

Bolsover District Council

Local Plan for Bolsover District: Publication Draft

Sustainability Appraisal Report: Non-Technical Summary



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Report for

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Document revisions

No.	Details	Date
1	Final NTS	09.04.18
2	Revised Final NTS	17.04.18

Non-Technical Summary

Introduction

This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides an overview of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Publication Local Plan for Bolsover District. The SA is being carried out on behalf of Bolsover District Council (the Council) by Amec Foster Wheeler Environment and Infrastructure UK Ltd (Amec Foster Wheeler, now Wood) to help integrate sustainable development into the emerging Local Plan.

The following sections of this NTS:

- ▶ provide an overview of the Publication Local Plan;
- ▶ describe the approach to undertaking the SA of the Publication Local Plan;
- ▶ summarise the findings of the SA of the Publication Local Plan; and
- ▶ set out the next steps in the SA of the Local Plan.

What is the Publication Local Plan?

The new Local Plan for Bolsover District will be a single planning policy document. It will set out how much new development is to be accommodated in the District out to 2033 and where this growth will be located. It will also contain planning policies and land allocations.

The development of the Local Plan began in October 2014 when an initial consultation was held on what the Local Plan should contain. The outcomes of this consultation, alongside ongoing engagement with stakeholders and the development of the Local Plan evidence base, led to the publication of the Council's Identified Strategic Options (the Strategic Options consultation document) that was consulted on between 30th October and 11th December 2015. This consultation sought views on a number of strategic options concerning the amount and broad location of future development in the District as well as potential strategic sites. Based on the responses received to the consultation and further evidence base work, the Council selected its Preferred Strategic Options for the Local Plan in February 2016. The Preferred Strategic Options were then further developed and refined alongside the proposed land allocations and plan policies to deliver the options. The draft Local Plan was subsequently published for consultation between 31st October and 12th December 2016 and included the vision and Local Plan objectives, development requirements and spatial strategy, proposed site allocations and plan policies.

The draft Local Plan has since been revised to reflect representations received during consultation, new evidence and the recommendations of its accompanying SA. As part of this work, and in light of the updated Housing Objectively Assessed Needs (OAN) evidence, the preferred strategic options and site allocation options were updated in November 2017. The Publication Local Plan (including the revised preferred options), which is the subject of this SA, is now being issued for consultation before it is considered by an independent planning inspector.

The Publication Local Plan includes the following key parts:

- ▶ vision and Local Plan objectives;
- ▶ the development requirements in terms of the amount and broad location of growth;
- ▶ strategic sites;
- ▶ smaller scale (local) land allocations; and
- ▶ plan policies.

Further information about the Publication Local Plan is set out in Section 1.3 and Section 1.4 of the SA Report and is available via the Council's website: www.bolsover.gov.uk/new-local-plan.

What is Sustainability Appraisal?

National planning policy¹ states that local plans are key to delivering sustainable development. Sustainable development is that which seeks to strike a balance between economic, environmental and social factors to enable people to meet their needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

It is very important that the Local Plan for Bolsover District contributes to a sustainable future for the plan area. To support this objective, the Council is required to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Local Plan². SA is a means of ensuring that the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan are identified, described and appraised and also incorporates a process set out under a European Directive³ and related UK regulations⁴ called Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Where negative effects are identified, measures will be proposed to avoid, minimise or mitigate such effects. Where any positive effects are identified, measures will be considered that could enhance such effects. SA will therefore be an integral part of the preparation of the Local Plan.

