts is expected to minimise the magnitude of any adverse heritage effects. Negligible adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Low	Low	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement should be prepared to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
	7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site does not fall within 2km of the AONBs. The extent of any effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward and would need to be confirmed by site specific landscape studies. However, the existing uses on site will limit the extent of any landscape effects. Overall neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS11: Culham Science Centre Employment Site

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is brownfield and does not include any agricultural land classification. The southern part of the site falls within a minerals consultation area. The majority of the site is of low natural capital value given the existing employment use, but these uses provide limited opportunities for enhancement. There are pockets of high natural capital value coinciding with the open spaces which could be lost if developed. Minor negative effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	No dwellings proposed.	0	0	0						Neutral			
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for 2.3 ha of employment land (4.98ha already delivered on this site) contributing positively to the districts' overall employment land needs. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. There are no areas of flood zone 2 or 3 on site. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS12: Harwell Campus Employment Site

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
SEA Objectives	1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to residents to the south in Chilton Field. During operation, noise, air and light pollution are possible. Although the site is adjacent to the A4185 and close to the A34, the proposed employment use means the sensitivity of receptors will be limited. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
	2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include three healthcare facilities, eight sports / recreation facilities, two community facilities, three schools and six open spaces, although five of these open spaces falls within the site boundary. Given that proposals are for employment use, the proximity of facilities will be less significant than for residential sites in terms of safeguarding health and wellbeing, however minor positive effects are still predicted for site users (workers).	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
	3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport with seven bus stops within or bordering the site and an additional one within 400m. Eleven PRoWs and one cycle route are also within walking distance. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have moderate accessibility and moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.
	4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is already in use as a science and innovation campus with small pockets of open space and vegetation. Disturbance levels are already expected to be high. Therefore neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
	5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. Any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. Overall negligible mixed effects are predicted.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS12: Harwell Campus Employment Site

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	There is a Grade II Listed milestone directly to the east of the site and Grim's ditch scheduled monument to the south. However, given the existing uses on site and the nature of the heritage assets severe setting impacts are not predicted. Negligible adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Low	Low	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement should be prepared to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site falls within the North Wessex Downs AONB. Depending on the scale, layout and massing of development there is potential for adverse impacts to this national landscape features. Overall there is considered to be potential for minor adverse landscape effects.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Low	Low	Minor	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required as part of the planning application to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is predominately brownfield with some small areas of Grade 2 agricultural land around the fringes. The majority of the site is of low natural capital value given the existing employment use, but these uses provide limited opportunities for enhancement. There are pockets of high natural capital value coinciding with the open spaces which could be lost if developed. Minor negative effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	No dwellings proposed.	0	0	0						Neutral			
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for 93ha of employment land contributing positively to the districts' overall employment land needs. Major positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	++	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Major	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Policy AS12: Harwell Campus Employment Site

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
	11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. There are no areas of flood zone 2 or 3 on site. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key							
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive		
	Positive effect	+		Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0		Major			Major
	Negative effect	-		Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--		Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-		Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?		Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Milton Park Employment Site (Site JT1b)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to residents to the north in Milton. During operation, noise, air and light pollution are possible. Although the site is adjacent to the A4130, railway line and close to the A34, the proposed employment use means the sensitivity of receptors will be limited. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site. These include five sports / recreation facilities, one community facility, four schools and five open spaces, one of these open spaces falls within the site boundary. Given that proposals are for employment use, the proximity of facilities will be less significant than for residential sites in terms of safeguarding health and wellbeing, however minor positive effects are still predicted for site users (workers).	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport with 13 bus stops within the site and an additional four within 400m. Seven PRoWs and one cycle route are also within walking distance. The site is also within walking distance of a range of essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have good accessibility and moderate positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is already in use as an innovation centre with limited pockets of open space and vegetation. Disturbance levels are already expected to be high. Therefore neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Milton Park Employment Site (Site JT1b)

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
SEA Objectives	5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. Any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. There are small areas of flood zone 2 and 3 running along the northern border of the site coinciding with Moor Ditch. Any further development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall minor mixed effects are predicted.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
	6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The Milton conservation area is located to the north-west of the site and overlaps with a very small section of the site. The conservation area contains 18 Listed Buildings including one Grade I (also on the heritage at risk register) and 2 Grade II* listed. However given the topography and existing uses of the site sever setting impacts are considered unlikely. Minor adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Medium	Low	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement should be prepared to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
	7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site does not fall within 2km of the AONBs. The extent of any effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward and would need to be confirmed by site specific landscape studies. However, the existing uses on site will limit the extent of any landscape effects. Overall neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	
	8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is predominately brownfield with some small areas of Grade 3a and 3b agricultural land south of the railway. The majority of the site is of low natural capital value given the existing employment use, but these uses provide limited opportunities for enhancement. Minor negative effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
	9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	No dwellings proposed.	0	0	0						Neutral			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Milton Park Employment Site (Site JT1b)

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
	10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for 14ha of employment land contributing positively to the districts' overall employment land needs. Moderate positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	++	++	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Moderate	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
	11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. There are very small areas of flood zone 2 and 3 running along the northern border of the site coinciding with Moor Ditch. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Southmead Industrial Estate Employment Site (Site JT1a)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to residents to the east. During operation, noise, air and light pollution are possible. Although the site is close to the A4130 and the railway line to the east, the proposed employment use means the sensitivity of receptors will be limited. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are four sports / recreation facilities within walking distance of the site. Given that proposals are for employment use, the proximity of facilities will be less significant than for residential sites in terms of safeguarding health and wellbeing, therefore negligible positive effects are predicted for site users (workers).	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is relatively well situated to existing modes of sustainable transport with two bus stops west of the railway within walking distance of the site. Four PRoWs and one cycle route are also within walking distance. The site is within walking distance of some essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have moderately good accessibility and minor positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is predominantly scrub land with pockets of vegetation. Disturbance levels are already expected to be high given the surrounding employment uses and the railway. Therefore neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Southmead Industrial Estate Employment Site (Site JT1a)

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
SEA Objectives	5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is relatively well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. Any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. There are small areas of flood zone 2 and 3 running along the eastern border of the site. Any further development here would be at risk of flooding if not designed appropriately and would increase risk of flooding downstream. These impacts would be exacerbated by climate change. Overall minor mixed effects are predicted.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
	6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	There is one Grade II listed train shed c. 225m south east of the site. However its location on the opposite side of the railway and existing uses of the site setting impacts are considered unlikely. Negligible adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Low	Low	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement should be prepared to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
	7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site falls within c1.9km of the North Wessex Downs AONB. However given the intervening infrastructure and development and the existing surrounding land uses landscape effects to this national feature are predicted to be limited. The extent of any more local effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward and would need to be confirmed by site specific landscape studies. Overall there is considered to be potential for negligible adverse landscape effects.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Low	Negligible	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required as part of the planning application to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features.
	8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is predominately greenfield and includes part of a minerals consultation area. Development here could sterilise mineral resource if not extracted prior to development. The majority of the site is of high natural capital value given its current greenfield status and therefore there is likely to be loss of associated ecosystem services. Minor negative effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
	9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	No dwellings proposed.	0	0	0						Neutral			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Southmead Industrial Estate Employment Site (Site JT1a)

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
	10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for 2.66ha of employment land contributing positively to the districts' overall employment land needs. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
	11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. There are small areas of flood zone 2 and 3 running along the eastern border of the site. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality. Development should be assessed through Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Grove Technology Park Employment Site (Site JT1c)

	No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
				Short term	Medium term	Long term									
SEA Objectives	1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to residents to the east in Grove though they are c.200m away. During operation, noise, air and light pollution are possible. There are no other noise sources nearby. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
	2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There is one sports centre (The First Drop Health & Fitness) within the site boundary. There are no other essential facilities within walking distance of the site. Given that proposals are for employment use, the proximity of facilities will be less significant than for residential sites in terms of safeguarding health and wellbeing, therefore negligible adverse effects are predicted for site users (workers).	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
	3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is poorly situated with respect to existing modes of sustainable transport with just one PRoW nearby. The site is also poorly located with respect to most facilities as set out for SA2. The site's proximity to the A-road network and lack of sustainable transport infrastructure is likely to encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have poor accessibility and minor adverse effects are predicted.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.
	4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	The site is partly in existing employment use and partly open space with pockets of vegetation. Whilst disturbance levels are already expected to be high close to the existing units in the northern portion of the site disturbance is likely to be lower. There is one ancient woodland c. 90m southwest of the site. Therefore negligible adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Intermittent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	No	
	5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase particularly given the poor accessibility of the site. Any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. Overall minor adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Grove Technology Park Employment Site (Site JT1c)

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	There are no heritage assets in proximity to the site. Neutral effects are predicted.	0	0	0						Neutral			
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site falls within c1.8km of the North Wessex Downs AONB. However given the intervening infrastructure and development and the existing surrounding land uses landscape effects to this national feature are predicted to be limited. The extent of any more local effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward and would need to be confirmed by site specific landscape studies. Overall there is considered to be potential for negligible adverse landscape effects.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Low	Negligible	Negative	Yes	An LVIA may be required as part of the planning application to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is partly greenfield and is classified as provisional Grade 3 agricultural land. The southern half of the site is of low natural capital value given the existing employment use, but these uses provide limited opportunities for enhancement. Minor negative effects are predicted, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	No dwellings proposed.	0	0	0						Neutral			
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. The site allocation policy provides for 5.4ha of employment land contributing positively to the districts' overall employment land needs. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	+	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. There is no flood zone within the site boundary. The site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	High	Negligible	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key						
The 'Duration' column is noted as:	Major positive effect	++	Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
	Positive effect	+	Severe			Optimal
	Neutral effect	0	Major			Major
	Negative effect	-	Moderate			Moderate
	Major negative effect	--	Minor			Minor
	Mixed effects	+/-	Negligible			Negligible
	Uncertain effect	?	Mixed			

Appendix K: Site Alternatives Assessment

Accessibility

Appendix K presents an assessment of a series of reasonable alternatives to the proposed site allocations. For the majority of sites this includes an assessment of the effects of de-allocating the sites. The de-allocation assessment has been produced in word format, and the pdf version provided as part of this report is suitable for use by special assistive technology.

For the Dalton Barracks site, a reasonable alternative of a smaller site boundary as per the adopted plan allocation has been tested. The assessment is presented as a detailed assessment matrix. A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

De-allocation Alternatives Assessment

URBAN EDGE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

1 Introduction

1.1 This appendix forms part of the assessment of reasonable alternatives. It presents an assessment of the option to de-allocate a number of sites from the adopted South Oxfordshire Local Plan and the adopted Vale of White Horse Local Plan. For each site it's de-allocation would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development as identified by the high-level assessments (Appendix H) and detailed assessments (Appendix J).

1.2 There are three sites which only feature in this appendix, including: Land at Chalgrove Airfield; Land to the West of Priest Close, Nettlebed; and Land south of Nettlebed Service Station. In these instances, following a review of each site's availability, achievability, and suitability as described in section 4.6 of the main report, the only reasonable alternative was considered to be the site's de-allocation.

Site name	De-allocation option assessment
Land at Berinsfield Garden Village	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. The most severe predicted adverse effects associated with the loss of natural resources including best and most versatile agricultural land and mineral resources would be avoided, as would more minor adverse effects resulting from construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, possible landscape effects to the North Wessex AONB and possible increased flood risk. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision, provision / improvement of local infrastructure, and habitat enhancement and creation within the adjacent conservation target area would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Land adjacent to Culham science centre	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. The most severe predicted adverse effects associated with the loss of natural resources including best and most versatile agricultural land and mineral resources would be avoided, as would more minor adverse effects resulting from construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, possible disturbance to the adjacent local wildlife site and nearby SSSI, possible setting impacts to nearby heritage assets and increased flood risk. However, positive opportunities for significant housing provision, job creation, provision / improvement of local infrastructure would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Land at Chalgrove Airfield	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. The most severe predicted adverse effects associated with the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land, and potential setting impacts to the battlefield on site and listed buildings in Chalgrove to the south would be avoided. More minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, and increased flood risk would also be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision and provision / improvement of local infrastructure would be missed by de-allocation of the site.

Site name	De-allocation option assessment
Land South of Grenoble Road, Edge of Oxford	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, possible disturbance to the adjacent local wildlife site, potential setting impacts to nearby listed buildings and scheduled monument, possible landscape effects to the AONB, loss of agricultural land and increased flood risk would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for significant housing and job provision, provision / improvement of local infrastructure, and land remediation would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Land at Northfield, Edge of Oxford	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, loss of agricultural land and increased flood risk would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision and provision / improvement of local infrastructure would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Land north of Bayswater Brook, Edge of Oxford	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. The most severe predicted adverse effects associated with setting impacts to listed buildings on the western side of the caravan park associated with Wicks Farm buildings would be avoided, as would more minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, disturbance to the SSSI and ancient woodland to the north, loss of agricultural land and increased flood risk. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision, provision / improvement of local infrastructure, habitat enhancement and creation within the adjacent conservation target area would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Land to the West of Priest Close, Nettlebed	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, setting impacts to heritage assets to the south within the Nettlebed Conservation Area, landscape impacts to the Chilterns AONB, and possible impacts to be Source Protection Zone would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Land south of Nettlebed Service Station	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, loss of agricultural land, settings impacts to listed buildings to the east within the Nettlebed Conservation Area, landscape impacts to the Chilterns AONB, and possible impacts to be Source Protection Zone would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Vauxhall Barracks	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. The most severe predicted adverse effects associated with setting impacts to listed buildings within the Didcot Old Conservation Area would be avoided, as would more minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, and possible increased flood risk. However, positive

Site name	De-allocation option assessment
	opportunities for housing and job provision and provision / improvement of local infrastructure would be missed by de-allocation of the site
Rich's sidings and Broadway, Didcot (previously Orchard Centre Phase 2)	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, setting impacts to the Didcot Northbourne Conservation Area, landscape effects to the North Wessex Downs AONB, and increased flood risk would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision, provision / improvement of local infrastructure and biodiversity enhancements would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Didcot Gateway, Didcot	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. The most severe predicted adverse effects associated with setting impacts to listed buildings within Didcot Old and Didcot Station Conservation Areas would be avoided, as would more minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, landscape effects to the North Wessex Downs AONB and increased flood risk would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision, provision / improvement of local infrastructure and biodiversity enhancements would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
North-West of Abingdon on Thames	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, loss of agricultural land and increased flood risk would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision and provision / improvement of local infrastructure would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
North-West Grove	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, setting impacts to listed buildings within the Grove Conservation Area, loss of agricultural land and increased flood risk would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision and provision / improvement of local infrastructure would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
North-West Valley Park	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, possible landscape effects to the North Wessex Downs AONB, loss of agricultural land and increased flood risk would be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing and job provision and provision / improvement of local infrastructure would be missed by de-allocation of the site.
Dalton Barracks	De-allocation of the site would remove both positive and adverse effects associated with its development. The most severe predicted adverse effects associated with construction in close proximity to and SSSI and SAC to the west and north would be avoided. Minor adverse effects associated with construction and operational pollution and carbon emissions, setting impacts to listed buildings in Shippon, possible

Site name	De-allocation option assessment
	sterilisation of mineral resource and increased flood risk would also be avoided. However, positive opportunities for housing, job provision and provision / improvement of local infrastructure and reuse of brownfield land would be missed by de-allocation of the site.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon - Reasonable Alternative. Site boundary as per the adopted Vale plan.

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water	Construction activities may contribute to air and noise pollution effects to existing nearby residents in Shippon. The site is not in close proximity to any major sources of air or noise pollution. Overall, negligible negative effects are expected, particularly during the construction phase.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Negative	Yes	A CEMP should be produced to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Design should consider proximity of noise sources, use of renewable energy to minimise air quality effects and sensitive lighting schemes to minimise lighting effects to nearby residents.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place	There are a number of facilities within walking distance of the site, these include one primary school and two secondary schools. There is one large area of accessible open green space directly bordering the site, across Choswell Road, and a further one open area in walking distance from the site. Overall, negligible positive effects are predicted.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Low	Medium	Negligible	Positive	Yes	If space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel	The site is located within walking distance of four bus stops, although these all appear to be associated with a single, potentially low frequency service to nearby town centres. One Public Right of Way is within walking distance of the site. The site is also within walking distance of a few essential facilities as set out for SA2. The site's proximity to the A-road network may encourage some private car use. Overall, the site is considered to have moderate accessibility and minor positive effects.	0	+	+	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). A Travel Plan would help to increase use of sustainable modes of transport.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts	Ecological interest is focussed to the west of the site - Barrow Farm Fen SSSI is c.280m west. The whole area to the west of the site is designated as a conservation target area where targeted conservation action will have the greatest benefit, and habitat creation as part of the proposals could provide connectivity to this area. Minor adverse effects are predicted overall.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using the site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into the layout. New habitats (e.g. woodland, tree/hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon - Reasonable Alternative. Site boundary as per the adopted Vale plan.

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
5	To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	Given the scale of development, construction activities and traffic, as well as consumption of non-renewable energy and the embodied carbon of construction materials, are likely to increase emissions during the construction phase. Similarly, during operation, traffic emissions are predicted to increase although the site is reasonably well-located with respect to the sustainable transport network (see SA3), potentially mitigating the scale of emissions. The site is of a sufficient scale and is allocated for a mix of uses such that a district heat network could be considered but this is unknown at this stage; any energy consumption from non-renewable resources will contribute to effects of climate change. There is no flood zone within the site, although there are areas immediately to the west associated with the Sandford Brook. Overall, minor mixed effects are predicted.	-	+/-	+/-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Mixed	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE1 to CE5 on carbon reduction & sustainable energy. The potential for a district heat network should be considered given the size of development proposed and the mix of uses. Developments should provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided. Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts	The site is within 500m of 11 Grade II Listed Buildings. The features on the west end of Shippon on Barrow Road, and the Grade II Listed Building in Gozzard's Ford are the closest to the development, and thus have the highest chance to suffer impacts to their setting. Overall, minor adverse effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	National	Low	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	A Heritage Statement may be required to accompany any planning application for the site and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains).
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality	The site is located further than 2 km from any AONB and therefore is predicted that adverse effects to designated landscapes are unlikely. The extent of any more localised landscape and visual effects will be dependent on the scale, layout and massing of the development coming forward. Overall neutral effects are predicted subject to site specific landscape studies.	0	0	0						Neutral	Neutral	No	

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon - Reasonable Alternative. Site boundary as per the adopted Vale plan.

