



North West Leicestershire District Council
Local Plan Partial Review:
Final Sustainability Appraisal Report
(incorporating Equality Impact Assessment and
Health Impact Assessment)















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1 Introduction

1.1 This Report

This Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report presents information on the proposed main modifications to the final Policy S1 wording prepared to address the partial review of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan. A previous version of the SA Report (September 2019) presented findings of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review.

1.2 Background

The North West Leicestershire Local Plan was adopted in November 2017 and covers the period 2011-2031. The adopted Local Plan sets out a strategy for delivering the homes, jobs and infrastructure needed in the District during the Plan period. The Council committed in Policy S1 of the Local Plan to start a review of the plan within three months of the date of adoption.

The wording of adopted Policy S1 was agreed with the Local Plan Inspector during the previous Examination process.

Policy S1 stated that:

“The District Council will commence a review of this Local Plan (defined as being publication of an invitation to make representations in accordance with Regulation 18 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) by the end of January 2018 or within 3 months of the adoption of this Local Plan (whichever is the later). The Plan Review will be submitted for examination within two years from the commencement of the review. In the event that the reviewed plan is not submitted within two years then this Local Plan will be deemed to be out of date.”

The early review of the plan was required to:

1. Address a shortfall of employment land (excluding strategic B8) provision to address new evidence published whilst the plan was at examination¹ ; and
2. Address the possible need to accommodate additional housing arising from unmet needs in Leicester city.

¹ NWLDC (2019) Cabinet Report 16 July 2019, Local Plan Review

Furthermore, a number of changes have occurred since the Local Plan Inspector made his original recommendations to the Council and since the Local Plan was adopted as considered below:

- **The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):** The revised NPPF was published in July 2018 (and there were subsequent further changes in February 2019). This introduced a number of new plan-making requirements which would need to be addressed as part of a review, including:
 - Clear distinction between strategic and local policies with strategic policies looking ahead “over a minimum 15 year period from adoption”;
 - Guidance on the provision of ‘entry level homes’;
 - Specific reference to storage and distribution uses;
 - Specific reference to lorry parking; and
 - Viability
- **Uncertain housing requirements:** Leicester City Council has still not formally declared the extent of its housing need that it cannot meet within its own boundaries. A further issue is the uncertainty regarding the future housing requirements which should be planned for in relation to the Government’s ‘standard method’ for calculating housing requirements. Changes to the method are anticipated to be published in autumn 2020. It is reasonable to assume (based on the fact that the 2016-projections resulted in a housing figure of 529 dwellings) that the housing requirement (irrespective of any unmet need from Leicester City) will be higher than those derived from the 2014-household projections, but it is not clear as to what this is likely to be. In the meantime, the adopted local plan’s requirement figure appears sufficient to North West Leicestershire District Council to meet need arising in North West Leicestershire and a significant contribution to need that arises elsewhere in the Housing Market Area (HMA).
- **Uncertain employment requirements:** As with housing there is significant uncertainty regarding the exact amount of employment land which would need to be identified as part of the review. The HEDNA identifies the amount of employment land required to 2031 and 2036, except for strategic B8 uses (i.e. warehouses those of over 9,000sqm in size) which are identified in a separate study. Whilst the needs identified in the HEDNA have been nearly addressed since the Local Plan was adopted, there are concerns about its reliability from an evidence base point of view. Additional evidence has been commissioned in relation to the amount and type of employment land which is needed.
- **Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan (SGP):** The Leicester and Leicestershire authorities have jointly prepared and agreed a SGP covering the period 2011-50. This is a non-statutory plan, but its intended purpose was to provide a framework for future Local Plans. The SGP was formally agreed in late 2018. The SGP is seeking a step change in the way that growth is delivered; focussing more development in strategic locations and reducing the amount of new development that takes place in existing towns,

villages and rural areas. One of these strategic locations lies partly within North West Leicestershire and is known as the 'Leicestershire International Gateway' (The Gateway) which covers the northern part of North West Leicestershire and Charnwood. Whilst the Local Plan review will not go up to 2050, the scale of development is such that it will need to be planned for well in advance and so will need to be addressed as part of the review. It is likely that some large scale developments will be required, possibly new settlements. Such developments are inherently complex and require time to compile the necessary supporting evidence.

As a result, North West Leicestershire District Council have been:

- 1) Amending Policy S1 and some of the supporting text of the adopted Local Plan. This is referred to as the '**Partial Review**'.
- 2) Continuing to work on a wider more **Substantive Review** to address the longer term development needs of the district.

Recent Examination and Screening Proposed Modifications

The Partial Review of the plan following its adoption has been underway and a 'pre-submission version' of the Local Plan Partial Review was consulted on between 20 November 2019 and 8 January 2020 and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for examination in February 2020.

Following the examination hearing sessions the Council is proposing a number of proposed Main Modifications to the submission Local Plan and the aim of this SA Report is to present information on the proposed main modifications and an assessment of the final Policy S1 wording as a result of the examination.

These changes are referred to as main modifications and need to be considered through the SA process to determine if they significantly affect the findings of the previous SA work. All of the proposed main modifications were therefore screened to determine if they were significant and further SA work was required or could be screened out from appraisal as not significant. The screening identified that the majority of the main modifications were unlikely to give rise to significant effects and so only one main modification (MM8) identified in Table D.1 in Appendix D was screened in and has been carried forward for further consideration through the SA process in Section 8 of this report.

With regards to the Substantive Review, this work continues and will extend the Local Plan period beyond 2031, at least to 2036, but possibly longer to ensure that any strategic policies look ahead at least 15 years from adoption as required by the NPPF. This work continues in parallel with the Partial Review.

1.3 The Sustainability Appraisal

ClearLead Consulting Ltd were commissioned to undertake the SA (incorporating Equality Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment) of the Local Plan Partial Review.

The assessment incorporates the following types of assessments which can either be undertaken separately or, due to their similarities with regards to process and interconnected topics, can be undertaken as an integrated assessment:

- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA);
- Sustainability Appraisal (SA);
- Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA); and
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA).

The requirements of each of these assessments are set out below. North West Leicestershire District Council have decided to fulfil their duties in respect of the above assessments in one SA.

1.4 Purpose and Requirements for the Impact Assessments

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

SA of Local Plans is required under Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019) also requires SA of Local Plans. The SA must incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations²). The SEA Regulations transpose the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) into English law and applies to a range of plans and programmes, including Local Plans. The purpose of the SEA Directive is to ensure a high level of environmental protection, and to integrate the consideration of the environment into the preparation and adoption of plans, with a view to promoting sustainable development.

Within the context of local planning in England, it is accepted practice to integrate the requirements of SA and SEA into a single assessment process as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance³. The purpose of SA is to appraise the environmental, social and economic effects of plans and programmes. The SA 'testing' of the Local Plan policies and their reasonable alternatives will help to develop the most sustainable policies and proposals as an integral part of a plan's development.

² Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 SI 1644:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/contents/made>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) is a way of measuring the potential impact (positive, negative or neutral) that a policy, function or service may have on different groups protected by equalities legislation, notably the Equalities Act 2010. This Act places a general duty on the Council as a public body to pay due regard to advancing equality, fostering good relations and eliminating discrimination for people sharing certain protected characteristics. The equality duty came into force in April 2011 and covers the following Personal Protected Characteristics:

- Age;
- Disability;
- Gender (male/female);
- Gender reassignment;
- Marriage and civil partnership⁴;
- Pregnancy and maternity;
- Race;
- Religion or belief; and
- Sexual orientation.

EqIA is therefore an essential tool for demonstrating that the Council has complied with the law by shaping the way decisions are taken and thereby improving outcomes. It enables a good understanding of different needs and the differential impacts that the policies may have on different groups.

Health Impact Assessment

A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a means of assessing the potential impacts on health of policies, plans and projects. The HIA process is designed to help decision-makers ensure that health and wellbeing is being properly considered in planning policies and proposals.

HIA is not a statutory requirement of the Local Plan preparation process. However, Planning Practice Guidance⁵ states that 'Local planning authorities should ensure that health and wellbeing and health infrastructure are considered in local and neighbourhood plans and in planning decision making'. It also states that 'a health impact assessment may be a useful tool to use where there are expected to be significant impacts'.

HIAs can be done at any stage in the development process but are best done at the earliest stage possible.

⁴ Age, Marriage and civil partnership - not all aspects of the duty apply.

⁵ <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/>

1.5 Purpose and Structure of this SA Report

The aim of this SA report is to consider the changes being proposed to the Local Plan Partial Review following the examination of Policy S1 and to present the findings of the assessment of the final Policy S1. This will inform consultation on the proposed main modifications and assist the finalisation of the Partial Review.

The remaining sections of this document are structured as follows:

- Section 2 describes the approach to the SA;
- Section 3 presents the scope and content of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Partial Review;
- Section 4 presents the findings from the review of policies, plans and programmes;
- Section 5 presents the summary of baseline data;
- Section 6 provides details of the alternatives considered for the Local Plan Partial Review;
- Section 7 presents the findings of the assessment of options;
- Section 8 presents the findings of the assessment of the final Policy S1 wording;
- Section 9 provides details of monitoring; and
- Section 10 presents the next steps.

1.6 How to comment on this document

This report is providing information to inform consultees on appraisal findings of the SA to demonstrate how the final policy wording (as proposed to be modified) performs and will be available on the Council's website.

The consultation period will be from 30th November 2020 to 10th January 2021.

Please provide responses to:

Planning.policy@nwleicestershire.gov.uk or

Planning Policy Team

North West Leicestershire District Council

Council Offices

Whitwick Road

Coalville

Leicestershire

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2 Approach to the SA

2.1 SA Process

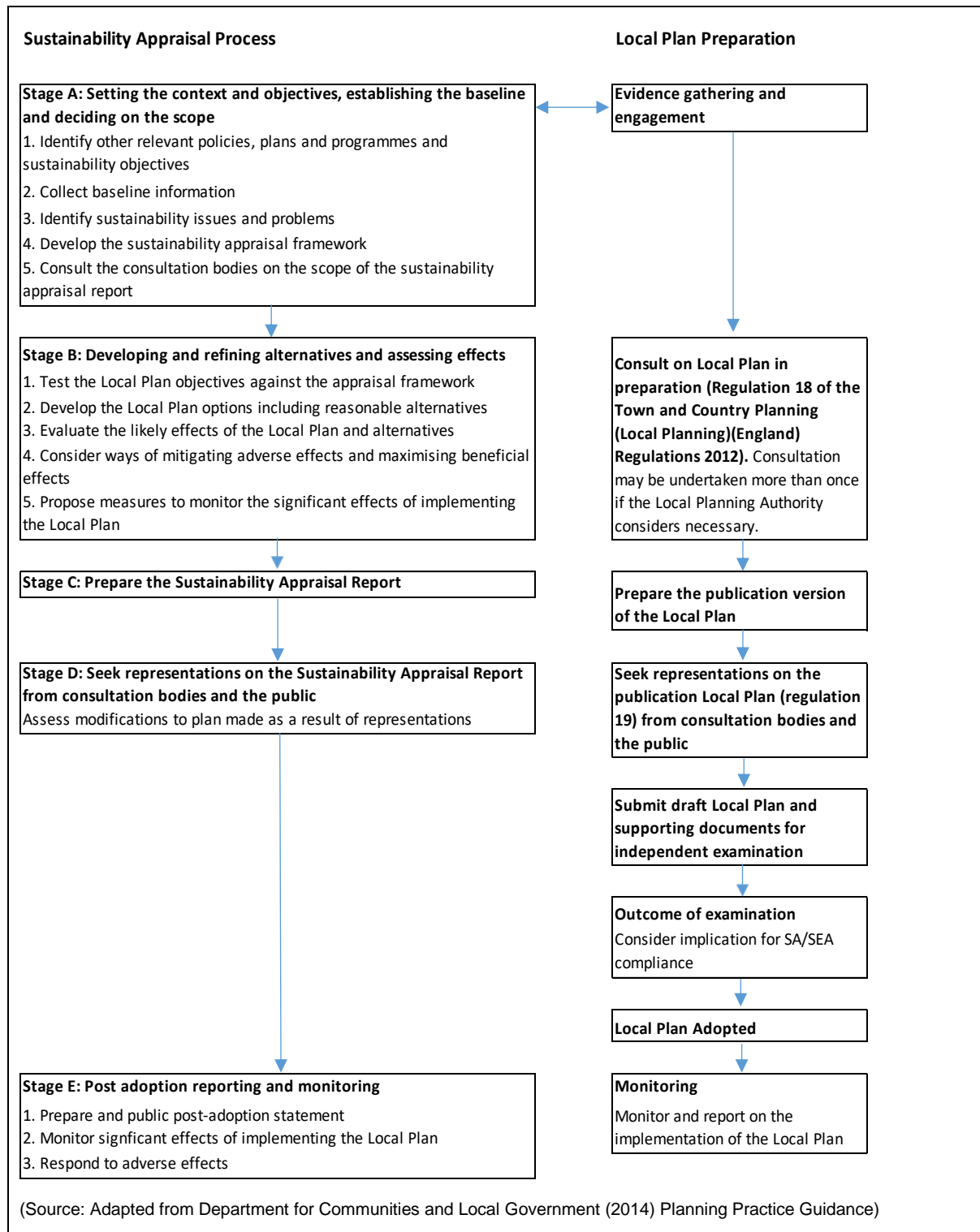
The SA process is shown in Figure 2.1. Stage A (Scoping) was completed in August 2018 and culminated in the production of a SA framework of objectives and sub-objectives against which to assess the Local Plan Partial Review.

This SA Report encompasses Stages B and C of the SA process (evaluation of the proposed Local Plan Partial Review against the SA framework and SA report preparation) and fulfils the requirements to:

- Evaluate the potential effects of the Local Partial Review Plan implementation;
- Identify and propose mitigation of significant adverse effects; and
- Propose appropriate monitoring of significant effects⁶.

⁶ Requirements of the SEA Regulations. See Table 2.5 for further details.

Figure 2.1: The SA process



2.2 Methodology

The following text sets out the approach taken to complete the SA stages outlined in Figure 2.1.

2.2.1 Stage A Scoping

The purpose of the scoping stage is to set out proposals for conducting the SA, so that the SA tests the sustainability of the Local Partial Review Plan using up to date information about the social, environmental and economic issues in the District.

Task A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives

The legislative context in which the Local Plan is being prepared can best be understood through a review of related policies, plans, and programmes (PPP). The SEA Regulations require information on:

- *“an outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes”* (Schedule 2, Paragraph 1); and
- *“the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation”* (Schedule 2, Paragraph 5).

The review process ensures that the Local Plan Partial Review complies with existing PPP at international, national and regional levels of governance and also reinforces and supports local plans and strategies. The process entails identifying and reviewing those PPP and environmental protection objectives that are directly relevant to both the Local Plan and the SA. Carrying out this review at an early stage of plan development allows for any inconsistencies or constraints within the Local Plan Partial Review to be addressed. It also provides the context for the SA and informs the development of the SA assessment framework (see Table 2.3).

For practical reasons, the scoping task of identifying related plans and programmes cannot yield an exhaustive or definitive list of legislative/non-legislative documents. The review has been focused to ensure that only policies that are current and have direct relevance to the Local Plan are reviewed. An outline of the policy documents and their objectives are provided in Appendix A and a summary of the key messages / objectives is provided in Table 4.1 in Section 4 of this report.

In some cases, where lower level plans include the objectives set out at a national or international level, then the national and international plans have not been included.

Task A2: Collecting baseline information

The SEA Regulations require a description of the following to be presented:

- “the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme” (Schedule 2, Paragraph 2);
- “the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected” (Schedule 2, Paragraph 3);” and
- “the likely significant effects on the environment... on issues such as (a) biodiversity; (b) population; (c) human health; (d) fauna; (e) flora; (f) soil; (g) water; (h) air; (i) climatic factors; (j) material assets; (k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage; (l) landscape (Schedule 2, Paragraph 6).”

Baseline data enables a characterisation of the plan area to be developed, including the sensitivity of the environment. Gaining an understanding of this information allows the impacts of the plan to be assessed and its performance to be monitored after adoption. Baseline information can put the plan area into context in relation to a national or regional situation or in relation to adjacent areas.

It is, therefore, necessary to collect sufficient information about the current baseline state of North West Leicestershire District and to predict the future environmental and socio-economic trends to allow effects to be adequately predicted and monitored. The detailed baseline information has been compiled in a series of topics in line with published guidance⁷ and includes comparators, targets and trends where possible. The topics set out within the SEA Regulations have been expanded into a number of sustainability topics as presented within Table 2.1 to include socio-economic topics as well as environmental. Interrelationships between topics are considered (where appropriate) within the individual SA topic chapters within Appendix B.

Table 2.1: North West Leicestershire Local Plan Partial Review SA topics compared with SEA Topics	
SA Topics adopted for this assessment	SEA Regulations topics required to be considered
Population & Communities	Population Human Health
Housing	Material Assets
Employment & Economy	Not required by SEA regulations

⁷ A practical guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive 2005 ODPM ISBN 1851127887

Table 2.1: North West Leicestershire Local Plan Partial Review SA topics compared with SEA Topics

SA Topics adopted for this assessment	SEA Regulations topics required to be considered
Transport & Access	Material Assets
Air, Noise & Light Pollution	Air
Climate Change	Climatic Factors
Biodiversity & Geodiversity	Biodiversity, flora and fauna
Landscape, Townscape & Land	Landscape Soils
Cultural Heritage	Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage Material assets
Water	Water
Waste & Minerals	Not required by SEA regulations

The SA incorporates HIA as well as EqIA. Relevant baseline information is provided in relation to health and equalities within the Population and Communities SA topic (see Appendix B sections 2.2 and 2.3).

The preparation of the Scoping Report to support the Partial Review of the Local Plan was informed by a review of the SA Scoping Report prepared for the North West Leicestershire Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) (2017)⁸ and also the SA Scoping Report for the Local Plan (2014)⁹.

⁸ Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document SA Report: Appendix A SA/SEA Scoping Note for the North West Leicestershire Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document

⁹North West Leicestershire Sustainability Appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Scoping Report, 2014



Through consideration of the baseline data, the evolution of the baseline without the plan and key sustainability issues were then identified for each topic.

A summary of baseline data is provided in Section 5 of this report.

Task A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems

Key sustainability issues for each of the SA topics are presented within Section 5 of this report. These are derived from the baseline data collated within Appendix B.

Task A4: Developing the SA assessment framework

The preparation of the Scoping Report culminated in the presentation of a framework of SA objectives against which the Local Plan Partial Review and its reasonable alternatives will be tested. For consistency purposes the SA Framework proposed to test the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Partial Review is based on the SA framework established to assess the North West Leicestershire Local Plan (adopted November 2017). However, it has been updated and amended to reflect up to date sustainability issues identified in the Scoping Report.

In updating the SA framework, the scoping exercise has reviewed the previous SA objectives with relation to:

- Their relevance to the scope and objectives of the Local Plan Partial Review;
- The practicalities of assessing against these objectives;
- Any additional sustainability objectives which should be potentially included or scoped out identified through the review and update of the plans, policies, and programmes;
- Any additional sustainability objectives which should be potentially included or scoped out identified through the key sustainability issues and problems identified in the baseline review and update; and
- The adequacy of the sustainability objectives to address HIA and EqIA.

The SA framework is presented in Table 2.2.

Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA

The Scoping Report was consulted on with the statutory consultees for a period of 6 weeks between 3rd September and 15th October 2018. In addition, the document was circulated to the Councils Local Plan consultation database and the document was also uploaded to the Council's website.

Comments reviewed on the Scoping Report were recorded in a 'recommendations tracker' and used to update the Scoping Report. This information is also reflected within Sections 4 and 5 of this report and has informed the subsequent stages of the SA.

Table 2.2: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Population & Communities	SA1 Improve the health and wellbeing of the District's population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable people to make healthy choices through the use of urban design and provision of open space and walking / cycling routes. • Ensure everyone has access to open space and recreation facilities.
	SA2 Reduce inequalities and ensure fair and equal access and opportunities for all residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all residents have equitable access to health services, taking into account the needs of an aging population. • Ensure all residents have equitable access to education, employment, community services and facilities. • Help ensure all children have access to a local school.
	SA3 Help create the conditions for communities to thrive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure an integrated approach to delivery of housing and community facilities. • Protect existing community facilities and ensure new facilities are built to support the needs of new housing development. • Help improve provision of local services, such as shops, GPs, public transport, and community service provision in the villages of northern North West Leicestershire. • Provide opportunities for residents to mix and meet. • Help design out crime from new development. • Plan for the district in the context of the wider region, including nearby areas of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.
Housing	SA4 Provide good quality homes that meet local needs in terms of number, type and tenure in locations where it can deliver the greatest benefits and sustainable access to services and jobs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a sufficient number of dwellings are provided to meet the needs of existing residents changing household size; to reduce commuting, improve access to services and jobs and to match employment growth. • Provide affordable homes of the tenure and size to meet the needs of each part of the District. • Provide market homes to meet needs and to match the economic growth aspirations of the wider area.

Table 2.2: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide homes that meet the lifetime needs of residents.
Employment & Economy	SA5 Support economic growth throughout the District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for employment developments which support existing well performing employment sectors, such as storage and distribution and growth sectors including high tech manufacturing. • Support initiatives to improve the tourism and leisure sector, in particular in the National Forest and Charnwood Regional Forest Park. • Protect key existing employment sites from change of use, especially where they support local employment needs. • Support and help protect the rural economy.
	SA6 Enhance the vitality and viability of existing town centres and village centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance footfall within town centres and village centres. • Support existing and new services and facilities (e.g. retail, restaurants etc.) within town centres and village centres.
	SA7 Provision of a diverse range of employment opportunities that match the skills and needs of local residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support new employment growth in all areas, including rural locations, where it will help meet a local employment need. • Maintain a diverse employment base, including growing the high skill job sector as well as lower skilled jobs to match the diverse job needs of the workforce.
Transport & Access	SA8 Reduce the need to travel and increase numbers of people walking, cycling or using the bus for their day-to-day travel needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new development has sustainable transport access to facilities, services and jobs; • Give priority to walkers and cyclists over car users. • Increase cycle use for commuting and access to services, creating direct cycle routes. • Reduce congestion in locations where it impacts on road safety, local amenity, causes severance, or adversely impacts on the economy.

Table 2.2: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use development to help secure better public transport for the District, in particular links to nearby rail stations and East Midlands Airport and evening and weekend services.
Air, Noise & Light Pollution	SA9 Reduce air, light and noise pollution to avoid damage to natural systems and protect human health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new and existing communities are not adversely affected by poor quality air and noise pollution, either through their location or through causing a further deterioration as a result of new development. • Avoid exacerbating light pollution by keeping external lighting to the minimum required for safety and security.
Climate Change	SA10 Reduce carbon emissions throughout the District.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support proposals for decentralised (i.e. small and micro renewables) and low carbon energy generation. • Support large scale low carbon grid schemes where appropriately located. • All new development should be built to high energy efficiency standards.
	SA11 Ensure the District is resilient to the impacts of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the sequential test in Planning Practice Guidance in the allocation of sites in flood risk areas. • Ensure new development does not exacerbate the risk of flood off-site, for instance through use of sustainable drainage. • Ensure new development is designed and located to be resilient to the impacts of climate change e.g. hotter summers, wetter winters and more extreme weather events. • Ensure new development contributes to Green Infrastructure within the District, where possible.

Table 2.2: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Biodiversity & Geodiversity	SA12 Protect and enhance the District's biodiversity and protect areas identified for their nature conservation and geological importance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that development results in a net gain in biodiversity and contribute to the achievement of BAP targets. • Protect sites designated for their nature conservation importance from adverse impacts of development, including the river Mease SAC. • Enhance access to the natural environment, including integrating greater biodiversity into urban areas. • Reduce habitat fragmentation and extend ecological corridors • Protect geological designations from adverse impacts of development. • Ensure that all water courses are achieving at least 'Good' ecological status
Landscape, Townscape & Land	SA13 Conserve and enhance the quality of the District's landscape and townscape character.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the character and distinctiveness of the District's landscape. • Help implement objectives for the National Forest and the Charnwood Forest Regional Park. • Enhance townscape character, particularly in Coalville Town Centre. • Enhance the transition for urban to rural at the edge of towns and villages. • Enhance the relationship between new and existing communities • Built design should help in creating vibrant places, making those approaching on foot a priority. • Help deliver built environment improvements through high quality design.

Table 2.2: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
	SA14 Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage development on previously developed land. • Whenever possible protect the best quality agricultural land. • Encourage development at densities which are appropriate to the location and the local environment. • Where land has the potential to be contaminated or is known to be contaminated ensure that suitable investigation and remediation is carried out to bring it back into use. • Protect soil quality and avoid soil pollution. • Avoid the loss of and enhance the natural capital assets of the District.
Cultural Heritage	SA15 Conserve and enhance the character, diversity and local distinctiveness of the District's built and historic heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and conserve buildings and structures of recognised historic or architectural interest, and their settings. • Maintain and increase access to cultural heritage assets. • Protect and enhance the local historic environment and ensure new development respects the character of the historic environment. • Respect archaeological remains and protect or record according to guidance.
Water	SA16 Protect water resources and ensure they are used efficiently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure developments are designed to a high level of water efficiency. • Ensure surface and groundwater water resources are protected from pollution.
Waste & Minerals	SA17 Ensure the efficient use of natural resources, including reducing waste generation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new development incorporates space for waste sorting and storage to aid recycling. • Encourage sustainable construction making use of recycled and recyclable building materials. • Ensure the re-use of demolition waste. • Ensure minerals deposits and sites allocated for waste management are not sterilised through inappropriately located development.

2.3 Stage B Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects

This stage involves identifying the significant environmental effects of the Local Plan Partial Review and its reasonable alternatives including short, medium and long term; permanent and temporary; positive and negative effects

Task B1 Develop options including reasonable alternatives

The SEA Regulations require the identification, description and evaluation of the likely significant effects on the environment of “reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme” (Reg 12 (1(b))).

North West Leicestershire District Council reviewed Policy S1 and defined five alternative options for amending the policy wording as shown in Table 6.1. The full wording of these alternative policy options is provided in Section 6.