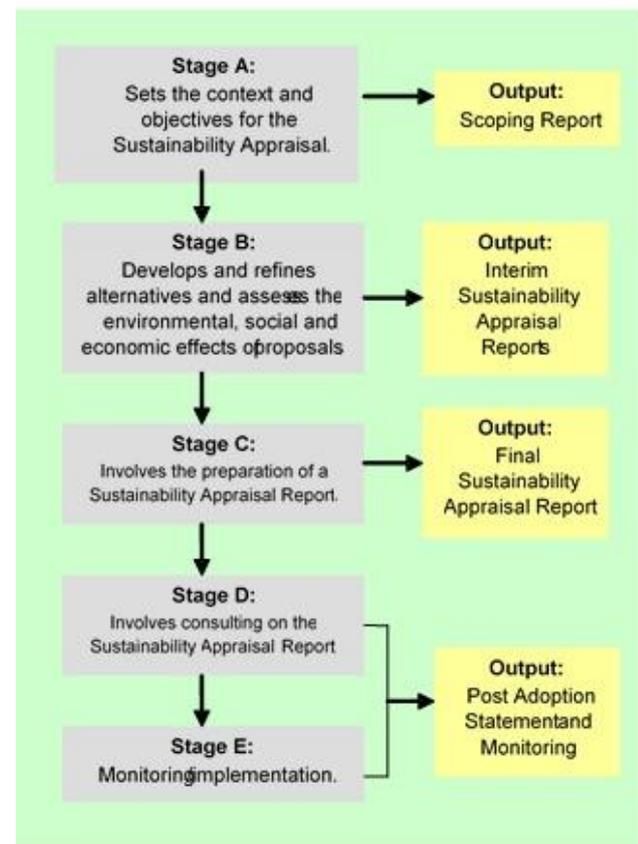
There are five key stages in the SA process which are shown in **Figure NTS.1**.

Figure NTS.1 The SA Process

What Has Happened So Far?

The first stage (**Stage A**) of the SA process involved consultation on a SA Scoping Report. The Scoping Report set out the proposed approach to the appraisal of the Local Plan including a SA Framework and was subject to consultation that ran from 22nd May to 3rd July 2015.

Stage B is an iterative process involving the appraisal and refinement of the Local Plan with the findings presented in interim SA Reports. In this context, the SA has been undertaken during the key stages of the plan preparation process to-date with the findings presented in a series of interim SA Reports. Initially the SA considered options concerning the amount and broad location of growth that were identified in the Strategic Options consultation document. They were appraised using the revised SA Framework with the findings presented in a SA Report⁵ that was issued for consultation alongside the document. The Council's vision, objectives development requirements and spatial strategy, proposed site allocations and plan policies were then subject to SA with the findings presented in a SA Report⁶ that was published alongside the draft Local Plan Consultation Document.



¹ See paragraph 150-151 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2012).

² The requirement for SA of local plans is set out under section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

³ Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

⁴ Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (statutory instrument 2004 No. 1633).

⁵ Amec Foster Wheeler (2015) *Local Plan for Bolsover District: Identified Strategic Options Sustainability Appraisal Report*.

⁶ Amec Foster Wheeler (2016) *Local Plan for Bolsover District: Consultation Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report*.

This report has been prepared as a part of **Stage C** of the SA and considers the effects of the Publication Local Plan. It is being published for consultation alongside the Publication Local Plan itself prior to consideration by an independent planning inspector (**Stage D**). Following Examination in Public (EiP), the Council will issue a Post Adoption Statement as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Local Plan. During the period of the Local Plan, the Council will monitor its implementation and any significant social, economic and environmental effects (**Stage E**).

Section 1.5 of the SA Report describes in further detail the requirement for SA of local plans and the SA process including its relationship with the preparation of the Local Plan for Bolsover District.

How has the Publication Local Plan Been Appraised?

To support the appraisal of the Local Plan, a SA Framework has been developed. This contains a series of sustainability objectives and guide questions that reflect both the current socio-economic and environmental issues which may affect (or be affected by) the Local Plan and the objectives contained within other plans and programmes reviewed for their relevance to the SA and Local Plan. The SA objectives are shown in **Table NTS 1**.