No.	SEA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Scale of significance	Positive or negative	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
8	To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Resource use is likely to increase over the short, medium and long term (materials during construction, water resources & household waste during operation). The site is brownfield, previous use as an airfield. Whilst a small portion of the site is classified as provisional ALC Grade 3, given the site is brownfield its development would not result in any further loss of agricultural resource. The western part of site forms part of the Corallian Ridge - Oxford to Faringdon Mineral Consultation Area. Deposits of soft sand here could be sterilised if not extracted prior to development. Whilst the paved areas of the site have been classified of low natural capital for regulating and cultural ecosystem services, the large areas of grass around the airfield have been classified as of high value for natural capital. Therefore potential losses of natural capital associated with development of the site are considered to be comparatively high, with other opportunities for improvement. Overall minor negative effects are predicted.	-	-	-	Initial & Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	Medium	Minor	Negative	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policies CE12 and CE13 regarding soils & contaminated land, and minerals. As per policy CE3, waste materials produced during demolition, refurbishment or groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible and/or recycled. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing	1,500 dwellings of mixed type/tenure to be provided, and supporting services and facilities. Major positive effects predicted in the medium and long term, increasing as more units come on-line.	0	+	++	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	High	High	Major	Positive	No	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future	Construction phase will provide local and accessible employment opportunities. Ashville Trading Estate and Nuffield Way, Drayton Road Industrial Estate, Fitzharris Trading Estate are all within 1,500m of the site. Minor positive effects are predicted, especially in the medium to long term.	+	+	++	Initial & Ongoing	Construction & Operation	Local	Low	Medium	Minor	Positive	Yes	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management	Water resource use and wastewater production will increase once the development is operational. None of the site falls within flood zones 2 and 3, and the site is not located within a Source Protection Zone. Overall negligible adverse effects are predicted with respect to water resources.	0	-	-	Ongoing	Permanent	Local	Medium	High	Negligible	Negligible	Yes	Proposals will need to comply with policy CE6 on flood risk, policy CE7 on water efficiency and policy CE8 on water quality.

Key

The 'Duration' column is noted as:		
	Major positive effect	++
	Positive effect	+
	Neutral effect	0
	Negative effect	-
	Major negative effect	--
	Mixed effects	+/-
	Uncertain effect	?

Significance illustrated as:	Negative	Positive	
Severe			Optimal
Major			Major
Moderate			Moderate
Minor			Minor
Negligible			Negligible
Mixed			

Appendix L: Policies Options Assessment

Accessibility

Appendix L presents a tabulated assessment of the policy options presented within the Joint Local Plan. The assessment is organised by Local Plan chapter. The various options for each policy are listed below the policy number. Each option is scored from strong positive to strong adverse against each SA objective, with supporting commentary provided where applicable.

A digital, fully accessible version of the appendix in excel format is provided alongside this SA report for use by readers using special assistive technology.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 4: Reducing Carbon Emissions		SEA Objective											
	Policy CE1												
Option	**Sustainable design and construction**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that sets clear sustainable design and construction standards for new development within the districts, with compliance demonstrated through the submission of a completed Sustainable Design and Construction checklist. These standards will include: • requiring developers to consider and set out how their development proposals will, through their design and construction, minimise carbon and energy impacts, taking a "fabric first" approach • built in "climate resilience" measures to adapt to the effects of climate change, including: o reducing the risk of overheating by following the cooling hierarchy o reducing the risk of flooding and conserving and storing water in accordance with Policy CE6: Flood risk and drainage and Policy CE7: Water efficiency. o reducing the "heat island" effect through the use of cool materials and utilising planting, i.e., providing trees for shade.	+	+	0	0	++	0	0	+	0	0	++	Proposals will have strong positive effects in terms of carbon reduction (obj 5) through minimising GHG emissions via a development's design. This is predicted to have knock on benefits in terms of pollution, particularly air quality improvements, (obj 1), health and wellbeing (obj 2) and management of natural resources (obj8). Criteria to reduce flood risk and increase water efficiency will have strong positive effects for obj 11.
B	Do not include a specific policy on sustainable design and construction, but instead incorporate these standards into Policy DE1: High quality design.	?	?	0	0	+	0	0	?	0	0	+	As above, however positive effects could be less significant as requirements may be watered down or lack the emphasis conferred by a dedicated policy.
C	Do not include a policy on sustainable design and construction standards and instead rely on national policy and guidance.	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not including any policy on Sustainable Design and Construction, is predicted to have adverse effects in terms of carbon, through missed opportunities for significant reductions.
	Policy CE2												
	Net zero carbon buildings	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Include a policy that requires new development (both residential and non-residential buildings) to: • use no fossil fuel energy on-site • meet set requirements on how much heating the building will need and the total energy use of a building • generate the same amount of renewable energy as they demand, including all regulated and unregulated energy use (calculated using a robust methodology that predicts a buildings actual energy use performance) • use offsetting for residual on-site renewable energy generation only in exceptional circumstances where these requirements cannot be met, for example due to feasibility concerns, (i.e., insufficient roof space for renewable energy generation).It is expected that this would be achieved through a council led offsetting fund supported by developer contributions, that would deliver local projects that save the same amount of carbon and/or cover the shortfall in renewable energy generation. • demonstrate they have explored scope for energy storage and/or smart distribution systems, to optimise on-site or local consumption of the renewable energy (or waste energy) generated by the site. To demonstrate compliance, we will require developers to: • use an assured performance method to ensure the buildings operational energy performances matches design intentions and therefore avoids a "performance gap" • submit an Energy Statement to demonstrate compliance with the above requirements • use the following metrics to accurately calculate the energy efficiency of buildings: - Space Heating Demand (kWh/m2/year) – a measure of the thermal efficiency of a building - Total Energy Use Intensity (EUI) (kWh/m2/year) – a measure of the total energy consumption of a building.	+	+	0	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	0	Proposals will have strong positive effects in terms of carbon reduction (obj 5) through elimination of on-site fossil fuels, reducing energy demand and promotion of renewable technologies. These three factors will have knock on benefits in terms of pollution, particularly air quality improvements, (obj 1), health and wellbeing (obj 2), management of natural resources (obj8). Policy requiring new development to not use fossil fuels on site, with renewable energy generation on site, and contributions to a low carbon economy (obj 10).
B	Continue with Policy DES10 approach.	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	Maintaining the Policy DES10 approach is also predicted to have positive carbon effects although the magnitude is likely to be smaller than for option A given lack of consideration of embodied and operational carbon emissions. Overall this policy option is predicted to contribute less towards national and local climate change targets.
C	Include no policy on net zero carbon buildings in the Joint Local Plan.	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not including any policy on Net Zero Carbon Buildings and reliance on Building Regs and Future Homes is predicted to have adverse effects in terms of carbon reduction as it represents a less stringent approach to that in adopted policy DES10.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 4: Reducing Carbon Emissions		SEA Objective											
	Policy CE3												
	Reducing embodied carbon	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - favours materials with lower embodied or negative carbon - promotes a range of circular economy principles to help minimise waste, increase the recycling and reuse of materials, and conserve resources within the districts, including retaining and re-using buildings where possible. - requires major development to submit a 'Whole Life Carbon Assessment' to be submitted as part of planning applications to calculate whole lifecycle carbon emissions (including embodied carbon emissions) and demonstrate actions taken to reduce lifecycle carbon emissions. - set target requirements for larger developments to limit embodied carbon. - requires embodied carbon offsetting in circumstances when targets to limit embodied carbon are not met.	++	+	0	0	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	Proposals to reduce embodied carbon and minimise waste are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of carbon reductions, but also pollution reduction and more efficient management of natural resources and waste (objs 5, 1 and 8). All these factors will have knock on benefits in terms of health and well-being (obj 2).
B	Have no policy on reducing embodied carbon emissions and instead rely on national policy and guidance set out in the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not including any policy on embodied carbon and reliance on national policy, is predicted to have adverse effects in terms of carbon, through missed opportunities for significant reductions, especially given lack of specific national requirements.
	Policy CE4												
	Sustainable retrofitting	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - encourages retrofitting measures to existing buildings to improve their energy efficiency and replace fossil fuels with renewable energy sources. - gives significant weight to proposals which would result in considerable improvements to the energy efficiency, carbon emissions and/or general suitability, condition and longevity of existing buildings. - ensures all major developments that affect existing on-site buildings consider retrofitting opportunities and opportunities to re-use existing buildings on site.	++	+	0	0	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	Policy proposals for sustainable retrofitting are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of carbon and pollution reductions and management of natural resources (obj 5, 1 and 8). All these factors will have knock on benefits in terms of health and well-being (obj 2).
B	Have no policy on sustainable retrofitting within the Joint Local Plan.	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not including any policy on sustainable retrofitting, is predicted to have adverse effects in terms of carbon, through missed opportunities for significant savings / reductions.
	Policy CE5												
	Renewable energy	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - encourages the development of renewable energy generation schemes and their associated infrastructure, i.e., grid capacity upgrades, energy sharing networks, and battery or thermal storage - identifies broad areas of potential suitability for different types of renewable energy - provides clear support for community-led renewable energy schemes - includes a set of criteria which all new renewable energy schemes will have to meet, helping to ensure that no significant adverse impacts (that cannot be mitigated) arise as a result of renewable energy schemes. This will include cumulative and cross-boundary impacts.	++	+/-	0	?	++	?	?	+	0	+	0	Policy that focuses on renewable energy is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of carbon and pollution reduction (objs 5 and 1), with knock on benefits in terms of management of natural resources and stimulation of a low carbon economy (obj 8 and 10). Whilst reduction of carbon and pollution will have positive effects in terms of health and wellbeing, renewable development in proximity to local communities could have some localised adverse effects, for example stress and anxiety associated with visual impacts. Therefore mixed health effects are predicted overall (obj 2). Whilst policy option includes consideration of site suitability for renewals, there is potential for adverse biodiversity, heritage and landscape effects and therefore uncertain effects are predicted for these objectives at this stage (obj 4, 6 and 7).
B	Have no policy on renewable energy and instead rely on national policy and guidance set out in the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not including any policy on renewables is predicted to have adverse effects in terms of carbon, through missed opportunities for significant savings / reductions.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 4: Reducing Carbon Emissions		SEA Objective											
	Policy CE6												
	Flood risk and drainage	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	In advance of receiving the findings in the SFRA, we envisage a policy that: - seeks to minimise the likelihood and impact of flooding from all sources. - allows the replacement of individual dwellings in flood zone 3b provided that appropriate measures are taken to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding. - ensures suitable arrangements are in place for future management and maintenance of drainage infrastructure. - ensures that surface water discharges from brownfield sites are restricted to as close to greenfield rates as feasible. - requires development to be considered against a new Joint Local Plan SFRA (or any updates that supersede this). - incorporates recommendations from a new Joint Local Plan SFRA for managing flood risk in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse. - ensures multifunctional SuDS, which provide a range of benefits for people and nature and improve water quality - requires major development to comply with the latest local standards and guidance for surface water drainage produced by the Lead Local Flood Authority (Oxfordshire County Council) .	++	+	0	++	++	0	0	+	0	+	++	Proposals are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of reducing flood risk and promoting adaptation to the effects of climate change (objs 11 and 5). Criteria promoting SUDs will have further strong positive effects in terms of biodiversity and improvements in water quality (obj 4 and 1). All the above will have knock on benefits in terms of human health and wellbeing (obj 2), management of natural resources (obj 8) and protecting businesses from effects of flood risk (obj 10).
B	Carry forward current policies. The current policies are out of date due to the changes to the sequential test updated in the NPPF. In addition, by rolling forward the current policies we miss out on the opportunity to do more in terms of SuDS.	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	Current policies are also predicted to result in positive flood risk and climate change adaptation effects, but will miss opportunities for positive water quality and biodiversity effects associated with SUDs criteria provided by option A.
	Policy CE7												
	Water efficiency	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - moves towards the new, tighter water efficiency standard of 100 litres per person per day as set out in the government's Environmental Improvement Plan, exceeding the current building regulations - requires major non-residential development to meet water efficiency standards set out by a recognised accreditation scheme like BREEAM - encourages developers to be ambitious and to strive for exemplar water efficiency standards wherever possible - encourages development to incorporate water saving measures such as smart meters, water saving fixtures and fittings, rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling systems - encourages development at site allocations to maximise water efficiency through community-scale rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling schemes.	+	0	0	+	++	0	0	+	0	0	++	Proposals are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of water efficiency and adaptation to the effects of climate change (obj 11 and 5). Measures are also predicted to have positive effects in terms of the overall water quality of the districts' waterbodies and their biodiversity (obj 1 and 4), as well as management of natural resources (obj 8).
B	Set water efficiency requirements at 110, which is the level required by Building Regulations. This option is not preferred as our area in under significant water stress and the council wants to take proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change through introducing the most stringent standards for new development.	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	A water efficiency requirement of 110l/p/d is still predicted to have positive effects in terms of obj 11 although the magnitude of effects is predicted to be lower than in option A. It is assumed that all elements of option A would be retained.
C	Do not set water efficiency requirements for non-residential development. This would retain most elements of Option A, but would remove the proposed requirement for major non-residential development to demonstrate they are meeting water efficiency standards using a recognised accreditation scheme like BREEAM. This could miss opportunities to help maximise water efficiency in the districts for non-residential developments, particularly as the Building Regulations do not set specific water efficiency requirements for kinds of building like schools, shops, offices, leisure facilities, industrial and scientific premises.	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Lack of requirements for non-residential development is predicted to decrease the magnitude of positive water efficiency effects compared to option A.
D	Require development at strategic site allocations to maximise water efficiency through community-scale rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling schemes. This would retain most elements of Option A, but instead of encouraging development at site allocations to implement community-scale rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling schemes this would become a requirement that development must provide.	+	0	0	+	++	0	0	+	0	0	++	Requirement for mandatory community-scale schemes at site allocations and major development would have strong positive water efficiency effects (of greater magnitude than option A).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 4: Reducing Carbon Emissions		SEA Objective											
	Policy CE8												
	Water quality and wastewater infrastructure	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - ensures development protects and enhances water quality - ensures any potential negative impacts on water quality are appropriately assessed and mitigated - ensures development does not prevent legal requirements being met - ensures there is adequate wastewater treatment capacity to serve development - ensures where wastewater infrastructure capacity constraints are identified, development is not occupied until the necessary infrastructure upgrades have been completed - prevents new connections of surface water to a designated foul water sewer. This policy could be combined with a policy on water efficiency in future versions of the Joint Local Plan.	++	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	++	Proposals are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of water quality and sustainable water resource management (objs 1 and 11). Knock on benefits are predicted in terms of human health, biodiversity, climate change adaptation and management of natural resources (obj 2,4,5 and 8).
B	Do not include legal requirements within the policy. This would be the same as Option A, but it without reference to specific legal requirements. Compliance with legal requirements is a matter of law. These requirements would still apply, with or without reference in the Joint Local Plan. Therefore, it could be considered unnecessary to refer to specific legal requirements within a Joint Local Plan policy. However, our preference is to include reference to specific legal requirements for clarity and completeness.	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	Policy option A reinforces that individual development should not prevent attainment of legal standards. The omission of reference to legal requirements within option B is predicted to reduce magnitude of positive effects for objs 1 and 11. Otherwise the two policy options score equally.
	Policy CE9												
	Air quality	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - ensures that where there is a risk of negative impacts on air quality and/or exposure to poor air quality this is appropriately assessed and addressed. - ensures that addressing negative impacts on air quality and/or exposure to poor air quality follows a hierarchical approach of: 1. avoid 2. minimise 3. mitigate 4. compensate (as a last resort) - identifies opportunities to protect and enhance air quality in the districts (for example through design and the provision of green infrastructure).	++	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Proposals are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of pollution reduction and associated human health for both new and existing residents (objs 1 and 2). Given the adverse impacts pollutants can have on ecosystems, positive effects are also predicted for biodiversity obj 4. Poor air quality can also have detrimental economic impacts and therefore proposals are predicted to have positive effects in terms of economic growth (obj 10).
B	Do not set out when air quality assessments will be required. Same as Option A but without setting specific requirements to assess air quality impacts.	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Less stringent policy requirements are predicted to reduce magnitude of positive pollution and health effects.
C	Do not have an air quality policy - reliance on national policy	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	As above
	Policy CE10												
	Pollution sources and receptors	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - ensures that occupiers of new development proposals will not be subject to individual and/or cumulative adverse effect(s) of pollution. - does not permit development likely to be adversely affected by pollution. - ensures that new development proposals do not result in significant adverse impacts on human health, the natural environment and/or the amenity of neighbouring uses. - in terms of noise pollution (and other nuisance-generating uses), implements the 'agent of change' principle.	++	++	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	Proposals are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of pollution reduction and associated human health for both new and existing residents (objs 1 and 2). Habitats and species can be affected by several sources of pollution, including noise and light, and therefore positive effects are also predicted for biodiversity (obj 5). Control of hazardous substances is predicted to have positive effects for management of natural resource (obj 8) and controls on artificial light pollution are predicted to have positive landscape effects particularly in sensitive landscapes (obj 7).
B	Have no policy on pollution in the Joint Local Plan and instead rely on national policy/guidance in the NPPF/planning practice guidance. We do not prefer this alternative option because it would not provide clear requirements on how new developments should respond to the adverse effects of pollution and other adverse impacts and prevent these impacts which could arise as a consequence of new development. It would also not reflect the vision we have for the plan to create places "where people are safe from pollution".	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Reliance on national policy may still yield positive effects in terms of pollution reduction and health, although the lack of specific, local guidance could miss opportunities to increase magnitude of these effects and positive effects for objs 4, 7 and 8 predicted for option A.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 4: Reducing Carbon Emissions		SEA Objective											
	Policy CE11												
	Light pollution and dark skies	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Include a policy that: - ensures all new development is designed to minimise light pollution. - includes clear design criteria as well as considerations to be met by all proposals involving external lighting schemes. - protects the darkest areas in our districts identified through our Dark Skies Assessment, by only permitting proposals for external lighting in exceptional circumstances and sets clear requirements to reduce light spill through glazing. - where possible, encourages development proposals to support the restoration and improvement of areas to enhance and or extend dark skies. - recognises the need for artificial lighting for the purposes of sports, security and safety, but ensures that in these circumstances that the impact of light pollution on the surrounding environment is fully considered and minimised.	++	+	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	A separate policy is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of pollution reduction and landscape (obj 1 and 7) with knock on benefits for health and wellbeing and biodiversity both of which can suffer adverse effects through light pollution (obj 2 and 4).
B	Keep requirements on light pollution within the general pollution policy. Under this option, the proposed pollution sources and receptors policy (Policy CE10) would be all the Joint Local Plan contains on light pollution. The plan would not provide any specific requirements on minimising light pollution or on protecting dark skies. We do not prefer this option because we have good coverage of dark skies in the districts and these are worthy of protection. Having a separate policy on light pollution and/or dark skies will set clear and tailored expectations around how we expect new development proposals to respond to the impacts of light pollution. Having a separate policy will also help to provide necessary emphasis on the importance of protecting our darkest skies as well as generally minimising light pollution throughout our districts.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Lack of policy will miss opportunities for positive effects associated with option A through specific requirements conferred by a dedicated policy. See also scoring of policy CE10.
C	Have no policy on light pollution and/or dark skies in the Joint Local Plan and instead rely on national policy/guidance in the NPPF/planning practice guidance. This alternative option is not preferred as it would not provide clear requirements on how new developments should minimise the impacts of light pollution and protect the darkest skies in our districts. This could lead to light pollution worsening across our districts, particularly in those identified dark skies areas which could have an adverse impact on the environment, nature, people and landscapes.	-	-	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	No policy risks light pollution effects with adverse effects for human, biodiversity and landscape receptors.
	Policy CE12												
	Soils and contaminated land	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - protects the districts' best and most versatile agricultural land - identifies opportunities to protect and enhance soils during construction - ensures land contamination risks are appropriately assessed - ensures land contamination is appropriately remediated/mitigated. Rely on national policy and guidance, instead of setting detailed policy requirements on land stability.	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	+	Proposals would have strong positive effects in terms of protection of natural resources, particularly BMV agricultural land (obj 8), as well as knock on benefits in terms of water quality (obj 1 and 11), human health (obj 2) and biodiversity (obj 4).
B	Require soil surveys and soil management plans for developments over a specified size threshold. This would be in addition to Option A. Undertaking a soil survey would provide information on a site's soil quality and functions. A soil management plan could then be prepared to help ensure that soils are appropriately protected during the construction process. However, this could be a substantial additional burden on developers if chemical analysis and physical assessment were required. This could go further than current requirements for assessing land contamination, and therefore may be disproportionate. Further guidance on the information developers would be expected to provide and how this information would be assessed by the councils would be required to implement this policy approach.	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	+	Requirement for soil surveys for large developments would be expected to increase magnitude of positive effects in terms of conservation of natural resource.
C	Set detailed, locally specific policy requirements on land stability. This would be in addition to most elements of Option A, but instead of relying solely on national planning policy and guidance in considering land stability issues we would also have a detailed policy approach specific to South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse. Land stability has not been identified as a significant issue in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse. (Land stability tends to be a particular issue in ex-mining and coastal areas.) Therefore, a detailed policy approach on land stability in the Joint Local Plan is unlikely to be necessary, appropriate or proportionate. Land stability would instead be considered on a site-by-site basis, where relevant, in accordance with national planning policy and guidance.	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	+	The inclusion of land stability requirements would be expected to increase magnitude of positive effects in terms of conservation of natural resource, although it is noted that land stability is not a significant issue in the districts.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 4: Reducing Carbon Emissions			SEA Objective										
		Policy CE13											
		Minerals safeguarded areas	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Have a policy that: - directs development that would prevent or otherwise hinder the possible future extraction of minerals away from Minerals Safeguarding Areas - where development in Minerals Safeguarding Areas cannot be avoided, encourage developers to extract minerals prior to non-minerals development taking place - highlights the need to consider the Minerals and Waste Local Plan in determining planning applications for non-minerals development in Minerals Safeguarding Areas - highlights the need to consult the mineral planning authority (Oxfordshire County Council) on all planning applications for development within a Minerals Consultation Area.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	Proposals are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of preventing the sterilisation of natural mineral resource.
	B	Do not have a policy on mineral safeguarding areas. This would not align with national planning policy and guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	A lack of policy would likely risk the potential loss or sterilisation of mineral resource.
		Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix												
	++	Likely strong positive effect												
	+	Likely positive effect												
	0	Neutral/no effect												
	-	Likely adverse effect												
	--	Likely strong adverse effect												
	+/-	Mixed effects												
	?	Uncertain effects												
	SEA Objectives													
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.													
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for “healthy places” and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.													
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.													
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.													
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.													
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.													
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.													
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.													
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.													
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.													
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.													