All of the alternative options assessed against the updated SA Framework established in SA Stage A and has made reference to up to date baseline data (see Table 2.3 for SA Framework and Section 5 for summarised baseline data supported by Appendix B).

The starting point for the assessment of the options has been the SA of the adopted Local Plan (November 2017)¹⁰ to ensure consistency with the assessment of the adopted Policy S1 and the remainder of the adopted Local Plan as far as possible. The assessment tables in Appendix C of this report are presented in a similar manner to those presented within the SA Report of the adopted Local Plan but as mentioned above, the SA Framework used in this assessment of the Local Plan Partial Review has been updated prior to assessment of options.

Task B2 Evaluate the likely effects of the plan and alternatives

Each S1 policy option and the final Policy S1 wording has been assessed using the criteria in Table 2.3, which have expanded upon those used in the SA of the adopted North West Leicestershire Local Plan (November 2017)¹⁰. Each policy option and the final Policy S1 wording were assessed against all criteria, which informed the overall significance score of the potential effects identified (Table 2.4).

¹⁰ Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan (Submission Version) SA Report Update December 2016 available here: https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/local_plan

The main modifications proposed to the pre-submission Policy S1 have been assessed as the final policy wording and the findings of the assessment are presented in Section 8.

Table 2.3: Definition of Assessment Criteria	
Criterion	Description
Significance	An assessment of the significance of the potential effects identified. This could be a positive effect, negative effect, neutral effect, significant positive effect or significant negative effect. The definitions for these effects are detailed in Table 1.
Permanent/temporary	An assessment of whether the predicted effects would be permanent (P), or temporary (T).
Reversible/irreversible	An assessment of whether or not the identified effect can be reversed (R) e.g. the loss of greenfield land to development would be irreversible (I).
Spatial extent	How far the effect is predicted to be spread geographically. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low (L) = A specific area within NWLDC boundary • Medium (M) = Across the entire NWLDC boundary, possibly reaching to neighbouring boroughs • High (H) = Beyond the NWLDC Local Plan Boundary, with national or international ramifications
Magnitude	An assessment of the proportion of the receptor affected by the identified effect. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low (L) =20-40% of receptor or capacity affected • Medium (M) = 40-80% of receptor affected • High (H) =80+% of the receptor affected
Duration	An assessment of the time period the predicted effects are likely to last. This could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short (S)= 0-5 years • Medium (M) = 5-10 years • Long (L)= 10 years or more, up to the end of the Local Plan period (2031)
Direct/Indirect	An assessment of whether the predicted effect will be directly (D) as a result of option implementation, or indirectly (I) caused by the policy option.
Likelihood	An assessment of how likely it is that the implementation of the policy option will lead to the predicted effect. This could be low (L), moderate (M) or high (H).
Cumulative effect	An assessment of whether or not there is potential for a cumulative effect to occur on the SA objective as a result of the policy option working in

Table 2.3: Definition of Assessment Criteria

Criterion	Description
	combination with other circumstances, policies or factors. Y= potential cumulative effect. No potential cumulative effect identified.

Table 2.4: Definitions of Significance Scores

Symbol	Definitions of Significance of Effects Against the SA Objectives	Assumptions on the nature of effects
++	Significant Positive Effect: the policy or policy option supports the achievement of this objective; it addresses all relevant sub-objectives and could result in a potentially significant beneficial effect e.g. improved access by walking and cycling modes to a local or town centre	Permanent Continual Magnitude: High 80%+ receptor or environmental capacity affected; or Medium 40-80% of receptor or environmental capacity of affected The effect could be to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhance and redefine the location in a positive manner, making a contribution at a national or international scale; enhance and redefine the location in a positive manner; repair or restore receptors badly damaged or degraded through previous uses; and/or improve one or more key elements/features/ characteristics of a receptor with recognised quality such as a specific regional or national designation.
+	Minor Positive Effect: the policy or policy option supports the achievement of this objective; it addresses some relevant sub-objectives, although it may have only a minor beneficial effect	Reversible Infrequent or intermittent Magnitude: Low 20-40% of receptor or capacity affected. The size, nature and location of a proposed scheme would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve undesignated yet recognised receptor qualities at the neighbourhood scale; fit into or with the existing location and existing receptor qualities; and/or enable the restoration of valued characteristic features partially lost through other land uses.

Table 2.4: Definitions of Significance Scores

Symbol	Definitions of Significance of Effects Against the SA Objectives	Assumptions on the nature of effects
0	Neutral Effect: the policy or policy option has no impact or effect and is neutral insofar as the benefits and drawbacks appear equal and neither is considered significant	N/A
?	Uncertain Effect: Uncertain or insufficient information on which to determine the assessment this stage	N/A
-	Minor Negative Effect: the policy or policy option appears to conflict with the achievement of this objective; it does not address relevant sub-objectives and may result in minor adverse effects	Reversible Infrequent or intermittent Magnitude: Low 20-40% of receptor or capacity affected. The size, nature and location of a proposed scheme would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be out of scale with the location; or • leave an adverse impact on a receptor of recognised quality such as a specific district or county designation.
--	Significant Negative Effect: the policy or policy option works against the achievement of this objective; it could exacerbate relevant sub-objectives and may result in a potentially significant adverse effect e.g. loss of all or part of a designated ecological site of national importance.	Permanent Irreversible Continual Magnitude: High 80%+ receptor or environmental capacity affected; or Medium 40-80% of receptor or environmental capacity of affected The effect could be to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • permanently degrade, diminish or destroy the integrity of the receptor; • cause a very high quality receptor to be permanently changed and its quality diminished; • cannot be fully mitigated and may cumulatively amount to a severe adverse effect; • be at a considerable variance to the location, degrading the integrity of the receptor; and/or

Table 2.4: Definitions of Significance Scores

Symbol	Definitions of Significance of Effects Against the SA Objectives	Assumptions on the nature of effects
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> will be substantially damaging to a high quality receptor such as a specific regional or national designation.

The SEA Regulations require the SA Report to include 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.

Policy S1 is a strategic policy. The assessment has therefore assumed that a replacement Policy S1 will be implemented alongside the existing policies within the adopted Local Plan and that all mitigation afforded by these policies for potential sustainability effects of Policy S1 remains in place.

The modifications proposed for Policy S1 following the examination were screened to identify whether any of them significantly affect the findings of the SA of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review. The screening identified that the majority of the main modifications mainly relate to minor edits to Policy S1 including its supporting text. These have been screened out as not significant in terms of the SA as they are unlikely to give rise to significant effects. Only one main modification (MM8) identified in Table D.1 in Appendix D was screened in and has been carried forward for further consideration through the SA process in Section 8 of this report.

No other technical difficulties have been identified in undertaking the assessments.

Task B3 Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects

Consideration has been given to appropriate mitigation measures that could be adopted within the Local Plan Partial Review for any uncertain and potential negative effects identified within the assessment of Policy S1 and its alternative options. Consideration has also been given to measures which could enhance the sustainability performance of the policy. Mitigation and enhancement measures proposed within the assessment of the final Policy S1 are presented in Section 8.

Task B4 Propose Measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan

A proposed monitoring framework has been put forward in Section 9 to monitor the residual significant effects of Policy S1. The proposed monitoring framework has been based on that established in the SA of the Adopted Local Plan (November 2017)¹¹.

2.4 Stage C Prepare the Sustainability Appraisal Report

This stage involves documenting the SA process and presenting the findings within a formal SA Report (this report). The ways in which this report meets the legal requirements of the SEA Regulations are demonstrated in Table 2.5.

2.5 How the requirements of the SEA Regulations are being met

Table 2.5 outlines where elements of the SEA regulations¹³ are addressed within the report.

Table 2.5: Fulfilling the requirements of the SEA Regulations	
What the regulations say¹²	How this is addressed
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme.	Set out in Section 3 of this document.
An outline of the relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	Set out in Section 4 of this document.
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.	Set out in Section 5 of this document.
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Section 8 and Appendix C outline the potential environmental effects on areas likely to be significantly affected. The characteristics of the

¹¹ Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan (Submission Version) SA Report December 2016 available here:

https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/files/documents/sa_report_december_2016/SA%20REPORT%20DEC%202016%20%20FINAL.pdf

¹² Please see Schedule 2 of the SEA regulations: *Information for Environmental Reports*.

Table 2.5: Fulfilling the requirements of the SEA Regulations

What the regulations say ¹²	How this is addressed
	District and potential interactions have been informed by information contained within the SA baseline data (Section 5).
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 Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	Section 5 of this document outlines key issues (including problems) related to each SA topic. This includes sites designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.
The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national 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 4 and Appendix A outline relevant environmental protection objectives. The way that those environmental objectives have been taken into account has been through integrating them into the SA framework.
The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. The identification of the above effects should consider secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects.	<p>Section 8 sets out the potential significant effects of the proposed new Policy S1 of the Local Plan Partial Review. Section 7 presents the findings of the assessment of the reasonable alternative options for Policy S1.</p> <p>Details of the nature of effects are provided within Appendix C. This includes indirect (secondary), cumulative (cumulative and synergistic), duration (short/medium/long term), permanent or temporary and negative or positive effects. Definitions are provided within Section 2.3.</p>

Table 2.5: Fulfilling the requirements of the SEA Regulations

What the regulations say¹²	How this is addressed
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.	Section 8 sets out mitigation measures for significant negative effects and uncertain effects and relevant enhancement measures.
An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with.	Section 6 outlines the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with.
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.	Section 2 outlines the methodology for all stages of the SA and Section 2.3 specifically describes any technical difficulties that were encountered. Section 5 outlines data gaps.
A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring.	Set out in Section 9 of this document.
A Non-Technical Summary of the information provided under the above headings.	See separate Non-Technical Summary.
The report must include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment.	The whole SA Report addresses this.
Consultation: Authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be	The Scoping Report was consulted on with the statutory consultees for a period of 6 weeks between 3 rd September and 15 th October 2018.

Table 2.5: Fulfilling the requirements of the SEA Regulations	
What the regulations say¹²	How this is addressed
included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4).	Comments have been reviewed and used to update the Revised Scoping Report (August 2019).
Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public, shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme.	This SA Report will be consulted on with the public between 30 th November 2020 and 10 th January 2021 alongside the Local Plan Partial Review and will specifically be sent to the SEA statutory consultees for their comment.
EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country.	No potential effects have been identified in the assessment of the final Policy S1 (see Section 7) on other EU Member States. There is therefore no requirement to consult with other EU Member States on this SA Report.
<p>Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8).</p> <p>Provision of information on the decision:</p> <p>When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art.7 must be informed and the following made available to those so informed:</p> <p>The plan or programme as adopted.</p> <p>A statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report of Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Art. 7 have been taken into</p>	This will be set out in the SA Adoption Statement.

Table 2.5: Fulfilling the requirements of the SEA Regulations	
What the regulations say ¹²	How this is addressed
<p>account in accordance with Art. 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with.</p> <p>The measures decided concerning monitoring.</p>	
<p>Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation.</p>	<p>This will be set out in the SA Adoption Statement.</p>

3 The scope and content of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Partial Review

3.1 Introduction

The North West Leicestershire Local Plan was adopted in November 2017. It sets out a strategy for delivering the homes, jobs and infrastructure needed in the district between 2011 and 2031. The Council committed to start a review of the plan within three months of the date of adoption.

There are two main reasons why an immediate review was required:

1. A shortage of employment land up to 2031 compared to what is needed (as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment, or HEDNA); and
2. The possible need to accommodate additional housing arising from unmet needs in Leicester city.

The review commenced in February 2018. It was the district council's intention that the review would be a 'partial review' to address those issues above. It was also the intention, as required by Policy S1 of the adopted Local Plan, to submit the review for Examination within two years of commencing it.

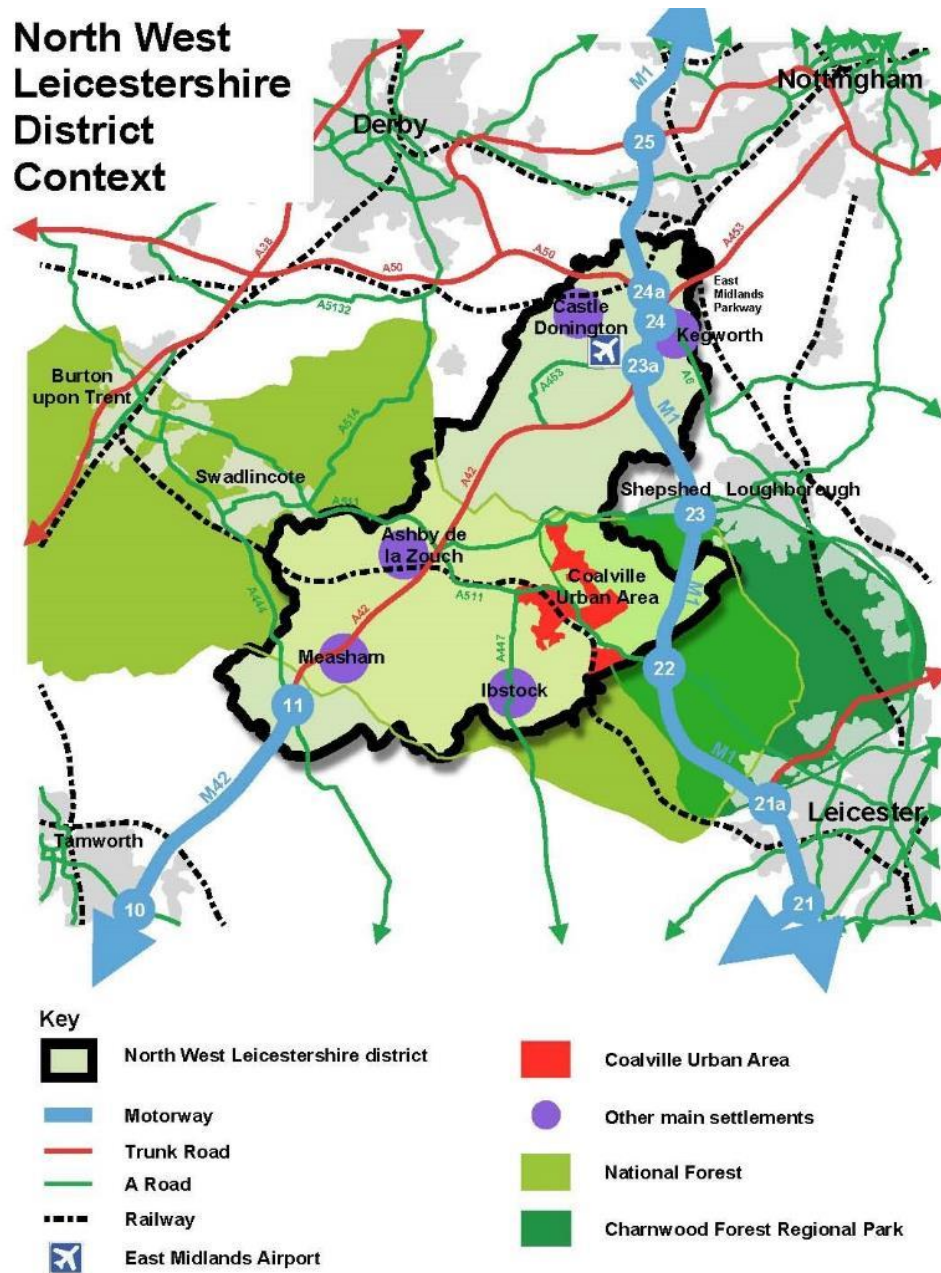
Through the granting of a number of planning permissions, the Council is making good progress towards addressing the shortage of employment land. However, there remains a lack of sufficient clarity regarding the issue of unmet housing need in Leicester City and how such need would be redistributed amongst the Leicester and Leicestershire authorities. In addition, there have been significant changes in circumstances since the Local Plan was adopted, including a new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and a new approach to identifying housing requirements coupled with uncertainty regarding nationally produced household projections.

The breadth of issues raised by these changes, together with the lack of certainty in respect of the issue of unmet housing need arising from Leicester City means that submission within two years is no longer feasible.

North West Leicestershire District Council is proposing that the Partial Review will be limited to a review of Policy S1 only (and supporting text), and that a Substantive Review, a more wider review will also be undertaken to address not only the issues outlined above, but also to address other matters arising from changes in national policies.

The Local Plan Partial Review applies to the entire North West Leicestershire District, which is shown in Figure 3.1.

Figure 3.1 North West Leicestershire District Context



The Council submitted the Partial Review to the Planning Inspectorate for examination in February 2020 and a number of Examination hearings have taken place in September 2020.

Following examination, main modifications have been proposed to Policy S1 (Future housing and economic development needs) and its supporting text as shown in Box 6.7 below. New text is underlined and discarded text shown as strikethrough. The modification to the policy wording provides clarity in respect of how the unmet housing need in Leicester City will be addressed and sets out a clear timeframe for submission of the substantive review as follows:

“The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) and Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs. This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) dealing with the redistribution of unmet need arising in Leicester City or elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA.

A replacement Local Plan (the Substantive Review) will be submitted for Examination within 18 months of the date of whichever is the sooner of either:

- A SOCG being agreed by the HMA/FEMA authorities; or*
- 21 May 2021.”*

The difference between this modification and the other alternative options described in Section 6 of this report is the addition of a specific timeframe for submission of the substantive review and commitment to a SOCG by the HMA/FEMA authorities within a specific timeframe.

The final policy wording is considered by North West Leicestershire District Council to provide the most certainty in terms of how the redistribution of unmet need will be undertaken i.e. through a SOCG as well setting a specific timeframe for the submission of the Substantive Review.

Final Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs

Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).

This means that:

- provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district;**
- provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (the former B1 (now part of Class E), B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres)**

Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.

The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA)/FEMA and functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs ~~as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.~~

This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) dealing with the redistribution of unmet need arising in Leicester City or elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA.

A replacement Local Plan (the Substantive Review) will be submitted for Examination within 18 months of the date of whichever is the sooner of either:

- A SOCG being agreed by the HMA/FEMA authorities; or
- 21 May 2021.

4 Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

4.1 Introduction

The policy context in which the North West Leicestershire Local Partial Plan Review is being prepared can best be understood through a review of related Policies, Plans and Programmes (PPP). The SEA Regulations require information on:

- *“An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.”* (Schedule 2, Paragraph 1); and
- *“The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.”* (Schedule 2, Paragraph 5)

The review process ensures that the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Partial Review complies with existing PPP at international, national and regional levels of governance and also reinforces and supports local plans and strategies. The process entails identifying and reviewing those PPP and environmental protection objectives that are directly relevant to both the Local Plan and the SA, which will include the equalities and health objectives of relevance to the EqIA and HIA.

For practical reasons the scoping task of identifying related plans and programmes cannot yield an exhaustive or definitive list of legislative/non-legislative documents. The review has been focussed to ensure that only policies that are current and of direct relevance to the Local Plan Partial Review are included. A detailed outline of the policy documents, the objectives and the targets reviewed is set out in Appendix A. Table 4.1 outlines the key messages of the PPP.

The completed review of PPP provides the context for the SA and helps to inform the SA Framework of objectives and sub-objectives which will guide the subsequent appraisal process (see Table 2.2).

4.2 Summary of Key Messages

Table 4.1 sets out the key messages drawn from the review of PPP. In Appendix A, some topics have been combined because the PPP related to them overlap or are very similar and therefore the SA Topics listed in Table 2.2 are not entirely the same as those in Table 4.1.

The messages presented in Table 4.1 are reflected within the detailed SA Framework (Table 2.3).

Table 4.1: Key Messages from the PPP review	
SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
Population & Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to plan for an aging population with complex needs which will require inputs from all parts of the health and social care system. • Ensure that there are appropriate facilities for the disabled and elderly. • Deliver high quality, person-centred, integrated care pathways. • Promote healthier lifestyles. • Increase physical activity levels. • There is a need to reduce crime and the fear of crime. • There is a need to tackle violent crimes and anti-social behaviour. • Encourage the reporting of crime. • Provide opportunities for members of the community to mix and meet. • Ensure integrated approach to housing and community facilities and services. • Ensure a healthy standard of living for all. • Improve public health by strengthening local public health activities which connect people with nature. • To help create the safest, highest quality health and care service. • To ensure fair and equal access to services and support irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership or pregnancy/maternity. • Increase healthy life expectancy and reduce differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities.

Table 4.1: Key Messages from the PPP review

SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through better commissioning, improve local and national health outcomes, and reduce health inequalities. • Reduce inequalities in care (both physical and mental) across and within communities.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable housing growth and deliver a mix of high quality housing of varying size and tenure in order to meet local needs. • Deliver high quality, adequately sized and thermally efficient housing; at a location that allows access to community facilities. • The NPPF requires the Local Authorities to use their evidence base to ensure that their Local Plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for housing in the housing market area. • Within this context, the NPPF also states that the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies (including, but not limited to, those who require affordable housing, families with children, older people, students, people with disabilities, service families, travellers, people who rent their homes and people wishing to commission or build their own homes). • Ensure that housing growth requirements are accommodated in the most sustainable way. • There is a need to plan for an aging population with complex needs which will require inputs from all parts of the health and social care system.
Economy & Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the sustainable growth and expansion of business particularly within the transport and logistics sectors. • Create jobs and prosperity. • Ensure that there is an adequate supply of employment land, including a choice and range of sites, to meet identified needs and to contribute to meeting wider strategic needs and attract inward investment • Continue to attract inward investment and encourage new business start-ups. • Support opportunities for the improvement of the skills and educational attainment levels of the District's labour supply. • Facilitate flexible working practices such as the integration of residential and commercial uses within the same unit. • The NPPF States that planning policies should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors, including for storage and distribution operations at a variety of scales and in suitably accessible locations.

Table 4.1: Key Messages from the PPP review

SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
Transport & Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise walking, cycling and public transport. • Places should be designed primarily for people, not cars. • The layout and design of places and their wider connectivity should seek to ensure that local facilities and services are located within a five minute walking radius of people's homes. • Enhance accessibility to key community facilities, services and jobs for all. • Encourage sustainable transport and reduce the need to travel. • Provide an efficient, resilient and sustainable transport system. • Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable.
Air, Noise & Light Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that air quality is maintained or enhanced and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum and meet agreed air quality targets and objectives. • Promotion of walking and cycling as a healthy and more preferable options to car for local journeys. • Minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment. • Limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity and nature conservation.
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote low carbon economies. • Minimise the effects of climate change. • Improve the long-term resilience of our homes, businesses and infrastructure. • Encourage the implementation of sustainable land management techniques to reduce the impact of extreme weather events. • Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that may cause climate change. • Improve energy efficiency in homes as well as helping businesses improve their energy productivity. • Shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and improving resilience. • Deliver sustainable new development including infrastructure that minimises vulnerability and provides resilience to the impacts of climate change • Encourage the provision of renewable energy. • Increase energy efficiency and move towards a low carbon economy.

Table 4.1: Key Messages from the PPP review

SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
Biodiversity & Geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance biodiversity, including statutory and non-statutory designated sites, priority species, habitats and ecological networks. • Need to recognise the wider benefits of ecosystem services. • Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity where possible. • Support is needed to achieve local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) targets. • Increase people's participation in wildlife conservation. • Provide better access to greenspace. • Identify opportunities for green infrastructure provision, recognising the multiple functions that green infrastructure provides to the area and linking into regional and national green infrastructure networks. • There is a need to protect, connect and enhance the wildlife and habitats; • To enable people to experience nature in a sustainable way; • To conserve and manage geodiversity through appropriate recognition at international, national and local levels. • Aim to prevent harm to geological conservation interests. • To maintain and enhance geodiversity through the management of sites, areas and wider landscapes. • To increase recognition of our geodiversity in international, national, regional and local environmental and planning development policies and legislation.
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance nationally and locally designated cultural and historical assets as well as those which are undesignated. • Maintain and enhance access to cultural heritage assets. • Preserve and enhance Conservation Areas. • Ensure development in or adjacent to Conservation Areas or Listed buildings (and their settings) respects their character and context and enhances the quality of the built environment.
Landscape, Townscape and Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of natural landscapes in ways that allow them to continue to evolve and become more resilient to the impacts of climate change and other pressures. • A balance will need to be struck between safeguarding the existing identity of communities, the need to connect places to one another and encourage wider community cohesion.

Table 4.1: Key Messages from the PPP review

SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development should seek to enhance the quality of life within existing communities, in addition to enhancing their townscape and landscape setting. • The relationship between new and existing communities will require careful consideration with the interrelationship between boundaries a critical factor in the future success of a community. • Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land. • There are major economic benefits to be gained from natural capital and their value should be incorporated into decision-making. • Remediate land contamination. • Protect soil quality and avoid soil pollution. • There is a need to consider natural capital in decision making, such as in relation to land use.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance surface and groundwater quality. • Improve water efficiency. • Ensure that water quality is improved or maintained where possible. • Promote sustainable and water efficient development. • Address any shortfalls in water supply by reducing leakage and reducing consumer consumption wherever possible. • Avoid development in areas of flood risk. • Improve flood awareness and emergency planning. • Ensure that all residents are informed of the potential risk of flooding and their appropriate flood evacuation route.
Waste & Minerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide protection to the local environment and residents, whilst ensuring a steady supply of minerals and the provision of waste management facilities in accordance with Government policy and society's needs. • Waste should be managed in line with the waste hierarchy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prevent or reduce waste; – Reuse; – Recycle;

Table 4.1: Key Messages from the PPP review

SA Topic	Key Messages from Review
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Other recovery methods; and – Dispose. • Promote the provision of well-designed and efficient facilities, that drive waste management practices up the waste hierarchy and are located to ensure no harm to human health and the environment, and which reduce waste volumes to be disposed in landfill.

5 Summary of Baseline Data

5.1 Introduction

This section presents the key sustainability issues currently affecting North West Leicestershire and the predicted future evolution of the baseline without the partial review of the Local Plan. This section is arranged by SA topic as presented in Table 2.2 and is supported by Appendix B which presents the full review of baseline data for the district.