Table NTS 1 SA Objectives Used to Appraise the Publication Local Plan

SA Objective

1. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the District's green infrastructure network.
2. To ensure that the District's housing needs are met.
3. To promote a strong economy which offers high quality local employment opportunities.
4. To improve educational attainment and skills.
5. To promote regeneration, tackle deprivation and ensure accessibility for all.
6. To improve the health and wellbeing of the District's population.
7. To reduce the need to travel and deliver a sustainable, integrated transport network.
8. To encourage the efficient use of land.
9. To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.
10. To minimise flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding to people and property in the District, taking into account the effects of climate change.
11. To improve air quality.
12. To minimise greenhouse gases and deliver a managed response to the effects of climate change.
13. To encourage sustainable resource use and promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover).
14. To conserve and enhance the District's historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.
15. To conserve and enhance the District's landscape character and townscapes.

The Publication Local Plan vision and objectives have been assessed for their compatibility with the SA objectives above. The development requirements (including the preferred housing and employment land targets and spatial strategy) and plan policies have been appraised using matrices to identify likely significant effects on the SA objectives. A qualitative scoring system has been adopted which is set out in **Table NTS 2**.

Table NTS 2 Scoring System Used in the Appraisal of the Publication Local Plan

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The preferred option/policy contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The preferred option/policy contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The preferred option/policy does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The preferred option/policy detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The preferred option/policy detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the preferred option/policy and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The preferred option/policy has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an appraisal to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the appraisal has identified both positive and negative effects. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates uncertainty over whether the effect could be a minor or significant effect although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used. A conclusion of uncertainty arises where there is insufficient evidence for expert judgement to conclude an effect.

Proposed housing, employment, retail and Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople land allocations including strategic sites and reasonable alternatives have been appraised against the SA objectives that comprise the SA Framework using tailored appraisal criteria and associated thresholds of significance. Reflecting their importance to the delivery of the Local Plan and capacity to generate significant effects, the four strategic sites have also been subject to more detailed appraisal with the findings recorded in matrices.

Section 4 of the SA Report provides further information concerning the approach to the appraisal of the Publication Local Plan.

What Are the Findings of the Appraisal of the Publication Local Plan?

Local Plan Vision and Objectives

The vision for the District, as set out in the Publication Local Plan, is reproduced in **Box NTS 1**.

Box NTS 1: Local Plan Vision

By 2033, Bolsover will be a growing district, undergoing an economic and visual transformation.

Economic Role

By 2033, Bolsover District will be an attractive location for new and growing businesses. The economy of the District will have benefited from wider initiatives in the Sheffield City Region and D2N2, as well as more local initiatives to improve the quantity, range and quality of jobs in the district.

Box NTS 1: Local Plan Vision

Employment opportunities will have expanded into growing sectors such as advanced manufacturing, logistics and knowledge based sectors. The increased employment opportunities in the District mean that people will have access to a greater number and range of jobs without having to commute outside the District.

Brownfield sites in the District will have been remediated and brought back into productive use providing regeneration benefits to the local community and improvements to the natural environment. Development will have taken place in the towns and larger villages and the town centres that serve local residents will be vibrant, attractive and distinctive places. Rural settlements will also have benefited from appropriate and sensitive development to meet the needs of their local communities.

Social Role

A range of new housing will have met the needs of a growing and aging population. New infrastructure such as schools, roads, health facilities and open space provision will have been planned and delivered alongside new developments. Access to outdoor recreation space and a network of footpaths and other facilities will have all been improved, providing opportunities for people to enjoy the natural environment and value the biodiversity it supports; thereby contributing to the health, wellbeing and economic prosperity of people and communities in the district.

The need to travel will be reduced through the spatial strategy of focussing development on the more sustainable settlements, whilst also supporting regeneration needs and tackling deprivation.

Environmental Role

The District's rich variety of environmental and historic assets (including their settings) will have been protected, enhanced, and extended and will be enjoyed by more people through increased tourism.

Increased open spaces; new, enhanced and better integrated green infrastructure; and ecological and recreational networks will have improved settlements and their settings in the District. This will allow wildlife to thrive and contribute to a sense of place and well-being, whilst creating opportunities for outdoor recreation and improved health.