Policy Options SA – Chapter 5: Spatial Strategy & Settlements		SEA Objective											
	Policy SP1												
Option	Spatial strategy	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	Commentary (where applicable)
A	We want to guide new development to Science Vale, to our Garden Communities and to locations in the highest tiers of the settlement hierarchy (Tiers 1, 2 and 3) as set out in Policy SP1. In smaller settlements in Tier 4, some more specific brownfield development is also appropriate within the built-up area. This helps to reduce the need to travel and help people shift towards more sustainable travel patterns. We also want to take opportunities for renewal and regeneration, by supporting the redevelopment of well-located brownfield land, and we will introduce some new site allocations to help support this aim, as well as supporting brownfield developments that come forward as windfalls where it helps to achieve our other aim to reduce the need to travel. We will also support the delivery of our viable and developable existing allocations, which align with our new spatial strategy. Site allocations have been reviewed to see how they perform against the new spatial strategy. We want to support the preparation of new neighbourhood plans that will reinforce this spatial strategy, but also encourage ambitious projects if parish or town councils want to deliver more. Our spatial strategy should protect Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Green Belt. We have started a review to look for the potential to enhance and even possibly extend the Oxford Green Belt in our Districts.	+/-	+	++	0	+	-	0	++	++	+	-	Please see standalone assessment tables in Appendix F
B	Greenfield expansion at Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements This option would permit some suitable greenfield sites adjacent to Tier 1, 2 and 3 settlements which would give more housing supply and choice at our most sustainable settlements. This option would significantly over-supply the amount of housing beyond what is needed to meet local needs. This option is unlikely to help achieve the aims for carbon neutrality, reducing the need to travel or maximising brownfield redevelopment opportunities. It may add traffic on the roads and create pressure on community infrastructure, the delivery of which in some cases still needs to catch up from the last round of allocations. It may also slow down or undermine the delivery of housing and other development principles at our three Garden Communities.	-	-	-	+/-	-	0	-	-	+	-	-	Please see standalone assessment tables in Appendix F
C	Co-location of housing and employment, including development on greenfield sites This could be achieved by the Joint Local Plan setting development targets at settlements where co-location of housing and employment already exists (Tier 1 settlements), or it could be achieved by making new allocations at strategically important employment locations. This option would be a choice to allocate more development than we need to deliver. As such it may add pressure on community facilities and transport networks. This alternative is very likely to support new sustainable transport networks and connections because of our focus for development within Tier 1 settlements. The current spatial strategies for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse (and partly Option A) overlaps with this alternative, because some of the existing allocated sites fall within the Science Vale area where it could support co-location of housing and employment within that cluster of sites and Tier 1 settlements.	+/-	+/-	+	0	+	+/-	0	+	+	+	-	Please see standalone assessment tables in Appendix F
D	More dispersed pattern of development including at smaller villages (Tier 4) within the Settlement Hierarchy This would involve setting development targets for parishes or settlements in the districts. This would reflect the approach in the current spatial strategy of the South Oxfordshire local plan to support more development at smaller settlements (the equivalent of Tier 4) as well as at Tiers 1, 2 and 3. This approach could support smaller villages and maintaining their vitality and it encourages a high level of participation in neighbourhood plan making. We do not prefer this option because it is likely to lead to more homes being dispersed to places where there are fewer jobs, services and facilities, and is less likely to support a shift to more sustainable modes of transport including active travel like walking and cycling. Our housing numbers don't require us to make this ask again of neighbourhood plans.	-	-	-	+/-	-	-	-	+/-	+	+/-	-	Please see standalone assessment tables in Appendix F

Policy Options SA – Chapter 5: Spatial Strategy & Settlements		SEA Objective											
	Policy SP2												
Option	**Settlement hierarchy**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	The preferred option for the settlement hierarchy merges the existing district settlement hierarchies to make them consistent across South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse. It updates the underlying information about services and facilities for each settlement. The preferred option focuses on the inclusion of the most sustainable settlements within the settlement hierarchy, and consequently the smaller and less sustainable settlements are classed as being within the countryside. This leads to a settlement hierarchy with 4 distinct tiers of settlements. The preferred option followed a settlement assessment methodology focussing on the range and scale of services and facilities within each of the settlements within the districts, while also considering the proximity and connectivity between settlements through cycling, walking and public transport. The settlement assessment reviewed the services each settlement contains to get an up to date reflection of facilities, with some settlements moving to a higher (relative) tier in the merged hierarchy and other settlements which have lost services and facilities, moving to a lower (relative) tier. Some settlements with few services and facilities, which were contained within the previous district hierarchies are not now considered to be sustainable settlements and are consequently classed as being within the countryside within the updated settlement hierarchy.	+	+	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	Developing a settlement hierarchy which focuses on levels of service provision, proximity and connectivity of settlements and removes the smaller settlements will have strong positive effects in terms of accessibility (obj 3), with knock on benefits in terms of pollution, health and wellbeing, carbon emissions and economic growth (obj 1, 2, 5 and 10).
B	Retain the existing settlement hierarchies. This option would provide a continuity of settlement hierarchy tiers from the previous local plans. However due to the differences in the districts existing methodologies, this option would lead to 5 tiers of settlements within the hierarchy, with a lack of consistency across the districts and tiers. This option would not take account of any updated information about the current services and facilities at the settlements. By retaining more settlements within the settlement hierarchy, the option could support more development at smaller settlements. This approach could support smaller villages and maintain their vitality as well as encouraging a high level of participation in neighbourhood plan making. We do not prefer this option because it is not consistent across the districts, is out of date in terms of current levels of facilities as well as being likely to lead to more homes being dispersed to places where there are fewer jobs, services and facilities, and is less likely to support a shift to more sustainable modes of transport including active travel like walking and cycling.	?	?	?	0	?	0	0	0	0	?	0	The inclusion of smaller settlements in the hierarchy could result in more development in less sustainable locations and hence uncertain effects are predicted in terms of accessibility (obj 3), with knock on in terms of pollution, health, carbon emissions and economic growth (obj 1, 2, 5 and 10).
C	Amend the methodology to increase the score of settlements which are well connected to other settlements. This option is similar to Option A, but there is a change in the weightings used, with additional weight applied to settlements where the connections between settlements is available. This would likely lead to some settlements which are well connected or in close proximity to higher order settlements being classed in a higher and more sustainable tier themselves. Settlements which do not necessarily have many services and facilities themselves, but are well located near to the services and facilities of a larger settlement would receive a higher score under this methodology. The connectivity of settlements is considered under the preferred option, but this option places additional weight on being able to travel between settlements. By placing additional weight on connectivity, settlements in proximity to larger settlements, but are not self-sufficient and rely on other settlements for services and facilities would be classed as more sustainable under this methodology. We do not prefer this option because connection between settlements can vary over time for example through changes to the rural bus network. Proximity and connectivity are already taken into account as part of the preferred option.	?	?	+	0	?	0	0	0	0	?	0	The magnitude of positive effects for accessibility (obj 3) is predicted to reduce compared to option A as the increased weighting of proximity and connectivity may increase travel between settlements. As a result uncertain effects are predicted in terms of pollution, health, carbon emissions and economic growth (obj 1, 2, 5 and 10).
D	Not have a settlement hierarchy. This option would mean that policies which currently refer to what type of development is appropriate in certain tiers would either have to become vaguer or include specific details about certain settlements. The current stepped approach to settlements directs development towards the most sustainable locations, so the removal of a hierarchy is likely to lose this nuance. Furthermore, development proposals would be considered on a case by case basis to ascertain if the principle is appropriate in that location, which is inefficient. This option is not supported.	?	?	-	0	?	0	0	0	0	?	0	The lack of settlement hierarchy would have adverse accessibility effects as development is not necessarily directed to the most sustainable locations. As a result uncertain effects are predicted in terms of pollution, health, carbon emissions and economic growth (obj 1, 2, 5 and 10).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 5: Spatial Strategy & Settlements		SEA Objective											
	Policy SP3												
	The strategy for Didcot Garden Town	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	To update the Didcot policy and principles that will apply to development within the Didcot masterplan area and to provide greater clarity within the Didcot policy about the importance of the surrounding Area of Influence. Refer to and reflect the updated Didcot Garden Town Delivery Plan 2022 and take on board any relevant policy changes in the emerging Joint Local Plan. To include the masterplan boundary and Area of Influence boundary on the policies map, appropriately drawn to either administrative or physical boundaries.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Effects will be dependent on how the Didcot strategy is implemented. However, the principles set out within the preferred policy wording are predicted to contribute positively to all sustainability objectives with the magnitude and nature of effects dependent on implementation.
B	Maintain the previous local plan's Didcot policy and high-level development principles for South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse and continue to use the adopted policies and the boundaries.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
C	Do not include any policy on Didcot Garden Town in the Joint Local Plan. Remove the principles from planning policy to guide the remaining development of Didcot Garden Town.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Option does not include any principles for appraisal, however lack of policy may miss opportunities to maximise positive effects associated with option A.
	Policies SP4 to SP9												
	Strategies for Abingdon-on-Thames, Faringdon, Henley-on-Thames, Thame, Wallingford and Wantage	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	
A	To have strategies for Tier 1 settlements that: - set a framework for the key elements that each Town should aim to achieve, delivered through projects and proposals within neighbourhood development plans or through individual planning applications. - are responsive to what the Towns require by reflecting the findings of the Retail Needs Study - sets a framework for Thame to deliver its outstanding requirements - at least 335 homes (as of 1 April 2022).	See rows below for specific town strategy assessments											As for Didcot Option A, the effects of these policies will be dependent on how the policies / NPs are implemented. However the preferred policy wording for each settlement has the potential to contribute to positive effects for a number of sustainability objectives as shown in the rows below.
i	Abingdon-on-Thames	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	
ii	Faringdon	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	
iii	Henley-on-Thames	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	
iv	Thame	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	
v	Wallingford	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	
vi	Wantage	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	
B	More detailed strategies for Tier 1 settlements similar to the Didcot Garden Town Strategy, with detailed projects and proposals with sites to help deliver the policy. This would potentially involve new site allocations or schemes without leaving much scope or freedom for decisions to be taken through neighbourhood plans.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option B could contribute positively to a number of sustainability objectives although no detail is provided within the option on which to score each objective.
C	No specific town-based strategies, allow the rest of the development plan to guide development in these Tier 1 settlements This isn't our preferred approach because it would be a missed opportunity to focus on the key challenges and opportunities that our evidence base suggests would benefit the towns. If we chose option C, it wouldn't be possible to emphasise how the Joint Local Plan's vision and objectives could be interpreted in each of the towns.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Option C does not include any specific detail on which to base an assessment; however it is likely that lack of specific strategies / policies could miss opportunities to maximise positive effects for many of the sustainability objectives.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 5: Spatial Strategy & Settlements		SEA Objective												
	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix													
	++	Likely strong positive effect												
	+	Likely positive effect												
	0	Neutral/no effect												
	-	Likely adverse effect												
	--	Likely strong adverse effect												
	+/-	Mixed effects												
	?	Uncertain effects												
	SEA Objectives													
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.													
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for “healthy places” and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.													
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.													
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.													
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.													
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.													
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.													
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.													
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.													
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.													
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.													