5.2 Population & Communities

5.2.1 Key Sustainability Issues

The following sustainability issues have been identified:

- As the population continues to increase so does the demand for housing, infrastructure, facilities and employment;
- The population is ageing and adequate support and facilities will be needed to support older residents;
- There is a need to provide homes to support the growing number of households in the District. This will need to be matched by new services to support communities;
- There is a low proportion of young adults and this could have an impact on local economic growth. Measures will need to be taken to retain and attract young adults to the District;
- There are pockets of deprivation within the District, such as in parts of Castle Donington, Coalville, Greenhill, Moira, Ibstock and Heather. There is a need to address inequalities in the District, particularly with regards to health and crime;
- A high proportion of the District's residents are classified as being overweight or obese;
- There is a need to deliver new accessible open space to meet the needs of existing and new residents. This could also contribute to the delivery of a network of Green Infrastructure within the District;
- There is a high number of reported violent crimes;
- There is a need to provide safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime do not undermine quality of life; and
- Much of the population live in rural or semi-rural populations and the needs of these groups must be met by increasing access to services.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

The population of North West Leicestershire is set to continue to rise over the next 20 years. Current trends indicate that the population is likely to become older, putting additional strain on the District's resources. The continued growth in population is likely to cause an increase in demand for housing, services and infrastructure. There will also be an ongoing need to provide inclusive services in order to meet the needs of all residents.

As the population in North West Leicestershire ages, the demand for health and social care needs will increase. In some of the most deprived areas, life expectancy is 7.3 years lower for men and women than in the least deprived areas. The rural nature of the District could pose a significant challenge in providing good services for all residents. A high proportion of North West Leicestershire is considered to be either overweight or obese, which could continue to rise without further encouragement of physical activities and promotion of healthier lifestyles.

Without further intervention, it is likely that crime rates in North West Leicestershire will continue to rise. This increasing trend mirrors what is being seen across Leicestershire and the UK.

Data Gaps

The following data gaps have been identified:

- Some of the data used has been taken from the 2011 Census which may not adequately reflect the current situation; and
- The ONS are only able to publish sexual identity estimates for 98 out of the total 380 local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland (Great Britain), of which North West Leicestershire is not included. This is because these authorities did not have estimates that were based on sample sizes considered robust enough for publication.

5.3 Housing

Key Sustainability Issues

- There is a need for more affordable housing in all parts of the District, with particular need in areas where housing prices are highest, such as the rural area and in Ashby-de-la-Zouch;
- New housing and economic growth need to be spatially linked. Suitable land supply needs to be identified to help implement housing growth in locations where it can deliver greatest benefits and sustainable access to services and jobs;
- There is a need for a mix of housing types, sizes and tenures to meet the requirements of all areas of the community;
- There remains a shortfall between local housing allowances and average rental prices. Housing for older people and an aging population must take into account their needs,

including building to lifetime home standards and increased provision of retirement homes and assisted living accommodation; and

- An aging population requires smaller homes as these are more likely to be characterised as single person households, as well as maintaining a stock of family homes.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

The area is growing in popularity, which has been reflected in the growing house prices. Strong economic growth and further investment in the area is likely to continue to boost house prices, which could increase the demand for affordable homes. The growing ageing population will require additional housing needs. There will be greater demand for smaller homes to support the ageing population, but there is need for the Council to maintain a stock of family homes.

Data Gaps

Low numbers of sales transactions in some local authorities can lead to volatility in data for annual price change by local authority for England. While efforts have been made to account for this volatility, the change in property price at district levels can be influenced by the type and number of properties sold in any given period.

Housing need evidence is currently being prepared as part of the evidence base for the Local Plan Substantive Review.

5.4 Employment & Economy

Sustainability Issues

The following sustainability issues have been identified:

- Employment land provision should support existing well performing employment sectors, such as storage and distribution;
- There is a need to support other sectors to maintain a highly skilled workforce;
- There is a need to provide additional higher skilled jobs in the District to reduce the need for out commuting;
- There are large disparities in attainment of qualifications, skills and training at ward level;
- There is a need to support new jobs for those residents who need to access lower skilled employment and maintain a distribution of these jobs around the District, including those areas where residents have fewer qualifications to ensure that people who cannot get to work by car are not adversely disadvantaged;
- North West Leicestershire plays an important role in the sub-region as the focus for employment and growth objectives;
- The needs of rural businesses must be considered, including allowing appropriate growth of business that need a rural location and diversification of the agricultural economy;

- The retail role of main towns and village centres needs to be supported to help reduce vacancy rates and avoid the loss of shop units to other uses, with a particular emphasis on Coalville town centre; and
- The tourism sector is an important part of the local economy, there is a need to protect and enhance the tourism and leisure offer particularly in relation to the National Forest, Charnwood Forest Regional Park and Ashby Canal. The aim should be for a higher per capita visitor spend rather than simply additional visitors, a way this can be achieved is through increasing overnight visitor stays in the District;
- There is a low proportion of young adults which could have an impact on local economic growth. Measures will need to be taken to retain and attract young adults to the District.
- There is a unique opportunity to utilise the strong infrastructure and assets within North West Leicestershire to expand its economy by capturing the substantial local and regional demand for high quality employment space; and
- Potential cumulative implications on existing social infrastructure from new development brought forward through the new Local Plan would need to be considered as part of the SA of the Local Plan Substantive Review.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

The North West Leicestershire District is benefiting from high levels of investment seen clearly in the recent Economic Growth Plan¹³ for the district, which is helping to raise employment rates well above the national and regional averages. The Coalville Corridor and East Midlands Enterprise Gateway will support the strong logistical and transportation sectors in the area. The District also boasts a highly skilled workforce. With continued investment into the transportation and storage sectors, those more highly skilled could commute elsewhere in search of higher skilled jobs.

Data Gaps

Due to a small sample size, some of the data obtained from Nomis was too small to provide a reliable estimate. Some of the data such as economic data is updated regularly so the baseline data provided in this report is based on a snapshot of available data at the time of writing the report. This data gap applies to tables 4.1 and 4.2 in Appendix B. Data is not yet available on the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the economy and employment in the district. This creates some uncertainty about likely future conditions.

¹³ NWLDC (2019) North West Leicestershire Economic Growth Plan 2019-2021

5.5 Transport & Access

Key Sustainability Issues

The following sustainability issues have been identified:

- Continual growth in car ownership will contribute to further air pollution, and associated impacts on climate, human health and biodiversity;
- Growth at the East Midlands Airport and East Midlands Gateway could increase the number of HGVs and LGVs on the roads;
- Further planned growth at East Midlands Airport needs to ensure that accessibility by public transport is addressed;
- There is a need to provide more sustainable transport modes, including public transport capacity and safeguard land for transport;
- There is a need to encourage more walking and cycling, including making improvements to safe and direct cycling routes across the District, taking into account the high levels of existing traffic;
- Due to the rural character of the District new developments would need to be located where it would help reduce car use and where people are not disadvantaged by not having access to private transport; and
- Some villages have a limited number of services, so there is a need to improve public transport links between the main towns and villages, especially during evenings and weekends.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

There is a high dependency on private cars in the District. Traffic is expected to continue to rise within the area which is likely to place additional pressure on the road network. Greater car ownership will continue to increase road congestion, parking problems, car dependency, and environmental impacts and such as air pollution, noise pollution and carbon emissions. The expansion of East Midlands Airport and freight terminal could increase the amount of HGV and LGV traffic on the road. The creation of more accessible public transport, particularly from HS2, as well as more local cycle routes may help to deter residents from using private cars.

Data Gaps

The following data gaps have been identified:

- HGV and LGV traffic count data is not available by local authority; and
- Due to a small sample size, some of the data obtained from the ONS on work travel, was too small to provide a reliable estimate.

5.6 Air, Noise & Light Pollution

Key Sustainability Issues

The following sustainability problems have been identified:

- There is significant reliance on the petrol or diesel-fuelled private car as the main mode of transport within the District;
- Air pollution from the strategic road network is an issue across the District and NO² emissions have remained constant;
- There are five designated AQMAs. The need to avoid further deterioration in these areas is an essential consideration for new development, in particular considering cumulative effects;
- The District has the highest fraction of attributable deaths to particulate air pollution in Leicestershire;
- Need to help reduce pollution from road vehicles;
- There is the potential for adverse impacts on wellbeing if inappropriate new development is located near a major source of noise, including the airport and any existing or new major roads;
- There is a need to reduce light pollution and restrict further intensification of light pollution from new developments;
- The development of the East Midlands Gateway, Coalville Corridor and the potential construction of HS2 are likely to increase noise, air and light pollution; and
- Noise, air and light pollution could be generated through construction works in the District, resulting from growth proposed in the Local Plan. This pollution will need to be minimised and controlled through Local Plan policies.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

It is likely that air quality will continue to be an issue in the District due to its well-connected road network, the strength of the logistics and storage sectors and the reliance on the private car. The demand for housing could also subsequently result in more cars on the road. The East Midlands Gateway and Coalville Corridor projects are likely to result in an increase in airfreight, rail freight and heavy goods vehicles, which will contribute to increases in both air and noise pollution. Further exceedance of the 40 µg/m³ annual mean objective within AQMAs may see boundaries revised or even the creation of additional AQMAs within the District.

Data Gaps

No data gaps have been identified.

5.7 Climate Change

Key Sustainability Issues

- Per capita carbon emissions far exceed both the national and regional averages;
- There is reliance on the petrol or diesel-fuelled private car as the main mode of transport;
- Industry and transport are the largest contributors to carbon emissions and levels far exceed the regional and national averages;
- Need to plan for and implement/facilitate climate change adaptation, in respect of rising temperatures, water scarcity and extreme weather events, particularly heavy rainfall/flooding;
- It is important to become more resilient to the wider effects of climate change through adaptation measures. Green Infrastructure presents opportunities to address multiple issues through multifunctional spaces;
- New development will need to incorporate sustainable drainage systems to sustainability reduce flood risk in line with the Hierarchy of Drainage as set out in National Planning Policy Guidance;
- New developments need to minimise vulnerability and provide resilience to climate change;
- Need to reduce carbon emissions in line with national policy;
- Improve access to low carbon transport infrastructure such as pedestrian and cycle paths, will reduce carbon emissions and improve access to nature; and
- To work towards net zero carbon emissions, in line with national policy. to work with communities to help tackle climate change;

Future Evolution of the Baseline

North West Leicestershire District Council declared a climate emergency in June 2019¹⁴ and is committed to become carbon neutral by 2030. The Council is developing an Environmental Strategy to achieve this aspiration and a Zero Carbon Roadmap and accompanying Action Plan were adopted by the Council in March 2020¹⁵.

The increase in global temperature is likely to continue unless greenhouse gas emissions are reduced. The impacts of climate change are expected to be warmer, wetter winters and hotter,

¹⁴ NWLDC Local Plan Committee Minutes 29 July 2020

¹⁵ NWLDC Local Plan Committee Minutes 29 July 2020

drier summers. An increase in rainfall is expected to lead to more frequent flooding of rivers. Extreme weather events such as storms or heat waves are likely to be more frequent.

These impacts are likely to have a number of indirect effects. These would include changes in the availability and quality of water resources, damage to native habitats and migration or extinction of native plants and animals. Infrastructure and buildings could be damaged more frequently by storms¹⁶.

Further development could also result in the loss of green spaces to hard standing surfaces. This will reduce water infiltration, increase surface runoff and subsequently increase the risk of flooding, unless sustainable urban drainage solutions are adopted. Taking predicted rainfall patterns into account, it could be assumed that there will be an increase in areas subjected to flooding.

As set out in paragraph 160 of the NPPF¹⁷ if it is not possible for development to be located in zones with a lower risk of flooding (taking into account wider sustainable development objectives) the exception test may be applied by local planning authorities. Both elements of the exception test would need to be satisfied e.g. of how the benefits of the development outweigh the flood risk for it to be allocated or permitted.

Given the reliance on the private car as the main mode of transport within the District, the strength of distribution and logistics sectors, increasing private vehicle ownership and the demand for housing, it could be considered likely that greenhouse gas emissions will rise in the future. However, there is the potential for advances in technological solutions and changes in policy to begin to stabilise and reduce emissions over time. Local policy reducing car-based development could affect this as could the increasing use of electric vehicles.

Despite this, the current estimates for temperature increases and changes to rainfall patterns are unlikely to alter significantly in the near future given the timescales associated with climate change. This being the case, there will be an increasing need to implement climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in light of changing environmental conditions.

Data Gaps

The following data gap has been identified:

- Data relating to carbon dioxide emissions from the BEIS was only available up until 2018. The next publication of this data is due in June 2021.

¹⁶ HM Government, UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017

¹⁷ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, National Planning Policy Framework 2019

5.8 Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Key Sustainability Issues

The following sustainability issues have been identified:

- The River Mease SAC is at risk from adverse effects from wastewater treatment outflows that have introduced damagingly high level of phosphates into the river;
- There is a need to protect and enhance SSSI, particularly the sites that are in an unfavourable (declining and no change) condition, to prevent further deterioration and to improve their condition;
- There is a need to consider natural capital in decision making, such as in relation to land use;
- There is a need to protect and enhance the wildlife and habitats in the District;
- There is a need to identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation' as per the NPPF;
- All new developments should provide a measurable net gain for biodiversity as per the NPPF;
- Protect existing areas designated for geological importance;
- There is a need to protect and enhance a high quality green infrastructure network across the District, linking into the wider regional and national networks of green infrastructure and nature recovery;
- Ensure adequate connectivity along the Trent Valley between North West Leicestershire and Erewash is maintained and enhanced going forward;
- Need to consider and plan for the impacts of climate change on species and habitats; and
- Growing population will increase demand for more development, possibly where there is a potential for loss of habitats and species but there is also an opportunity to increase biodiversity in new developments, such as installing green roofs and providing new green infrastructure.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

Pressure on biodiversity and geodiversity in the District is likely to increase with development required to meet housing and employment targets. Without further intervention, the River Mease SAC and those SSSIs that are in unfavourable (no change or declining) condition are likely to continue to worsen.

Climate change is also likely to exacerbate pressure on habitats and species as habitats become less suitable and species may need to adapt to survive. Without care, development can cause

the loss of key habitats or severance of important links in the network of connected habitats, increasing species isolation and reducing the capability of some species to survive environmental change. Facilitating the movement of species across the District and creating a network of natural greenspaces would help improve biodiversity and help species adapt to climate change. Developments should also provide a net gain for biodiversity (as per the NPPF and the 25 Year Environment Plan)

Data Gaps

A biodiversity audit and habitat mapping exercise has not been carried out for the District. There is therefore no comprehensive set of biodiversity and habitat baseline data covering the entire plan area.

5.9 Landscape, Townscape & Land

Key Sustainability Issues

- National Character Areas in the District are at risk of degradation from the pressures of new development. Planning policy needs to guide development to ensure it is contextually responsive development and reinforces local character;
- The National and Regional Forests are major assets in the District and helping deliver their objectives could have considerable potential in enhancing the character of the District, including through supporting tree planting;
- The District has a varied landscape and development should respect its landscape setting and make a positive contribution to the relationship of rural and urban areas; and
- The long history of coal mining within North West Leicestershire has left a legacy of potential land instability and contamination issues. The Coal Authority has defined a 'Development High Risk Area' that covers most of the District, which has potential implications for future developments;
- Investment is needed in Coalville in order to improve the townscape and viability of the town centre; and
- There is a need to protect soil resources and best and most versatile agricultural land.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

The risk of landscape character degradation in parts of the District will continue without planning intervention to guide development to address identified issues and reinforce local character. National and Regional Forests are major assets in the District, but projects and planning policies are needed to capitalise the benefits they can bring to the District and to support the achievement of their objectives. The history of coal mining in the District has led to potential land instability issues, which could have potential implications for future developments. Townscape issues

require specific projects and planning policy to ensure that improvements are made, particularly in Coalville.

Data Gaps

The following data gaps have been identified:

- The latest open space audit was carried out in 2007 so is now out of date; and
- The new Contaminated Land Framework is currently being produced and a draft version is not yet available.

5.10 Cultural Heritage

Key Sustainability Issues

The following sustainability issues have been identified:

- Ensure that the Conservation Areas, heritage assets and features are preserved or enhanced;
- New developments should respect the historic context and leave a positive architectural legacy;
- Ensure development respects the character and context of Conservation Areas or Listed buildings (and their settings) and enhances the quality of the built environment;
- Heritage assets should be managed to sustain their significance;
- Ensure that everyone is able to participate in understanding and sustaining their local historic environment; and
- There is significant potential for archaeological artefacts and features throughout North West Leicestershire. New development presents the potential for archaeological features to be discovered, but at the same time could have adverse effects if such features were damaged or lost.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

Continual growth in the District and the increasing demand for housing, may well mean development could encroach on Conservation Areas and could negatively affect heritage assets. The growth in events such as 'Hello Heritage' will help to boost local knowledge and pride in where they live.

Data Gaps

No data gaps have been identified.

5.11 Water

Key Sustainability Issues

The following sustainability issues were identified:

- Protect the River Mease SAC as well as other waterbodies and groundwater supplies from any further deterioration in water quality;
- There is a need to consider the effect of development on groundwater supplies both now and in the future;
- New developments will increase the amount of waste water which will need to be sent to and adequately treated at wastewater treatment works, in order to avoid causing a detriment to water quality;
- New development should incorporate measures to ensure that water is used efficiently, to help reduce the water demand of the District;
- As well as flood prevention, the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) within new developments could help to improve water quality; and
- Increasing population will put additional strain on already stressed water resources.

Future Evolution of the Baseline

The increases in population will drive further water demand in the District and place increasing strain on water resources. Population growth is likely to put more pressure on wastewater treatment, and without further intervention, the water quality of the River Mease SAC. At present, most rivers in North West Leicestershire are not meeting the Water Framework Directive standards and without a plan in place this may not be achieved by 2027. The slow movement of water through the subsurface could mean that the effects of continued growth and development within the District, on groundwater supplies, may not become apparent until later in the future.

Data Gaps

No data gaps have been identified.

5.12 Waste & Minerals

Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to ensure waste management accords with the waste hierarchy and reduces the overall quantity of waste going to final disposal.
- Help North West Leicestershire improve recycling rates, with the aim of moving North West Leicestershire in the best performing quartile of local authorities.
- Plan development that recognises the need for the safeguarding mineral resources, including sand and gravel, igneous rock and brickclay.



Future Evolution of the Baseline

With an increasing population within the District it is likely that the amount of waste produced will continue to rise. Offering more versatility with recycling, such as the introduction of food waste bins, could help to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill. There is potential for conflicts between new developments and current mineral extraction sites, and a need to safeguard rare deposits such as the quality pottery, pipe and refractory clays.

Data Gaps

No data gaps have been identified.

6 Alternative Options

6.1 Introduction

This section provides details of the alternative options considered for the Local Plan Partial Review.

The Alternative Options Identified

North West Leicestershire District Council reviewed the existing wording for Policy S1 'Future housing and economic development needs' (see Box 6.1 below) and defined five alternative options for amending it as shown in Table 6.1. The full wording of these alternative policy options is provided in Section 6.1.

Box 6.1: Existing Policy S1

Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs

Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).

This means that:

- provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district;
- provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres)

Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.

The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.

The District Council will commence a review of this Local Plan (defined as being publication of an invitation to make representations in accordance

with Regulation 18 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) by the end of January 2018 or within 3 months of the adoption of this Local Plan (whichever is the later). The Plan Review will be submitted for examination within two years from the commencement of the review. In the event that the reviewed plan is not submitted within two years then this Local Plan will be deemed to be out of date.

The following five alternatives are summarised in Table 6.1 below and described in detail thereafter.

Table 6.1: Summary of Policy S1 Alternatives	
Alternative Policy Option Number	Description
1	Do nothing
2	Same policy wording as in adopted Local Plan except that the final paragraph of the policy relating to an early review of the plan is omitted.
3	The policy wording is the same as Option 2, in that it omits the paragraph relating to the early plan review. However, the policy then goes on to state: <i>"The submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work".</i>
4	The policy wording is the same as alternative options 2 and 3, in that it omits the paragraph relating to the early plan review. However, the policy then goes on to state: <i>"This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work."</i>
5	The policy wording is the same as alternative options 2, 3 and 4, in that it omits the paragraph relating to the early plan review. However, the policy then goes on to state: <i>"This will be done through a SOCG and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will take place within 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed by all of the authorities."</i>

6.2 Policy Alternatives

Alternative Option 1

Under this option the approach is to 'do nothing'. In this instance the North West Leicestershire District Council would not undertake a review of the Local Plan Policy S1 within the given

timeframe and the Local Plan will be deemed to be out of date. Therefore, this approach is not considered to be a reasonable alternative by North West Leicestershire District Council and has not been considered further or been subjected to SA.

Alternative Option 2

The full policy wording for this approach is shown in Box 6.3 below.

Box 6.3 Policy wording for Option 2

Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs

Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).

This means that:

- **provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district;**
- **provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres)**

Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.

The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.

The deletion of wording showing a commitment to review the Local Plan gives a lack of certainty in terms of timeframe of when or if the Plan will be reviewed.

Alternative Option 3

Under this approach, the policy wording remains the same as currently used in the adopted Local Plan except for the omission of last paragraph as per Option 2. However, the difference between this alternative and Option 2 is the addition of new wording to the end of the policy as follows:

“The submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work.”

This suggests there will be an update of the full Local Plan, although no agreed timeframe is given for a review and lack of clarity regarding how any agreement with other HMA authorities will be reached.

The full policy wording for this approach is shown in Box 6.4 below.

Box 6.4 Policy wording for Option 3

Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs

Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).

This means that:

- provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district;
- provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres)

Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.

The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.

The submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work.

Alternative Option 4

Under this approach, the policy wording remains the same as currently used in the adopted Local Plan except for the omission of the last paragraph as per options 2 and 3. However, the difference with this alternative compared to the other alternative options is the addition of new wording to the end of the policy as follows:

"This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work."

The full policy wording for this approach is shown in Box 6.5 below

The additional new wording shows that a review of the policy will take place and a mechanism is in place for how any agreement with other HMA authorities will be reached which considers the needs of other local authorities. Although the timeframe within which this will be done is not specified which results in uncertainty.

Box 6.5 Policy wording for Option 4

Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs

Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).

This means that:

- **provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district;**
- **provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres)**

Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.

The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.

This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work.

Alternative Option 5 ('Preferred Approach')

Under this approach, the policy wording remains the same as currently used in the adopted Local Plan except for the omission of last paragraph as per options 2, 3 and 4. However, the difference between this alternative and the other alternative options is the addition of new wording to the end of the policy as follows:

"This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will take place within 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed by all of the authorities."

The full policy wording for this approach is shown in Box 6.6 below

Under this option a review of the policy will be undertaken within 18 months, which considers the needs of other local authorities. It also shows that there is a clear mechanism in place for how any agreement with other HMA authorities will be reached. This option was identified by North West Leicestershire District Council as their 'preferred option' as it is considered to provide the most certainty and formed the Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan Partial Review November 2019.

Box 6.6 Policy wording for Option 5

Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs

Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).

This means that:

- **provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district;**
- **provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres)**

Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.

The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as

identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.

This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will take place within 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed by all of the authorities.

7 Findings of the Assessment of Policy S1 alternative options

7.1 Introduction

This section presents the findings of the assessment of alternative options (alternative options 2 to 5) for the Partial Review of the Local Plan.

Policy Option 1 'do nothing' is deemed not to be a reasonable alternative and therefore does not require assessment.

The four alternatives assessed are described in Section 6. The detailed assessment of each alternative can be found in Appendix C.

The S1 policy alternative options 2 to 5 were assessed using the criteria set out in Section 2 of this report in tables 2.3 and 2.4.

The findings of the assessment of final Policy S1 following examination are presented in Section 8.

7.2 Sustainability Effects of Alternatives

For each alternative option (2 to 5), the bulk of the policy wording remained the same as the existing Policy S1. It was only the addition of new wording relating to the timeframe and commitment of delivering the partial review that differs. Consequently, the assessments of the alternative options showed that the potential sustainability effects associated with each alternative were likely to be broadly similar.

Table 7.1 presents the potential effects of each of the alternative options (see Table 2.4 for key to symbols).

These are summarised below and presented in full in Appendix C.

Alternative Options 2, 3 and 4

Alternative Options 2, 3 and 4 were all predicted to result in the same effects, as can be seen in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1: Summary of Potential Sustainability Effects of Policy S1 Alternative Options

	Significance Scores																
SA topic	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
Option 2	0	0	?	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Option 3	0	0	?	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Option 4	0	0	?	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Option 5	0	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0

Potential significant positive effects were identified for each option against SA4 (Provide good quality homes that meet local needs in terms of number, type and tenure in locations where it can deliver the greatest benefits and sustainable access to services and jobs), as the alternative options should all help to deliver housing in the district which meets the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN). Thus, a potential significant positive effect was identified for SA4.

Other policies within the adopted Local Plan, such as Policy IF1 Development and Infrastructure, would ensure that the community infrastructure required to support new development is put in place through developer contributions. A sub-objective of SA3 (Help create the conditions for communities to thrive) relates to planning for the District in the context of the wider region. Policy alternative options 2, 3 and 4 did this to a certain degree but they contain differing commitments to how the collaboration will be undertaken, and no timeframes are provided for the submission of a replacement Local Plan. Therefore, an uncertain effect was identified for SA3 for policy alternative options 2, 3 and 4.

A minor positive effect was identified for SA5 (support economic growth throughout the District) for each of the alternative options as Policy Ec2 allows for economic growth if a need or demand has been identified and a number of locational criteria have been met. This would help to guide employment development to well performing employment sectors.

A potential minor negative effect was identified for each of the alternative options 2, 3 and 4 in relation to SA14 (ensure land is used efficiently and effectively), due to the high number of new dwellings required to be delivered. This could lead to the development of sites with densities which are not appropriate to the location and the local environment including loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital assets. For this reason, a potential minor negative effect was identified.