The high quality of design in new developments will have helped to address climate change and reduced the potential for anti-social behaviour. It will also have helped to create places where people want to live and reinforced the distinctive character of settlements in the District.

Overall, through the provisions of the Local Plan, by 2033 the District's valuable natural and built assets will have been retained and enhanced. Local people will have benefited from the opportunities for a healthier lifestyle, improved job opportunities, more housing, and the increase in facilities that this can help to deliver.

This vision is underpinned by the following 16 Local Plan objectives:

- ▶ Objective A: Sustainable Growth;
- ▶ Objective B: Climate Change;
- ▶ Objective C: Countryside, Landscape Character & Wildlife;
- ▶ Objective D: Historic Environment;
- ▶ Objective E: Regeneration;
- ▶ Objective F: Tourism;
- ▶ Objective G: Infrastructure and New Facilities;
- ▶ Objective H: Sustainable Transport;
- ▶ Objective I: Green Spaces and Green Infrastructure;

- ▶ Objective J: Rural Areas;
- ▶ Objective K: Health and Wellbeing;
- ▶ Objective L: Economic Prosperity;
- ▶ Objective M: Employment Opportunities;
- ▶ Objective N: Meeting Housing Needs;
- ▶ Objective O: Place Making; and
- ▶ Objective P: Town Centres.

The Publication Local Plan vision and objectives above have been tested for their compatibility with the SA objectives.

The vision for the District seeks to deliver economic and social transformation whilst protecting and enhancing the environment. Reflecting its emphasis on these three strands of sustainability, the refined vision has been assessed as being compatible with the majority of the SA objectives, although the appraisal has found that it does leave room for uncertainties as potential conflicts could arise between growth, resource use and environmental factors.

The appraisal has found the refined Publication Local Plan objectives to be broadly supportive of the SA objectives. Where possible incompatibilities have been identified, tensions between the objectives can be resolved if development takes place in accordance with all of the Publication Local Plan objectives. As such, an incompatibility is not necessarily an insurmountable issue.

The completed compatibility assessment is presented in Section 5.2 of the SA Report.

Development Requirements

Policy SS2 (Scale of Development) of the Publication Local Plan sets out the amount of housing and employment land to be delivered over the plan period, as follows:

- ▶ sufficient land to accommodate the delivery of 5,168 dwellings (272 new homes per year) to meet the Council's Housing Objectively Assessed Need across the period 2014 to 2033;
- ▶ an additional housing land supply buffer of 10% for site flexibility applied across the period 2014 to 2033 (up to a planned scale of housing provision of 5,700 dwellings);
- ▶ sufficient land to accommodate 92 hectares (ha) of employment land across the period 2014 to 2033.

Policy SS3 (Spatial Strategy and Distribution of Development) seeks to distribute this growth in accordance with a settlement hierarchy, focusing development in the District's larger, more sustainable settlements, as follows:

- ▶ firstly to the small towns of Bolsover and Shirebrook and the emerging towns of South Normanton and Clowne;
- ▶ then to the large villages of Creswell, Pinxton, Whitwell, Tibshelf and Barlborough.

Beyond these more sustainable settlements, the Publication Local Plan supports limited development in eleven of the District's 15 small villages.

The development requirements and spatial strategy together form the overarching strategy for the Local Plan and have been appraised against the SA objectives. **Table NTS 3** summarises the findings of the appraisal and identifies the cumulative likely significant effects of the Local Plan strategy.