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing		SEA Objective											
	Policy HOU1												
Option	**Housing requirement**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Using the standard method, with an increase to allow for existing agreed unmet need from Oxford City.	-	+	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	Please see standalone assessment table in Appendix G.
B	Maintain existing levels of housing need.	--	++	n/a	--	--	--	--	--	++	++	--	Please see standalone assessment table in Appendix G.
C	Using only the standard method.	-	+	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	Please see standalone assessment table in Appendix G.
D	Reflecting the Oxfordshire Growth Deal in a new housing needs assessment	--	++	n/a	--	--	--	--	--	++	++	--	Please see standalone assessment table in Appendix G.
	Policy HOU2												
	Sources of housing supply	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Include a policy in the plan that identifies the expected trajectory of housing delivery over the plan period. We will update the trajectory for each time we consult on the plan to reflect the latest information on likely delivery rates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This policy in itself is not predicted to have any sustainability effects. The effects of the implementation of the site allocations have been assessed separately as part of the Chapter 8 Policy SA (supported by individual site assessment reports).
B	Identify more housing supply. In addition to the sites we have identified in Chapter 8 we would allocate more land for housing development.												The Policy HOU1 assessment above, supported by a standalone technical note with detailed assessment table, provides an indication of the relative sustainability impacts of different quantums of housing provision. Therefore, a separate assessment of Policy H2 options B & C has not been provided here. However, in general terms, a higher housing supply has greater potential for adverse sustainability impacts for objs 1,4-8, and 11. There is potential for more positive effects associated with housing, economic growth and health and wellbeing (objs 9, 10 & 1), as increasing the housing supply has the potential to meet the housing needs of specific groups in the community with health and wellbeing benefits. The de-allocation of sites is likely to have the opposite effects for the objectives described.
C	Reduce the housing supply.												As above
	Policy HOU3												
	Affordable housing	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	A 50% affordable housing policy A policy that sets out a 50% affordable housing requirement for both South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse for: - All new major housing developments (where there is a net gain of ten or more homes) - All new housing developments of a net gain of 5 or more homes in the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Designated Rural Areas The 50% affordable housing would be split as follows: - 25% social rented - 2.5% affordable rented - 12.5% First Homes - 10% Other routes to affordable home ownership Ahead of our next public consultation, we will also assess the appropriate affordable housing contributions for the following development types, and include these standards within the policy: - Specialist elderly accommodation - Build to Rent developments	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	Given high levels of affordable housing need in the districts, policy options delivering higher % of affordable homes will score more positively against obj 9, with knock on benefits in terms of health and wellbeing (obj 2).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing			SEA Objective										
	B	An alternation option would follow the same approach as option a), but include a requirement for 40% of homes on sites of 10 or more homes to be affordable (5 or more in the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Designated Rural Areas). This would comprise: - 25% social rented - 2.5% affordable rented - 12.5% First Homes	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	As above
	C	An alternative option would follow the same approach as option a) but include a requirement for 75% of homes on sites of 10 or more homes to be affordable (5 or more in the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Designated Rural Areas). This would comprise: - 25% social rented - 2.5% affordable rented - 12.5% First Homes - 35% Routes to affordable home ownership	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	As above
		Policy HOU4												
		Housing mix and size	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Our preferred option is to have a policy that: - plans for the right size and type of homes, as evidenced through the Joint Housing Needs Assessment. This will be set at a level that is deliverable and viable. This will provide a mix of different sized homes from 1-bedroom up to 4 or more bedrooms. The requirement for each size will be set as a percentage of the total number of homes being delivered. This will be sought on all new residential developments. - considers whether the extensions / enlargements of smaller homes in the area has had an impact on the need for more smaller 1 and 2 bedroom properties; - requires all new residential developments to be built to Part M (4) Category 2: accessible and adaptable dwellings standards, as set out in Building Regulations consultation. - requires a percentage of total housing stock to be delivered as wheelchair accessible properties, in line with Part M (4) Category 3: wheelchair accessible dwellings (as set out in the Building Regulations). - supports and encourages the provision of ground floor dwellings as part of mix to meet the needs of older people looking to move to more accessible homes.	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	Policy will ensure that a range of housing is supplied within the districts with strong positive housing effects (obj 9), and strong positive knock on health and wellbeing effects (obj 2) through meeting needs of specific community groups .
	B	To have a policy as set out in Option A above. However, we would not investigate whether the extension of smaller properties in the districts requires more 1 and 2 bedroom homes on new developments.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	As above although magnitude of positive housing effects may be reduced by not investigating impact of extensions on smaller property availability.
	C	To have a policy that reflects only the Building Regulations consultation about building all new homes as accessible and adaptable (Building Regulations Class M4(2)). The policy would not specify a mix of bedroom sizes, instead leaving Planning Officers to negotiate an appropriate mix based on the applicant's evidence. We do not think this option is appropriate as it would fail to ensure that planning policies set out the needs of different people in the community in accordance with Paragraph 62 of the NPPF.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	For option C, the magnitude of positive housing and health effects is likely to still be positive but largely reduced compared to options A and B.
		Policy HOU5												
		Housing for older people	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Our preferred option is to: - focus housing needs for older people on development sites allocated for 500 or more homes (as set out in Chapter 8) - in addition to the sites delivering 500 or more homes, have a policy that supports planning applications for older people's accommodation in places that are consistent with the spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy.	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	Focussing housing needs for older people on strategic development sites is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of housing (obj 9) and health & wellbeing (obj 2). Impacts of development on individual strategic development sites is provided as part of Chapter 8 SA, including the accessibility impacts of sites.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing			SEA Objective										
	B	We could allocate sites to meet the remaining need for older person's accommodation if our planned strategic allocations cannot address the needs for specialist elderly accommodation in full. This option may not bring the benefits of co-locating elderly accommodation in locations where we are planning to deliver new infrastructure. Under this option, we would prioritise well-located brownfield sites in our selection process to be consistent with the spatial strategy, but if we needed to find greenfield allocations, this could conflict with the strategy of the plan and might not maximise the efficient use of land.	0	+	?	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	Allocating sites for any remaining need would ensure strong positive housing effects (obj 9) are delivered, although magnitude of health effects (obj 2) may be compromised by potential for uncertain accessibility of sites (obj 3).
	C	This option involves asking neighbourhood plan groups to make site allocations for specialist elderly accommodation. It would involve setting a target for suitable Neighbourhood Development Plans to plan for a defined number of specialist housing units for older people. These are likely to be settlements in the higher tiers of the settlement hierarchy. Delegating this decision to neighbourhood planning groups may not result in a timely identification of sites to meet the need. However, if the evidence demonstrates that the need for older persons accommodation cannot be met on our planned allocations this option may be needed.	0	+	?	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	These types of specialist accommodation often require a certain critical mass in order to be viable, this may limit the number of NPs that could or would want to consider this form of development. This may limit the magnitude of positive housing effects (obj 9) compared with option A and B.
		Policy HOU6												
		Self-build and custom-build housing	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Our preferred option is to include a policy that identifies and addresses the need for self-build and custom-build housing in our districts. We believe that the sites delivering 500 or more homes allocations we have identified in Chapter 8 provide sustainable locations where we can achieve the delivery of self-build and custom-build plots. If the need for these plots exceeds what these our strategic sites can accommodate, we may need to consider allocating further sites. Where we do require sites to provide self-build and custom-build housing, we will set a percentage of the total number of homes on site to be set aside as serviced plots. The policy will require the site promoter to market these serviced plots as follows: a. Firstly, as self-build or custom-build serviced plots for 12 months, then b. Subsequently as shell homes for 12 months, where the applicant can demonstrate that it was not possible to deliver the self-build and/or custom housebuilding plots Where the serviced plots, shell homes, or self-finish homes have been appropriately marketed and have not sold within this time period, they may be built out by the developer for conventional market housing. The policy will also set out how we will respond to planning applications for custom and self-build housing not on these sites, providing advice on which locations we will support it and giving design guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	Proposals will have positive housing effects (obj 9) through flexibly meeting local demand for self-build / custom-build housing. Impacts of development on individual strategic development sites is provided as part of Chapter 8 SA. Diversification of the housing market and encouragement of small and medium sized house builders may also have minor positive economic effects (obj 10).
	B	As with option A, we would have a policy that requires our allocated sites delivering 500 or more homes to deliver a percentage of the homes as serviced plots. However, instead of a sequential marketing of plots as first serviced plots, then shell homes, we would require the site owner to instead market: 1. 50% of self-build and custom-build units as a serviced plot for self-builders or custom housebuilders, and 2. 50% of self-build and custom-build units as shell homes or self-finish homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	Less flexible approach could result in inability to meet demand with mixed effects for this particular housing type.
	C	As with options A and B, we would have a policy that requires our allocated sites delivering 500 or more homes to deliver a percentage of the homes as serviced plots. However, instead of a sequential marketing of plots as first serviced plots, then shell homes, we would require the site owner to instead market plots as either serviced plots or as shell homes / self-finish homes, having regard to the need shown on the councils' self-build and custom housebuilding register.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	As above

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing		SEA Objective											
	Policy HOU7												
	Affordable self and custom-build housing	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that sets out when an application for self-build or custom-build housing would need to contribute to affordable housing delivery in our districts. There are many ways to this, for example through selling plots at a discount rate, constructing shell homes to lease to affordable tenants, or making a financial contribution to delivering traditional models of affordable housing elsewhere. Furthermore, the policy should set out the circumstances where we would support a developer delivering affordable self-build and custom-build plots in lieu of traditional forms of affordable housing (see Policy HOU3). Our policy would only support this where both the council and the applicant have agreed that it would not be viable to provide standard affordable housing. To ensure that these properties remain affordable for future purchasers, all affordable self-build or custom-build plots will need to be restricted in size to ensure they remain affordable (as opposed to large scale "Grand Design" style projects). We will therefore condition such developments to be no larger than 108 sqm in gross internal area (the same as a 3 bed, 3 person home according to the national space standards). We will also remove the permitted development rights (i.e. changes you can make to your home without planning permission) on affordable self-build and custom-build homes.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Proposals will contribute positively through contribution to range of housing types for those requiring affordable homes.
B	Provision for affordable self-build and custom-build housing on sites just for self-build and custom-build, but not in lieu of standard affordable housing on sites built by standard housebuilders.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	As above
C	No provision for affordable self-build and custom-build housing.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	0	Potential for adverse housing effects if groups requiring affordable self-build are identified although uncertain effects concluded overall as this is unknown.
	Policy HOU8												
	Replacement dwellings in the countryside	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that supplements the settlement hierarchy (Policy SP2) by expanding on the criteria we will use to assess planning applications for replacement dwellings in the countryside.	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	Proposals will have positive housing effects in terms of replacing dwellings (obj 9), whilst ensuring landscape protections particularly in sensitive landscapes (obj 7). The inclusion of criteria a in the draft policy wording will have positive effects in terms of reducing embodied carbon (obj 5).
B	Less restrictive policy with more limited criteria.	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	+	0	0	Positive housing effects also predicted for option B but with uncertain landscape effects through less restrictive policy wording introducing potential for landscape harm.
	Policy HOU9												
	Sub-division of houses	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	We will have a policy that sets out what we will consider when determining planning applications to sub-divide a building or plot.	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Policy is predicted to have positive housing effects through contribution to the housing stock in the districts, and the proposed policy criteria are predicted to contribute positively to obj 1 pollution, obj 2 health and wellbeing and obj 3 accessibility by protecting amenity and ensuring development in appropriate locations.
B	No policy for sub-dividing buildings or plots.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Policy option itself is predicted to be neutral in sustainability terms.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing			SEA Objective										
		Policy HOU10											
		Meeting the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Option A - Preferred: The Oxfordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) will identify each district's needs for new pitches and plots arising during the plan period. Where a need is identified we will allocate sufficient sites to address this need as follows: 1) by allocating (or continuing to allocate) pitches / plots on residential site allocations in this plan (see Chapter 8). If this does not address the need, then in addition to this: 2) by intensifying and expanding existing and committed gypsy and traveller sites in our districts, where this satisfies key design and locational criteria (to be developed for the next consultation). If this does not address the need, then in addition to this: 3) by allocating additional, new sites for plots and pitches.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Proposals will contribute positively to obj 9 through provision of pitches / plots for GTTS. Impacts associated with development on strategic sites are considered as part of the Chapter 8 SA. Effects associated with expanding / intensifying existing sites and / or allocating new sites will be location dependent and cannot be assessed at this stage and will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis.
	B	The Oxfordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) will identify each district's needs for new pitches and plots arising during the plan period. We will allocate sufficient sites to address this need as follows: 1) By intensifying and expanding existing gypsy and traveller sites in our districts, where this is appropriate and consistent with the spatial strategy. If this does not address the need, then in addition to this: 2) By allocating additional, new sites for plots and pitches.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	As above , the policy overall will contribute positive to obj 9, however the effects associated with expanding / intensifying existing sites and / or allocating new sites will be location dependent and cannot be assessed at this stage and will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis.
	C	The Oxfordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) will identify each district's needs for new pitches and plots arising during the plan period. We will address as much of this need as possible by intensifying and expanding existing gypsy and traveller sites in our districts, where this is appropriate. If this does not address the need, then in addition to this we will include a permissive "windfall" policy that identifies locations where we will support new pitches and plots. This would need to be consistent with the spatial strategy (Policy SP1) and the Settlement Hierarchy (Policy SP2).	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	As above, effects will depend on how the policy option is implemented in spatial terms although focussing on existing sites may restrict adverse effects associated with greenfield development.
		Policy HOU11											
		Proposals for / affecting Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show people's sites	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Policy HOU10 will allocate sufficient pitches/plots to address the identified need for each district, however applications may nevertheless come forward outside of this need. This policy will provide a basis for decision making where proposals come forward on sites not allocated in Policy HOU10 and form the basis for considering proposals that affect existing authorised sites. The policy will set out the criteria that proposals for new pitches/plots will be considered against, including: • location • impacts of development on amenity, character etc. • management arrangements • design and appearance. The policy will also seek to protect existing authorised sites from being lost unless certain criteria are satisfied.	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	Proposals are predicted to provide pitches to meet the required needs of GTTS groups (obj 9) as well as providing protection against amenity and landscape impacts (objs 1 & 7) and direct pitches to accessible locations (obj 3).
	B	Policy HOU10 will allocate sufficient pitches/plots to address the identified need for each district, however applications may nevertheless come forward outside of this need. Where proposals for pitches/plots come forward outside of sites allocated in Policy HOU10 they will be considered against the general housing policies in the plan. Additionally, no specific policy will be in place to guard against the potential loss of existing sites or yards.	?	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	-	0	0	Lack of specific policy and reliance on policies focussed towards bricks and mortar development risk adverse amenity (obj 1 & 2) and landscape effects (obj 7). It may also restrict additional pitches/plots coming forward where needed as they would unlikely be able to compete with market housing development (obj 9).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing		SEA Objective											
	Policy HOU12												
	Rural and First Homes exception sites	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	To expand on national policy and guidance, allowing affordable housing to come forward in areas where housing development would otherwise be restricted. Doing so would allow the policy to define the circumstances where the councils would support such affordable housing schemes, including: - location within or adjoining settlements - accessibility - scale The policy will also set out the circumstances where it might be appropriate to include market housing as part of the development, to ensure the affordable housing can be viably delivered.	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	+/-	0	++	+	0	Proposals will contribute positively to housing need (obj 9) and retaining viability of rural communities (obj 10). Rural development carries risk of adverse accessibility and landscape effects, however the policy wording does provides protections in this regard and therefore mixed effects are predicted for obj 3 and 7.
B	To take a more restrictive approach to defining suitable locations where rural exceptions sites and First Homes exceptions sites would be allowed. This may include: - linking the policy to the settlement hierarchy - restricting schemes coming forward on land within specific planning designations such as Green Belt or within the AONB	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+/-	0	More restrictive policy approach is predicted to provide greater landscape protections and direct development to more sustainable, accessible locations. However, there is a risk of impacts to rural communities and hence mixed effects are predicted for obj 10.
C	Do not include a specific policy on exception sites, instead proposals will be assessed against criteria set out in national policy and guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Option scores neutrally and effects will be dependent on implementation of other plan policies subject to separate SA.
	Policy HOU13												
	Community-led housing development	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	To identify in principle support for community- led housing proposals, setting out the circumstances where we will grant planning permission for such developments.	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Sustainability effects will be dependent on how the policy is implemented and the location of individual proposals; however criteria within the policy will ensure development in sustainable, accessible locations with positive housing effects (obj 9) and accessibility effects (obj 3).
B	Do not write a planning policy for community-led housing developments, and assess proposals for such applications against national planning policies, and other relevant policies in the plan, for example Self and Custom-Build housing or rural exception sites.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Option scores neutrally and effects will be dependent on implementation of other plan policies subject to separate SA.
	Policy HOU14												
	Build to Rent proposals	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Set out criteria that proposals for build to rent applications must satisfy in order to benefit from policy support, including minimum rental periods, claw back mechanism, management and tenancy agreements and appropriate locations.	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sustainability effects will be dependent on how the policy is implemented and the location of individual proposals; however criteria within the policy will ensure development in sustainable, accessible locations (obj 3).
B	Do not have a policy on build to rent and leave it to the market to decide where and how to bring forward these developments. Under this option, we would assess applications for Build to Rent developments in accordance with other relevant housing policies, national policy and guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Option scores neutrally and effects will be dependent on implementation of other plan policies subject to separate SA.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing		SEA Objective											
	Policy HOU15												
	Houses in Multiple Occupation	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Our preferred option is to develop a policy that can be used to determine whether applications for the creation of large HMO are acceptable. This will include restricting the number of large HMO in any particular area.	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	Policy setting specific criteria for HMOs are predicted to have positive effects for objs 1 and 7 by controlling risk of amenity impacts, particularly noise, and impacts to landscape / townscape character.
B	Consider the removal of permitted development rights (through an Article 4 Direction) in certain locations to allow the councils to consider conversion from houses to small HMOs through the planning application process.	?	?	0	0	0	0	?	0	-	0	0	This policy option is likely to lead to decreased supply with adverse housing effects (obj 9). It also carries risk of adverse amenity and landscape effects (obj 1,2 and 7).
	Policy HOU16												
	Residential extensions and annexes	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Our preferred option is to have a policy that sets out criteria for residential extensions and annexes.	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	Policy option is predicted to protect against adverse landscape / townscape effects (obj 7) through ensuring appropriate scale and massing.
B	Don't have a policy on householder extensions, instead relying on the councils' Joint Design Guide to inform decisions on these applications.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Option scores neutrally.
	Policy HOU17												
	Rural workers' dwellings	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Provide a locally specific policy to assess proposals for rural workers' dwellings in the countryside that builds on the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and PPG.	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	+	+	0	Proposals will contribute positively to housing need (obj 9) and protection of the rural economy (obj 10). Rural development carries risk of adverse accessibility and landscape effects (obj 7), however the policy wording does provides protections in this regard and therefore mixed effects are
B	Set locational specific criteria to limit rural workers' dwellings in higher sensitivity areas, for example restrict this form of development within the AONB and/or Green Belt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	Limiting rural workers' dwellings in higher sensitivity areas is predicted to have positive effects in terms of landscape protection (obj 7). However, it is likely to have adverse effects to the rural economy, impacting the vitality of rural communities (obj 10).
C	Do not include a locally specific policy to assess proposals for rural workers' dwellings in the open countryside instead rely on national policy and guidance to determine applications.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Option scores neutrally.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 6: Housing		SEA Objective												
	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix													
	++	Likely strong positive effect												
	+	Likely positive effect												
	0	Neutral/no effect												
	-	Likely adverse effect												
	--	Likely strong adverse effect												
	+/-	Mixed effects												
	?	Uncertain effects												
	SEA Objectives													
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.													
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for “healthy places” and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.													
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.													
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.													
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.													
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.													
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.													
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.													
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.													
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.													
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.													