Option 5 (Preferred Option/Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review)

Option 5 performed very similarly to alternative options 2, 3 and 4 but is more positive in relation to SA3 (Help create the conditions for communities to thrive). This is because the option should achieve the sub-objective of SA3 (relating to planning for the District in the context of the wider region) with positive effect through the inclusion of several commitments within the policy wording. The commitments are to establish a SOCG with neighbouring authorities and the submission of a replacement Local Plan within a set timeframe of 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed. A minor positive effect was therefore identified in relation to SA3 for this option and these commitments address uncertainty identified within the assessments of the other policy alternative options.

With regards to SA4, the policy option includes a set timeframe and mechanism for collaboration with neighbouring authorities through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) which should also help to ensure that the consideration of the needs of the wider Housing Market Area (HMA) is carried out in a fair and amenable manner. A significant positive effect was identified in relation to SA4 as per the other policy alternative options assessed.

7.3 Potential Cumulative Effects

Potential cumulative effects were identified within the assessments of the alternative options. These are detailed within Table 7.2 which shows that the assessment of Option 5 identified an additional, potential cumulative effect resulting from that option compared with the other three alternative options assessed.

Table 7.2: Potential Cumulative Effects of the Alternative Options		
SA Objective	Potential Cumulative Effects	Alternative Options Causing the Potential Effect
SA3 Help create the conditions for communities to thrive.	A potential significant positive cumulative effect has been identified in respect of helping to create the conditions for communities to thrive, particularly in the context of the wider region.	Option 5
SA4 Provide good quality homes that meet local needs in terms of number, type and tenure in locations where it can	A potential significant positive cumulative effect on housing provision which meets the needs of existing residents changing household size.	Alternative options 2, 3, 4 and 5

deliver the greatest benefits and sustainable access to services and jobs.		
SA5 Support economic growth throughout the District	A potential significant positive cumulative effect on economic growth in the District.	Alternative options 2, 3, 4 and 5
SA14: Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively	A potential significant negative cumulative effect on land use resulting in the loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital resources through the development of the housing and employment uses identified within this policy option.	Alternative options 2, 3, 4 and 5

7.4 Mitigation / Enhancement Measures Proposed

Mitigation was identified for significant negative effects or uncertain effects identified in the assessment tables in Appendix C for each of the alternative policy options.

One potential significant negative cumulative effect was identified in relation to each of the alternative options 2 to 5 against SA14 (Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively). Uncertain effects were identified in relation to alternative options 2 to 4 against SA3.

Table 7.3: Mitigation	
SA objective	Mitigation Proposed
SA 3 (Help create the conditions for communities to thrive)	For each of the alternative options 2 to 4 the mitigation proposed was to ensure that each option includes a timeframe and mechanism for collaboration with neighbouring authorities, as well as a timeframe for submission of a replacement Local Plan, within the policy wording. The inclusion of these commitments would reduce uncertainty.
SA14 (Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively)	It would not be possible to mitigate the loss of best quality agricultural land and / or natural capital assets of the District. However, SA of potential development sites would help to identify the most sustainable sites for allocation within next iteration of the Local Plan (i.e. as part of the Substantive Review of the Local Plan).

No enhancement measures were identified within the assessments of the alternative policy options.

8 Appraisal findings of Final Policy S1

8.1 Introduction

This section presents the findings of the assessment of the final Policy S1 (as proposed to be modified) which following the screening exercise of the main modifications, described earlier in Section 2.3 was screened in and carried forward for further consideration through the SA process (see Table D.1 in Appendix D). The final wording of Policy S1 has been assessed using the criteria set out in Section 2 of this report in tables 2.3 and 2.4, which was used to assess the Pre-Submission Local Plan and its alternatives. Cumulative effects and mitigation for uncertain or potential significant negative effects are identified in sub-sections 8.3 and 8.4.

8.2 Appraisal findings

The modification MM8 provides clarity to the existing wording of Policy S1 (Future Housing and Economic Development Needs) of how the issue of unmet need will be addressed through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and how a timetable for submission of the substantive review will be provided.

In the final Policy S1, the bulk of the policy wording remains the same as the existing options for Policy S1 (Options 2-5). It is only the addition of new wording relating to a specific timeframe for submission of the substantive review and clarity of how the issue of unmet need in Leicester City will be addressed that differs.

A detailed assessment of the effects identified for the final Policy S1 wording is presented below as well as a summary table of the effects (Table 8.1). The detailed assessment of the alternatives assessed as well as the assessment of the final Policy S1 can be found in Appendix C.

Summary of Assessment of the Final Policy S1

Table 8.1: Summary of Potential Sustainability Effects of the Final Policy S1																	
	Significance Scores																
SA topic	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
MM8 (Final Policy S1)	0	0	++	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0

Table 8.1 shows that a potential significant positive effect of high likelihood has been identified for SA4, as this option should help to deliver housing in the District which meets the OAN. The

housing context and needs of the wider HMA/FEMA must also be considered within a set timeframe, and the requirement for a SOCG should also help to ensure that this is carried out in a fair and amenable manner. Thus, a potential significant positive effect has been identified for SA4.

Other policies within the adopted Local Plan, such as Policy IF1 Development and Infrastructure, will ensure that the community infrastructure required to support new development is put in place through developer contributions. A sub-objective of SA3 relates to planning for the District in the context of the wider region. This option should achieve this sub-objective with a high likelihood of a positive effect through the inclusion of the commitment to establishing a SOCG with neighbouring authorities and the submission of a replacement Local Plan within 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed by all of the authorities or by 21 May 2021 whichever is the sooner. The final Policy S1 wording which includes a specific timeframe and date of the 21 May 2021 by which the SOCG is to be agreed, should result in a potential significant positive effect in respect of SA3.

A minor positive effect has been identified for SA5, due to the provision of 66ha of employment space for B1, B2 and B8 class uses. This should help to guide employment development to well performing employment sectors.

With regards to the potential effects of the final policy wording on SA6 and SA7, whilst it is known that there will be 66ha land for employment, it is unclear where the space will be provided, or if this will help to provide jobs which meet local skills and need. However, this uncertainty can be mitigated by Local Plan policies such as retail policies e.g. Policy Ec8 and Policy Ec2 (new employment sites) which sets out clear criteria which new development for employment has to meet.

The assessment of the final Policy S1 wording identifies that the majority of the potential sustainability effects are the same as for the alternative options (Options 2-5) except for SA3 where a potential significant positive effect has been identified. The modification will help to support the delivery and commitment to meeting housing need in the District.

8.3 Potential Cumulative Effects

The potential cumulative effects of the final Policy S1 identified in the assessment in Appendix C are:

- SA3: A potential significant positive cumulative effect is identified in respect of helping to create the conditions for communities to thrive, particularly in the context of the wider region;
- SA4: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on housing provision which meets the needs of existing residents as a result of changing household size;

- SA5: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on economic growth in the District; and
- SA14: A potential significant negative cumulative effect on land use resulting in the loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital resources through the development of the housing and employment uses identified within this policy option.

A mitigation measures has been put forward below in relation to the potential significant negative cumulative effect identified in relation to SA14.

8.4 Mitigation

The assessment of the final Policy S1 identified one potential significant negative cumulative effect in relation to SA14 (Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively). Mitigation is proposed to address this is presented in Table 8.2.

Table 8.2: Mitigation	
SA objective	Mitigation Proposed
SA14 (Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively)	It would not be possible to mitigate the loss of best quality agricultural land and / or natural capital assets of the District. However, SA of potential development sites would help to identify the most sustainable sites for allocation within the next iteration of the Local Plan (i.e. as part of the Substantive Review of the Local Plan).

9 Monitoring

9.1 Introduction

The SEA Regulations require monitoring of the significant environmental effects of a plan. SA monitoring should cover the significant economic and social effects, as well as the environmental ones.

There is no requirement for any additional monitoring as a result of this SA of the Local Plan Partial Review. The adopted Local Plan already has monitoring in place to cover the Policy S1 implementation. The monitoring schedule established through the SA of the adopted Local Plan can be found within the SA and SEA Statement October 2017, accessible here:

https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/local_plan

10 **Next Steps**

Following public consultation on the proposed modifications to Policy S1 and this supporting SA Report, the Inspector will consider all representations received, before deciding whether to report on the Plan's soundness or resume Examination hearings.

The consultation on the proposed modifications will be between the period 30th November 2020 to 10th January 2021.

Should the Inspector find the Plan 'sound', it will then be adopted by the Council and an SA Adoption Statement will be published.



North West Leicestershire District Council

Local Plan Partial Review

**Final Sustainability Appraisal Report (incorporating
Equality Impact Assessment and Health Impact
Assessment)**

**Appendix A: Review of Relevant Plans, Policies &
Programmes**




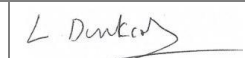
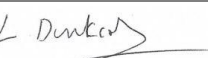







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Quality Management

Issue/revision	V1	V2	V2.1	V3	V4
Report Status	Draft	Final	Final (with minor amends)	Final (incorporating mods to Policy S1)	Final for Consultation
Date	03/09/18	18/09/19	20/09/19	12/11/20	26/11/20
Prepared by	K Dean / V Pearson	V Pearson	I Teague	L Dunkerley	L Dunkerley
Signature					
Checked by	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell
Signature					
Project number	C0143				

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1 Introduction

This appendix presents the findings of the review of Policies, Plans and Programmes (PPP) including relevant international, national and local documents undertaken as a part of the evidence gathering exercise for the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal (SA) (incorporating Equality Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment). It has been reproduced from Appendix A of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Post-Consultation Scoping Report for the Substantive Review (September 2020).

Section 3 of this appendix is organised into topics which reflect the topics set out within the Scoping Report (September 2020). The topics are those which are required by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations) with some additional topics added, such as 'Economy' and 'Waste' to broaden the scope of the assessment to cover more social and economic topics in addition to environmental. Health and Equalities issues are addressed within the 'Population & Communities' topic. The topics are:

Table A1.1: NW Leicestershire Local Plan Review SA topics compared with SEA topics	
SA Topics adopted for this assessment	SEA Regulations topics required to be considered
Housing	Material Assets
Population & Communities	Population Human Health
Economy & Employment	Not required by SEA regulations
Transport & Access	Material Assets
Air Quality & Noise	Air
Climate Change	Climatic Factors
Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Biodiversity, flora and fauna
Landscape, Townscape & Land	Landscape Soils

Table A1.1: NW Leicestershire Local Plan Review SA topics compared with SEA topics	
SA Topics adopted for this assessment	SEA Regulations topics required to be considered
Cultural Heritage	Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological Material assets
Water	Water
Waste & Minerals	Not required by SEA regulations

The Planning Practice Guidance¹ states that:

“The sustainability appraisal should only focus on what is needed to assess the likely significant effects of the Local Plan. It should focus on the environmental, economic and social impacts that are likely to be significant. It does not need to be done in any more detail, or using more resources, than is considered to be appropriate for the content and level of detail in the Local Plan”.

The review of PPP has therefore focused on the documents that could have an influence on the NWL Local Plan and is not an exhaustive list of documents prepared in the UK under each topic.

Following the EU referendum and resolution for the UK to leave the EU, it has been assumed that all EU policy remains in place as outlined in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018².

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal#sustainability-appraisal-requirements-for-local-plans-and-spatial-development-strategies>

Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 11-008-20140306 accessed on 31/10/17

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/16/contents/enacted/data.htm>

2 Overarching Documents

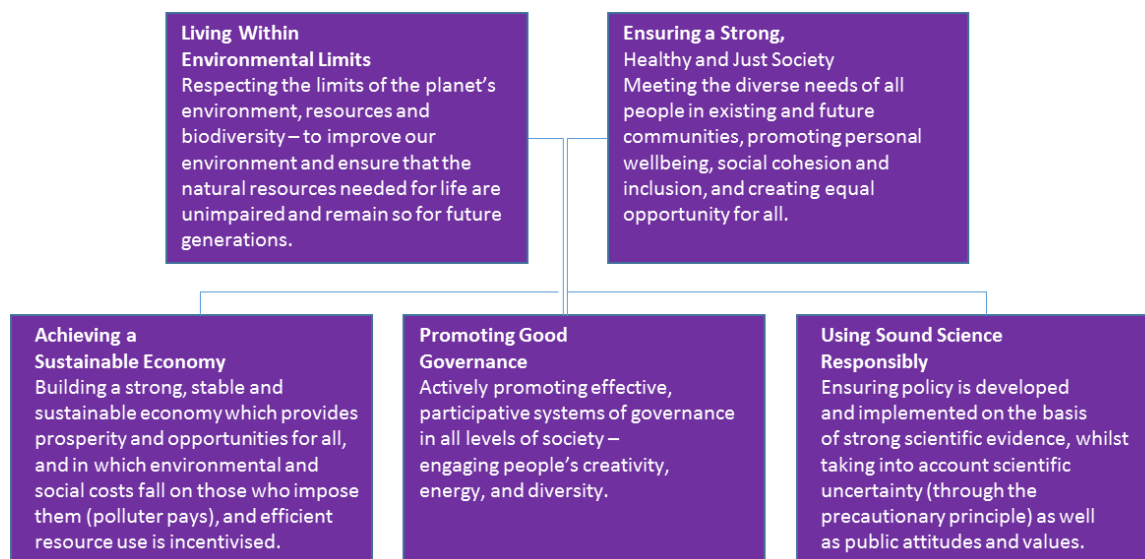
There are a number of key overarching documents, including the SEA Directive, the UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019. Relevant messages from the NPPF have been set out within Section 4 of the main Sustainability Appraisal Report and are also included within the tables within Section 3 of this document.

European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the SEA Directive) came into force in 2001. The Directive's objective is to:

“provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

Member States were required to transpose the Directive into laws, regulations and administrative provisions to apply to all plans and programmes on or after 21 July 2004. The SEA Directive was transposed into English law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations) and applies to a range of English plans and programmes, including Neighbourhood Plans.

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy ‘Securing the Future’ was published in 2005. The document set out some guiding principles for sustainable development:



3 Review of Documents by Topic

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
Create fair employment and good work for all.	Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review: Strategic review of health inequalities in England post 2012
<p>Planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development. The approach taken should allow each area to build on its strengths, counter any weaknesses and address the challenges of the future.</p> <p>Planning policies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration; • set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period; • seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment; and • be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices (such as live-work accommodation), and to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances. <p>Planning policies and decisions should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors. This includes making provision for clusters or networks of knowledge and data-driven, creative or</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>high technology industries; and for storage and distribution operations at a variety of scales and in suitably accessible locations.</p> <p>When supporting a prosperous rural economy, planning policies and decisions should enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings; • the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses; • sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside; and • the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship. <p>Planning policies and decisions should recognise that sites to meet local business and community needs in rural areas may have to be found adjacent to or beyond existing settlements, and in locations that are not well served by public transport. In these circumstances it will be important to ensure that development is sensitive to its surroundings, does not have an unacceptable impact on local roads and exploits any opportunities to make a location more sustainable (for example by improving the scope for access on foot, by cycling or by public transport). The use of previously developed land, and sites that are physically well-related to existing settlements, should be encouraged where suitable opportunities exist.</p>	
<p>The Enterprise Act includes measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a Small Business Commissioner to help small firms resolve issues. • Extend the Primary Authority scheme to make it easier for businesses to access tailored and assured advice from local authorities, giving them greater confidence to invest and grow. • Protect and strengthen apprenticeships by introducing targets for apprenticeships in public sector bodies in England, and establish an Institute for Apprenticeships – an independent, employer-led body that will make sure apprenticeships meet the needs of business. 	The Enterprise Act (2016)

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>The Industrial Strategy sets out a long term plan to boost the productivity and earning power of people throughout the UK.</p> <p>It sets out how the Government are working towards building a Britain fit for the future – how they will help businesses create better, higher-paying jobs in every part of the UK with investment in the skills, industries and infrastructure of the future.</p> <p>The strategy includes 5 foundations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas: the world's most innovative economy • People: good jobs and greater earning power for all • Infrastructure: a major upgrade to the UK's infrastructure • Business environment: the best place to start and grow a business • Places: prosperous communities across the UK <p>The Government will use this strategy to work with industry, academia and civil society over the coming years to build on the UK's strengths, make more of untapped potential and create a more productive economy that works for everyone across the UK.</p>	<p>UK Industrial Growth Strategy, 2017</p>
Local	
<p>The Strategic Growth Plan has been prepared by ten partner organisations in Leicester & Leicestershire. The plan sets out how the area is planning to accommodate future growth and the proposed areas for growth. Coalville has been identified as an area of managed growth. The Leicestershire International Gateway in the North of the District, has also been identified as a secondary growth area.</p>	<p>Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan, December 2018</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HEDNA has included detailed work to interrogate future economic growth potential in Leicester and Leicestershire. 	<p>Housing & Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA), Leicester & Leicestershire</p>

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The baseline scenario the economy is expected to grow by 2.3% per annum (GVA growth pa), which is consistent with growth achieved over the previous economic cycle (1993-2010). This is stronger than the growth which Oxford Economics forecasts expected either across the East Midlands (2.0% pa) or nationally (2.2% pa). The Planned Growth scenario takes account of planned investment and pipeline development projects. The scenario sees accelerated growth in GVA of 2.5% pa across the HMA, significantly out-performing regional and national benchmarks. Hinckley and Bosworth, North West Leicestershire, Harborough and Blaby all out-perform this, achieving 2.7 – 2.9% pa GVA growth. North West Leicestershire has seen the strongest employment growth relative to its size historically in Leicester and Leicestershire. Between 1991 and 2015 an additional 20,500 jobs have been added. The District is also a reasonably valuable location in terms of its GVA (£2.6bn). The drivers of employment growth have been the professional, scientific and technical, wholesale, retail, transportation and storage and administrative and support sectors. As with the national trend there was a decline in manufacturing employment. 	<p>Authorities and the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership, 2017</p>
<p>The Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) provides the framework for achieving the area's vision by investing in Places, Businesses and People. The Plan sets out how the LEP intend to bring together their European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) Strategy, City Deal and Growth Deal to build a competitive advantage and tackle the major risks to the economy.</p> <p>The overall ambition is to:</p> <p><i>'Create a vibrant, attractive and distinctive place with highly skilled people making Leicester and Leicestershire "the destination of choice for successful businesses"'</i></p> <p>By 2020 the aim is to create 45,000 new jobs, lever £2.5bn of private investment and increase GVA by £4bn from £19bn to £23bn.</p>	<p>Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership, Strategic Economic Plan, 2014-2020</p>
<p>The Growth Plan sets out the growth priorities for North West Leicestershire to 2018.</p>	<p>North West Leicestershire Local Growth Plan, 2014-2018 (due to be updated)</p>

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>The Growth Plan has been facilitated by North West Leicestershire District Council, working with a range of partners active in supporting economic growth and inclusion. The development of the Growth Plan has been run concurrently with the consultation process for the economic strategies for Leicester and Leicestershire.</p> <p>Key priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and/or engage with programmes to support more women enter the labour market through employment and self-employment and promote positive local role models through local media and networks. • Increase the learning infrastructure within North West Leicestershire • Facilitating development of the East Midlands Airport and growth of passenger and freight services/Gateway Growth Node • Lobbying to protect the District's economic interests in relation to HS2 proposals • Support the development of the Roxhill Strategic Rail Freight Hub and associated development site • Deliver the Coalville Sustainable Urban Extension to ensure more employment land is made available • and facilitate the climate for Town Centre regeneration • Engage with Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership and the Highways Agency and • Leicestershire County Council to promote action to relieve congestion on key Motorway corridors and junctions • Explore opportunities to provide better public transport connections to major employment areas, including key rail links • Work to secure investment through Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership to retrofit a high quantity of Social Housing in the District to be more environmentally efficient • Developing proposals for increased investment within the National Forest to extend the visitor experience including expanding the recreational economy • Develop an Investor Development approach to businesses in the District to ensure their needs are being met to facilitate growth 	

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate growth in the five identified key sectors, working with partners involved in supporting sector growth in LLEP Provide information to businesses in North West Leicestershire about the forthcoming Business Gateway with an aim of achieving the highest take-up in the County 	
<p>This provides a review of existing active employment sites and sites under construction in the District in terms of quality and quantity, as well to establish whether each identified employment site is still of value to the local economy and should therefore be retained for B-class use or whether any of the sites could potentially be released to other uses (whole, or in part).</p>	<p>Review of Existing Employment Sites for Local Plan Review, January 2019</p>
<p>There are four key themes which address our ambitions in a practical way. They establish also the rationale in linking with the wider ambitions and longer term direction being set by the Leicestershire Strategic Framework for Economic Growth. The themes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Destination: offering people a wide range of quality attractions, accommodation and experiences with growing local distinctiveness and a warm and genuine welcome 2. Positioning: developing and promoting the sub regions assets while differentiating between the business and leisure markets in a way which offers a unique and quality product 3. People: promoting tourism as a `first choice` career by investing in skills and training and creating a workforce capable of delivering high standards of customer service 4. Intelligence: providing a robust evidence base enabling tourism businesses and the public sector to make informed and more coordinated investment decisions. 	<p>Leicestershire Tourism Strategy 2011-16</p>
<p>This report provides a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the need for new retail, leisure and other main town centre uses within North West Leicestershire District. It provides a description of existing retail facilities within the District, and it identifies the role the centres play in meeting the needs of customers.</p>	<p>Retail and Leisure Capacity Study, February 2019</p>
<p>The main objectives of the study were to enable a better understanding of the distribution sector and objectively determine future need, together with managing change and supporting sustainable economic growth.</p> <p>The key findings of the study include:</p>	<p>Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic Distribution Study, 2014</p>

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to identify and allocate new land at commercially attractive strategic sites, the purpose of which is to maintain and enhance the established competitive advantage, enabling the sector to growth in a sustainable manner; • To deliver the identified need, there will be a requirement to continue long-term strategic and collaborative planning across the county of Leicestershire, and potentially with authorities in neighbouring areas; • The strategy requires the implementation of a number of highway and railway enhancement schemes. Consequently, there will be a requirement for the planning authorities and LLEP to liaise with (and lobby) the Highways Agency and Network Rail to ensure that the enhancement schemes are ultimately delivered. 	
<p>Key growth opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop 20,000m² of new R&D and manufacturing workspace for the space industry. • Develop an East Midlands Manufacturing Zone pilot to reduce planning restrictions and stimulate investment within the sector linked to an International Free Trade Zone. • Develop a low carbon pilot to support the sector to develop and adopt new technologies to deliver clean growth. • Develop and support the global cargo capability and potential Free Trade Zone at East Midlands Airport. • Deliver a fashion and textiles Skills and Technology Hub to upskill the workforce and introduce and test new technologies. • Establish a productivity investment fund to unlock business premises and enable the sector to invest in new technology and innovation to enhance productivity. • Support the delivery of the road and rail improvements in the Midlands Connect Strategy. • Support the delivery of the Strategic Growth Plan by delivering 96,500 homes from 2011-31, 90,500 homes from 2031-50 (187,000 homes in total from 2011-50). • Regenerate key strategic sites to deliver ½ million sq. ft. of office space within Leicester city centre together with associated cultural and visitor economy growth. 	<p>Leicester and Leicestershire Local Industrial Strategy Prospectus, 2018</p>

Table A3.1: Economy and Employment

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop next generation digital connectivity to enable maximum coverage of full fibre and ultrafast broadband in preparation for future 5G pilots. • Capital investment in our Further Education infrastructure to ensure it is fit for the challenge to meet future skills needs. • Invest in towns for the future making them attractive to investors, talent looking to relocate here and visitors to the area. • Develop high quality incubator and grow-on space adjacent to town centres providing spaces for our SMEs to grow and innovate. • Support our networks of rural businesses to underpin our heritage and wider economy through tourism, art and culture and local food and drink production. 	