Table NTS 3 Summary of the Appraisal of the Development Requirements and Spatial Strategy

SA Objective	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5	Objective 6	Objective 7	Objective 8	Objective 9	Objective 10	Objective 11	Objective 12	Objective 13	Objective 14	Objective 15
Housing provision (5,700 dwellings)	-/?	++	+	+/-	+/?	+/-	+/-	+/-/?	--	0/?	-/?	-	-	+/-/?	+/-/?
Employment provision (92 ha)	-/?	0/+/?	++	+	+/?	+/-	+/-/?	+/-/?	-	0/?	+/-/?	-	-	-/?	+/-
Spatial Strategy	-/?	++	+/?	+/-	+	+/-	+	+/-	--	0/?	+/-	+	~	+/-/?	+/-
Cumulative Effect of the Development Requirements	-/?	++	++	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	--	0/?	+/-	+/-	-	+/-/?	+/-

The delivery of 5,700 dwellings over the plan period is expected to have a significant positive effect on housing (SA Objective 2). It is consistent with the OAN Update Report (2017), which identifies a requirement of 272 dwellings per annum for the District, and in addition, a further 10% housing buffer has been identified in order to ensure a degree of flexibility in the sites that are developed during the plan period whilst ensuring that the target is met. The spatial strategy focuses development in the District’s towns of Bolsover and Shirebrook, with additional development in the emerging towns of Clowne and South Normanton. In this regard, the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (2013) highlights that the need for affordable housing is greatest in the Bolsover and Clowne sub-market areas.

Cumulative significant positive effects have also been identified in respect of the economy (SA Objective 3). Employment land provision would support proposals associated with the Sheffield City Region (the City Region Local Enterprise Partnership) (2014) Strategic Economic Plan and the M1 Strategic Growth Corridor and under the preferred spatial strategy, jobs would be created in accessible locations. The delivery of 92 ha of employment land would also be expected to provide greater choice and flexibility in land supply. This could help to attract additional inward investment, support indigenous business growth and, potentially, facilitate diversification of the local economy. In this regard, the Economic Development Needs Assessment (2015) supports the level of employment land identified in the employment requirements. Consequently, once the base date for employment land provision has been aligned with the housing OAN base date of 2014, the Council has planned for 92 ha of employment land for the period 2014 to 2033.

No further cumulative significant positive effects were identified during the appraisal of the development requirements.

The Infrastructure Study and Delivery Plan 2018 identifies that in the long term, new wastewater treatment capacity will be required to meet the demand resulting from planned growth and in consequence, a cumulative significant negative effect has been identified in respect of water (SA Objective 9). However, it is anticipated that this capacity will be planned for through Yorkshire Water’s and Severn Trent’s Asset Management Plans.

No further cumulative significant negative effects were identified during the appraisal.

Cumulative effects on the remaining SA objectives have been assessed as either minor or neutral.

Detailed matrices containing the appraisal of the preferred housing target option, employment land target option and spatial strategy are presented in Appendix G to the SA Report. The findings of these appraisals are summarised in Section 5.3 of the SA Report.

Strategic and Priority Sites

To support the delivery of the development requirements, three strategic site allocations and two priority regeneration area allocations are identified in the Publication Local Plan and supported by Policies SS4 to SS8. The three strategic sites are as follows:

- ▶ Bolsover North, Bolsover (Policy SS4);
- ▶ Clowne Garden Village, Clowne (formerly Clowne North) (Policy SS5); and
- ▶ Former Whitwell Colliery Site, Whitwell (Policy SS6).

The two priority regeneration areas are:

- ▶ Former Coalite Works Site, Bolsover (Policy SS7); and
- ▶ Pleasley Vale Regeneration Area (Policy SS8).

The three strategic sites, as defined by the Publication Local Plan, all function as defined strategic land allocations within the plan and as such have been subject to a detailed site appraisal. The Former Coalite Works Site is also a defined strategic land allocation and has therefore additionally been subject to a detailed site appraisal. However, due to uncertainties regarding the full remediation of the site at this stage, the Council cannot be confident in relying upon the employment land proposed within Bolsover District being delivered to contribute to the delivery of the Local Plan's employment land target. As such, the Publication Local Plan defines the site as a priority regeneration area. For the purposes of the SA, the following four sites are discussed as 'strategic land allocations' hereafter:

- ▶ Bolsover North, Bolsover (Policy SS4);
- ▶ Clowne Garden Village, Clowne (formerly Clowne North) (Policy SS5);
- ▶ Former Whitwell Colliery Site, Whitwell (Policy SS6); and
- ▶ Former Coalite Works Site, Bolsover (Policy SS7).