Policy Options SA – Chapter 7: Jobs and Tourism			SEA Objective										
	Policy JT1												
Option	**Meeting employment needs**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy to: - continue to promote economic development in Science Vale - direct new employment to our most sustainable locations - plan for a range of sizes of sites to provide flexibility in the market and to meet the needs of different business, for example SMEs looking for smaller sites - focus on the delivery of our existing allocated employment sites (where retained) that are still to come forward, or still have capacity for more employment development - based on using a combination of the labour demand scenario and past take-up scenario, plan for an additional 23.5 hectares of employment land in South Oxfordshire and 115.2 hectares in the Vale over the plan period. - support the development of existing employment sites, to allow them to redevelop and adapt and for churn in the market - support new employment sites coming forward on brownfield sites within settlements.	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	Directing new employment development towards brownfield sites within Tier 1 to 3 settlements, as well as redevelopment or extension of existing employment sites is predicted to have positive effects in terms of pollution / emission reduction, accessibility and natural resources (obj 1, 3, 5 and 8). All elements of the proposals are predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of economic growth (obj 10).
B	The labour demand scenario: An alternative option is to plan for the level of need identified in the ELNA under the labour demand scenario for both office and industrial uses. This would result in a lower need for industrial uses than the preferred option.	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	This scenario would reduce the magnitude of positive economic effects (obj 10) through planning for a lower industrial need.
C	The past-take-up scenario: An alternative option is to plan for the level of need identified in the ELNA under the past take-up scenario for both office and industrial uses This would result in a lower level of need for office uses.	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	This scenario would reduce the magnitude of positive economic effects (obj 10) through planning for a lower level of office need.
D	The labour supply scenario: Plan for the level of need identified in the ELNA under this scenario for both office and industrial uses. This would result in a lower level of need for office and industrial uses	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	This scenario would further reduce the magnitude of positive economic effects compared to options B and C (obj 10) through planning for a lower industrial and office need.
	Policy JT2												
	Protecting our employment sites	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy to: - support the retention of employment sites (existing and allocated) (including those sites/areas that form part of a wider allocation) from loss to other non-employment uses - have a protective policy and a clear set of criteria to determine planning applications against - Provide guidance on the level of marketing evidence that is needed to satisfy the policy requirement - maximise opportunities for incorporating employment uses in any mixed-use schemes - support proposals that would increase the amount and quality of existing employment sites through redevelopment and intensification - allow ancillary uses on employment sites where they would be to serve people working on the site and would not compromise the vitality and viability of nearby settlements.	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	Protecting employment sites from development for other uses is predicted to have strong positive economic effects (obj 10). Provisions within the proposed policy wording to support proposals for carbon reduction / renewables will have additional positive effects in terms of obj 5.
B	Have a more flexible policy that allows the loss of some employment sites to certain uses (such as housing) by having fewer criteria to meet.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	-	0	Proposals could have adverse effects in terms of sufficient employment floorspace provision (obj 10). If employment sites are lost to housing then this would have positive effects in terms of housing provision (obj 9).
	Policy JT3												
	Affordable workspace	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that requires the provision of affordable workspace at a scale, and in locations where it can be delivered.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	The provision of affordable workspace in achievable locations is predicted to have positive economic effects, particularly for SMEs.
B	Have a policy that requires affordable workspace to be provided on site as part of large commercial schemes, over a set threshold. This would require a certain percentage of floorspace to be provided as affordable. The threshold at which this would apply would be informed by viability evidence. The larger commercial schemes are more likely to come forward on our existing large employment sites, so this may limit the amount of affordable workspace able to come forward in our settlements	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	The provision of affordable workspace in larger commercial schemes is predicted to have positive economic effects. However, if this limits the amount of development coming forward within settlements there is potential for adverse accessibility effects (obj 3).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 7: Jobs and Tourism		SEA Objective											
C	Have a policy that seeks a financial contribution from larger commercial schemes which would be used to fund the provision of affordable workspace in towns and villages. This contribution would be subject to viability testing.	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Proposals will similarly have positive economic effects although they are predicted to be less positive on account of indirect financial contributions as oppose to direct delivery of affordable workspace (obj 10). Use of funding to deliver affordable workspace within towns and village is predicted to have positive accessibility effects (obj 3).
D	Have a policy that focuses the provision of affordable workspace in specific areas to have maximum benefit, either areas of deprivation or in town centres with the highest vacancy rates.	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	Focussing affordable workspace provision in areas of deprivation and town centres with high vacancy rates will have strong economic effects (obj 10) and knock on benefits in terms of health and wellbeing of deprived communities (obj 2) as well as accessibility benefits (obj 3).
E	Do not have a policy that requires any affordable workspace provision, either on site or through contributions.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	Proposals are predicted to have adverse economic effects, particularly for SMEs.
	Policy JT4												
	Community Employment Plans	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy requiring CEPs for all residential, commercial, retail or employment development schemes over a certain size (using a threshold of number of homes or amount of floorspace).	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	Policy requiring CEPs is predicted to bring jobs and training into the districts with strong positive economic effects (obj 10), and further positive effects in terms of health and wellbeing (obj 2).
B	Have policy requiring CEPs but have a lower threshold.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	Lower threshold for CEPs is predicted to also have strong positive economic effects with knock on health benefits.
C	Have policy requiring CEPs but have a higher threshold for the size of schemes that it should be applied to.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Higher threshold is predicted to result in positive economic effects but of a lower magnitude than options A and B.
D	Don't require CEPs at all.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	No CEP requirement is predicted to have adverse economic effects in terms of missed jobs and training opportunities.
	Policy JT5												
	Supporting the rural economy	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - recognises the importance of the rural economy in our districts - provides a framework for rural businesses to expand and adapt and encourages the creation of new rural enterprises - provides guidance on how planning applications for equestrian development will be determined	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	Proposals to support the rural economy will have strong positive economic effects (obj 10) and landscape protections, including not support non-agricultural proposals, are predicted to have further landscape benefits (obj 7).
B	Rely on the NPPF to guide appropriate development in rural areas without having a local plan policy.	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	0	?	0	Reliance on national policy is predicted to have uncertain economic impacts to the rural economy and landscape.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 7: Jobs and Tourism			SEA Objective										
		Policy JT6											
		Supporting sustainable tourism and the visitor economy	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	policy will: - support and promote sustainable development proposals for visitor attractions and recreation facilities... - where possible, direct new visitor attractions to sustainable locations... - acknowledge the attractiveness of the countryside and natural assets... - support small-scale tourist-related development that respects the landscape character and visual quality of the countryside... - explore opportunities for creating "dark sky" visitor experiences and promoting eco-tourism... - support development proposals that improve public access to nature/countryside/walking or cycling routes and trails... - support restoration of the local canal network to bring business opportunities and to attract more visitors to the area... - encourage new tourist-related development proposals to offer environmental or sustainability benefits... - seek to protect against the loss of existing tourist attractions/other tourism-related facilities unless certain criteria are met... - expect new development proposals, particularly in rural locations, to retain and utilise existing buildings, wherever possible. - confirm that any redevelopment of sites/premises should, in the first instance, be considered for alternative tourist uses - capitalise on the heritage of our market towns and villages and promote culture and heritage-based tourism opportunities. - recognise that new tourism development needs to be sensitively planned, to protect local communities from any adverse impacts, particularly in relation to parking provision and levels of disturbance from increased visitor activity. - support proposals that will improve ancillary facilities that meet the needs of all visitors, particularly families, those with disabilities and small visitor groups. - support necessary development that facilitates the temporary use of land for festivals or community events, subject to appropriate environmental and community safeguards.	+/-	++	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	0	+	?	Policy that supports sustainable tourism is expected to have positive economic effects (obj 10), as well positive health effects through providing increased opportunities to access the countryside and green space (obj 2). Mixed effects are predicted in terms of pollution, accessibility, biodiversity, carbon, heritage, landscape and natural resources because although promotion of sustainable tourism presents opportunities for environmental improvements, there are also environmental risks associated with increased visitor numbers particularly in sensitive landscapes (obj 1,3,4,5,6,7 and 8). Policy proposals do seek to direct new attractions to existing settlements with good access and restrict support to small-scale proposals in rural locations, which will help to minimise the magnitude of any adverse environmental effects. An increase in visitor numbers could also increase pressure on water resources within the Districts hence uncertain effects are predicted for obj 12.
	B	Taking a much more restrictive approach to new tourism development in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, in order protect our historic town and villages and high-quality countryside from any environmental impacts arising from increased visitor numbers.	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	-	0	Policy restricting sustainable development proposals is predicted to have adverse economic effects in terms of missed opportunities to bring income into the districts and provide jobs (obj 10). However, restricting visitor numbers if predicted to provide environmental protections to biodiversity, heritage, landscape and other natural resources (obj 4,6,7,8).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 7: Jobs and Tourism			SEA Objective										
		Policy JT7											
		Overnight visitor accommodation	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	This policy will support development proposals for overnight visitor accommodation within existing settlements. The policy will promote a range of accommodation types to attract those making both leisure and business trips and will seek to ensure that new visitor accommodation is well located in relation to tourist attractions, shops, restaurants, cafes and bars and accessible by sustainable modes including public transport, on foot or by bicycle. In the countryside, the policy will offer support for new small-scale visitor accommodation that respects landscape character and visual quality, helps support the viability of rural businesses and does not result in unacceptable environmental impacts. The policy will generally seek to retain existing overnight accommodation stock (including visitor moorings on our waterways). Where development proposals would result in the loss of visitor accommodation, we will require proportionate evidence to demonstrate future viability and whether the possibility of re-using the building to provide a different type of overnight accommodation has been fully explored. Other aspects covered by the policy will include: - encouraging the dual use of suitable sites/premises - attaching conditions to planning permissions to prevent overnight accommodation being used for permanent residential use or occupied for long, continuous periods of time - securing high quality design in new hotel development	?	0	+/-	?	+/-	?	?	?	0	+	?	Proposals are predicted to have positive economic effects (obj 10). Whilst proposals will seek to ensure accommodation is well located in terms of sustainable transport, this is not possible in all instances for example rural locations, hence mixed effects are predicted in terms of accessibility and carbon (objs 3 and 5). Uncertain effects are predicted in terms of pollution, biodiversity, heritage, landscape and natural and water resources (obj 1,4,6,7, 8 and 11) as development, particularly on greenfield sites, presents adverse effects to these assets despite policy protections seeking to minimise impacts.
	B	Taking a much more restrictive approach to the provision of new visitor accommodation in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, in order protect our historic town and villages and high-quality countryside from any environmental impacts arising from increased visitor numbers.	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	-	0	Policy restricting development proposals is predicted to have adverse economic effects in terms of missed opportunities to bring income into the districts and provide jobs (obj 10). However, restricting visitor numbers if predicted to provide environmental protections to biodiversity, heritage, landscape and other natural resources (obj 4,6,7,8).

	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix
++	Likely strong positive effect
+	Likely positive effect
0	Neutral/no effect
-	Likely adverse effect
--	Likely strong adverse effect
+/-	Mixed effects
?	Uncertain effects

	SEA Objectives
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 8: Site Allocations and Garden Villages		SEA Objective											
	Policy LS1												
Option	**Proposals for large scale major development**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	A detailed policy that sets out what we expect from large scale major development proposals, including evidence documents that will need to be submitted.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Effects will be dependent on the way individual site allocations are brought forward and implemented; however, a dedicated policy setting out clear requirements for large development applications is predicted to contribute to positive effects across all objectives.
B	Not include a specific policy on large scale major development and instead rely on other policies within the plan to ensure sustainable developments are delivered, with the planning application validation checklist providing information on what documents should be submitted alongside proposals.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Policy AS1												
	Land at Berinsfield Garden Village	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS2												
	Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS3												
	Land South of Grenoble Road, Edge of Oxford	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS4												
	Land at Northfield, Edge of Oxford	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS5												
	Land at Bayswater Brook, Edge of Oxford	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS6												
	Rich's Sidings and Broadway, Didcot (previously Orchard Centre Phase 2)	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS7												
	Didcot Gateway, Didcot	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS8												
	North West of Grove, Grove	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS9												
	North West of Valley Park, Didcot	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS10												
	Land at Dalton Barracks Garden Village, Shippon	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H

Policy Options SA – Chapter 8: Site Allocations and Garden Villages		SEA Objective											
	Policy AS11												
	Culham Science Centre (Strategic Employment Allocation)	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS12												
	Harwell Campus (Strategic Employment Allocation)	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	See Policy												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
	Policy AS13												
	Berinsfield Garden Village	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	To have a policy that sets clear, locally specific, principles for development within Berinsfield Garden Village.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	The inclusion of a dedicated policy setting out development principles is predicted to have positive effects in terms of health, accessibility, biodiversity, landscape and water resources as a result of specific criteria related to the these elements in the proposed policy wording (objs 2-4, 7 & 11). Knock on benefits are predicted in terms of pollution, carbon and heritage (objs 1, 5 and 6).
B	A policy that does not identify specific 'Berinsfield Garden Village Principles' and only signposts to the Garden Village principles as set out by the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA).	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The lack of specific development principles is predicted to have neutral effects across all objectives, however may miss opportunities to maximise positive effects associated with option A.
C	To have no policy on principles for development in Berinsfield Garden Village and to instead rely on other policies within the plan.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	As above
	Policy AS14												
	Dalton Barracks Garden Village	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	To have a policy that sets clear, locally specific, objectives for development within Dalton Barracks Garden Village, at the allocated site. This policy will act as a link to the existing Supplementary Planning Document	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	The inclusion of a dedicated policy setting out development principles is predicted to have positive effects in terms of health, accessibility, biodiversity, landscape and water resources as a result of specific criteria related to the these elements in the proposed policy wording (objs 2-4, 7 & 11). Knock on benefits are predicted in terms of pollution, carbon and heritage (objs 1, 5 and 6).
B	A policy that does not identify specific Dalton Barracks Garden Village objectives and only signposts to the Garden Village principles as set out by the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA). This misses the opportunity to link with the existing SPD.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The lack of specific development principles is predicted to have neutral effects across all objectives, however may miss opportunities to maximise positive effects associated with option A.
C	To have no policy on principles for development in Dalton Barracks Garden Village and to instead rely on other policies within the plan. This misses the opportunity to link with the existing SPD and specifically have a policy that deals with the important development within a Garden Village, along with Berinsfield Garden Village and Didcot Garden Town.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	As above

Policy Options SA – Chapter 8: Site Allocations and Garden Villages		SEA Objective											
	Policy AS15												
	Harcourt Hill Campus	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	To make minor updates to the wording of the policy to reflect the current position of the site and the context of the Joint Local Plan.	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	Proposals are predicted to have positive effects in terms of ensuring provision of community facilities with positive health effects (obj 2), ensuring accessibility (obj 3), biodiversity enhancement (obj 4) and avoiding adverse landscape impact (obj 7).
B	Retain the policy as is. Option B is not preferred as this fails to reflect other policies in the plan.	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	Th existing policy wording is predicted to have similar effects as option A with the exception of obj 2 health, where provisions added to the preferred option A strengthen the provision of community facilities with health benefits.
C	Remove the policy allocation. Option C is not preferred as this would fail to recognise the potential changes facing this site located in the Oxford Green Belt and the role it has with the existing communities.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This option would miss the opportunities for positive effects presented by options A and B.
	Policy AS16												
	Land at Crowmarsh Gifford, Benson Lane - Site of former district council offices	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Option A would be to reuse use the site for employment use. The site up until 2015 was in use as the home of South Oxfordshire and Vale District Councils until a fire destroyed the offices. The Councils have vacated the site and the previous office building has been demolished. Allocating the site for reuse for employment would represent a continuation of the current land use of the site.												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
B	Option B would be to develop the site for residential use. Further work would be required to understand the potential capacity of the site for residential development and any specific site-specific requirements that the development would be required to provide. However, it's likely to have capacity for appropriately 100 homes. Proposals for residential use would need to make appropriate provision for affordable housing and comply with other relevant policies on the development plan.												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
C	Option C would be to develop the site to address the housing needs of a specific group or groups, solely or alongside other uses. The Council is in the process of gathering the evidence necessary to understand the potential housing needs of specific groups. It may be necessary to consider the potential of this and other sites to address any additional need that cannot be accommodated within the current allocated sites. This could include but not limited to: - specialised housing for older people; and - plots for self and/or custom housebuilders												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H
D	Option D acknowledges there may be other appropriate land uses for the site not set out above in Option A-C. Other uses could include, but are not limited to: - community facilities - environmental use / renewable energy - leisure and recreation uses												See separate site assessment reports in Appendix H - given that the proposed land uses associated with this option D are varied and still unknown, these specific uses have not been taken into account in the site assessment report scoring.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 8: Site Allocations and Garden Villages		SEA Objective												
	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix													
	++	Likely strong positive effect												
	+	Likely positive effect												
	0	Neutral/no effect												
	-	Likely adverse effect												
	--	Likely strong adverse effect												
	+/-	Mixed effects												
	?	Uncertain effects												
	SEA Objectives													
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.													
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for “healthy places” and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.													
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.													
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.													
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.													
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.													
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.													
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.													
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.													
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.													
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.													