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
National	
<p>The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • age; • being or becoming a transsexual person; • being married or in a civil partnership; • being pregnant or having a child; • disability; • race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin; • religion, belief or lack of religion/belief; • sex; and • sexual orientation. 	Equality Act 2010
Improve public health by strengthening local public health activities which connect people with nature.	The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature; HM Government June 2011.
<p>Reducing health inequalities is a matter of fairness and social justice. In England, the many people who are currently dying prematurely each year as a result of health inequalities would otherwise have enjoyed, in total, between 1.3 and 2.5 million extra years of life.</p> <p>Ensure a healthy standard of living for all; Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities; and Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.</p>	Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review: Strategic review of health inequalities in England post 2012

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Increase healthy life expectancy and reduce differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities.	Public Health Outcomes Framework, NHS, January 2012
Too many children and young people are living in circumstances that make it difficult for them to thrive.	Director of Public Health annual report 2011; Public Health Agency 2011
<p>Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other; • Are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion; and • Enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs. <p>To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities and other local services; • take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community; • guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services; • ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community; and • Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services. 	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>Strategy aims that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In every residential area there are a variety of supervised and unsupervised places for play, free of charge; • Local neighbourhoods are, and feel like, safe, interesting places to play; • Routes to children's play space are safe and accessible for all children and young people; • Parks and open spaces are attractive and welcoming to children and young people, and are well maintained and well used; • Children and young people have a clear stake in public space and their play is accepted by their neighbours; • Children and young people play in a way that respects other people and property; • Children and young people and their families take an active role in the development of local play spaces; and • Play spaces are attractive, welcoming, engaging and accessible for all local children and young people, including disabled children, and children from minority groups in the community. 	<p>Play Strategy for England; DCMS, 2008</p>
<p>The Government has set two overarching objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A major increase in participation in sport; and • A sustained increase in success at international competition. <p>In addition to this, the document makes recommendations in 4 areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grassroots participation; • High performance sport; • Mega sporting events; and • Delivery. <p>A number of targets and indicators are identified. The long term vision being "to increase significantly levels of sport and physical activity, particularly among disadvantaged groups; and to achieve sustained levels of success in international competition".</p> <p>The key targets being:</p>	<p>DCMS (2002) Game plan: A strategy for delivering government's sport and physical activity objectives</p>

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage a mass participation culture (with as much emphasis on physical activity as competitive sport). A benchmark for this could be Finland which has very high quality and quantity of participation, particularly among older people. Our target is for 70% (currently ~30%) of the population to be reasonably active (for example 30 minutes of moderate exercise five times a week) by 2020. • To enhance international success. A benchmark for this could be Australia, which has achieved disproportionate levels of international success. Our target is for British and English teams and individuals to sustain rankings within the top 5 countries, particularly in more popular sports. • To adopt a different approach to hosting mega sporting events. • They should be seen as an occasional celebration of success rather than as a means to achieving other government objectives. 	
<p>This mandate sets out 7 key objectives for NHS England that reflect its contribution to these ambitions to 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Through better commissioning, improve local and national health outcomes, and reduce health inequalities. 2. To help create the safest, highest quality health and care service. 3. To balance the NHS budget and improve efficiency and productivity. 4. To lead a step change in the NHS in preventing ill health and supporting people to live healthier lives. 5. To maintain and improve performance against core standards. 6. To improve out-of-hospital care. 7. To support research, innovation and growth. 	<p>The Government's mandate to NHS England for 2018-19</p>
<p>This document sets out a shared commitment to high-quality, person-centred adult social care. It has been produced to make a difference in care services by working across the sector with people who use these services and their careers. It has been developed so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public – people who use services, families and carers – know what high-quality care looks like and what they have the right to expect. • Staff working within adult social care understand what high-quality care looks like and how they can contribute to delivering it. 	<p>NHS Adult Social Care: Quality Matters, July 2017</p>

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providers of adult social care share a clear vision and commitment to providing high-quality care. Commissioners and funders of adult social care support the commissioning of high-quality care and high-quality integrated care. National bodies (including regulators and improvement agencies) support integrated working across the system to champion high-quality care. 	
The Act places legal duty on English councils so that everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness will have access to meaningful help, irrespective of their priority need status, as long as they are eligible for assistance.	Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
Local	
<p>This Strategy outlines the Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board's approach to reducing health inequalities and improving health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Leicestershire.</p> <p>The Plan highlights the issues of an ageing population. The population growth patterns in Leicestershire have implications for the provision of services for older people. There will be more older people with complex needs who will require input from all parts of the health and social care system.</p> <p>Leicestershire is a relatively affluent county and experiences very low levels of social-economic deprivation overall, but the plan also identifies the issues with health inequalities across the county.</p>	Leicestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017 - 2022
<p>The NHS West Leicestershire CCG have three overarching objectives which they are committed to continually improve the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and well-being of our local population; Quality of our local health services Way in which our NHS resources (staff, equipment and buildings) are used <p>Underpinning these objectives are ten strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackling major causes of premature death Reducing health inequalities Ensuring our providers deliver high quality services 	NHS West Leicestershire CCG Annual Report 2017/18

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring our patients get timely and appropriate access to services • Increasing service integration across health, social care and other partners • Supporting self-care and personalisation • Reducing inappropriate clinical variation • Pushing providers to become more efficient • Stimulating innovation and service transformation • Shifting resources to support service provision closer to home 	
<p>The report is underpinned by four key equality objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce health inequalities through a targeted approach; and improve access to existing services by protected groups 2. Improve equality data monitoring for service planning, commissioning and monitoring outcomes and experience. 3. Develop an inclusive working culture which values diversity and supports staff to feel confident to challenge and harassment, bullying or perceived victimisation. 4. Maintain good governance to improve equality and diversity performance through the Equality Delivery System 	<p>NHS West Leicestershire CCG, Equality and Diversity Annual Report 2017/18</p>
<p>This plan sets out the actions needed to take across the health and care system in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) in order to improve health outcomes for patients and ensure our services are safe and high quality, within the financial resources available.</p> <p>Key objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Deliver high quality, person-centred, integrated care pathways, delivered in the appropriate place and at the appropriate time by the appropriate person, supported by staff and patients, resulting in a reduction in the time spent avoidably in hospital. – Reduce inequalities in care (both physical and mental) across and within communities in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) Local Health and Adult and children social Care Economy. 	<p>Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Sustainability and Transformation Plan 2016 (Draft)</p>

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increase the number of those patients with mental, physical health and social care needs reporting a positive experience of care across all health and social settings. – Optimise both the opportunities for integration and the use of physical assets across the health and social care economy, ensuring care is provided in appropriate cost effective settings, reducing duplication and eliminating waste in the system. – All health and social care organisations in LLR to achieve financial sustainability, by adapting the resource profile where appropriate. – Improve the utilisation of workforce and the development of new capacity and capabilities where appropriate, in the people and the technology used. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This strategy has three key themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To make the community safer for residents, communities, business and visitors – To support and protect all those who are vulnerable within the community – To work in partnership to achieve better value in what is delivered to residents, communities, business and visitors <p>The NWL community partnership strategic group looks at the distribution of crime, and uses this information to try and prevent further crimes being committed. The partnership has been implemented to ensure there is a coordinated effort in crime prevention and the response to crimes committed. Members of the partnership include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North West Leicestershire District Council - Leicestershire County Council - Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner - Leicestershire Police - National Probation Service - Local Community Rehabilitation Company - West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group - Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service 	<p>Safer North West Leicestershire Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017 - 2020</p>

Table A3.2: Health and Community

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Communities Strategy sets out how by working together, the Council, local communities and partners can make a real difference to the quality of life of the people of Leicestershire. • There are 4 priorities underpinning the strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1. Communities support themselves, individuals and families ▪ 2. Communities in collaboration with public services, are supported to design and deliver better outcomes for the people of Leicestershire ▪ 3. The voluntary and community sector in Leicestershire is an effective provider of services in a diverse market ▪ 4. The council continues to be outward focussed, transparent, and open to new ways of working 	<p>Leicestershire Communities Strategy (Refresh 2017-21)</p>

Table A3.3: Housing

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>National</p> <p>To determine the minimum number of homes needed, strategic policies should be informed by a local housing need assessment. In addition to the local housing need figure, any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account in establishing the amount of housing to be planned for.</p> <p>Within this context, the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • those who require affordable housing; • families with children; • older people; • students; • people with disabilities; • service families; • travellers; • people who rent their homes; and • people wishing to commission or build their own homes. <p>Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required.</p> <p>Provision of affordable housing should not be sought for residential developments that are not major developments, other than in designated rural areas.</p> <p>Where major development involving the provision of housing is proposed, planning policies and decisions should expect at least 10% of the homes to be available for affordable home ownership.</p> <p>To maintain the supply of housing, local planning authorities should monitor progress in building out sites which have permission. Where the Housing Delivery Test indicates that delivery has fallen below 95% of the local planning authority's housing requirement over the previous three years, the authority should prepare an action plan</p>	<p>National Planning Policy Framework, 2019</p>

Table A3.3: Housing

<p>in line with national planning guidance, to assess the causes of under delivery and identify actions to increase delivery in future years.</p> <p>In rural areas, planning policies and decisions should be responsive to local circumstances and support housing developments that reflect local needs.</p>	
<p>The Act allows the modification or discharge of the affordable housing elements of section 106 agreements in order to make developments more viable.</p> <p>Contains measures to extend permitted development rights to allow single-storey extensions of up to eight metres.</p> <p>Reduces the volume of extra paperwork required with a planning application; removing over-lapping development consent regimes that require multiple extra permissions from different government agencies.</p>	<p>Growth and Infrastructure Act (2013)</p>
<p>This consultation seeks views on the Government's proposed new housing costs funding model from April 2020 for sheltered and extra care housing in England. It is aimed at local authorities, supported housing providers and people living in sheltered and extra care supported housing and their families.</p>	<p>Funding Supported Housing: Policy Statement and Consultation (October 2017)</p>
<p>Local</p>	
<p>The HEDNA provides an integrated assessment of future housing needs, the scale of future economic growth and the quantity of land and floorspace required for B-class employment development across Leicester and Leicestershire.</p> <p>Evidence in the report indicates that the economy can be expected to drive above-trend economic migration to Melton and North West Leicestershire. This can be expected to influence the housing need in these areas.</p>	<p>Housing & Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA), Leicester & Leicestershire Authorities and the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership, 2017</p>
<p>The Strategic Growth Plan has been prepared by ten partner organisations in Leicester & Leicestershire. The plan sets out how the area is planning to accommodate future growth and the proposed areas for growth. Coalville has</p>	<p>Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic</p>

Table A3.3: Housing

been identified as an area of managed growth. The Leicestershire International Gateway in the North of the District, has also been identified as a secondary growth area.	Growth Plan, December 2018
<p>The strategy sets out the position in North West Leicestershire (NWL) regarding the local homelessness situation and how the Housing Choices team, together with its partners, currently addresses the needs of homeless households in the District through its range of housing options.</p> <p>The aim of this strategy is 'to build on existing partnership work to provide a range of housing options that achieve better, future outcomes for anyone in North West Leicestershire who has accommodation issues, including those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness, regardless of whether they are owed the main duty or not.'</p>	North West Leicestershire District Council, Preventing Homelessness Strategy 2013 – 2018
<p>This revised North West Leicestershire Housing Strategy 2016 – 2021 builds on the work of the previous strategy, and taking into account national and local factors, focuses on how the district council and the North West Leicestershire Strategic Housing Partnership can work together to provide the best homes and housing related support for residents.</p> <p>Themes & Objectives:</p> <p>Supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and increase supply of good quality new homes of all tenures to support economic growth in the district • Maintain and increase the supply of affordable homes, in a challenging financial environment, including the construction and acquisition of new affordable homes by North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) • Increase the proportion of one and two bedroom homes and provide suitable homes for the elderly • The council, affordable housing providers and housing developers to collaborate on addressing financial challenges in maintaining stock, and delivering new homes in order to meet growing demand from the Housing Register • Unlock the potential of vacant sites and empty homes by working with private and public landlords and owners to bring empty homes back into use • Make best use of existing housing stock, including selective asset disposals where necessary to re-invest proceeds and converting empty properties to provide alternative accommodation that meets housing needs 	North West Leicestershire Housing Strategy, 2016-2020

Table A3.3: Housing

- Update the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document to allow a more flexible application of affordable housing obligations through planning to consider a broader range of measures to maintain delivery
- Use lettings plans to promote community cohesion, including the integration of new residents into existing communities

Standards:

- Improve condition and energy efficiency of council stock through maintaining decency standards, and raising them where possible
- Support and implement schemes for low level handyman work that prevents accidents or injuries to residents or leads to more expensive future maintenance work
- Explore provision of life-time homes for new developments
- Commission a stock condition survey of private rented sector and owner occupied homes to establish up to date information about these sectors and inform what, and where, action is needed
- Work with private landlords and home owners to improve the condition of private homes, making them more suitable for vulnerable groups, including the frail elderly
- Continue the council's Green and Decent Homes energy efficiency projects and make an informed decision regarding future suitability for tenants in council properties
- Work with developers and partners to ensure community facilities and open spaces are maintained to a high standard
- Promote high quality internal and external design for new affordable homes

Support:

- Reduce fuel poverty across all tenures
- Prevent homelessness by giving timely advice and assistance to high risk groups
- Provide tenancy support to vulnerable groups
- Support those affected by welfare, health and social care reforms and encourage them to adapt to the changes
- Improve the understanding of the range of housing options and housing related support that are available

Table A3.3: Housing

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with our ageing population to ascertain the type and location of housing they require • Promote inclusion and cohesion by consulting with and involving local residents in community issues and initiatives • Promote 'Safer by Design' standards in new build properties and the redevelopment of existing neighbourhoods to enhance community safety • Work with partners to implement the guidance of the Care Act 2014: "Developing a local approach to preventative support should include the involvement of those responsible for public health, leisure, transport and housing services" | |
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Table A3.4: Transport and Accessibility

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
The UK needs to invest in its transport infrastructure if it is to continue to meet the needs of the rest of the economy over the coming decade.	Europe 2020 Growth Strategy – Priorities for the UK (2013)
National	
<p>Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals</p> <p>Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable;</p> <p>Create places that are safe, secure and attractive – which minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles and avoid unnecessary street clutter</p> <p>Incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles;</p> <p>Consider the needs of people with disabilities and people with reduced motility by all modes of transport;</p> <p>Local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019
Local planning authorities should prioritise walking, cycling and public transport and other smarter choices by setting targets for the proportion of trips in their area by these modes.	Planning for Climate Change – guidance for local authorities: Planning and Climate Change Coalition April 2012
<p>The key issues, which should be considered in developing a transport evidence base, include the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the existing situation and likely generation of trips over time by all modes and the impact on the locality in economic, social and environmental terms 	Planning Practice Guidance: Transport Evidence Bases in Plan Making and Decision Taking, 2014

Table A3.4: Transport and Accessibility

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the opportunities to support a pattern of development that, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport • Highlight and promote opportunities to reduce the need for travel where appropriate • Identify opportunities to prioritise the use of alternative modes in both existing and new development locations if appropriate • Consider the cumulative impacts of existing and proposed development on transport networks • Assess the quality and capacity of transport infrastructure and its ability to meet forecast demands • Identify the short, medium and long-term transport proposals across all modes <p>The outcome could include assessing where alternative allocations or mitigation measures would improve the sustainability, viability and deliverability of proposed land allocations (including individual sites) provided these are compliant with national policy as a whole.</p>	
<p>This Strategy sets out how the government will build on recent transport progress and how they intend to respond realistically and pragmatically to today's challenges.</p> <p>They aim to create a more reliable, less congested, and better connected transport network that works for the users who rely on it. Through investment they aim to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A network that is reliable, well-managed, and safe; • Journeys that are smooth, fast, and comfortable; and • The right connections in the right places. 	<p>Transport Investment Strategy, 2017</p>
<p>Local</p>	
<p>Leicestershire's third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) sets out how the transport authority, will seek to ensure that transport continues to play its important role in helping Leicestershire to continue to be a prosperous, safe and attractive County. The plan has an overall aim of Leicestershire being <i>'recognised as a place that has, with the help of its residents and businesses, a first class transport system that enables economic and social travel in ways that improve people's health, safety and prosperity, as well as their environment and their quality of life'</i>.</p> <p>The plan has 6 strategic goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A transport system that supports a prosperous economy and provides successfully for population growth; 	<p>Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 3, 2011-2036</p>

Table A3.4: Transport and Accessibility

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. An efficient, resilient and sustainable transport system that is well managed and maintained; 3. A transport system that helps to reduce the carbon footprint of Leicestershire; 4. An accessible and integrated transport system that helps promote equality of opportunity for all our residents; 5. A transport system that improves the safety, health and security of our residents; and 6. A transport system that helps to improve the quality of life for our residents and makes Leicestershire a more attractive place to live, work and visit. 	
<p>The plan identifies transport as a key enabler providing access to opportunity and opening up sites for growth. Access to the latest digital infrastructure and the development of the skills to support wider uptake and use can open up different ways to stay connected.</p>	<p>Leicestershire County Council's Strategic Plan 2018-22</p>
<p>This cycling strategy was commissioned by North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) to support the economic growth of the area and maximise the tourism, active travel and recreational cycling opportunities for residents and visitors to North West Leicestershire.</p> <p>The strategy is broken down into two parts; Ashby- de-la-Zouch and Coalville. The priorities for both of these areas are the installation of cycle parking and the supply of information boards displaying a cycling map to assist with journey planning and highlight the existence of the cycle network.</p>	<p>North West Leicestershire Cycling Strategy, 2016</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The layout and design of places and their wider connectivity should seek to ensure that local facilities and services are located within a five minute walking radius of people's homes. As such land uses, their location, distributions and mix should seek to encourage less carbon intensive lifestyles. • Places should be designed primarily for people, not cars. 	<p>North West Leicestershire Design Overview, 2017</p>
<p>The Sustainable Development Plan sets out the strategic context for the long-term development of East Midlands Airport. The objectives for the Sustainable Development Plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out the long-term opportunities for the growth and development of East Midlands Airport; • Inform the plans and strategies of others across Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Derbyshire; • Set out our vision for the development of the airport site; • Set out our plans to enable a constructive dialogue with our customers, neighbours and business partners; and 	<p>East Midlands Airport Sustainable Development Plan, 2015</p>

Table A3.4: Transport and Accessibility

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the framework for capitalising on the benefits of the airport's development and for managing and minimising local disturbance and environmental impact. | |
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Table A3.5: Air, Noise & Light Pollution

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
Defines the policy framework for 12 air pollutants known to have a harmful effect on human health and the environment. The limit values for the specific pollutants are set through a series of Daughter Directives. The Directives develop an overall strategy through the setting of long-term quality goals and an aim to control the level of certain pollutants and monitor their concentrations.	European Commission (1996) Air Quality Framework Directive (Directive 96/62/EC)
The revised protocol specifies emission reduction commitments in terms of percentage reductions from base 2005 to 2020. The EU member states aim to jointly cut their emissions of sulphur dioxide by 59%, nitrogen oxides by 42%, ammonia by 6%, volatile organic compounds by 28% and particles by 22%.	NECD and the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP Gothenburg Protocol) (2012)
WHO Guideline Values: Between 23.00 and 07.00 hours, noise levels should not exceed 30 dB e.g. to allow undisturbed sleep. Outdoor noise levels of 50 dB should not be exceeded between 07.00 and 23.00, in order to prevent people being 'moderately annoyed'.	World Health Organisation Guideline Values (2006)
Each Member State should determine exposure to environmental noise through noise mapping and adopt action plans.	Directive on Environmental Noise (2002)
National	
Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. By encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity and nature conservation.	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019

Table A3.5: Air, Noise & Light Pollution

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>Local Plans can affect air quality in a number of ways, including through what development is proposed and where, and the encouragement given to sustainable transport. Therefore in plan making, it is important to take into account air quality management areas and other areas where there could be specific requirements or limitations on new development because of air quality. Air quality is a consideration in Strategic Environmental Assessment and sustainability appraisal can be used to shape an appropriate strategy, including through establishing the 'baseline', appropriate objectives for the assessment of impact and proposed monitoring.</p> <p>Drawing on the review of air quality carried out for the local air quality management regime, the Local Plan may need to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The potential cumulative impact of a number of smaller developments on air quality as well as the effect of more substantial developments; • The impact of point sources of air pollution (pollution that originates from one place); and, • Ways in which new development would be appropriate in locations where air quality is or likely to be a concern and not give rise to unacceptable risks from pollution. This could be through, for example, identifying measures for offsetting the impact on air quality arising from new development including supporting measures in an air quality action plan or low emissions strategy where applicable. 	<p>Planning Practice Guidance: Air Quality, 2014</p>
<p>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland sets pollution targets for ten principal pollutants. It aims to further improve air quality in the UK into the long term. As well as direct benefits to public health, actions within the strategy are intended to provide important benefits to quality of life and help to protect the environment.</p>	<p>The UK National Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2011)</p>
<p>Air pollution and climate change are closely linked. Co-benefits can be realised through actions such as promoting low-carbon vehicles and renewable sources of energy. Actions that tackle climate change but damage air quality must be avoided.</p>	<p>Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate; DEFRA (2010)</p>
<p>Through the effective management and control of environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life; 	<p>Noise Policy Statement for England; DEFRA (2010)</p>

Table A3.5: Air, Noise & Light Pollution

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life; and • where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life. 	
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The Plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on the delivery of clean air.</p> <p><u>Clean air:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting legally binding targets to reduce emissions of five damaging air pollutants. This should halve the effects of air pollution on health by 2030; • Ending the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040; and • Maintaining the continuous improvement in industrial emissions by building on existing good practice and the successful regulatory framework. 	<p>A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018</p>
<p>The Clean Air Strategy shows how the UK aims to tackle all sources of air pollution, making the air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy. It sets out a wide range of actions on which the UK government is consulting and shows how the devolved administrations intend to make their share of emissions reductions.</p> <p>This consultation will inform the final Clean Air Strategy and detailed National Air Pollution Control Programme, to be published by March 2019. The plan includes actions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure green growth and innovation • Reduce emissions from transport • Reduce emissions at home • Reduce emissions from farming • Reduce emissions from industry 	<p>Clean Air Strategy, 2018</p>

Table A3.5: Air, Noise & Light Pollution

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Local	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This strategy focuses on the environmental impacts of Leicestershire County Council in delivering services. This strategy aims to reduce the polluting emissions from its operations and from the Local Transport Network, and aims to reduce NOx and primary PM10 emissions by 34% by 2021 	Leicestershire County Council Environment Strategy 2011 - 2021
The plan identifies the need to reduce air pollution and improve air quality in the County. The plan is focused on the delivery of major schemes (an Inner Relief Road in Loughborough and bypasses for Lutterworth and Kegworth) to divert road traffic away from the settlement centres.	Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 3, 2011-2036
This plan provides an annual update on the review and assessment findings of the six Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) designated in the District.	North West Leicestershire District Council 2018 Air Quality Annual Status Report, May 2019
<p>The assessment concluded that all areas of the AQMA being monitored may be exceeding the Annual Mean Air Quality Standard for NO2 at relevant receptors.</p> <p>It was therefore unnecessary for any amendments to the AMQA to be made.</p>	<p>North West Leicestershire, Air Quality Detailed Assessment of Kegworth</p> <p>Air Quality Management Area, 2012</p>

Table A3.6: Climate

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
Aims to limit the global warming change to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. However, countries aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C to reduce the impacts of global warming. The EU has committed to a binding target of a reduction of at least 40% in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990.	The Paris Agreement, 2015
This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the promotion of energy efficiency to ensure target of 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency is achieved. The directive repeals the Cogeneration Directive (2004) and Energy Services Directive (2006).	European Energy Efficiency Directive (2012)
Aims to improve the energy performance of buildings in the EU, taking into account various climatic and local conditions. It sets out minimum requirements and a common methodology. It covers energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation and lighting.	Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2010)
The UK should achieve 15% of its energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020.	European Renewable Energy Directive (2009)
The fifth assessment was developed through a scoping process which involved climate change experts from all relevant disciplines and users of IPCC reports; in particular representatives from governments. The document contains research which can be used to guide policy decisions.	International Panel on Climate Change (2007) Fifth Assessment Report
Developed countries commit themselves to reducing their collective emissions of six key greenhouse gases by at least 5%. Each country's emissions target must be achieved by the period 2008-2012. Doha Amendment saw parties commit to reduce GHG emissions by at least 18 percent below 1990 levels in the eight-year period from 2013 to 2020.	Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992) Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol (2012)

Table A3.6: Climate

National	
<p>The Climate Change Act 2008 established a legally binding target to reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% in 2050 from 1990 levels. To drive progress and set the UK on a pathway towards this target, the Act introduced a system of carbon budgets including a target that the annual equivalent of the carbon budget for the period including 2020 is at least 34% lower than 1990.</p> <p>The 2019 Amendment to the Act now specifies the requirement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 100% (net zero) by 2050.</p>	Climate Change Act, 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019
<p>The Local Plan will need to help communities adapt successfully to future weather conditions. Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a clear local planning framework to enable all participants in the planning system to deliver sustainable new development including infrastructure that minimises vulnerability and provides resilience to the impacts of climate change; • To increase the resilience of homes and buildings by helping people and communities to understand what a changing climate could mean for them and to take action to become resilient to climate risks; and • To ensure infrastructure is located, planned, designed and maintained to be resilient to climate change including increasingly extreme weather events. 	The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate, Defra, (2013)
<p>The NPPF and its technical flood risk methodology replaced PPS25 – Development and Flood Risk. The NPPF states that Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk (whether existing or future). Where development is necessary in such areas, the development should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere. Strategic policies should be informed by a strategic flood risk assessment, and should manage flood risk from all sources (para 156).</p> <p>The NPPF states local planning authorities and county councils (in two-tier areas) are under a duty to cooperate with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries</p> <p>Plan to shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and improving resilience.</p> <p>Actively support energy efficiency and other sustainability improvements to existing buildings.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019

Table A3.6: Climate

When setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's policy for national technical standards.	
Risk Management authorities must work together to identify the likelihood and location of flooding and coastal erosion in order to reduce the risk of harm. Authorities should prevent inappropriate development, improve forecasting and encourage greater community knowledge of the risks of flooding and coastal erosion.	National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England; DEFRA, EA (2011)
Authorities and developers must comply with the requirements of the Act.	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)
Aims to improve the energy performance of buildings in the EU, taking into account various climatic and local conditions. It sets out minimum requirements and a common methodology. It covers energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation and lighting.	Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2010)
<p>Improve carbon management and help the transition towards a low carbon economy in the UK.</p> <p>Demonstrate strong UK leadership internationally, showing the commitment to taking shared responsibility for reducing global emissions in the context of developing negotiations on a post-2012 global agreement at Copenhagen in 2009.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emission reductions through action in the UK and abroad of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in CO2 emissions of at least 26% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline.</p>	The Climate Change Act, 2008
<p>The UK has committed to an 80% reduction in its greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. In order to help meet this target, the UK Committee on Climate Change (CCC) has devised a series of interim UK "carbon budgets" as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st carbon budget (2008 to 2012): 23% reduction; • 2nd carbon budget (2013 to 2017): 29% reduction; • 3rd carbon budget (2018 to 2022): 35% reduction by 2020; • 4th carbon budget (2023 to 2027): 50% reduction by 2025; and • 5th carbon budget (2028 to 2032): 57% reduction by 2030. 	UK Committee on Climate Change, Interim UK Carbon Budgets
Local planning authorities are advised to design their policies to support and not unreasonably restrict renewable and low carbon energy developments.	Planning for Climate Change – guidance for

Table A3.6: Climate

Development management should not prevent, delay or inhibit proposals for renewable and low carbon energy, and associated infrastructure.	local authorities: Planning and Climate Change Coalition April 2012.
<p>Actions that tackle climate change but damage air quality must be avoided.</p> <p>Air pollution and climate change are closely linked. Co-benefits can be realised through actions such as promoting low-carbon vehicles and renewable sources of energy.</p>	Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate; DEFRA 2010.
<p>The Building Regulations 2000 (England & Wales) set out standards and requirements that individual aspects of building design and construction must achieve. In the latest revision to the document in 2013 (implemented in April 2014) was amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of specification to ensure that all residential dwellings achieve a 6% carbon dioxide savings relative to Part L 2010, and an aggregate 9% carbon dioxide savings across new non-domestic building mix in relation to Part L 2010; • Introduction of Fabric Energy Efficiency Targets for new dwellings to emphasise a fabric first approach; and • Minimum energy efficiency targets for air conditioning and lighting replacements. 	Building Regulations Part L (Conservation of Fuel and Power), 2013
The UK needs to radically increase its use of renewable energy.	National Renewable Energy Action Plan for the UK, Department of Energy and Climate Change, Article 4 of the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC
This Environment Agency strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England has been developed collaboratively with a wide range of organisations and sets out the approach to delivering government's policies. It will guide the operational activities and decision making of all those involved in flood and coastal erosion risk management activities.	National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England, Environment Agency, 2020