The Pleasley Vale Regeneration Area differs from the strategic site allocations as it does not comprise a specific plot of land for development, nor does it provide for a quantum of development. Rather, the policy and supporting text in respect of this priority regeneration area provide support for development in the Pleasley Vale area and set the strategic criteria that development would be required to be in conformity with. As such, Pleasley Vale has been assessed separately.

The findings of appraisal of the strategic land allocations against the SA objectives are presented in **Table NTS 4** and summarised below.

Table NTS 4 Strategic Land Allocations

SA Objective	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5	Objective 6	Objective 7	Objective 8	Objective 9	Objective 10	Objective 11	Objective 12	Objective 13	Objective 14	Objective 15
Bolsover North	+/-	++	+	++/-	++/-	++/-	+/-	--	--	0	+/-	+/-	--	-	-
Former Coalite Chemical Works	+/-	++	++	++/-	++/-/?	++/-	+/-/?	++/-	--	-	+/-	++/-	-	--/?	+/-
Clowne Garden Village	+/-/?	++	++	++/-	++/-	++/-	+/-	--	--	0	+/-	+/-	--	-/?	--/?

SA Objective	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5	Objective 6	Objective 7	Objective 8	Objective 9	Objective 10	Objective 11	Objective 12	Objective 13	Objective 14	Objective 15
Former Whitwell Colliery	++/-	++	++	+/-	+/-	++/- -/?	+/-	++/- --	--	0	+/- /?	+/-	--	0/?	+/-
Cumulative Effect	+/-	++	++	++/- -	++/- -	++/- -	+/-	++/- --	--	0	+/-	+/-	--	-/?	+/-

Together, the three strategic sites would deliver a substantial proportion of the District's housing requirement and employment land over the plan period alongside community facilities and services including educational facilities. There is also the potential for significant additional housing or employment floorspace within Bolsover District resulting from the Former Coalite Chemical Works if the site were to be developed within the plan period. In consequence, the strategic allocations have been assessed as having a cumulative significant positive effect on housing (SA Objective 2), the economy (SA Objective 3), education (SA Objective 4), regeneration (SA Objective 5) and health and wellbeing (SA Objective 6), although the anticipated pressure on community facilities and services arising from new development could result in adverse effects on a number of these objectives.

No further cumulative significant positive effects were identified during the appraisal (with the exception of the mixed significant positive and significant negative effects noted below).

Cumulative significant negative effects have been identified in respect of water (SA Objective 9) due to the additional wastewater treatment capacity that will be required in the District throughout the plan period. However, it is anticipated that this would be addressed through the implementation of the Publication Local Plan policies.

Three of the four strategic allocations (Bolsover North, Clowne Garden Village and the Former Whitwell Colliery site) are within a Minerals Consultation Area for Limestone/Dolomite and cumulative significant negative effects have therefore also been identified in respect of resource use (SA Objective 13).

No further cumulative significant negative effects were identified during the appraisal (with the exception of the mixed significant positive and significant negative effects noted below).

The Former Coalite Works site represents a significant brownfield opportunity and under current proposals circa 43 ha of previously developed land would be redeveloped, the majority of which (approximately 31 ha) would be located in Bolsover District. Redevelopment of the Former Whitwell Colliery would also predominantly comprise brownfield land. Cumulative significant positive effects have therefore been identified in respect of land use (SA Objective 8). However, the development of all four strategic allocations would result in the loss of greenfield land, the quantum of which (circa 172 ha) is substantial and would include land which is classified as Grade 2 ('Very Good') agricultural land (based on provisional ALC mapping). In consequence, the strategic allocations have also been assessed as having a cumulative significant negative effect on land use.

Cumulative effects on the remaining SA objectives have been assessed as either minor or neutral.