Policy Options SA – Chapter 9: Town Centres and Retail			SEA Objective										
	Option	Policy TCR 1 Centre hierarchy	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	Commentary (where applicable)
	A	Have a policy that: - brings consistency between the existing centre hierarchies in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, setting out an appropriate centre hierarchy across the two districts, which takes into account the findings from our Town Centres and Retail Study and Settlement Assessment by: - identifies Didcot as the principal town centre across both districts. - categorises Henley-on-Thames, Abingdon-on-Thames, Thame, Wallingford, Wantage and Faringdon within a second town centre tier, recognising that they provide for a wide range of uses (particularly convenience goods retail and services) to meet the local populations' day to day needs. - identifies Botley and Grove (in the Vale) and Watlington (in South Oxfordshire) as 'Local Service Centres'. - identifies a fourth tier comprising village/local centres. - defines the role and function of each centre, reflecting its position in the hierarchy - provides clarity on where we see the focus for different levels of retail and other service provision across South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse. The plan will identify each centre on the Policies Map (or Inset Map, depending on the level of detail required).	+	+	++	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	Providing a unified approach to defining a 'centre hierarchy' is predicted to result in positive effects by directing retail and other town centre uses to sustainable locations, minimising pollution effects (obj 1), maximising accessibility and knock on health benefits and carbon reduction (objs 2, 3 and 5), supporting re-use of brownfield sites (obj 8) and contributing to the vitality and viability of centres with strong positive economic effects (obj 10).
	B	Retain the two separate centre hierarchies defined in the adopted South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse local plans.	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	Similar to Option A, the retention of centre hierarchies of the adopted plans is predicted to result in positive effects, although may not reflect latest retail needs and the complexity of policy may potentially render the policy less effective.
	C	Define a single centre hierarchy covering both districts, but: (1) classify one or more of the individual centres within a different tier; (2) include any other village/local centres within the fourth tier; **and/or** (3) remove any of the listed village/local centres from the fourth tier.	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+		Similar to Option A, although position of individual centres within the hierarchy may not reflect latest retail needs potentially rendering the policy less effective.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 9: Town Centres and Retail			SEA Objective										
		Policy TCR 2											
		Strategy for town and local service centres	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Have a policy that sets out a clear strategy for our town and local service centres over the plan period, which will provide them with the flexibility to evolve in light of prevailing economic circumstances, changing demographics and the need to address the climate emergency. Our strategy will: - support an appropriate range of new retail and other main town centre uses within defined town and local service centre boundaries, so that we can direct development to the most sustainable and accessible locations in our districts, acknowledging the important role that these centres play in meeting the retail, employment and leisure needs of their rural hinterlands and helping to protect their ongoing vitality and viability, both during the day and evening. - adopt a 'town centre first' approach to site selection for new retail or other main town centre uses. - set a range of local floorspace thresholds and require all planning applications for retail and commercial leisure development above these thresholds, and which would be located outside our defined centres, to be accompanied by an impact assessment. - encourage applicants to explore opportunities to repurpose vacant and/or outdated premises to support ongoing vitality and viability of our centres. - support residential development within our town centres on appropriate sites, particularly through the conversion of floorspace above shops or other commercial premises. - encourage the retention and enhancement of existing community and farmers' markets and, in appropriate circumstances, support the re-introduction or creation of new markets. - define primary shopping areas for each town centre on the Policies Map/Inset Map(s) and seek to accommodate new retail uses and secure additional retail floorspace within these defined areas, as an important driver of increased footfall to support their ongoing vitality and viability. - seek to protect against the loss of retail floorspace at ground floor level within defined primary shopping areas (subject to certain criteria and where planning permission is required).	+	+	++	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	As policy TCR 1, proposals will promote an appropriate mix of retail and other town centre uses in sustainable, accessible locations whilst supporting economic growth and vitality and viability of centres.
	B	Adopt a 'hands-off' policy approach, which allows our town centres to evolve in response to the economic climate and market forces.	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	Similar to Option A, positive effects are still expected to be realised as retail uses still within a sustainable, accessible urban location. However employment effects predicted to be less positive as uses may not be located in most appropriate locations.
	C	Do not apply any locally set floorspace thresholds for impact assessment (i.e. default to the national 2,500m2 threshold).	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	-	0	+	0	Not applying a local threshold for retail / commercial development outside of defined centres increases likelihood of development in less sustainable and less accessible locations with predicted adverse effects for obj 1,2, 3, 4 and 8. However, it is expected that it would still positively impact employment provision (obj 10).
	D	Set higher/lower local thresholds for impact assessment than those proposed for each tier in our centre hierarchy.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Lower thresholds are likely to ensure adverse effects to the vitality and viability of centres are minimised / avoided. Although all thresholds will result in positive economic effects (obj 10).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 9: Town Centres and Retail			SEA Objective										
		Policy TCR 3											
		Retail floorspace provision (convenience and comparison goods)	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Have a policy that: - acknowledges the additional floorspace capacity over the plan period for food store provision across the two districts, as identified in the Town Centres and Retail Study. - applies the 'Town Centre First' approach set out in Policy TCR2 for the consideration of proposals for additional food store floorspace, with preference given to brownfield/regeneration sites (to accommodate new stores) or, where feasible, the expansion of existing stores, within defined town or local service centres. - supports the provision of new convenience/food store floorspace as an integral part of the planned development strategic housing sites within both South Oxfordshire and the Vale.	+	+	++	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	0	Proposals to support new convenience retail development in sustainable locations is predicted to have positive effects in terms of directing development to sustainable, accessible locations. The strongest positive effects are predicted in terms of accessibility (obj 3) and employment (obj 10), although minor positive knock on effects are also predicted in terms of health (obj 2), minimising pollution and carbon emissions (obj 1 and 5) and maximising re-use of brownfield land (obj 8).
	B	Include total convenience retail floorspace requirements (in square metres) over the plan period for each district and identify specific sites to meet these requirements.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	This policy option does not expand on potential location of specific retail sites and therefore neutral effects are predicted for the majority of objectives; however, positive effects in terms of employment (obj 10) would still be realised.
		Policy TCR 4											
		Retail and service provision in villages and local centres	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Have a policy that: - supports small-scale proposals for shops and service uses to serve the day-to-day needs of the local community, where they contribute to the vitality and viability of our villages or local centres and improve accessibility and choice for local residents - requires an impact assessment to be submitted alongside any planning application for new retail or commercial leisure development over a given size and located close to a village or local centre. This is to reflect the localised role and function of these smaller centres and how something like a new food store nearby could directly compete with the type of local day-to-day provision typically found within such centres - only permits the loss or change of use of any shop or service use located within a village or local centre under specific circumstances (such as where there is an equivalent shop or service use within reasonable walking distance or where there is evidence that the current use is no longer needed or viable) - supports the establishment of new farm shops which sell local farm produce where they do not undermine the viability and vitality of shopping provision in nearby village or local centres	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	Proposals are predicted to have positive effects in terms of contributing to the vitality and viability of villages / local centres (obj 10) but also in terms of providing accessible facilities for local residents (obj 3) with knock on health benefits (obj 2) and benefits in terms of pollution and emissions reductions (objs 1 and 5).
	B	No policy in the plan supporting new small-scale proposals for shops or service uses in our villages or local centres or seeking to protect against the loss of existing retail or service provision in these locations.	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	Omitting policy supportive of local and small-scale shops is predicted to have opposite effects to policy Option A, with adverse effects predicted in terms of the vitality and viability of villages / local centres (obj 10) but also in terms of minimising local facilities for local residents who may have to travel further to access these facilities with knock on adverse effects in terms of health, pollution and carbon emissions (obj 1, 2, 3 and 5).

	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix
++	Likely strong positive effect
+	Likely positive effect
0	Neutral/no effect
-	Likely adverse effect
--	Likely strong adverse effect
+/-	Mixed effects
?	Uncertain effects

	SEA Objectives
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 10: Well-designed places for our communities		SEA Objective											
	Policy DE1												
Option	**High quality design**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that sets design requirements reflecting the following design themes : - Place and setting - Natural environment (including new NPPF requirements on trees) - Movement and connectivity - Space and layout - Built form (including requirements on public art) - Climate and sustainability These requirements will need to be met by all new development proposals.	0	++	++	++	++	++	++	0	0	0	+	Promotion of high quality design reflecting the stated design themes will contribute positively to objs 2,3,4,5,6,7 and 11, through promotion of accessible, well-connected, energy-efficient developments with opportunities for habitat creation, and take account of landscape and heritage constraints. Obj 11 scored minor positive as oppose to strong positive on account of flood risk resilience component of policy, but exclusion of other elements of sustainable water management.
B	Do not include a policy on high-quality design in the Joint Local Plan.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
C	Include design requirements within other policies in the Joint Local Plan.	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	As for option A, however positive effects could be less significant as requirements may be watered down or lack the emphasis conferred by a dedicated policy.
	Policy DE2												
	Local character and identity	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - requires all new development to reflect and enhance the positive features found in the character and identity of the surrounding local area. These positive features should inform the design of the development, for example by reflecting local scale, form, and materials amongst other distinctive local characteristics such as historic character - ensures that new development respects the findings of positive features identified in local Character Assessments where they have been prepared for a local area as part of a Neighbourhood Development Plan - ensures proposals in Conservation Areas respect the findings of the relevant Conservation Area Appraisal, Management Plan or Character Study - requires all proposals for new development to be informed by a contextual analysis demonstrating how the above requirements are met - encourages innovative proposals in appropriate locations that will make a positive contribution to the future character of an area	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	0	Promotion of developments in keeping with local character and identity will result in strong positive effects in terms of preservation of the settings of cultural heritage assets (obj 6) and minimising landscape and visual impacts, particularly associated with the AONBs (obj 7).
B	Include requirements on local character in the Policy DE1 – High quality design.	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	As above, however positive effects could be less significant as requirements may be watered down or lack the emphasis conferred by a dedicated policy.
C	Have no local plan policy on local character and instead rely on general local plan policies on design and heritage, as well as national policy and guidance within the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Alternative scores neutrally but may miss opportunities for positive effects reported for Options A and B.
	Policy DE3												
	Delivering well-designed new development	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - requires that masterplans, design codes are prepared and submitted as part of relevant proposals to ensure new development delivers high quality design and demonstrates good place making. - encourages Neighbourhood Plans to prepare design codes for their local area. - sets out key requirements regarding what masterplans should include. - requires design review to be undertaken for nominated residential and non-residential development, as well as for sensitive sites and those significant because of a local issue, or public benefit. - where a proposal is required to be accompanied by a design and access statement, set specific requirements about what the design and access statement should include beyond those required by legislation... - ensures that design codes and masterplans are prepared with the involvement of the local community and other stakeholders (including neighbouring authorities where relevant), as well as the local planning authority. - encourages innovative engagement methods, such as utilising virtual reality and digital models.	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	Standalone policy setting out design processes and actions is likely to result in higher-quality designs which have been developed in consultation with the Council and local community. Objs 2-7,9 and 11 are scored positively but not extending to strong positive on the basis that the policy itself does not set design standards.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 10: Well-designed places for our communities		SEA Objective											
B	Do not have a separate policy, instead include these requirements in Policy DE1 – High quality design.	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	As above, however positive effects could be less significant as requirements may be less specific than those conferred by a dedicated policy.
C	Have no policy and instead rely on national policy and guidance set out in the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Alternative scores neutrally but may miss opportunities for positive effects reported for Options A and B.
	Policy DE4												
	Optimising densities	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that aims to optimise densities by: - taking a design-led approach, ensuring that the density of development is reflective of its local context and character - requiring higher densities in appropriate areas across the district. For example, in well-connected towns that are highly accessible by cycling, walking and public transport.	0	0	+	0	+	+/-	+/-	++	+	0	0	Flexible policy approach to density is likely to encourage greater levels of development in more accessible locations with positive effects for sustainable transport (obj 3), and knock on benefits in terms of emissions reductions (obj 5). Allowing higher densities introduces some potential for adverse effects in relation to heritage and landscape (objs 6 & 7), but overall the strongest positive effects will be realised in terms of maximising the efficient use of land (obj 8). Varying densities may also promote a mixture of dwelling types to accommodate local need (obj 9).
B	Have a policy that sets a blanket minimum density figure across all areas of the districts.	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	0	0	Implementing a blanket minimum is less likely to promote efficient use of land (obj 8) and in some instances miss opportunities to maximise yield in 'sustainable' locations.
C	Have a policy that sets ambitious minimum density figures in appropriate areas, and also a blanket district wide minimum density figure.	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	0	0	There is still potential for inappropriate densities causing adverse heritage and landscape effects (objs 6 & 7).
D	Have a policy that provides density ranges to be used as a guide to establish the appropriate density of development.	0	0	+/-			+/-	+/-	+	+	0	0	Density ranges appropriate to different areas could reduce the potential for inappropriate densities resulting in adverse heritage and landscape effects (objs 6 & 7), and encourage more development in sustainable locations (obj 3). Appropriate density ranges could also help to maximise efficient land use whilst maximising housing yield (objs 8 & 9).
E	Have no policy and instead rely on national policy and guidance set out in the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	No density policy risks inappropriate development with potential for adverse heritage and landscape effects (objs 6 & 7).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 10: Well-designed places for our communities		SEA Objective											
	Policy DE5												
	Neighbouring amenity	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that ensures that new development will not result in significant adverse impacts on the amenity of neighbouring uses. The policy will list factors that will be taken into account when assessing impact on neighbouring amenity including: - loss of privacy - daylight or sunlight - dominance or visual intrusion - noise or vibration - dust, heat, odour, gases or other emissions - pollution - contamination or the use of / or storage of hazardous substances; - external lighting. We will require applicants to demonstrate how the above factors have been considered and demonstrate that their development proposal does not result in unacceptable adverse impacts on neighbours.	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Proposed policy option would limit potential for pollution effects, including noise, light and contamination (obj 1) with knock on positive health benefits as these forms of pollutants can affect health, including mental health (obj 2).
B	Do not have a separate policy, instead include these requirements in the 'High quality design' policy.	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	As above, however positive effects could be less significant as requirements may be watered down or lack the emphasis conferred by a dedicated policy.
C	Have no policy and instead rely on national policy and guidance set out in the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Alternative scores neutrally but may miss opportunities for positive effects reported for Options A and B.
	Policy DE6												
	Outdoor amenity space	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - requires new dwellings are provided with either private or communal outdoor amenity space - ensures the size of the amenity space is reflective of the size of the dwelling and character of the surrounding area - requires that private outdoor seating areas should not be overlooked by neighbouring habitable rooms - requires that outdoor amenity spaces are not compromised by: - Shading (from buildings or otherwise) - Parking areas or garages.	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The inclusion of amenity space within developments would positively impact residents' health and wellbeing through access to green (and blue) infrastructure (obj 2).
B	Do not have a separate policy, instead include these requirements in the 'High quality design' policy.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	As above, however positive effects could be less significant as requirements may be watered down or lack the emphasis conferred by a dedicated policy.
C	Have no policy and instead rely on national policy and guidance set out in the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Alternative scores neutrally but may miss opportunities for positive effects reported for Options A and B.
	Policy DE7												
	Waste collection and recycling	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that ensures: - adequate facilities are provided for the sorting, storage and collection of waste and recycling - sufficient space is provided for the storage of recycling and refuse containers - safe and convenient access is provided for users of these facilities, including collection vehicles - that the location and design of recycling and refuse provision should be integral to the design of the proposed development - recycling and refuse storage is separate from cycle storage, car parking and key circulation areas - the impact on health and amenity of neighbouring development and the proposed development is considered, including any remote collection points and the proximity of these to properties - the security of the provision against scavenging pests, vandalism and unauthorised use is considered - that applicants comply with the Waste Planning Guidance in the design of facilities for the sorting, storage and collection of waste and recycling.	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	The provision for separated waste sorting facilities, will reduce the chance for pollution to occur from residential sources. Strong positive impacts predicted (obj 1) with knock on positive effects in terms of health and well-being (obj 2). Provision for recycling will help to conserve soil and natural resources by diverting waste from landfill (obj 8).
B	Have no policy and instead rely on national policy and guidance set out in the NPPF/planning practice guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Alternative scores neutrally but may miss opportunities for positive effects reported for Options A and B.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 10: Well-designed places for our communities		SEA Objective												
	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix													
	++	Likely strong positive effect												
	+	Likely positive effect												
	0	Neutral/no effect												
	-	Likely adverse effect												
	--	Likely strong adverse effect												
	+/-	Mixed effects												
	?	Uncertain effects												
	SEA Objectives													
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.													
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for “healthy places” and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.													
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.													
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.													
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.													
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.													
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.													
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.													
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.													
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.													
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.													