Table A3.6: Climate

<p>This Strategy sets out a comprehensive set of policies and proposals that aim to accelerate the pace of “clean growth”, i.e. deliver increased economic growth and decreased emissions.</p> <p>Key Policies and Proposals in the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop world leading Green Finance capabilities; • Develop a package of measures to support businesses to improve their energy productivity, by at least 20 per cent by 2030; • Improving the energy efficiency of our homes; • Rolling out low carbon heating; • Accelerating the shift to low carbon transport; • Delivering clean, smart, flexible power emissions; and • Enhancing the benefits and value of our natural resources. 	<p>The Clean Growth Strategy, 2017</p>
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government’s ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The Plan includes ten key targets including:</p> <p><u>Mitigating and adapting to climate change:</u></p> <p>We will take all possible action to mitigate climate change, while adapting to reduce its impact. We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to cut greenhouse gas emissions including from land use, land use change, the agriculture and waste sectors and the use of fluorinated gases. The UK Climate Change Act 2008 commits us to reducing total greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050 when compared to 1990 levels; • Making sure that all policies, programmes and investment decisions take into account the possible extent of climate change this century; and • Implementing a sustainable and effective second National Adaptation Programme. <p><u>Reducing the risks of harm from environmental hazards</u></p> <p>We will reduce the risk of harm to people, the environment and the economy from natural hazards including flooding, drought and coastal erosion by:</p>	<p>A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018</p>

Table A3.6: Climate

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making sure everyone is able to access the information they need to assess any risks to their lives and livelihoods, health and prosperity posed by flooding and coastal erosion; • bringing the public, private and third sectors together to work with communities and individuals to reduce the risk of harm; • making sure that decisions on land use, including development, reflect the level of current and future flood risk; • ensuring interruptions to water supplies are minimised during prolonged dry weather and drought; and • boosting the long-term resilience of our homes, businesses and infrastructure. 	
Local	
<p>North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) signed the Climate Local Commitment on 19 December 2014 in recognition of the important role that local authorities have in tackling climate change.</p> <p>Five key commitments were set:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Demonstrate political commitment to act on climate change; – To reduced carbon emissions from our estate and business by 25% against the 2008/09 baseline by 2018; – To work towards a low carbon transport system that delivers multiple benefits: reduced carbon emissions, improved air quality, reduced congestion, improved health and road safety; – To use the planning system to promote low carbon communities; and – To work in partnership with Leicestershire County Council on flood planning. 	<p>North West Leicestershire District Council Climate Local Commitment and Actions, 2014</p>
<p>The Strategy provides a framework for action for what can be done to protect and enhance the environment and meet the challenges and opportunities of climate change.</p>	<p>Leicestershire County Council Environment Strategy 2018-2030:</p>

Table A3.6: Climate

	delivering a better future, 2018
<p>The North West Leicester District Council declared a climate emergency on 25th June, 2019. The Council aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. This was done in response to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international level agreements- The Paris Accord 2015 and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP24) - National policy- Climate Change Act, 2008 - missed UK targets - the published evidence on the predicted effects climate change, such as the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 	<p>North West Leicestershire District Council Meeting Draft Minutes, 25th June, 2019</p>

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
<p>The convention has three main aims which are stated in Article 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats; • to promote cooperation between states; and • to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species. 	Bern Convention on Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats 1979
This strategy aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at the source.	European Biodiversity Strategy 1998
By 2010 to achieve a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss.	Convention on Climate Change and Biological Diversity-Earth Summit, 1992
The maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species and the identification of Special Protection Areas for rare or vulnerable species. An SA would need to report on any potential effects on birds covered by this directive and all development plans should aim to avoid adverse effects on them.	Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds (the 'Birds Directive') (1979)
The identification of a European network of Sites of Community Importance (SCIs) to be designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). An SA would need to report on any potential effects on SACs and all development plans should aim to avoid adverse effects on them.	Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna & Flora (the 'Habitats Directive') (1992)
<p>Aimed at halting the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, the strategy provides a framework for action over the next decade and covers the following key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserving and restoring nature; • Maintaining and enhancing ecosystems and their services; • Ensuring the sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries; 	EU (2011) EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – towards implementation

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combating invasive alien species; and Addressing the global biodiversity crisis. 	
<p>This plan provides an overarching framework on biodiversity, for all biodiversity-related conventions, the entire United Nations system and all other partners engaged in biodiversity management and policy development.</p> <p>The plan consists of five strategic goals of which 20 further Aichi goals sit underneath:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society. Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use. Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity. Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services. Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building. 	<p>The Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD's) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020</p>
National	
<p>The Environment Bill is the mechanism to set long-term, legally binding environmental targets which relate to the natural environment or people's enjoyment of it. It will see the 25 Year Environment Plan become the first Environmental Improvement Plan. Environment Improvement Plans are the government's plans for significantly improving the natural environment over a period of at least 15 years. The Environment Bill will require government to review the Environment Improvement Plan at least every five years.</p>	<p>The Environment Bill 2019-2021 (emerging legislation)</p>
<p>This Interim Report sets out the economic and scientific concepts which will underpin the final global review on the economics of biodiversity commissioned by HM Treasury. The purpose of the review is to assess the economic benefits of biodiversity, and the economic costs for biodiversity loss; and identify actions which can protect and enhance both biodiversity and economic prosperity. In addition, the Review aims to inform global action to deliver the UN Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>The Dasgupta Review – Independent Review on the Economics of Biodiversity Interim Report, April 2020</p>

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain (NB Council Directive 79/409/EEC has now been replaced by Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (codified version)).</p> <p>The Act provides for the notification and confirmation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and the protection of wildlife.</p>	Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
<p>The Biodiversity Strategy for England sets a fundamental shift in train by ensuring that biodiversity considerations become embedded in all the main sectors of economic activity, public and private. The Strategy capitalises on the opportunities presented by the report of the Policy Commission on Food and Farming and the current review of the Common Agricultural Policy.</p> <p>The Strategy sets out a programme for five years for the other main policy sectors, to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems rather than against them. It takes account of climate change as one of the most important factors affecting biodiversity and influencing policies.</p>	Working with the grain of nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England 2002
<p>The framework demonstrates how the UK (and its 4 nations) are working to achieve the 'Aichi Biodiversity Targets' and the aims of the EU Biodiversity Strategy. The framework identifies the activities required to complement the UK's biodiversity strategies, and where work in the UK strategies contributes to international obligations. In total, 23 areas of work have been identified where all the UK countries have agreed that they want to contribute to, and benefit from, a continued UK focus, and an Implementation Plan was published in November 2013.</p>	The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (July 2012)
<p>(1) Natural England's general purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.</p> <p>(2) Natural England's general purpose includes—</p> <p>(a) promoting nature conservation and protecting biodiversity,</p> <p>(b) conserving and enhancing the landscape,</p>	National Environmental & Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC)

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>(c) securing the provision and improvement of facilities for the study, understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment,</p> <p>(d) promoting access to the countryside and open spaces and encouraging open-air recreation, and</p> <p>(e) contributing in other ways to social and economic well-being through management of the natural environment.</p> <p>(3) The purpose in subsection (2)(e) may, in particular, be carried out by working with local communities.</p>	
<p>There is a need to act now with greater vigour to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve existing biodiversity; • Conserve protected areas and all other high quality habitats; • Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate; • Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species; • Maintain existing ecological networks; • Create buffer zones around high quality habitats; • Take prompt action to control spread of invasive species; • Establish ecological networks through habitat restoration and creation; and • Respond to changing conservation priorities. 	<p>England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation principles conserving biodiversity in a changing climate; DEFRA (2007)</p>
<p>English Nature (now Natural England) recommends that provision should be made of at least 2ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1000 population according to a system of tiers into which sites of different sizes fit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace; • there should be at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km from home; • there should be one accessible 100ha site within 5km; and • there should be one accessible 500ha site within 10km. 	<p>Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A review and Toolkit for their Implementation (2003) and Nature Nearby: Accessible Green Space Guidance (2010)</p>

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>The aim of the White Paper is to set out a clear framework for protecting and enhancing the things that nature gives us for free.</p> <p>Four core themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protecting and improving our natural environment 2. Growing a green economy 3. Reconnecting people and nature 4. International and EU leadership 	<p>The Natural Environment White Paper (2011)</p>
<p>Minimise impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contribute to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.</p> <p>Recognise the wider benefits of ecosystem services; minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.</p>	<p>National Planning Policy Framework, 2019</p>
<p>Local planning authorities and neighbourhood planning bodies should seek opportunities to work collaboratively with other partners, including Local Nature Partnerships, to develop and deliver a strategic approach to protecting and improving the natural environment based on local priorities and evidence. They should consider the opportunities that individual development proposals may provide to enhance biodiversity and to obtain environmental net gains.</p> <p>Biodiversity maintenance and enhancements through the planning system have the potential to make a significant contribution to the achievement of targets set out by the government in the 25 Year Environment Plan.</p> <p>Planning bodies should seek to map out area of key ecological value, such as Local Wildlife Sites and ecological networks in order to safeguard and enhance these sites. Areas of ecological value should include protected and priority species, as well as areas providing ecosystem services to the surrounding communities. This information should inform planning decisions at all stages of development.</p>	<p>National Planning Practice Guidance 2019 – Natural Environment</p>

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Regulation 61 requires Appropriate Assessment of plans and projects likely to have a significant effect on a European site.	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)
<p>Species and habitats should be restored and enhanced in comparison with 2000 levels.</p> <p>Improve the long term sustainability of ecological and physical processes that underpin the functioning of ecosystems, thereby enhancing the capacity of ecosystem services.</p> <p>Provide accessible natural environments rich in wildlife for people to enjoy and experience.</p>	Making Space for Nature: A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network: Chaired by Professor Sir John Lawton CBE FRS (2010)
Protect and enhance biodiversity through Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs), biodiversity offsetting, Local Nature Partnerships and phasing out peat.	The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature; HM Government (2011)
Communities should identify green infrastructure requirements in their local area through addition to or creative enhancement of the existing network. Look to enhance local landscape character, heritage and biodiversity and ensure long term management is included in an overall strategy.	Local Green Infrastructure: helping communities make the most of their landscape: Landscape Institute for Green Infrastructure Partnership (2011).
The planning system in England has a central role to play in the protection and restoration of the natural environment.	Planning for a healthy environment – good practice guidance for green infrastructure and biodiversity; TCPA and Wildlife Trusts (2012)

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Halt overall loss of England's biodiversity by 2020; support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks.	Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)
<p>The report identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some assets are currently not being used sustainably and the benefits that we derive from them are at risk; • there are major economic benefits to be gained from natural capital and that their value should be incorporated into decision-making; and • a long-term restoration plan is necessary to maintain and improve natural capital for future generations. 	The State of Natural Capital: Restoring our Natural Assets (2014)
<p>This strategy aims to address Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) issues in Great Britain (GB), maintaining the approach of the 2008 Strategy and the 2003 policy review. The strategy covers the terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments and also species native to one part of a country that become invasive in areas outside their natural range.</p> <p>The scope of the Strategy covers all non-native species of flora and fauna with the exception of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), bacteria and viruses. Its full effect, however, is aimed at those non-native species that are known to be or are potentially invasive. The Strategy does not aim to address issues related to human health or formerly native species, nor does it cover animal or plant diseases although it aims to ensure close working with these areas where appropriate.</p>	The Great Britain Invasive Non-native Species Strategy, 2015
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The Plan includes ten key targets of which two focus on biodiversity.</p> <p><u>Thriving plants and wildlife:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring 75% of our one million hectares of terrestrial and freshwater protected sites to favourable condition, securing their wildlife value for the long term; • Creating or restoring 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat outside the protected site network, focusing on priority habitats as part of a wider set of land management changes providing extensive benefits; 	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking action to recover threatened, iconic or economically important species of animals, plants and fungi and where possible to prevent human-induced extinction or loss of known threatened species in England and the Overseas Territories; and • Increasing woodland in England in line with our aspiration of 12% cover by 2060: this would involve planting 180,000 hectares by end of 2042. <p><u>Enhancing biosecurity:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing and reducing the impact of existing plant and animal diseases; lowering the risk of new ones and tackling invasive non-native species; • Reaching the detailed goals to be set out in the Tree Health Resilience Plan of 2018; • Ensuring strong biosecurity protection at our borders, drawing on the opportunities leaving the EU provides; and • Working with industry to reduce the impact of endemic disease. 	
<p>The UKGAP sets out a framework for geodiversity action across the UK. It has been developed and agreed through wide consultation and dialogue across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland between organisations, groups and individuals currently involved in geodiversity. The UKGAP is a mechanism for encouraging partnership, influencing decision and policy makers, funders and promoting good practice.</p> <p>This Plan contains 11 Key Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To foster UK-based pure and applied geoscience research in order to better understand our geodiversity and its role in understanding and managing our natural environment. 2. To increase recognition of our geodiversity in international, national, regional and local environmental and planning development policies and legislation. 3. To demonstrate the relevance and benefit of including geodiversity across our work in relation to the natural and built environment and the role that geodiversity plays in sustainable development. 4. To advocate and support development design and restoration that incorporates and enhances our geodiversity. 	UK Geodiversity Action Plan

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. To audit and document our geodiversity including sites, archives and collections. 6. To conserve and manage our geodiversity through appropriate recognition at international, national and local levels 7. To maintain and enhance our geodiversity through the management of sites, areas and wider landscapes. 8. To share experience of conserving our geodiversity through the provision of good practice guidance. 9. To interpret our geodiversity for a range of audiences and communities, making geodiversity relevant to where we live and the places we visit. 10. To use the arts to explore and make links between geodiversity and our cultures, involving people in geodiversity in new and innovative ways. 11. To develop and provide educational resources that interpret, utilise and widen understanding of our geodiversity as part of formal and informal learning. 	
Local	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan identified the lack of accessed to green space as they patchily distributed across the two counties and access in many areas fails to reach the standards set by Natural England. As a consequence, people tend to visit a limited number of sites and the numbers can be detrimental to the nature conservation interest particularly where habitats and species are particularly sensitive to disturbance, as during the bird breeding season. • The Plan aims to launch a Community Participation Plan, which aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To increase people's participation in wildlife conservation and recording. – To increase understanding of wildlife issues. – To increase the availability and quality of wildlife recording and information. 	Space for Wildlife - The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 - 2026
This includes overarching issues and objectives as well as local landscape actions plans: Charnwood Key Objectives:	The National Forest, Biodiversity Action Plan, 2011

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of sites and populations of adders in area through habitat management and the creation of hibernacula. • Increase the breeding population of barn owls in the area. • Continue to expand the network of barn owl nest boxes across the area. • Maintain existing bat populations and increase the distribution of bats to all suitable habitats. • Erect bat boxes at suitable locations. • Include bluebells in new woodlands and bring woodlands with existing bluebell populations into management. • Increase the provision of lesser spotted woodpecker habitat in the area. <p>Melbourne Parklands Key Objectives (In addition to above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of ruddy darter breeding sites in the area. Water vole. • Expand the provision of suitable water vole habitat along watercourses in the area. <p>Trent Valley Washlands & Mease & Sence Lowlands Key Objectives (In addition to above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the provision of suitable otter habitat along watercourses in the area. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy prioritises making the most of the asset created and securing the forest's future, through: • sensitive achievement of the landscape change, with increased targeting to get the greatest benefits I making the most of forest sites (woodlands and other habitats, attractions, connections and views). • increasing engagement, enjoyment and well-being by the widest range of people. • effective partnerships taking the forest to the next stage. • bringing in new income and investment. • securing a sustainable lead body into the future based on a balanced funding model and the reputation of the National Forest Company (NFC). 	The National Forest Strategy, 2014 - 2024
The report highlights a range of GI interventions which can be delivered at small urban sites in the District, including:	Landscape Sensitivity and Green Infrastructure Study

Table A3.7: Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting; • Transforming paved areas to pocket parks; • Habitat enhancements along river corridors; • Opening up culverted brooks; • Rain gardens and Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS); • Adapting maintenance of green spaces to improve biodiversity; • Building-mounted features such as green roofs and walls; and • Improved signage connecting parks and green corridors. 	for Leicester & Leicestershire, 2016
<p>Long term objectives of the plan included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain geological and geomorphological features • To enhance the best wildlife sites • To create new habitats and improve habitat connectivity and complexity • To allow changes to occur through the dynamism of nature, including climate change • To enable people to experience nature in a sustainable way 	Charnwood Forest: A Living Landscape, 2009

Table A3.8: Cultural Heritage

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
The convention looks toward the protection, preservation and scientific research of archaeological heritage in Europe.	Valetta Convention (1992)
<p>The Convention defines the kind of natural or cultural sites which can be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List.</p> <p>The World Heritage Convention aims to promote cooperation among nations to protect heritage around the world that is of such outstanding universal value that its conservation is important for current and future generations.</p> <p>It is intended that, unlike the seven wonders of the ancient world, properties on the World Heritage List will be conserved for all time.</p>	UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 1972
<p>The Granada Convention was adopted on 3 October 1985 in Granada (Spain) and came into force on 1 December 1987.</p> <p>The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.</p>	The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1985)
<p>The treaty aims to protect the European archaeological heritage "as a source of European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study". All remains and objects and any other traces of humankind from past times are considered to be elements of the archaeological heritage. The archaeological heritage includes structures, constructions, groups of buildings, developed sites, monuments, moveable objects and other kinds. It also affects both terrestrial and marine assets.</p> <p>The main objectives of the Convention are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To integrate the conservation and archaeological investigation of archaeological heritage in urban and regional planning policies; • To establish co-operation and consultation processes between archaeologists, and project developers; 	The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Treaty, 1992)

Table A3.8: Cultural Heritage

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To set standards for funding and archaeological and conservational methods used in studying the “knowledge of the history of mankind”; To promote educational actions and public awareness of the necessity of the protection and investigation of archaeological heritage in Europe; and <p>To foster international co-operation and joint action among all European countries in the field of archaeological resource management by means of developing and exchanging relevant scientific information, technologies and expertise.</p>	
National	
Section 61(12) defines sites that warrant protection due to their being of national importance as 'ancient monuments'. These can be either Scheduled Ancient Monuments or "any other monument which in the opinion of the Secretary of State is of public interest by reason of the historic, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching to it".	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
<p>Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.</p> <p>Planning policies and decisions should address the connections between people and places and the integration of new development into the natural, built and historic environment.</p> <p>Seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019 ³
In line with the National Planning Policy Framework, local authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. In developing their strategy, local planning authorities should identify specific opportunities within their area for the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and create policies to support this. This could include, where appropriate, the delivery of development within their settings that will make a positive contribution to, or better reveal the significance of, the heritage asset.	Planning Practice Guidance: Conserving & Enhancing the Historic Environment, 2014

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

Table A3.8: Cultural Heritage

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>Advice Note 1, The Historic Environment in Local Plans: This document sets out information to help local planning authorities make well informed and effective local plans.</p> <p>Advice Note 2, Managing Significance in Decision-Taking: This document contains useful information on assessing the significance of heritage assets, using appropriate expertise, historic environment records, recording and furthering understanding, neglect and unauthorised works, marketing and design and distinctiveness.</p> <p>Advice Note 3, The Setting of Heritage Assets: This document sets out guidance on managing change within the settings of heritage assets including archaeological remains and historic buildings, sites, areas, and landscapes.</p>	<p>Historic England Good Practice Advice Notes 1-3 (2015)</p>
<p>Conservation Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The historic environment is a shared resource; • Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment; • Understanding the significance of places is vital; • Significant places should be managed to sustain their values; • Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent; and • Documenting and learning from decisions is essential. 	<p>Conservation Principles – Policies and Guidance; English Heritage (2015)</p>
<p>Relevant objectives are: The historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; and the historic environment is an economic asset that is well harnessed.</p>	<p>The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future (2000)</p>
<p>Places a general duty on local authorities for the preservation and enhancement of listed buildings and features of special architectural or historic interest, including the designation of conservation areas.</p>	<p>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)</p>
<p>The heritage statement sets out how the Government will support the heritage sector and help it to protect and care for heritage and the historic environment in the coming years, in order to maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it.</p>	<p>The Heritage Statement, 2017 (Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport)</p>

Table A3.8: Cultural Heritage

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Local	
One of the key outcomes is 'Great Communities'. This outcome reflects the importance of good quality, thriving communities. The aim is to create communities that embrace diversity with a strong sense of place, celebrating culture and heritage and the protection of the county's high quality environment.	Leicestershire County Council's Strategic Plan 2018-22
<p>The use of Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC), with the active promotion and guidance of English Heritage, has increasingly come to be recognised as an essential tool aiding heritage professionals to manage change within the historic environment and it is particularly relevant when working at a landscape scale.</p> <p>The Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Historic Landscape Characterisation (LLR HLC) Project commenced in April 2006 and has been a partnership initiative hosted by Leicestershire County Council, supervised and funded by English Heritage.</p>	The Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Historic Landscape Characterisation Project, 2010

Table A3.9: Landscape, Townscape and Land

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
<p>The Convention outlined the need to recognise landscape in law to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and creation of landscapes, and to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of landscape policies. It also encourages the integration of landscape into all relevant areas of policy including cultural, economic and social policies.</p> <p>Specific measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raising awareness of the value of landscapes among all sectors of society and of society's role in shaping them; • promoting landscape training and education among landscape specialists, other related professions and in school and university courses; • the identification and assessment of landscapes, • analysis of landscape change, with the active participation of stakeholders; • setting objectives for landscape quality, with the involvement of the public; and • the implementation of landscape policies through the establishment of plans and practical programmes. 	European Landscape Convention 2000 (became binding March 2007)
National	
<p>The planning system should contribute to, and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, biological and geological conservation interests and soils; • recognising the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services; and • preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. <p>The planning system should contribute to, and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, biological and geological conservation interests and soils; • Recognising the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services; and 	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019

Table A3.9: Landscape, Townscape and Land

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes. Seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness. 	
<p>The 2017 update replaces the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011. The updated regulations transpose the amendments made to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU by Directive 2014/52/EU and make a number of significant changes to the EIA regime in England.</p>	<p>The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017</p>
Local	
<p>The report identifies that areas of North West Leicestershire have generally poorer living environment than other areas, and the delivery of high quality green infrastructure alongside new development has the greatest potential impact on health and well-being in these areas.</p>	<p>Landscape Sensitivity and Green Infrastructure Study for Leicester & Leicestershire, 2017</p>
<p>These profiles contain information on the District's five designated National Character Areas; Trent Valley Washlands; Melbourne Parklands; Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield; Mease/Sence Lowlands and Charnwood.</p> <p>The profiles identify key landscape attributes, opportunities and descriptions.</p> <p>The profiles contain key ecosystem service opportunities within the area, which have been combined with the analysis of landscape opportunities to create Statements of Environmental Opportunity. Some of these opportunities have been defined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trent Washlands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage management measures that increase organic matter levels in soils to increase fertility, structure and drought resistance, such as conversion from arable to pasture, organic farming methods and the use of grass leys in arable crop rotations. 	<p>Natural England, National Character Area Profiles, 2013</p>

Table A3.9: Landscape, Townscape and Land

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Explore opportunities to sustainably use wetland habitats for food provision such as flood plain grazing marsh for cattle grazing. – Maximise tree planting opportunities that the National Forest initiative presents. – Seek opportunities for woodland planting within green infrastructure and relating to new development and the urban fringe. – Incorporate growing of biomass crops and woodland with the reinstatement of active flood plains. • Melbourne Parklands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A continued increase to the area of land under stewardship agreement – Opportunities exist to manage the existing woodland more sustainably for commercial purposes, which will also have a beneficial effect upon other services. – Opportunities exist for careful management of water to avoid over-abstraction, through efficient use of water and seeking more sustainable sources of water supply where possible. – Opportunities exist to identify other sites where wood/biomass boilers could be installed. – There is an opportunity to increase vegetation cover and extend areas of floodplain habitats such as flood meadows, wet woodland and reed beds. – Planting and restoring hedgerows – Opportunities exist to retain the areas of tranquillity by protecting them from inappropriate development and by buffering developments by tree planting. • Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Safeguard food provision and promote sustainable land management techniques. – Seek opportunities to increase native woodland planting to increase timber provision while improving biodiversity and strengthening landscape character. – Buffer watercourses, thus increasing areas of wetland habitat while increasing water storage and reducing flow rates to increase water infiltration. – Work in collaboration with farmers to ensure appropriate management techniques are employed. 	