Initial and detailed matrices containing the appraisal of the strategic allocations are presented in Appendix G and Appendix H to the SA Report. The findings of these appraisals are summarised in Section 5.4 of the SA Report together with an assessment of alternative strategic growth options in Bolsover town and Clowne.

Pleasley Vale Priority Regeneration Area

The appraisal of the Pleasley Vale Opportunity Area has identified a number of significant positive effects, including housing provision (SA Objective 2), employment opportunities (SA Objective 3) and conservation of

the District's heritage assets (SA Objective 14). The protection of the District's heritage assets is a key aspect of the redevelopment, with regeneration offering the opportunity to ensure that buildings that may otherwise be left to deteriorate can be appropriately maintained.

The appraisal of Pleasley Vale can be found in Appendix I.

Land Allocations

In addition to the four strategic land allocations, the Publication Local Plan identifies smaller scale (local) housing, employment, retail, Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople land allocations, supported by Policy LC1, Policy LC6, Policy WC1 and Policies WC6 to WC8. To inform the selection of these sites, all proposed plan allocations and reasonable alternatives have been subject to SA using tailored appraisal criteria and associated thresholds of significance.

Overall, the scale of housing, employment, retail and Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople land to be delivered through the local allocations in the Publication Local Plan is considered to be significant and will help to meet the future needs of the District, its communities and businesses over the plan period whilst minimising the potential for significant adverse environmental effects. This reflects both the characteristics of individual sites and also the fact that the majority of dwellings, plots and employment/retail land will be delivered in the District's towns and large villages which have greater capacity in terms of their sustainability to receive growth.

Whilst there is the potential for new development to result in adverse environmental effects (and in some cases, significant negative effects), in many cases (such as in respect of biodiversity, cultural heritage and landscape) it is anticipated that the potential adverse effects could be mitigated at the project level. In this context, the Publication Local Plan policies provide mitigation against a range of site level planning matters.

Whilst the Publication Local Plan allocates a number of previously developed sites, cumulatively development will result in the loss of a substantial area of greenfield land and which includes land classified as grades 2 or 3 agricultural land (land in grades 1, 2 and 3a is classified as the best and most versatile agricultural land at Annex 2 of the NPPF). In consequence, there is the potential for significant positive and negative effects on land use. A large proportion of the proposed allocations have also been assessed as having a significant negative effect on water (SA Objective 9), predominantly due to wastewater treatment capacity constraints, and resource use and waste (SA Objective 13), due to the location of the sites being within Minerals Consultation Areas.

The appraisal of proposed land allocations including reasonable alternatives is contained in Appendix G. The findings of the appraisal of the proposed housing and employment land allocations are summarised in Section 5.5 of the SA Report.

Plan Policies

To support the overall strategy for development, the Publication Local Plan includes 65 policies across the following chapters:

- ▶ The Spatial Strategy (11 policies);
- ▶ Living Communities (9 policies);
- ▶ Working Communities (10 policies);
- ▶ Sustainable Communities (21 policies);
- ▶ Infrastructure, Transport, Community and Recreation Provision (12 policies); and
- ▶ Implementation and Infrastructure Delivery (2 policies).

The performance of the 65 policies has been tested against the 15 SA objectives. **Table NTS 5** shows the anticipated cumulative effects of each plan chapter against the SA objectives. The cumulative effects on the SA objectives resulting from all chapters has also been assessed.

Table NTS 5 Summary of the Cumulative Effects of the Publication Local Plan Policies