Policy Options SA – Chapter 11: Healthy Places		SEA Objective											
	Policy HP1												
Option	**Healthy places shaping**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Include a policy that: requires a Health Impact Assessment to be submitted alongside any major planning applications (where 10 or more homes will be provided, or the site has an area of 0.5 hectares or more) within the districts.	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The requirement for HIA is likely to have strong positive health effects (obj 2) in terms of major development outcomes.
B	To not require HIAs to be submitted for major development proposals.	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This approach may lead to potential health impacts and health opportunities in new developments not being sufficiently considered in the planning application process. Adverse effects are predicted for obj 2.
	Policy HP2												
	Community facilities and services	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - seeks to safeguard against the loss of essential community facilities and services from change of use or redevelopment, except in certain circumstances. - supports the provision of new or extended community facilities where they meet local needs and specific design criteria (such as being easily accessible by footpath, cycleway and public transport for all users including the disabled; being designed to offer potential for dual use by local community or sports groups; or being located within or adjacent to the built-up area of an existing settlement)	+	++	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Policy that seeks to safeguard existing facilities, whilst directing new facilities within the built-up area is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of health and accessibility (obj 2 & 3), with further knock on benefits in terms of the reduction of pollution and carbon emissions (obj 1 & 5).
B	No policy, relying on national guidance.	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A lack of dedicated policy has the potential for adverse effects in terms of health and accessibility.
	Policy HP3												
	Health care provision	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	A policy that: - supports the provision of new, refurbished or replacement health care facilities (including land and associated buildings), in locations that are easily accessible by walking, cycling, wheeling or public transport. - only permits the loss or change of use of health care floorspace (i.e. GP surgeries, dentists or hospitals) under specific circumstances, such as: where there is evidence that the current use is no longer needed or where health care services would be better provided on an alternative site within reasonable distance by public transport or active travel means.	+	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Proposals will have strong positive effects in terms of health and wellbeing (obj 2), with knock on benefits in terms of pollution, accessibility and carbon emissions through policy requirement for the location of healthcare facilities in accessible locations (obj 1, 3 & 5).
B	No policy.	0	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A lack of policy is predicted to have strong adverse health and wellbeing effects given increased populations and strains on NHS due to the COVID pandemic.
C	An even more restrictive policy that insists on new health care facilities only being located in the districts' most accessible locations within town centres.	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	A more restrictive policy would increase magnitude of effects for obj 1, 3 and 5 through tighter requirements for provision of health infrastructure in sustainable locations. However, this could result in mixed effects in terms of health (obj 2), with the possibility of a reduction in the number of facilities overall.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 11: Healthy Places		SEA Objective											
	Policy HP4												
	Existing open space, sport and recreation facilities	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that; - confirms that through its planning decisions, the councils will protect and enhance the districts' existing open space, sport and recreation facilities from development to ensure their continued contribution to the health and wellbeing of visitors and residents. - sets out the criteria against which proposals that impact upon the districts' open space, sport and recreation facilities will be considered - includes references to the relevant local plan evidence base documents that address the district's open space, sport and recreation facilities.	0	++	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Protecting and enhancing existing open space, whilst minimising their loss or deterioration, is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of health as access to green space is a key health determinant (obj 2). Proposals will also have positive effects in terms of biodiversity protection / enhancement (obj 4) and flood risk management (obj 11). Provisions to support proposals that improve access to open space will also have positive accessibility effects (obj 3).
B	No policy - rely on the text in national policy and guidance.	0	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A lack of local policy could risk loss or deterioration of local open space resource with adverse health and biodiversity effects in particular.
C	Seek to widen the scope of the policy to include on the proposals maps and list in the plan all the green and open spaces that should be protected from development.	0	+/-	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The mapping of open spaces for protection would provide strong protection for these areas, whilst the risk of omitting certain areas means these facilities could then be lost. Therefore mixed effects are predicted in terms of health and biodiversity.
	Policy HP5												
	New facilities for sport, physical activity and recreation	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that - supports the provision of new facilities for sport, physical activity and recreation - sets out the requirement for new sports facilities on larger development sites - supports development proposals for small scale countryside recreational facilities	+/-	++	+/-	?	+/-	?	?	+/-	0	0	0	Proposals supporting new sport and recreational facilities are predicted to have strong positive health effects (obj 2). Policy requirement for their provision in accessible locations and on brownfield land would have positive effects in terms of pollution, accessibility, carbon and natural resource objectives (obj 1, 3, 5 & 8). However, small scale facilities in the countryside could have more adverse effects on these objectives, albeit the magnitude of these effects will be limited by their small-scale. Therefore mixed effects are predicted for obj 1, 3, 5 & 8 overall. Suggested policy wording includes biodiversity, heritage and landscape protections for proposals within the countryside but some potential for uncertain effects remains for these objectives (obj 4, 6 & 7).
B	No policy, relying on national guidance	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A lack of dedicated policy has the potential for adverse health effects through missed opportunities for sport and recreation provision.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 11: Healthy Places		SEA Objective											
	Policy HP6												
	Green infrastructure on new developments	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that; - ensures new development contributes towards the provision of green infrastructure - ensures new development protects and enhances existing green infrastructure - allows for space to be provided off-site under exceptional circumstances - ensures arrangements are in place for the management and maintenance of new green infrastructure.	+	++	0	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	Proposals are predicted to have strong positive biodiversity effects (obj 4) and also health effects as access to nature and GI is a strong determinant of good health (obj 2). Green infrastructure provides additional ecosystem services resulting in further predicted positive effects for pollution and carbon reduction, and flood risk management (objs 1, 5 & 11).
B	An alternative could be to not have a policy on green infrastructure, and instead rely on national policy and guidance.	0	-	0	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A lack of dedicated policy has the potential for adverse biodiversity and health effects in particular through lack of local protection for existing GI and through missed opportunities for provision of new GI and connectivity between existing areas of GI.
C	An alternative could be to identify and safeguard specific green infrastructure links within the districts and to require new development to connect to this. However, this does not provide a very flexible approach.	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Identifying and protecting specific GI links may limit the magnitude of positive biodiversity and health effects predicted for option A, and may miss opportunities for provision of other ecosystem services.
D	We could alternatively introduce an urban greening factor (UGF) requirement within the policy. This would be a tool used to evaluate the quality and quantity of natural features proposed as part of a development. The policy would set a UGF score that applications must meet. Going for this option would depend on emerging evidence for how effective UGF standards would be in our districts.	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	Introduction of an UGF into policy requirements is predicted to contribute to positive biodiversity effects and knock on ecosystem service provision. However, proposals should not detract from protection and enhancement of existing GI which forms a key component of the GI network.
E	Another alternative could be to require green infrastructure features on all new development with specific requirements set out in policy for different locations/sites or on different scales of development. This approach would not provide as much flexibility as Option A.	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	Proposals could limit magnitude of positive effects predicted in terms of biodiversity and knock on ecosystem service provision.
	Policy HP7												
	Open space in new developments	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that; - ensures new development contributes towards the provision of open space - relies on evidence for the amount of on-site provision of open space - allows for open space to be provided off-site under exceptional circumstances - ensures arrangements are in place for the management and maintenance of new open space - requires submission of a green infrastructure statement for all major developments to make sure that open space is considered as a key component of the green infrastructure network.	0	++	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	Proposals for provision of new open space and its ongoing management will have strong positive health and wellbeing effects and also biodiversity effects (obj 2 & 4). Open space is likely to provide further benefits in terms of climate change objectives and flood risk management (obj 5 & 11).
B	An alternative could be to have blanket standards, for example the policy could require a set percentage of a site's area to be open space.	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	As above, although setting a percentage provision figure may limit opportunities for greater provision in some areas limiting the magnitude of positive effects.
C	An alternative could be to not have a policy and instead rely on national policy and guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Alternative scores neutrally but may miss opportunities for positive effects reported for Options A and B.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 11: Healthy Places		SEA Objective											
	Policy HP8												
	Provision for children's play and spaces for young people	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that - sets out the requirements for good quality play space to be provided on new residential development for children of all ages and for all abilities including those with physical and sensory disabilities - sets out the quantity required based on Fields in Trust's recommended benchmark guidelines	0	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Proposals for provision of play space will have strong positive health effects (obj 2) and criteria in suggested policy wording for incorporation of trees and / or other forms of greenery will have some knock on biodiversity benefit (obj 4).
B	The Councils could require developers to make a more detailed estimate of the number of children occupying a development and their ages. This would require the Councils to develop a calculator for developers to help understand the likely number of children (in different age groups) that are expected to live in the development, based on the number of bedrooms/tenure mix. The Local Plan could also include more detailed information about the types of play space required for different ages groups to guide developers.	0	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Effects are predicted to be similar to option A.
C	No policy or standards on play provision, leave for the developer to propose.	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	This option is unlikely to secure the quality and quantity of play space in the right locations that communities need with adverse health and wellbeing effects.
	Policy HP9												
	Allotments and community food growing	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - highlights the importance of protecting allotments from development - requires all major housing developments to provide or contribute towards new allotments and community food growing space, and that larger developments should provide these on-site - encourages new food growing space with employment uses, new schools and community centres - encourages residential developments to make allotments an integral part of the green infrastructure provision where possible and appropriate. - requires agreement for the future long-term maintenance and management of allotments, orchards, and community food growing space, roof gardens and edible landscapes as part of the planning application	0	++	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	Policy that protects and requires new allotments is predicted to have strong positive effects on the health and wellbeing of the residents (obj 2), with knock on benefits for reducing the need to travel by car, biodiversity and natural resources (obj 3, 4 & 8).
B	Retain Vale of White Horse's existing policy requirements, by protecting existing allotments from development and requiring contributions or provision of new allotments on new larger housing sites. This option is not preferred as in addition to allotment spaces on new developments the councils also wish to support the provision of new spaces for community food growing on smaller housing developments and encourage food growing opportunities with employment developments and other uses.	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	Retaining existing policy is predicted to have similar effects to option A although the magnitude of health benefits will be reduced as existing policies do not require new allotments on smaller developments.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 11: Healthy Places			SEA Objective										
		Policy HP10											
		Watercourses	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Carry forward and combine policies from the existing local plans on watercourses. The policy will include requirements on developments to: - protect and enhance the function and setting of watercourses and their biodiversity - include a minimum buffer zone on both sides of the watercourse to create a corridor for biodiversity enhancement - avoid culverting any watercourse and investigate the feasibility of de-culverting watercourses with existing culverts - where relevant, agree a Construction Management Plan with the Council The policy will also set out requirements for proposals for mooring stages, posts, earthworks and facing riverbanks with piles and planking.	+	+	0	++	+	+	+	++	0	0	++	Policy that protects enhances the function and setting of watercourses in the districts is predicted to have wide ranging positive effects. Strong positive effects are predicted in terms of biodiversity, natural resources and flood risk management (obj 4, 8 and 11). More minor effects are also predicted in terms of knock on benefits provided to pollution and carbon reduction, health and wellbeing, heritage and landscape protection (obj 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7).
	B	Not to have a watercourses policy and instead rely on the green infrastructure and landscape polices.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Reliance on GI and landscape policies is predicted to have neutral effects although may miss opportunities for positive effects reported for option A.
		Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix												
	++	Likely strong positive effect												
	+	Likely positive effect												
	0	Neutral/no effect												
	-	Likely adverse effect												
	--	Likely strong adverse effect												
	+/-	Mixed effects												
	?	Uncertain effects												
	SEA Objectives													
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.													
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for “healthy places” and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.													
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.													
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.													
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.													
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.													
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.													
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.													
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.													
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.													
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.													

Policy Options SA – Chapter 12: Nature Recovery, Heritage and Landscape		SEA Objective											
	Policy NH1												
Option	**Nature recovery**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - seeks to conserve, protect and, where appropriate, restore or enhance habitat connectivity within the district's ecological networks. - goes beyond the minimum mandatory requirement of delivering at least 10% biodiversity net gain, instead requiring at least 11-25% biodiversity net gain across the districts (whatever is the maximum assessed as deliverable through the Joint Local Plan Viability Assessment). - establishes a strong preference for the delivery of biodiversity net gain on-site where possible. Where it is not possible to deliver full biodiversity net gain requirements on-site, set out a sequential approach to direct biodiversity net gain in a way that prioritises delivery within the districts in locations where it would help to achieve the greatest benefits for nature recovery (i.e. within identified ecological networks). - recognises the role played by the urban environment in nature recovery - requires or encourages different types of development to incorporate features to support wildlife (such as bird boxes, water sources, bat boxes, bee bricks, hedgehog highways, swift bricks and insect hotels).	+	+	0	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	Proposals would have strong positive effects in terms of the protection, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity (obj 4). Biodiversity provides a number of other ecosystem services resulting in predicted positive effects for pollution reduction (obj 1), health and well-being (obj 2), carbon reduction (obj 5) and water resource management (obj 11). Habitat creation / enhancement proposals are also likely to contribute positively to obj 7 landscape.
B	Define a sequential approach to directing off-site biodiversity net gain in a different way, for example we could prioritise delivery close to where development is taking place (such as within the same town/parish boundary as development) or in areas with identified biodiversity deficits, or a combination of approaches could be used.	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	Similar to Option A, however, delivery of net gains outside of ecological networks may reduce biodiversity benefits associated with connectivity with wider ecological networks.
C	Have different minimum biodiversity net gain requirements for different types of development and/or development in different parts of the districts.	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	Similar to Option A, however, defining lower net gain targets for some types of development or parts of the districts could reduce biodiversity benefits.
D	Do not have a policy.	-	-	0	--	-	0	-	0	0	0	-	Lack of dedicated policy would miss opportunities to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and the associated benefits it provides in terms of ecosystem services.
	Policy NH2												
	Biodiversity designations	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Our current local plan policies provide proportionate protection for the hierarchy of biodiversity designations in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse and work well. Our preferred approach would be to roll forward the existing approach, updated where needed to ensure that it remains up to date.	+	+	0	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	Protection of international, national and locally designated ecological sites in the Districts is predicted to result in strong positive biodiversity effects (obj 4) with knock on benefits for objs 1,2,5,7 and 11 as explained above).
B	No reasonable alternatives considered as this would not be compliant with national planning policy.												n/a
	Policy NH3												
	Trees and hedgerows in the landscape	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a specific policy on trees and hedgerows, which addresses the protection, enhancement and management of these important features.	+	+	0	++	+	+	++	0	0	0	+	Proposals would have strong positive effects in terms of biodiversity (obj 4) and landscape (obj 7). Trees and hedgerows also provide a number of knock on benefits in terms of pollution reduction (obj 1), health (obj 2), carbon reduction (obj 5), heritage (particularly conservation of the setting of heritage assets) (obj 6) and water resources (obj 10).
B	Do not have a separate tree policy. Elements of option A would be incorporated into other policies on landscape, nature recovery or green infrastructure.	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	Similar to Option A as elements of the policy would be included in other policies, however strong positive effects in terms of biodiversity and landscape may be watered down.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 12: Nature Recovery, Heritage and Landscape		SEA Objective											
	Policy NH4												
	Chilterns and North Wessex Downs Areas of Outstanding Beauty	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a specific AONB policy, which addresses the protection and enhancement of our most important landscapes. This policy could also signpost to AONB Management Plans and other documents produced at an AONB-scale relevant to planning decisions such as design guides and technical notes on complex or contentious planning issues. We may also want to link to, or incorporate recommendations from, the Joint Local Plan's emerging landscape evidence base when this is available.	0	0	0	+	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	Protection and enhancement of the most important landscapes is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of landscape obj 7. Knock on positive effects are predicted in terms of biodiversity (obj 4), heritage (obj 6), and management of natural resources (obj 8).
B	Do not have a separate AONB policy. *Elements of option A would be incorporated into a general landscape policy.*	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	Similar to Option A as elements of the policy would be included in a general landscape policy, however strong positive effects in terms of landscape may be watered down by lack of specific requirements for the AONB providing the highest level of protection.
	Policy NH5												
	Landscape	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - protects the districts' landscapes, countryside and rural areas from harmful development. - ensures development appropriately responds to landscape character, as defined in a new Joint South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Landscape Character Assessment and other relevant Landscape Character Assessments in Neighbourhood Plans. - protects the setting of settlements and separation between settlements. - encourages the enhancement of damaged and/or poor quality landscapes. - identifies specific landscape functions and features that should be protected and enhanced.	+	+	0	+	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	The protection of the districts' countryside, rural areas, and landscapes from harmful development is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of landscape obj 7. Knock on positive effects are predicted in terms of biodiversity (obj 4), heritage (obj 6), and management of natural resources (obj 8).
B	Have a single landscape policy that covers all landscape types/designations. *This would combine Option A with policy approaches for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), valued landscapes and tranquillity into a single policy.*	+	+	0	+	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	As Option A as all elements of Option A will be retained in a combined policy.
	Policy NH6												
	Valued landscapes	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a valued landscapes policy that: - identifies the districts' valued landscapes and their special qualities (with valued landscapes also shown on the Joint Local Plan policies map). - ensures development protects and enhances valued landscapes by setting criteria for assessing development proposals affecting valued landscapes. The policy would be closely related to the Valued Landscapes Assessment that is being produced to inform the Joint Local Plan.	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	The identification and protection of local areas of landscape importance will have strong positive landscape effects (obj 7).
B	Do not identify valued landscapes.	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	Lack of specific identification and protection of locally valued landscapes could result in adverse landscape effects in these areas and loss of landscape resource (obj 7).

Policy Options SA – Chapter 12: Nature Recovery, Heritage and Landscape		SEA Objective											
	Policy NH7												
	Tranquillity and tranquil areas	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that: - seeks to protect and enhance tranquillity in the districts - identifies the districts' tranquil areas as a local designation (with tranquil areas also shown on the Joint Local Plan policies map) - ensures development protects and enhances tranquil areas by setting criteria for assessing development proposals affecting tranquil areas The policy would be closely related to the Tranquillity Assessment that is being produced to inform the Joint Local Plan	+	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	Policy promoting protection and enhancement of tranquillity and tranquil areas is predicted to have strong positive landscape effects as tranquillity forms an important component of important and designated landscapes (obj 7). Proposals may also contribute positively to reduction of noise and light pollution (obj 1) and health and well-being (obj 2).
B	Do not have a tranquillity policy or identify tranquil areas.	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	Strong adverse landscape effects predicted associated with lack of protection of tranquil areas and promotion of their enhancement (obj 7).
	Policy NH8												
	The historic environment	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have an over-arching introductory historic environment policy which captures all heritage assets including those that are not necessarily protected by legislation or by the other individual policies in this chapter. This policy will: - set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment in the districts - ensure that development proposals do not cause harm to the historic environment - encourage putting heritage assets to viable uses consistent with their conservation - require that proposals conserve and enhance the significance of heritage assets and their settings - require proposals to make a positive contribution towards local character, distinctiveness and wider public benefits - encourage protection of heritage assets most at risk - recognise non-designated heritage assets in accordance with guidance	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	Proposals will have strong positive effects in terms of the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and their settings (obj 6) and knock on positive effects in terms of landscape (obj 7).
B	Since national policy covers heritage, an alternative could be not to have an overarching local plan policy on heritage and rely on the NPPF and legislation. However given NPPF requirements for plan-makers to set out a strategy, the option of not having a policy in the Joint Local Plan is not considered to be reasonable.												Not assessed - not reasonable alternative
	Policy NH9												
	Listed Buildings	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a Listed Buildings policy which addresses the requirements of the NPPF and legislation. The policy will outline local level requirements that proposals will be assessed against, including: - conserving, enhancing or better revealing elements which contribute to the heritage significance of a Listed Building and/or its setting - respecting features of special architectural or historic interest - being sympathetic to the Listed Building and its setting in terms of its siting, size, scale, height, alignment, materials and finishes, design and form The policy will also set out how proposals will be assessed where they would lead to harm to a Listed Building and/or its setting.	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	As for Policy NH8 Option A
B	As requirements relating to the historic environment are set out in national planning policy and legalisation, there is limited scope for alternative approaches. One alternative approach to setting out the policies in this chapter could be to have one combined historic environment policy which captures all the different types of heritage assets in one policy but this would need to be very long in order to capture enough detail and to make these distinctions between assets.	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	Scoring based on assumption that listed buildings protections in the combined policy would be equal to those in preferred option A.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 12: Nature Recovery, Heritage and Landscape		SEA Objective											
	Policy NH10												
	Conservation Areas	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a Conservation Areas policy that addresses the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and legislation. The policy will outline local level requirements that proposals will be assessed against, including: - conserving or enhancing the Conservation Area's special interest, charter, setting and appearance - taking into account important views within, into or out of the Conservation Area - respecting the local character and distinctiveness of the Conservation Area - being sympathetic to the original curtilage of buildings and pattern of development - being sympathetic to important spaces such as paddocks, greens, gardens and other gaps or spaces between buildings - ensuring no loss of, or harm to any building or feature that makes a positive contribution to the special interest, character or appearance of the Conservation Area. The policy will also set out how proposals will be assessed where they would lead to harm to a Conservation Area and/or its setting.	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	As for Policy NH8 Option A
B	As requirements relating to the historic environment are set out in national planning policy and legalisation, there is limited scope for alternative approaches. One alternative approach to setting out the policies in this chapter could be to have one combined historic environment policy which captures all the different types of heritage assets in one policy, but one combined detailed policy for all heritage assets would need to be very long in order to capture enough detail and to make these distinctions between assets.	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	Scoring based on assumption that conservation area protections in the combined policy would be equal to those in preferred option A.
	Policy NH11												
	Archaeology and Scheduled Monuments	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have an Archaeology and Scheduled Monuments policy that addresses the requirements of the NPPF and legislation. The policy will ensure that development proposals protect the site and setting of Scheduled Monuments or nationally important designated or non-designated archaeological remains. The policy will explain that applicants must undertake an assessment to determine whether the development site is known to, or is likely to, contain archaeological remains. It then sets out the steps to be taken where the assessment indicates that development could disturb or adversely affect archaeological remains and/or their setting. The policy will also set out how proposals will be assessed where they would lead to harm to the significance of archaeological remains.	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	'Proposals will have strong positive effects in terms of the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and their settings (obj 6).
B	As requirements relating to the historic environment are set out in national planning policy and legalisation, there is limited scope for alternative approaches. One alternative approach to setting out the policies in this chapter could be to have one combined detailed historic environment policy which captures all the different types of heritage assets in one policy. This would need to be very long in order to capture enough detail and to make these distinctions between assets.	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	Scoring based on assumption that archaeology and scheduled monument protections in the combined policy would be equal to those in preferred option A.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 12: Nature Recovery, Heritage and Landscape		SEA Objective											
	Policy NH12												
	Historic Battlefields, Registered Parks and Gardens and Historic Landscapes	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a Historic Battlefields, Registered Parks and Gardens and Historic Landscapes policy that addresses the requirements of the NPPF and legislation. The policy will require proposals to conserve or enhance the special historic interest, character or setting of a battlefield, or park or garden on the Historic England Registers of Historic Battlefields or Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England. The policy will also set out how proposals will be assessed where they would lead to harm to a Historic Battlefield, Registered Park and Garden or a Historic Landscape.	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	Proposals will have strong positive effects in terms of the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and their settings (obj 6) and knock on positive effects in terms of landscape (obj 7).
B	As requirements relating to the historic environment are set out in national planning policy and legalisation, there is limited scope for alternative approaches. One alternative approach to setting out the policies in this chapter could be to have one combined historic environment policy which captures all the different types of heritage assets in one policy. This would need to be very long in order to capture enough detail and to make these distinctions between assets.	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	Scoring based on assumption that battlefield, park and historic landscape protections would be equal in the combined policy to those in preferred option A.
	Policy NH13												
	Historic environment and climate change	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	The policy will encourage proposals for renewable energy and energy efficiency measures for historic buildings where they would comply with policies and legislation to protect the heritage significance of the building and its setting. The policy will also encourage the retention and re-use of historic buildings as a sustainable resource, recognising the sustainability and heritage benefits of making a historic building fit for long-term use.	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	+	0	0	Retrofitting historic buildings with renewable energy measures presents opportunities to retain and re-use older buildings for residential and commercial uses with strong positive effects in terms of embodied carbon and low carbon technologies (obj 5), whilst maintaining and protecting historic structures (obj 6) and providing additional opportunities for sustainable housing (obj 9).
B	Include retrofit of historic buildings as a consideration or criteria in other policy/policies.	0	0	0	0	+	?	0	0	?	0	0	Similar to above, retrofitting historic buildings has the potential to reduce emissions with knock on benefits but its is not clear to what extent these criteria would be incorporated within other policies and hence strong positive effects for obj 5 and knock on benefits for other objectives may not be realised.
C	Have no policy or criteria on historic buildings and climate change. Given the rich historic environment in the districts, and the need to respond to the climate emergency, we do not consider the option of not having a policy to be appropriate.	0	0	0	0	-	?	0	0	?	0	0	Option is predicted to result in adverse effects for obj 5 in terms of missed opportunities for carbon savings and potentially heritage conservation (obj 6) and additional housing provision (obj 9) where historic buildings could be converted for residential use.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 12: Nature Recovery, Heritage and Landscape		SEA Objective
		Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix
	++	Likely strong positive effect
	+	Likely positive effect
	0	Neutral/no effect
	-	Likely adverse effect
	--	Likely strong adverse effect
	+/-	Mixed effects
	?	Uncertain effects
	SEA Objectives	
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.	
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for “healthy places” and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.	
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.	
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.	
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.	
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.	
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.	
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.	
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.	
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.	
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.	