Table A3.9: Landscape, Townscape and Land

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mease/Sence Lowlands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Work with farmers to manage arable cropping patterns to encourage rarer arable plants, farmland birds and mammals and create grass margins around arable fields. – Seek opportunities to extend and enhance areas of riverine landscapes, wetland habitat such as wet meadows and wet woodland particularly in flood plains and along rivers and streams increasing the value of the habitats for rare species of wildlife such as water voles, toads and otters. – Bring unmanaged areas of woodland back into management to increase biomass production from existing areas of woodland. – Increase woodland cover and hedgerows. – Manage hedgerows and verges to enhance and maintain a diverse range of flowering species, age and structure. • Charnwood: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promoting sustainable woodland management practices, such as coppicing, pollarding, and rotational wood fuel production, to increase carbon storage and sequestration, and to improve the resilience of woodlands to climate change. – Managing present siltation problems, which are contributing to the reduced capacity of Cropston Reservoir. – Providing buffer strips of semi-natural vegetation around the reservoirs, and increasing the quantity of reedbeds to naturally filter the water. – Increasing woodland/heathland cover, ensuring appropriate grazing levels to prevent erosion and compaction. 	
<p>Nine principles have been established. These principles reflect qualities that the Council considers consistent with well designed buildings and spaces:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A National Forest or locally inspired identity 2. Streets and spaces shaped by buildings 3. A greener footprint 4. Vibrant and mixed-use communities 5. Responsive to context 	<p>Good design for North West Leicestershire, 2017</p>

Table A3.9: Landscape, Townscape and Land

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Connected places 7. Easy to get around 8. Well-designed and well managed public spaces 9. Architectural quality 	

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
<p>The WFD divides the water environment into water bodies. These can include rivers, lakes, reservoirs, canals, groundwater etc. The WFD requires that there is no deterioration in the ecological health of water bodies and that water bodies should achieve the ecological objectives set out in a River Basin Management Plan.</p> <p>Each country has to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent deterioration in the status of aquatic ecosystems, protect them and improve the ecological condition of waters; • aim to achieve at least good status for all water bodies by 2015. Where this is not possible and subject to the criteria set out in the Directive, aim to achieve good status by 2021 or 2027; • meet the requirements of Water Framework Directive Protected Areas; • promote sustainable use of water as a natural resource; • conserve habitats and species that depend directly on water; • progressively reduce or phase out the release of individual pollutants or groups of pollutants that present a significant threat to the aquatic environment; • progressively reduce the pollution of groundwater and prevent or limit the entry of pollutants; and • contribute to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts. 	Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60/EC
National	
Authorities and developers must comply with the requirements of the Regulations.	The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations, 2010
By 2030 at the latest, there is improved quality of the water environment and the ecology which it supports; sustainably managed risks from flooding; more effective management of surface water and sustainable use of water resources	Future Water - The Government's water strategy for England (2008)

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>The 2017 update replaces the 2003 regulations. The update outlines the duties of regulators in relation to environmental permitting, impoundment and abstraction of water.</p>	<p>The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017</p>
<p>This document updates Groundwater Protection: Principles and Practice (GP3). It contains position statements which provide information about the Environment Agency's approach to managing and protecting groundwater. They detail how the Environment Agency delivers government policy for groundwater and adopts a risk-based approach where legislation allows.</p> <p>The primary aim of all of the position statements is the prevention of pollution of groundwater and protection of it as a resource. Groundwater protection is long term, so these principles and position statements aim to protect and enhance this valuable resource for future generations.</p>	<p>The Environment Agency's Approach to Groundwater Protection, 2018</p>
<p>Water Efficiency:</p> <p>Reasonable provision must be made by the installation of fittings and fixed appliances that use water efficiently for the prevention of undue consumption of water.</p> <p>Water Efficiency of New Dwellings:</p> <p>(1) The potential consumption of wholesome water by persons occupying a new dwelling must not exceed the requirement in paragraph (2)</p> <p>(2) The requirement referred to in paragraph (1) is either— (a) 125 litres per person per day; or (b) in a case to which paragraph (3) applies, the optional requirement of 110 litres per person per day, as measured in either case in accordance with a methodology approved by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(3) This paragraph applies where the planning permission under which the building work is carried out— (a) specifies the optional requirement in paragraph (2)(b); and (b) makes it a condition that that requirement must be complied with.</p> <p>(4) In this Part, "new dwelling" does not include a dwelling that is formed by a material change of use of a building within the meaning of regulation 5(g)</p>	<p>HM Government, The Building Regulations, Sanitation, hot water safety and water efficiency, 2010</p>

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>This strategy sets out how the Flood and Water Management Act will be implemented. The overall aim of the strategy is to ensure the risk of flooding and coastal erosion is properly managed by using the full range of options in a co-ordinated way.</p> <p>Communities, individuals, voluntary groups and private and public sector organisations will work together to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage the risk to people and their property; • Facilitate decision-making and action at the appropriate level - individual, community, or local authority, river catchment, coastal cell or national; • Achieve environmental, social and economic benefits, consistent with the principles of sustainable development. <p>The Government aims to work with individuals, communities and organisations to reduce the threat of flooding and coastal erosion by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the risks of flooding and coastal erosion, working together to put in place long-term plans to manage these risks and making sure that other plans take account of them; • Avoiding inappropriate development in areas of flood and coastal erosion risk and being careful to manage land elsewhere to avoid increasing risks; • Building, maintaining and improving flood and coastal erosion management infrastructure and systems to reduce the likelihood of harm to people and damage to the economy, environment and society; • Increasing public awareness of the risk that remains and engaging with people at risk to encourage them to take action to manage the risks that they face and to make their property more resilient; • Improving the detection, forecasting and issue of warnings of flooding, planning for and co-ordinating a rapid response to flood emergencies and promoting faster recovery from flooding. 	<p>National Flood & Coastal Erosion Management Strategy for England (2011)</p>
<p>The draft strategy vision is: for a nation ready for, and resilient to, flooding and coastal change – today, tomorrow and to the year 2100.</p> <p>The draft strategy has been split into 3 high level ambitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate resilient places; • today's growth and infrastructure – resilient to tomorrow's climate; and 	<p>Draft National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England – consultation document,</p>

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a nation of climate champions, able to adapt to flooding and coastal change through innovation. <p>The delivery of these ambitions is achieved through a series of strategic, longer term objectives and shorter term measures.</p> <p>Other relevant targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 2021 risk management authorities will work with partners and others to identify how the nature recovery network, the northern forest and other habitat improvements can help to manage flood risk and coastal change. • Between now and 2030 risk management authorities will enhance the natural, built and historic environments so we leave it in a better state for the next generation. • Between now and 2030 all new development will contribute to achieving place based resilience to flooding and coastal change. • From 2021 all risk management authorities will seek to work with developers and planners to achieve environmental net gain as part of strategic development proposals. • Between now and 2050 the Environment Agency and risk management authorities will work with infrastructure providers to ensure all infrastructure investment is resilient to future flooding and coastal change. 	<p>Environment Agency, 2019</p>
<p>Vision is: 'A UK in which all people, homes and businesses are water-efficient'</p> <p>Objectives of relevance to planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require water efficiency in local planning policies via Local Area Agreements; • Require all new developments to meet the 110 litres/person/day; and • Increase water efficiency of new homes. 	<p>Water Efficiency Strategy for the UK, Waterwise, June 2017</p>
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on minimising water</p> <p><u>Clean and Plentiful Water:</u></p> <p>Improving at least three quarters of our waters to be close to their natural state as soon as is practicable by:</p>	<p>A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018</p>

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the damaging abstraction of water from rivers and groundwater, ensuring that by 2021 the proportion of water bodies with enough water to support environmental standards increases from 82% to 90% for surface water bodies and from 72% to 77% for groundwater bodies; Reaching or exceeding objectives for rivers, lakes, coastal and ground waters that are specially protected, whether for biodiversity or drinking water as per our River Basin Management Plans; Supporting OFWAT's ambitions on leakage, minimising the amount of water lost through leakage year on year, with water companies expected to reduce leakage by at least an average of 15% by 2025; and Minimising by 2030 the harmful bacteria in our designated bathing waters and continuing to improve the cleanliness of our waters. We will make sure that potential bathers are warned of any short-term pollution risks. 	
Local	
<p>There are 15 management catchments that make up the river basin district, which include many interconnected rivers, lakes, groundwater and coastal waters. The catchments range from the uplands of the Peak District to fertile river valleys of the Trent to chalk aquifers of the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Wolds and vary from rural catchments to others heavily influenced by urban and industrial land use.</p> <p>The purpose of a river basin management plan is to provide a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning.</p> <p>Significance issues have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical modifications - affecting 42% of water bodies in this river basin district Pollution from wastewater – affecting 38% of water bodies in this river basin district Pollution from towns, cities and transport - affecting 16% of water bodies in this river basin district Changes to the natural flow and level of water - affecting 6% of water bodies in this river basin district Negative effects of invasive non-native species – affecting <1% of water bodies in this river basin district Pollution from rural areas - affecting 32% of water bodies in this river basin district 	Humber River Basin District Management Plan (Part 1), 2015

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution from rural areas - affecting 32% of water bodies in this river basin district • Pollution from abandoned mines - affecting 4% of water bodies in this river basin district 	
<p>This is the first consultation in reviewing and updating the 2015 Humber River Basin District Management Plan (above). It sets out the measures required in preparation for updating the current Plan, and summarises consultee engagement for individual river basin districts.</p>	<p>Humber River Basin District River Basin Management Plan 3, consultation document</p>
<p>The overarching scope of the project is to produce a district wide Infrastructure Delivery Plan that provides a robust evidence base to support the Local Plan. The following issues and opportunities have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no particular water stresses in North West Leicestershire. The main concern for the Strategic Grid zone is a supply shortfall due to a need to reduce abstractions from unsustainable sources and the impacts of climate change Planned Infrastructure to Support Growth. The current strategy over the next 25 years for STW is to address any shortfalls in water supply by reducing leakage and reducing consumer consumption wherever possible. • After existing supplies have been reviewed, STW will provide new sources of supply. STW will consider alternative supplies where current sources are considered to be environmentally unsustainable. • In North West Leicestershire, a significant issue is water quality of the River Mease, designated as European Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the Habitats Directive. It is currently classified as being “Unfavourable No Change”, due to high nutrient / phosphorus levels. • Future works are likely to be required in the Packington (and possibly Measham) Wastewater Treatment Work (WwTW) catchments in order to reduce the phosphate levels in the River Mease down from the previous objective of an annual average of 1mg/l to the Habitats Directive objective of 0.06mg/l. 	<p>North West Leicestershire District Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan, 2016</p>
<p>The plan identifies the following key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The degrading water quality of the River Mease, designated as European Special Area of Conservation (SAC); • Creating a balanced solution for wastewater treatment; and 	<p>North West Leicestershire District Council Detailed Water Cycle Study (2012)</p>

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The River Mease catchment is a net importer of public water supply, meaning that water is supplied from elsewhere but discharged into the river. 	
<p>This Strategy provides a framework which considers how the risks and consequences within the County can be managed and communicated. There are seven objectives which aim to achieve this, and how these objectives will be achieved are detailed in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan. The objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work Collaboratively Improve Understanding and Awareness Enhance the Natural and Historic Environment Improve Resilience Encourage Sustainable Development Use Resources Effectively Promote Riparian Responsibilities 	Leicestershire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2015)
<p>The aims and objectives of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment Update include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing an evidence base of historic flood risk information which will be contributed to in the future Assessing historic flood events arising from local sources of flooding and the consequences of these events Assessing the potential adverse consequences which may arise from future flood events Reviewing of the national assessment of indicative Flood Risk Areas provided by the Environment Agency Identifying partner organisations involved in future assessment of flood risk and describing arrangements for partnerships and collaboration for ongoing collection, assessment and storage of flood risk data and information. 	Leicestershire Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (revised 2017)
<p>This Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) plan explains the risk of flooding from rivers, the sea, surface water, groundwater and reservoirs. It sets out how risk management authorities will work with communities to manage flood and coastal risk during the period 2015-2021.</p> <p>Within the Humber river basin district, there are two FRMPs, this being one, the Kingston upon Hull and Haltemprice Catchment within East Riding of Yorkshire FRMP being the other.</p>	Humber Flood Risk Management Plan (2016)

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The primary source of flood risk in North West Leicestershire is fluvial flooding arising from the River Trent, the River Soar, the River Mease, the River Sence and their tributaries. • Other sources of flood risk in the district are surface water, sewers, canal infrastructure and groundwater arising from former coal mining areas. • There are existing flood risk management schemes in place, including formalised flood defences and flood storage areas. These flood risk management schemes fall under a range of responsibilities including the Environment Agency and private landowners, and provide varying levels of protection. • Climate change is predicted to cause an increase in flood risk in the future and therefore needs to be considered when designing flood risk mitigation and surface water management systems for new development. • A Sequential Test has been undertaken on potential sites for allocation, as provided by North West Leicestershire District Council. Of the 34 sites assessed, 26 sites are fully located within Flood Zone 1 and therefore within the lowest areas at risk from fluvial flooding. Of the remaining sites five are partially located within Flood Zones 2 and 3, and three are located fully within Flood Zone 3 and therefore at a high risk from fluvial flooding. • Windfall sites are potential development sites that have not been allocated through the Local Plan and have not been individually sequentially tested in the SFRA. 	<p>North West Leicestershire SFRA Report, 2015</p>
<p>A Sequential Test has been applied to 27 potential development sites, as provided by North West Leicestershire District Council, making use of the new climate change guidance. Of these 27 sites, this assessment has identified that there are 13 commercial sites and 10 residential sites that are classed at an acceptable level of flood risk and pass the Sequential Test. There are two residential sites classed as at a medium risk and two commercial sites at a high risk, that would not pass the Sequential Test at this stage and hence further information and assessment is required in an attempt to allow the development to proceed.</p>	<p>North West Leicestershire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Climate Change Addendum, 2016</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This draft WRMP sets out the actions that Severn Trent Water recommend to meet the long term supply / demand challenge. Due to the scale of the challenge, and based on stakeholder engagement, they are prioritising demand management and propose a step-change in leakage, water efficiency and metering activity. • To complement these ambitious proposals, the plan also includes investment in new sources to maintain the security of supply and replace those sources where continued abstraction could deteriorate the water environment. 	<p>Severn Trent Water Water Resources Management Plan 2018 (Draft)</p>

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan aims to plan aims to respond to current, and future strategic challenges, to ensure the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve our current level of resilience against droughts; Tackle unsustainable abstraction and prevent future environmental deterioration; Appropriately plan for climate change; Meet future population growth; Improve the resilience of customers' supplies; Meet our customers' and stakeholders' needs and expectations; Meet our wider regulatory obligations; and Understand and allow for future uncertainty. 	
<p>Targets to be achieved by 2025 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bills that are 5% lower than in 2020; Achieving higher compliance with the industry's new risk focused measure; Expanding the catchment management approach by working with a further 2,000 farmers to change agricultural practices and protect raw water sources from pesticides and other chemicals; Reduce leakage by 15% to 2025; Using a systematic approach to improve resilience to long term outages by investing in the main water transfer system – the strategic grid; Protecting customers from the uncertain impacts of climate change by creating a 'real options mechanism' that allows bills to be kept low and make sure investment happens when the time is right. Encouraging behavioural change in customers and trebling the number of meters installed; Exploring water trading options and using the new option of direct procurement for customers to incentivise the development of innovative solutions towards the supply and demand challenge; Working with United Utilities and Thames Water towards an interconnector to take water from the North West to the water scarce South East; 	Severn Trent Business Plan 2020-2025

Table A3.10: Water

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using information on communities' vulnerability to flood risk (their personal, social and environmental circumstances) to help prioritise improvements; • Encourage behavioural change to stop sewer misuse, prevent blockages and reduce pollution incidents; • Deploying innovative new solutions like bio-augmentation to prevent the build-up of fatbergs; • Building on Environment Agency 4* status for environmental protection by investing to improve the ecology of up to 2,100km of rivers in the Severn Trent region (including a mechanism to protect customers from uncertainty) and provide solutions that also support the wellbeing of communities downstream by helping protect habitats and improve river flow through public amenity areas and visitor attractions; • Enriching the biodiversity of the region by changing how estates are managed, working in partnership with expert organisations - like Wildlife Trusts and Moors for the Future, and using spare operational land to engage communities with projects to create new habitats; • Creating a circular economy by investing in anaerobic sewage treatment - including a demonstration works, part funded by the Horizon 2020 innovation fund – to test if traditional resource-intensive sewage treatment works can transform into low-energy biorefineries; and • Embracing the opportunities of new markets – by recycling sludge from wastewater more efficiently. 	

Table A3.11: Waste & Minerals

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
International	
<p>Waste must be managed without:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • endangering human health; • harming the environment in particular; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – water – air – soil – plants – animals • causing a nuisance through noise or odours; • adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest. <p>Waste should be managed in line with the waste hierarchy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prevent or reduce waste; – Reuse; – Recycle; – Other recovery methods; and – Dispose. 	European Directive 2008/98/EC on waste (Waste Framework Directive)
National	
<p>To ensure that by 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least 70% (by weight) of construction and demolition waste is subjected to material recovery; and • at least 50% (by weight) of waste from households is prepared for re-use or recycled. 	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Waste Management Plan for England (2013)

Table A3.11: Waste & Minerals

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
To improve the environment and protect human health by supporting a resource efficient economy, reducing the quantity and impact of waste produced whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.	UK Government: Prevention is better than cure: The role of waste prevention in moving to a more resource efficient economy, 2013
<p>The NPPF states that planning policies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide for the extraction of mineral resources of local and national importance, but not identify new sites or extensions to existing sites for peat extraction; and • safeguard mineral resources by defining Mineral Safeguarding Areas; <p>Local planning authorities should work with other authorities and providers to assess the quality and capacity of infrastructure for transport, water supply, wastewater and its treatment.</p>	National Planning Policy Framework, 2019
<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan outlines the Government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it and the steps proposed to take to achieve that ambition.</p> <p>The plan includes ten key targets of which one focuses on minimising waste.</p> <p><u>Minimising Waste:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working towards our ambition of zero avoidable waste by 2050; • Working to a target of eliminating avoidable plastic waste by end of 2042; • Meeting all existing waste targets – including those on landfill, reuse and recycling – and developing ambitious new future targets and milestones; • Seeking to eliminate waste crime and illegal waste sites over the lifetime of this Plan, prioritising those of highest risk. Delivering a substantial reduction in litter and littering behaviour; and • Significantly reducing and where possible preventing all kinds of marine plastic pollution – in particular material that came originally from land. 	A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018

Table A3.11: Waste & Minerals

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>The amended regulations relate to the separate collection of waste. They amend the Waste (England and Wales) Regulation 2011 by replacing regulation 13.</p>	<p>Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011</p>
<p>Local</p>	
<p>This Minerals and Waste Local Plan includes a spatial vision, spatial strategy, strategic objectives, and core policies which set out the key principles to guide the future winning and working of minerals and the form of waste management development in the County of Leicestershire over the period to the end of 2031.</p> <p>The Plan has 10 Strategic Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To make sufficient provision of minerals in Leicestershire to meet national and local requirements. 2. To make sufficient provision of waste facilities in Leicestershire with capacity equal to the waste generated within Leicestershire. 3. To provide mineral sites and waste management facilities in the most sustainable locations so that movement other than by road is maximised, untreated waste transportation is minimised, the development of previously developed land is encouraged, and the needs of local communities and industry are met. 4. To co-ordinate and work with all relevant organisations, in particular Leicester City Council and Leicestershire Local Authorities, to ensure that the Local Plan addresses planning issues that cross administrative boundaries. 5. To attain the maximum possible reuse, recycling, composting and recovery of waste within Leicestershire and thereby minimising the disposal of waste. 6. To safeguard mineral resources, mineral sites and associated infrastructure, and waste management facilities from inappropriate development. 7. To reduce the impact of minerals and waste developments upon climate change. 8. To protect people and local communities, and the natural, built and historic environment (particularly the River Mease Special Area of Conservation) from unacceptable effects of minerals and waste developments. 9. To ensure that land with a temporary use is subsequently restored, managed and maintained to an after-use of high quality at the earliest opportunity which respects the local area's character, helps to provide a net 	<p>Leicestershire Minerals and Waste Local Plan up to 2031</p>

Table A3.11: Waste & Minerals

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>gain in biodiversity and allows greater public access whilst affording opportunities for recreational, economic and community gain in mitigation or compensation for the effects of development where possible.</p> <p>10. To complement and support wider strategies including the Leicester and Leicestershire Economic Growth Plan, green infrastructure projects and strategies such as the National Forest and Charnwood Forest Regional Park.</p>	
<p>Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council have a vision for the management of waste for the period to 2021. They want to work together to promote and direct change in the way that waste is generated and handled.</p> <p>The spatial vision for the plan is:</p> <p>To provide Leicestershire and Leicester with an efficient, safe and sustainable range of waste facilities with capacity equal to the amount of waste generated and requiring management within Leicestershire and Leicester in locations that minimise environmental impact, provide community benefit and help improve quality of life by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging waste reduction; • Increasing the reuse and recycling of waste; • Less reliance on landfill by increased energy recovery. <p>This is underpinned by 11 objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To promote the implementation of waste minimisation initiatives in the construction and operation of new development. 2. To enable the timely delivery of sufficient waste management facilities in the Waste Development Framework area at the key dates of 2009/10, 2014/15 and 2019/20 to meet the waste management capacity apportionment requirement and spatial distribution identified by the Regional Spatial Strategy to at least 2021. 3. To support the delivery of the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy and Leicester's municipal waste management requirements. 4. To encourage waste management facilities which increase reuse, recycling, composting and value / energy recovery, including through the use of new waste management technologies where appropriate, in order to meet or exceed regional targets. 	<p>Leicestershire and Leicester Waste Development Framework</p> <p>Core Strategy & Development Control Policies up to 2021</p>

Table A3.11: Waste & Minerals

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<p>5. To promote use of waste as a resource including optimum use of recycled waste materials as aggregates.</p> <p>6. To minimise final disposal as a means of managing waste arisings.</p> <p>7. To provide for a distribution of waste management facilities in the Waste Development Framework area at locations which encourage the use of previously developed land, meets the needs of communities, and minimise the distances waste is transported.</p> <p>8. To protect people and local communities, and the natural and built environment (particularly the River Mease Special Area of Conservation) from unacceptable effects of waste management development.</p> <p>9. To encourage opportunities for means of transporting waste other than by road.</p> <p>10. To promote the delivery of measures for environmental, recreational, economic and community gain in mitigation or compensation for any adverse effects of waste related development where appropriate.</p> <p>11. To complement and support wider strategies for the Waste Development Framework area including green infrastructure projects and strategies such as the National Forest and Charnwood Forest Regional Park.</p>	
<p>The aim of the Plan is to undertake mineral working within a sustainable framework balancing the exploitation of important mineral reserves and the protection and enhancement of environmental features.</p> <p>The Plan seeks to provide minerals sufficient to meet society's needs in sustainable locations which address the need to protect the natural and built environment from unacceptable effects of mineral development, ensure a high standard of restoration is carried out and encourage the use of recycled and secondary materials.</p> <p>There are nine overarching objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To make sufficient provision to meet national, regional and local requirements for all minerals, in particular the sub-regional apportionment requirements for aggregates provision. 2. To attain the maximum possible usage of recycled and secondary materials in meeting recognised national and regional requirements. 3. To safeguard mineral resources from unnecessary sterilisation. 4. To encourage the most efficient use of high quality minerals and the minimisation of waste materials. 	<p>Leicestershire Minerals Development Framework</p> <p>Core Strategy & Development Control Policies up to 2021</p>

Table A3.11: Waste & Minerals

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. To protect people and local communities, and the natural and built environment (particularly the River Mease Special Area of Conservation) from minerals development. 6. To encourage opportunities for sustainable means of transporting minerals other than by road. 7. To promote the delivery of measures for environmental, recreational, economic and community gain in mitigation or compensation for the effects of mineral development where possible. <p>To ensure land is reclaimed at the earliest opportunity and that high quality restoration and aftercare takes place to an appropriate after-use that enhances and complements the natural and historic environment and that is in keeping with the local area, adding to local distinctiveness and biodiversity.</p>	



North West Leicestershire District Council

Local Plan Partial Review:

Final Sustainability Appraisal Report

(incorporating EqlA & HIA)

Appendix B Baseline Data






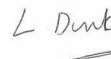








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Quality Management

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Signature						
Project number	C0143					

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ISO 9001
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1 Introduction

This appendix presents the baseline information on the environmental, social and economic characteristics of the North West Leicestershire District collated for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan Review. The SA incorporates Health Impact Assessment as well as Equalities Impact Assessment. Relevant baseline information is provided in relation to health in Section 2.3 and equalities in Section 2.2.

Baseline data enables a characterisation of the plan area to be developed, including the sensitivity of the environment. Gaining an understanding of this information allows the impacts of the plan to be assessed and its performance to be monitored after adoption. Baseline information can put the plan area into context in relation to a national or regional situation or in relation to adjacent areas.

The detailed baseline information has been compiled in a series of topics (listed below) in line with published guidance¹ to include comparators, targets, trends and indicators and is presented in turn within this appendix:

- Population & Communities;
- Housing;
- Employment & Economy;
- Transport & Access;
- Air, Noise & Light Pollution;
- Climate Change;
- Biodiversity & Geodiversity;
- Landscape, Townscape & Land;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Water; and
- Waste & Minerals.

¹ A practical guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive 2005 ODPM ISBN 1851127887

2 Population & Communities

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Demographics

The population of NWL was estimated at 102,100² in 2018 and is set to continue to rise.

Figure 2.1 shows the population changes predicted to take place between 2018 and 2041. At present, the largest age group in NWL is the 46-50 year olds, making up 7.9% of the total population, followed by the 51-55 year olds (7.7%) and 5-10 year olds (7.1%). The smallest age group are those aged 90 and over at just 0.9%. By 2041, the age demographic is set to shift slightly, however, 46-50 year olds will still make up the largest proportion of the population at 6.6%. This is followed by those aged between 51-55 or 71-75, both making up 6.4% respectively. The smallest age group will be those aged between 86-89 at just 1.9%.

Figure 2.1 also highlights the low proportion of 16-25 year olds which may well be indicative of a larger number of younger residents moving away for university and employment opportunities. There is potential that this could have a future impact on local economic growth as well as future demand for services and facilities.