SA Objective	Publication Local Plan Policy Chapter						
	The Spatial Strategy	Living Communities	Working Communities	Sustainable Communities	Infrastructure, Transport, Community and Recreation	Implementation and Infrastructure Delivery	Cumulative effect of the draft policies
1. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the District's green infrastructure network.	+/-	-/?	+/-/?	++	++/?	+	+/-
2. To ensure that the District's housing needs are met.	++	++	0	+	0	+	++
3. To promote a strong economy which offers high quality local employment opportunities.	++	+	++	+	+	++	++
4. To improve educational attainment and skills.	++/-	++/-	++	+	++	++	++
5. To promote regeneration, tackle deprivation and ensure accessibility for all.	++/-	++/-	++	++	++	++	++
6. To improve the health and wellbeing of the District's population.	++/-	++/-	+/-	++	++/?	++	++
7. To reduce the need to travel and deliver a sustainable, integrated transport network.	+/-	+/-	++/-	+	++	+	++/-
8. To encourage the efficient use of land.	++/--	++/--	++/-	++	++/?	0	++/--
9. To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	--	--	--	++	+/?	++	0
10. To minimise flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding to people and property in the District, taking into account the effects of climate change.	0	0	0	++	+/?	+	++
11. To improve air quality.	+/-	+/-	+/-	++	++/?	+	++/-
12. To minimise greenhouse gases and deliver a managed response to the effects of climate change.	+/-	-	+/-	++	++/?	+	++/-
13. To encourage sustainable resource use and promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover).	--	--	--	+	0	+	+
14. To conserve and enhance the District's historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	+/-	-	+/-	++	++/?	+	++/-

SA Objective	Publication Local Plan Policy Chapter						
	The Spatial Strategy	Living Communities	Working Communities	Sustainable Communities	Infrastructure, Transport, Community and Recreation	Implementation and Infrastructure Delivery	Cumulative effect of the draft policies
15. To conserve and enhance the District's landscape character and townscapes.	++/-	+/-	+/-	++	++/?	+	++/-

The implementation of the proposed policies contained in the Publication Local Plan is anticipated to have positive effects across all of the SA objectives. These effects are expected to be significant in respect of: housing; economy; education; regeneration; health and wellbeing; transport; flood risk; air quality; climate change; cultural heritage; and landscape. This broadly reflects the likely social and economic benefits associated with the delivery of housing and employment in the District over the plan period and the strong framework provided by the plan policies that will help to conserve the District's natural and built environments and resources.

Despite the overall positive cumulative effects associated with the implementation of the Publication Local Plan policies, cumulative negative effects on the SA objectives have also been identified against some SA objectives including: biodiversity; transport; land use; air quality; climate change; cultural heritage; and landscape. This principally reflects impacts associated with the construction and operation of new housing and employment uses including land take, emissions and loss of landscape character. However, where negative effects have been identified, it is expected that those policies of the Publication Local Plan which seek to conserve and enhance the District's natural and built environment and protect its resources will help to minimise adverse effects. The exception is the anticipated loss of greenfield land associated with new development which has been assessed as having a cumulative (mixed) significant negative effect on land use.

Detailed matrices containing the appraisal of the Publication Local Plan policies are presented in Appendix I to the SA Report. The findings of these appraisals are summarised in Section 5.6 of the SA Report.

Mitigation and Enhancement

The SA has been undertaken iteratively alongside and informing the development of the Local Plan. In this context, a number of measures were identified in the SA Report that accompanied the draft Local Plan concerning recommended changes to the proposed Local Plan policies and the site-specific development requirements.

The appraisal contained in this SA Report has identified a range of further measures to help address potential negative effects and enhance positive effects associated with the implementation of the Publication Local Plan. These measures are highlighted within the detailed appraisal matrices to the SA Report and will be considered by the Council in preparing the final Local Plan.

Next Steps

This NTS and the SA Report are being issued for consultation alongside the Publication Local Plan. The consultation will run from **2nd May to 15th June 2018**.



The findings of the SA Report, together with consultation responses received, will then be submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the Pre-Submission Local Plan for examination which is expected to take place during November – December 2018.

This Consultation: How to Give Us Your Views

We would welcome your views on any aspect of this NTS or SA Report. In particular, we would like to hear your views as to whether the effects which are predicted are likely and whether there are any significant effects which have not been considered.

Please provide your comments by 5pm on 15th June 2018. Comments should be sent to:

By email: planning.policy@bolsover.gov.uk

By post: Planning Policy Team, Bolsover District Council, The Arc, High Street, Clowne, S43 4JY