Policy Options SA – Chapter 13: Infrastructure, Transport, Connectivity and Communications		SEA Objective											
	Policy IN1												
Option	**Infrastructure and service provision**	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	To provide an overarching infrastructure policy for the plan to cover the following requirements, including that; - new development is served and supported by appropriate infrastructure and services. - permission for development is only granted where the infrastructure and services needed to meet the needs of the new development is already in place or will be provided to an agreed timescale. - infrastructure and service requirements are those set out in the relevant council documents including the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, leisure studies, green infrastructure strategy, any made Neighbourhood development plans and any other infrastructure needed to mitigate the impact of new development - planning contributions will be collected to provide infrastructure and to support the maintenance for infrastructure through planning obligations, through the Community Infrastructure Levy or other mechanisms - development takes account of existing infrastructure, such as sewage treatment works, electricity pylons or gas pipelines running across development sites.	+/-	+	+	+/-	+/-	?	?	?	+	+	+/-	This policy does not describe specific infrastructure requirements. However general infrastructure provision is predicted to result in a range of effects across the SA objs. Infrastructure construction could result in some short term adverse effects associated with pollution (obj 1), biodiversity (obj 4), carbon (obj 5) and water resources (obj 11) but more positive longer terms effects associated with provision of community facilities, green infrastructure etc. Therefore overall mixed effects are predicted for objs 1, 4, 5 and 11. Positive effects are predicted in terms of health and well-being (obj 2) through provision of healthcare, education, leisure, community facilities and green infrastructure, accessibility (obj 3), facilitation of appropriate housing (obj 9) and employment (obj 10). Heritage, landscape and natural resource effects (objs 6, 7, and 8) are uncertain as they will be specific to the type and location of infrastructure provision (see subsequent policy assessments).
B	No policy.												Not assessed - not reasonable alternative
	Policy IN2												
	Sustainable transport and accessibility	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Include a policy that ensures all planning applications: i. minimise (non active) travel and facilitate non car travel ii. apply the Oxfordshire County Council's Decide and Provide Approach to assess transport impacts iii. apply the transport user hierarchy iv. use good design principles from relevant guidance documents v. prioritise highway safety vi. provide suitable and proportionate contributions to and or provisions for transport infrastructure vii. consider and facilitate, where relevant, provision of shared transport and future transport technology	+	+	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	Promotion of sustainable transport and accessibility is predicted to have positive effects in terms of pollution reduction and health and well-being (obj 1, 2), with strong positive effects predicted in terms of accessibility and carbon reduction (obj 3, 5).
B	Same as above but rely on reference to LTCP for: transport user hierarchy, Decide and Provide, and future technology in transport.	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Similar to Option A, although reliance on county-wide transport policy may reduce specificity and effectiveness of policy reducing the magnitude of positive effects.
C	Retain existing policies.	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	As Option A, although reliance on existing policies is not expected to confer all the content and requirements of the new preferred policy hence reducing the magnitude of positive effects.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 13: Infrastructure, Transport, Connectivity and Communications		SEA Objective											
	Policy IN3												
	Transport infrastructure and safeguarding	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Include a policy that considers: - the councils' approach to safeguarding for transport and identifies safeguarded schemes, and - other transport infrastructure schemes that the councils seek to promote.	+	+	++	0	++	?	?	?	+	+	?	Safeguarding transport schemes which facilitate active travel and protect / improve the public transport network is predicted to have positive effects in terms of pollution reduction and health and well-being, facilitation of appropriate housing and jobs (obj 1, 2, 9, 10), with strong positive effects predicted in terms of accessibility and carbon reduction (obj 3, 5). Uncertain effects are predicted for objs 6,7,8,11 as there is potential for heritage, landscape and flooding effects and the policy makes provision for further land take in limited circumstances.
B	Considering the rural nature of the districts, this policy could provide more emphasis on reducing congestion for cars and freight.	-	-	-	0	-	?	?	?	0	0	?	Prioritising the reduction of congestion for cars and freight would detract from the benefits seen in Option A. Increasing the allocation of resources for private vehicles is expected to promote further private vehicle use with adverse effects and missed opportunities for positive effects in terms of pollution, health, accessibility and carbon (objs 1,2, 3 and 5). This may also have uncertain effects for objs 6,7,8,11 as potential remains for heritage, landscape and flooding effects and further land take.
C	Not having this policy.	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	Removing this policy altogether would jeopardise the delivery of established and new transport safeguarded infrastructure and other transport schemes supporting a modal shift to sustainable transport means.
	Policy IN4												
	Wilts and Berks Canal safeguarding	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Revise the existing policy to match wording that other local planning authorities will use for the restoration of the Wilts and Berks Canal network in their areas. The policy considers: - safeguarding a travel corridor for the historic canal route, with deviations where existing development prevents its restoration - support for the restoration of the canal - width requirements for the canal - prevention of development and associated infrastructure that may prejudice the delivery of the canal - requirements for development that directly relate to the canal safeguarded corridor	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	Proposals are predicted to have positive effects through provision of green / blue infrastructure in terms of health and well-being, accessibility, biodiversity, carbon reduction, heritage and landscape (objs 2-7).
B	Retaining the existing policy unchanged. This would be reasonable but would not reflect the policy wording used by other local planning authorities who are also seeking to restore the canal in their districts.	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	Policy wording differences unlikely to result in different effects to Option A.
C	Removing the policy.												Not assessed - not reasonable alternative due to associated loss of green / blue infrastructure resource.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 13: Infrastructure, Transport, Connectivity and Communications		SEA Objective											
	Policy IN5												
	Parking standards	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	A policy that: - identifies where district parking standards can be found - sets out a range of design considerations for cycle parking - identifies requirements for electric vehicle charging - considers the provision for electric charging for bicycles - sets out requirements for welfare facilities in buildings of employment and education	+	+	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	Proposals promoting model shift away from private vehicles are predicted to result in positive effects in terms of pollution reduction and health (objs 1, 2) with strong positive effects predicted in terms of accessibility and carbon reduction (objs 3 and 5). Building upon the District's parking standards could support sustainable modes of transport, as they become desirable alternatives to private vehicle use (Obj 1, 2, 3, 5, 10).
B	The policy could refer to County parking standards only and not explicitly set out further design principles for the provision of parking, such as cycle spaces being secure and well-lit. Explicit requirements for cycle and car parking may become out of date, with potential updating of parking standards by Oxfordshire County Council. However this can be resolved by stating that the latest adopted parking standards should be used.	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	Similar to Option A, although omission of design principles may reduce magnitude of positive accessibility and carbon reduction effects if uptake of sustainable modes is reduced through ineffective design.
C	No policy. *This is not considered reasonable as national planning policy requires consideration of parking and this policy summarises the standards and helps identify where to find Oxfordshire County Council's parking standards.*												Not assessed - not reasonable alternative
D	Set district specific parking standards.	+	+	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	As Option A, as district specific parking standards would address requirements across the districts (in the same way in which the OCC standards are considered to).
	Policy IN6												
	Deliveries and freight	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	A policy that considers: - requirements for deliveries by cargo bike - large vehicle management where sensitive receptors and highway issues are known - the location of development with high demands for large vehicles - the council's support for rail freight - provision of roadside service facilities in accordance with Department for Transport requirements	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	Provisions for deliveries and freight are likely in themselves to result in adverse environmental effects, particularly associated with pollution and carbon emissions. However, SA scoring has been undertaken in the context of these services being provided and the impact the presence of the policy would have on existing environmental effects. These are predicted to be positive in terms of pollution, carbon reduction and employment (objs 1, 5 and 10).
B	A policy which refers to Oxfordshire County Council's guidance on freight management only. There are a number of design considerations contained within this policy that may be missed by developers.	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	Similar to Option A, although omission of design considerations may reduce magnitude of positive effects through ineffective design.
C	No policy.	--	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	No policy here would risk a comparative increase in pollution and carbon emissions associated with deliveries and freight with strong adverse effects.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 13: Infrastructure, Transport, Connectivity and Communications		SEA Objective											
	Policy IN7												
	South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO) safeguarding	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
A	Have a policy that safeguards land for the reservoir and provides criteria for the reservoir and its ancillary facilities, including a pumping station, that address the design, construction, infrastructure, environment, additional measures to reduce carbon emissions and recreation in the following ways: **Design** **-** information that reassures the public that it will be safe and secure. For example, addressing concerns about the potential for the reservoir to be breached - demonstrates how the proposals will reduce the carbon emissions resulting from construction of the reservoir - use the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LIVA) process **Construction** - mitigation for the impact of construction on local people, the environment and roads, planning for the workforce through an Employment and Skills Plan and also how the workforce will be accommodated and access the site - provide construction management plan - provide an employment and skills plan **Infrastructure** - provision of a flood alleviation scheme for Abingdon - provision of new routes for the Hanney to Steventon road, access roads, footpaths and cycle routes on site, and improvements to junctions - provide new rail infrastructure - construct the replacement section of the Wilts and Berks Canal - a travel plan for the site and associated measures to support access to the reservoir by active travel and sustainable transport during construction and when operational - adequate cycle and car parking provision (to include EV charging) during construction and when operational **Environment** - mitigation for any adverse effects identified through the environmental impact assessment. No increased flood risk to surrounding areas - maximise the creation of wildlife habitats with appropriate biodiversity net gain within the site - minimise any adverse impact on the amenity of local residents and business from noise, vibration, artificial lighting, dust and fumes - undertake an archaeology assessment archaeology - undertake a heritage assessment	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	-	0	+	+	Construction of the reservoir itself is predicted to have mixed environmental effects. Positive effects would be expected in terms of construction employment, water resources and health (through recreation). However, adverse effects would be expected in terms of pollution, carbon, biodiversity, natural resources and flood risk. However, SA scoring has been undertaken in the context that the reservoir is provided (Government will determine whether planning permission is granted for the reservoir as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project) and the effects the presence of the policy would have on the reservoir's impact. Policy proposals are predicted to: provide health benefits through maximising recreational opportunities (obj 2); provide biodiversity improvements (obj 4); facilitate carbon reductions through introduction of renewable technology (obj 5); provide heritage protections (obj 6); promote sensitive landscape design (obj 7); maximise construction employment opportunities (obj 10); and provide water security and flood risk improvement (obj 10). Adverse effects are predicted in terms of natural resources due to the land take requirements associated with construction of the reservoir (obj 8).
	Contd from above… **Additional measure to reduce carbon emissions** - be built to net zero operational carbon standards once completed - replacement of the solar farm on the site - include measures to generate renewable energy from the operation of the development when complete **Recreation** **-** detailed plans for recreational use of the reservoir - provision of a jetty to support water sports												
B	The plan could be silent on the reservoir and not include a policy until a decision is made on the Thames Water WRMP24 (Water Resources Management Plan). This is not recommended as the removal of the safeguarding policy could result in development coming forward within the safeguarding area that may then later need to be removed to make way for the reservoir. Also not including the policy would mean that the councils miss the opportunity to set out our expectations from the applicant in respect of mitigation and benefits and to consult our local communities on these. Without a replacement for the existing Vale of White Horse Local Plan safeguarding policy, the Planning Inspector at any future examination of a development consent order may only have the adopted Local Plan policy to rely upon.	0	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	?	The lack of a specific policy could increase the magnitude of adverse effects associated with the reservoir's construction and operation and miss opportunities to maximise beneficial effects.

Policy Options SA – Chapter 13: Infrastructure, Transport, Connectivity and Communications			SEA Objective										
	C	Thames Water has advised that they will likely prepare the Development Consent Order application to construct the reservoir and the proposal is included in the Thames Water and Affinity Water draft Water Resource Management Plans and the regional draft Water Resources South East Plan. An alternative policy would be to make a site allocation for the reservoir. However, this major construction project will have a significant carbon footprint, particularly in its construction and will disrupt local communities and damage the environment. Both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have made a commitment to address the climate emergency, including through the policies of the Joint Local Plan. The councils have responded to the draft water resources plans indicating that three is no need for a reservoir if other options for water supply are prioritised. For these reasons, it is not considered appropriate to allocate the site in the emerging plan as the proposed reservoir is not currently supported by either council.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The inclusion of a site allocation for the reservoir would not in itself have any associated SA effects and hence this option as been scored as neutral.
		Policy IN8											
		Digital connectivity	**SA1**	**SA2**	**SA3**	**SA4**	**SA5**	**SA6**	**SA7**	**SA8**	**SA9**	**SA10**	**SA11**	**Commentary (where applicable)**
	A	Have a policy that captures requirements and encourages improvements in digital connectivity. This policy will: - show support for more reliable and more comprehensive coverage and access to electronic communications - ensure appropriate infrastructure is provided during development, sufficient to enable all properties to be connected to full fibre broadband - encourage fibre connections that enable connection to street furniture to facilitate future advancements in digital technology including smart street furniture - ensure that there is sufficient mobile communications coverage in proposed developments - ensure developments don't have an adverse impact on existing digital infrastructure - set out criteria for telecommunications installations - encourage proposals to design street furniture in such a way that the installation of telecoms equipment and other sensors can be included and easily maintained without causing disruption	+	+	++	0	++	-	-	0	++	++	0	Improving digital connectivity is predicted to have strong positive effects in terms of reducing the need to travel by car (obj 3) and associated carbon / pollution reduction and health benefits (objs 1, 2, 3), as well as for providing well-adapted housing and employment opportunities (objs 9 and 10). Some potential for adverse effects in terms of heritage and landscape associated with telecoms installations.
	B	Continuing the current policy approach by combining policies from the existing South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Local Plans. This approach would include less detailed requirements than Option A and could be less effective in promoting proposals that would support an increasing reliance on digital infrastructure.	+	+	+	0	+	-	-	0	+	+	0	'Similar to Option A, although omission of detailed requirements within a new policy may reduce magnitude of positive effects.
	C	No policy. This is not the preferred approach due to the importance of provision of digital infrastructure for social well-being, economic growth, and other co-benefits such as the reduction of carbon emissions.	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	-	-	0	No policy is predicted to have adverse effects through missed opportunities for delivery of those benefits described in Option A.

	Key to the High Level Assessment Matrix
++	Likely strong positive effect
+	Likely positive effect
0	Neutral/no effect
-	Likely adverse effect
--	Likely strong adverse effect
+/-	Mixed effects
?	Uncertain effects

	SEA Objectives
1	To reduce pollution of all kinds and meet environmental targets for air and water.
2	To safeguard the health and wellbeing of the population, ensuring new developments plan for "healthy places" and "safe places" with sufficient social, physical and health infrastructure in place.
3	To reduce the need to travel by car, and improve access to services and facilities by sustainable modes of travel.
4	To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity and geodiversity across the districts.
5	To make a significant contribution to achieving net zero carbon emissions in both districts and to promote adaptation and resilience to climate change.
6	To conserve, and where possible, enhance all heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings in the districts.
7	To protect and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, and important gaps between settlements (including the Oxford Green Belt), maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness, sense of place, and landscape quality.
8	To conserve and manage natural resources.
9	To plan for enough housing to meet the needs of our residents, including the provision of affordable housing.
10	To provide a resilient economy for both districts in the future.
11	To achieve sustainable water resource management.

Urban Edge Environmental Consulting Ltd

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