² Nomis, Official Labour Market Statistics, Labour Market Profile – North West Leicestershire 2018

Figure 2.1: Predicted Population Changes³

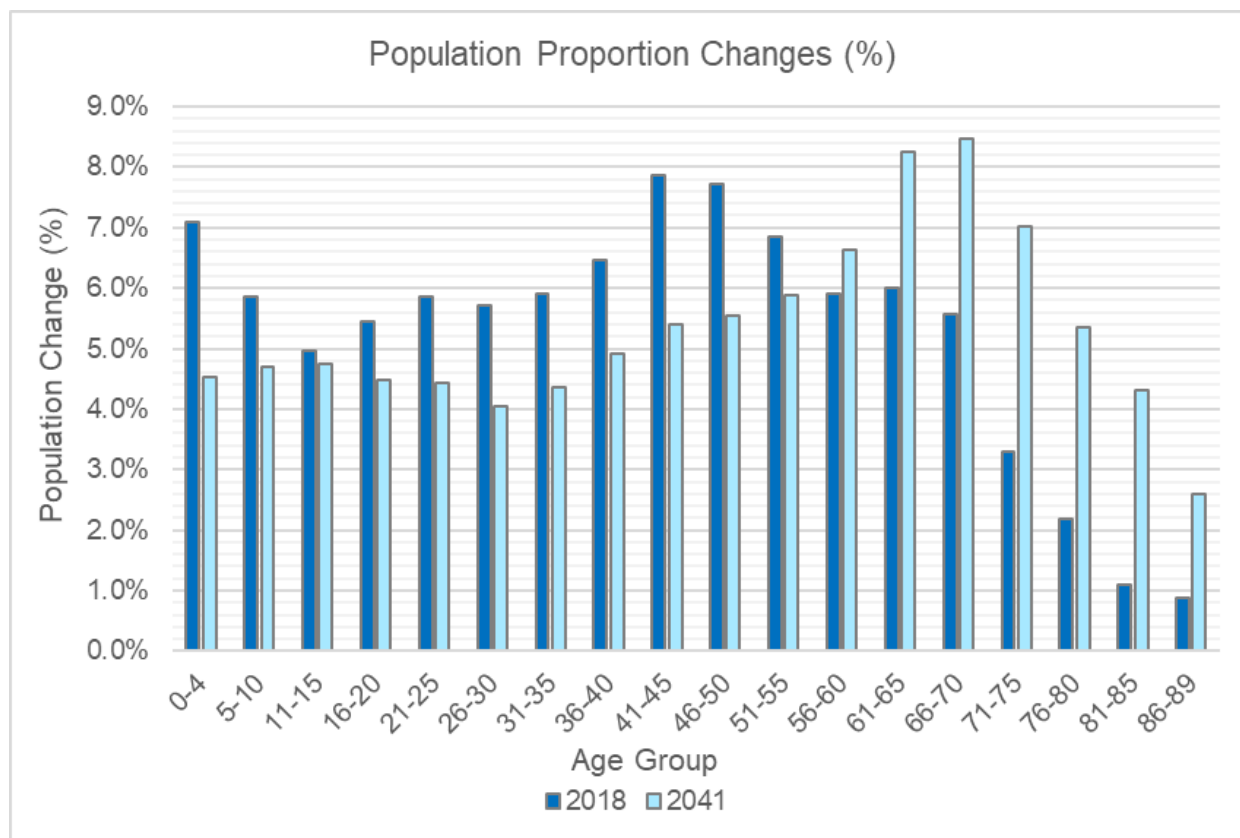


Table 2.1 shows the population projections for all age groups in the District between 0-4 and 90 plus, between 2018 and 2041. By 2041, the biggest increases in population will be in the over 75s, particularly the 90 plus', with a projected rise of 114.4%. The smallest changes will be seen in the those aged 5-9 with an increase of 1.7%, 35-39 with an increase of 1.6% and 55-59 with an increase of 1.4%. It is projected that there will be a decrease in the number of 45-49 years olds (-1.43%) and 50-54 year olds (-10%).

Table 2.1: Population Projections³			
(figures are in thousands)			
Age Group	2018	2039	% Change
0-4	5.3	5.8	9.4
5-9	5.9	6.0	1.7

³ Household projections for England and local authority districts, DCLG, published July 12th 2016 <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/localauthoritiesinenglandtable2>

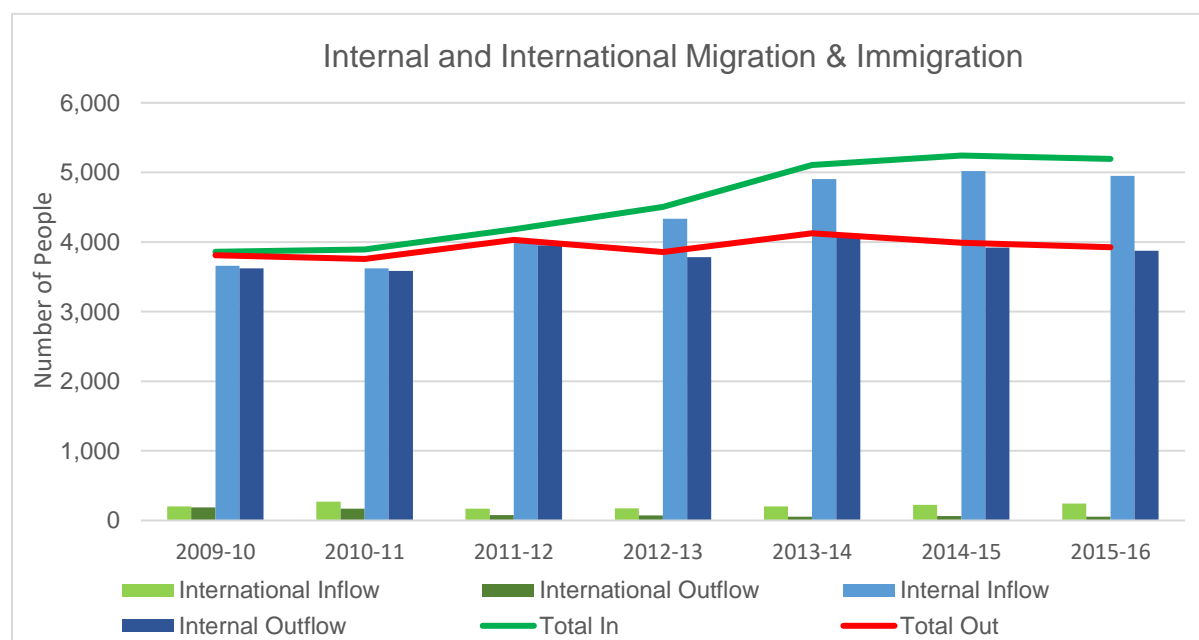
Table 2.1: Population Projections³ (figures are in thousands)			
Age Group	2018	2039	% Change
10-14	5.9	6.3	6.8
15-19	5.2	6.0	15.4
20-24	5.2	5.4	3.9
25-29	5.9	6.3	6.8
30-34	5.6	6.4	14.3
35-39	6.1	6.2	1.6
40-44	6.0	7.1	18.3
45-49	7.7	7.6	-1.3
50-54	8.0	7.2	-10
55-59	7.0	7.1	1.4
60-64	6.0	6.5	8.3
65-69	5.9	7.5	27.1
70-74	5.9	7.6	28.8
75-79	3.6	6.3	75
80-84	2.4	4.4	83.3
85-89	1.5	2.9	93.3
90 +	0.9	2.2	144.4
All ages	100.1	114.6	14.5

Table 2.2 shows the changes in the number of households between 2013 and 2020, as well as the projected change in the number of households between 2020 and 2039. The table identifies that there is an overall upward trend in the number of households across Leicestershire. NWL currently has 45,000 households, which has grown by 13% since 2013. This is projected to continue to rise by 30.0%, bringing the total number of households by 2039 to 58,000. This growth is higher than Blaby, Melton and Oadby and Wigston districts but lower than Charnwood, Harborough and Hinkley and Bosworth.

District	2013	2020	% Change (from 2013)	2039	% Change (from 2018)
Blaby	39,258	43,393	10.5	54,795	23.9
Charnwood	67,901	74,733	10.0	91,107	21.9
Harborough	35,724	39,434	10.3	48,469	22.9
Hinckley and Bosworth	46,060	50,925	10.5	61,865	21.4
Melton	21,720	22,597	4.0	24,800	9.7
North West Leicestershire	39,557	44,728	13.0	58,157	30.0
Oadby and Wigston	21,270	21,003	-1.2	22,530	7.2

Figure 2.2 shows the internal and international migration and immigration in the District between 2009-10 and 2015-16. It shows that overall inflow is much higher than overall outflow, with the majority as a result of internal migration. There has been a slow increase in international inflow since 2009-10, whilst international outflow continues to decrease year on year.

Figure 2.2: Internal and International Migration and Immigration⁵



⁴ Household projections for England and local authority and higher administrative areas within England, published 29th June 2020

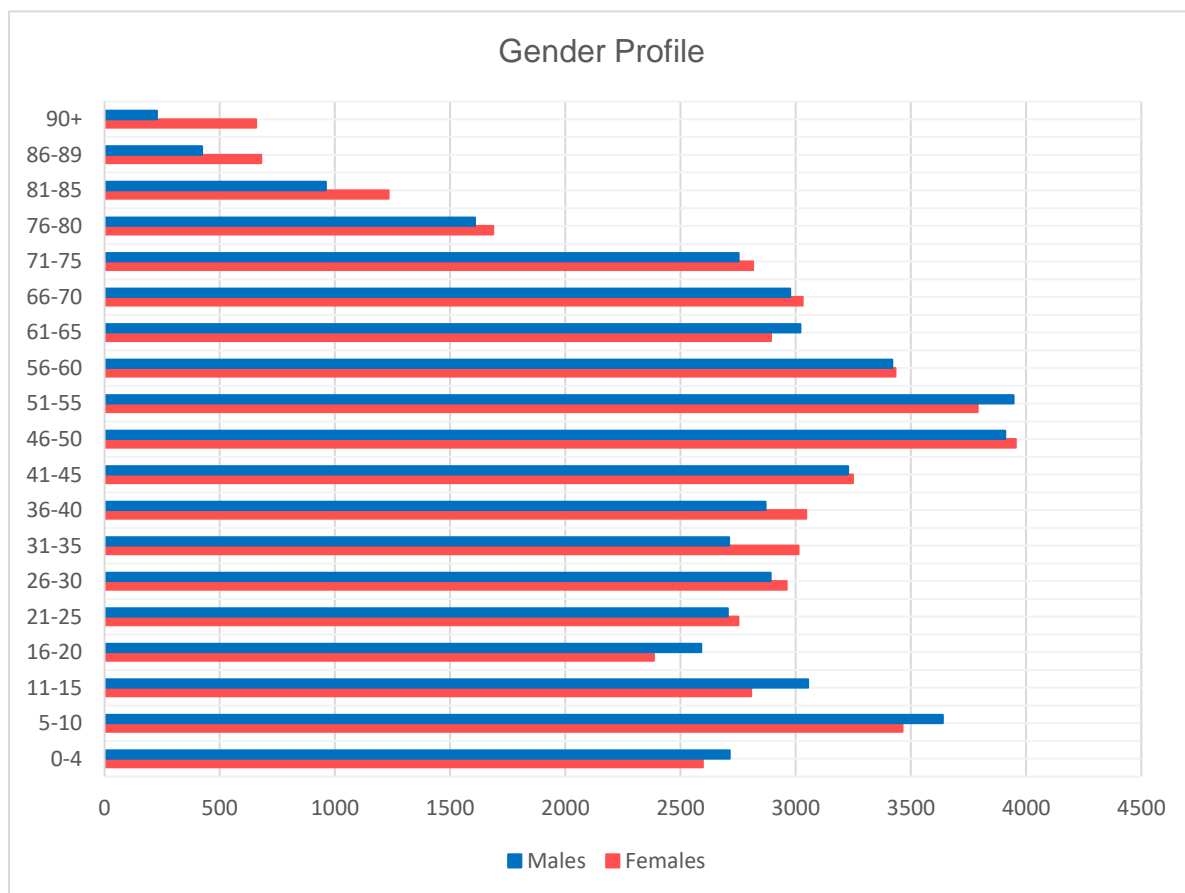
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datasets/householdprojectionsforengland>

⁵ ONS, Local Area Migration Indicators, UK, 2017

Gender

There is a slightly higher proportion of females than males in the district, making up 50.6% of the total population. Figure 2.3 shows the gender profile across all age groups in the district. It shows that there is a higher proportion of males aged between 0-20, whilst there are more women aged between 21-50. The biggest differences between males and females occur between those aged between 81-90+, where there is a significantly higher proportion of women. This could be reflective of differences in average life expectancy.

Figure 2.3: NWL Gender Profile Error! Bookmark not defined.



Race

Table 2.3 presents the 2011 ethnicity Census⁶ data for the District. The District is not very diverse with 95.3% of the population being classed as 'white British', which is above the Leicestershire average of 88.9%. The second biggest ethnic group is 'White Other' making up 1.7% of the population. The table shows that there was nobody of Asian or Asian British: Pakistani or Bangladeshi, 'Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Other' or 'Other ethnic group: Arab' ethnic backgrounds recorded within the 2011 Census.

Table 2.3: Ethnicity⁷				
Ethnic Group	NWL		Leicestershire	
	Population	% Population	Population	% Population
White British	89,116	95.3%	578,432	88.9%
White Irish	406	0.4%	3,528	0.5%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	77	0.1%	411	0.1%
White Other	1,588	1.7%	12,396	1.9%
Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group: White or Black Caribbean	358	0.4%	3,024	0.5%
Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group: White or Black African	59	0.1%	714	0.1%
Mixed or multiple ethnic group: White and Asian	322	0.3%	3,262	0.5%
Mixed or multiple ethnic group: Other	142	0.2%	1,551	0.2%
Asian or Asian British: Indian	520	0.6%	28,598	4.4%
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	16	0.0%	2,099	0.3%
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	20	0.0%	2,313	0.4%
Asian or Asian British: Chinese	198	0.2%	3,502	0.5%
Asian or Asian British: Other	320	0.3%	4,265	0.7%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: African	91	0.1%	1,990	0.3%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean	78	0.1%	1,379	0.2%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Other	36	0.0%	418	0.1%
Other ethnic group: Arab	25	0.0%	866	0.1%
Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	96	0.1%	1,741	0.3%

⁶ ONS, Census, 2011 - Ethnicity

⁷ ONS, Census, 2011 - Ethnicity

Religion or Belief

Table 2.4 identifies the religious diversity in NWL compared with Leicestershire. 64.9% of the population in NWL identify themselves as Christians, which is higher than the County average of 60.3%. 27.5% of the population have no religion, whilst 6.2% have not stated their religion. Other religions make up less than 2% of the population, with no one identifying as Jewish.

Table 2.4: Religion or Belief ⁸		
Religion	% Population NWL	% Population Leicestershire
Christian	64.9	60.3
Buddhist	0.2	0.2
Hindu	0.4	2.8
Jewish	0.0	0.1
Muslim	0.2	1.4
Sikh	0.1	1.2
Other religion	0.4	0.4
No religion	27.5	27.1
Religion not stated	6.2	6.5

Marriage & Civil Partnership

Table 2.5 presents the marital and civil partnership status of those living in the NWL District, as recorded in the 2011 Census. 52.4% of the population are married, which is higher than the East Midlands average of 48.5%. A lower percentage of the NWL population is considered to be single (28.3%) than across the East Midlands (32.3%). 0.2% of both the NWL population and the East Midlands population are considered to be in a registered same-sex civil partnership.

Table 2.5: Marital and Civil Partnership Status⁹				
Marital Status	NWL		East Midlands	
	Count	%	Count	%
All usual residents aged 16+	75,791	-	3,694,767	-
Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	21,443	28.3%	1,192,443	32.3%
Married	39,715	52.4%	1,790,916	48.5%
In a registered same-sex civil partnership	173	0.2%	7,179	0.2%

⁸ ONS Census 2011 – Religion in England & Wales

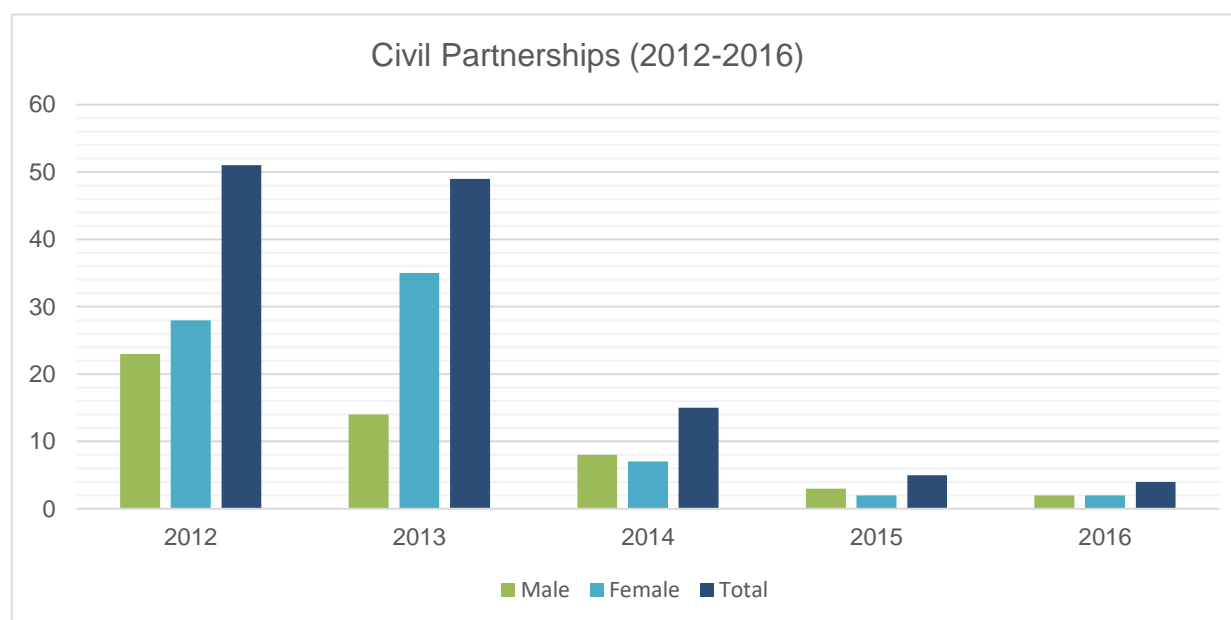
⁹ ONS Census 2011 - Marital and Civil Partnership Status

Table 2.5: Marital and Civil Partnership Status ⁹				
Marital Status	NWL		East Midlands	
	Count	%	Count	%
Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	1,888	2.5%	96,149	2.6%
Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	7,100	9.4%	342,665	9.3%
Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership	5,472	7.2%	265,415	7.2%

Figure 2.4 shows the number of civil partnerships in Leicestershire over a 5 year period, between 2012 and 2015. This shows that the total number of civil partnership ceremonies is declining, with 51 in 2012 compared to just 4 in 2016.

However, this drop in civil partnership formations could be down to the legalisation of same sex marriages in 2014.

Figure 2.4: Civil Partnership Formations (2012 – 2016)¹⁰



¹⁰ ONS Civil Partnership Formations, 2017

Sexual Orientation

95.4% of people in Leicestershire consider themselves to be heterosexual; this is slightly higher than the East Midlands average of 94.1% and the UK average of 93.8%. 0.7% of the population in Leicestershire consider themselves to be gay or lesbian whilst 0.3% consider themselves to be bisexual. Again, these are both lower than the regional and national averages. Table 2.6 below shows these figures.

Table 2.6: Sexual Orientation¹¹					
	Heterosexual or straight	Gay or lesbian	Bisexual	Other	Don't know or refuse
Leicestershire	95.4	0.7	0.3	0.1	3.5
East Midlands	94.1	0.9	0.4	0.4	4.2
UK	93.8	1.1	0.6	0.3	4.2

Deprivation

The English Indices of Deprivation 2015 attempts to measure a broad concept of measures of multiple deprivation at the small area level. The Indices provide a set of relative measures of deprivation for small areas (Lower Super Output Areas) across England, based on seven different domains of deprivation¹²:

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

According to the Indices, NWL is ranked 214th most deprived local authority district in England, out of 317 (where 1 is the most deprived and 326th is the least deprived)¹³. Table 2.7 shows the average rank of each of the 7 deprivation domains in Leicestershire; red indicates the most deprived local authority and green indicates the least. This measure is calculated by averaging all of the LSOA ranks in each larger area after they have been population weighted. The 'average

¹¹ ONS, Subnational Sexual Identity, 2013 - 2015 (Released 2017)

¹² The Department for Communities and Local Government, The English Indices of Deprivation 2015 Technical Report, 2015

¹³ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, The English Indices of Deprivation 2019, Local Authority District Boundaries (lower-tier)

rank' scores for the larger areas are then ranked, where the rank of 1 (most deprived) is given to the area with the highest score. The most and least deprived districts have been highlighted for each of the domains in the table below.

Table 2.7: IMD Rankings Per Domain ¹⁴								
Local Authority	Overall Rank ¹⁵	Income	Employment	Education	Health	Crime	Housing	Environment
Blaby	280	262	259	170	246	143	309	303
Charnwood	231	227	247	194	220	134	231	201
Harborough	302	312	303	277	286	293	222	290
Hinckley and Bosworth	241	230	221	153	254	176	267	262
Melton	230	270	271	220	273	179	75	169
North West Leicestershire	207	203	176	130	185	159	266	280
Oadby and Wigston	242	221	218	178	201	203	287	221
Leicester	14	15	47	11	57	31	243	31

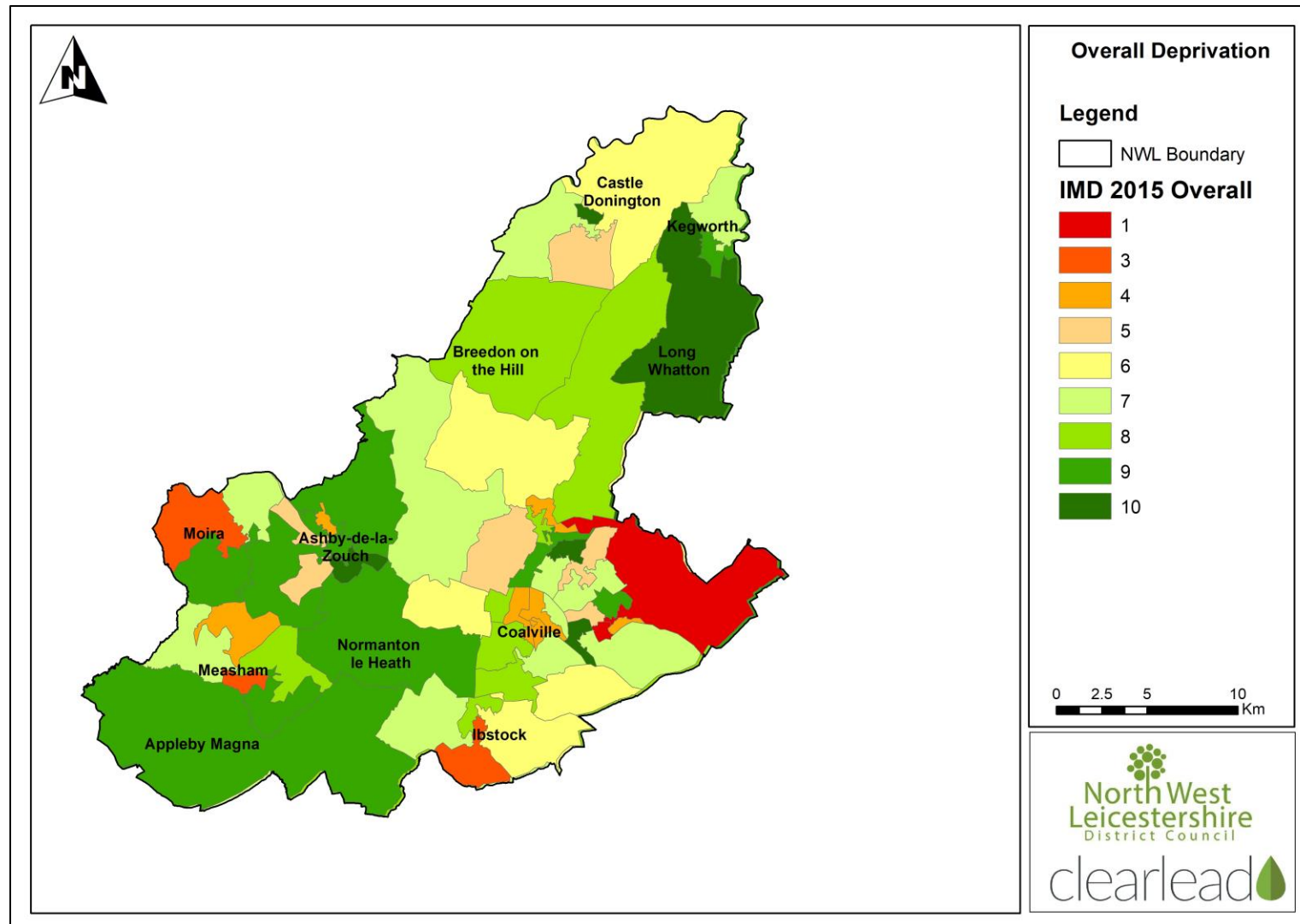
Overall, NWL is the second most deprived local authority in Leicestershire. In each of the 7 domains, NWL does not appear as one of either the least deprived or most deprived local authorities. Once broken down into smaller lower super output areas, there are pockets of high level deprivation within NWL. Figure 2.5 shows the overall deprivation scores for NWL broken down by wards, where 1 is the most deprived and 10 is the least deprived.

The wards of Greenhill and Measham are amongst the top 10% and 20% most deprived LSOAs in England with the least deprived areas located around Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Long Whatton, Normanton le Heath and Appleby Magna.

¹⁴ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, The English Indices of Deprivation 2015, Local Authority District Summaries

¹⁵ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, The English Indices of Deprivation 2019, Local Authority District Boundaries (lower-tier)

Figure 2.5: IMD Overall LSOA Deprivation in NWL



Health

Life expectancy in NWL is fairly similar to the national and Leicestershire averages. Table 2.8 shows that expectancy for males is 80.1 years which is slightly higher than the Leicestershire (79.3 years) and the national average (79.5 years). Like the national trend, women have a longer life expectancy at 82.9 years; although this is the same as the Leicester average it is slightly below the national average of 83.1 years.

Table 2.8: Life Expectancy (2014-16) ¹⁶			
	NWL	Leicestershire	England
Males	80.1	79.3	79.5
Females	82.9	82.9	83.1

The health and wellbeing of children in NWL is generally better than the England average. The level of child poverty in the District is better than the England average, however, 2460 children are living in poverty¹⁷. The foundation stage assessment is completed in the final term of the academic year in which a child reaches the age of five, and aims to measure the levels of development of children. In NWL, a lower proportion of children than the England average are judged to have achieved a good level of development at the end of the 2016/17 foundation stage¹⁷.

The English Indices of Deprivation¹⁸ highlights that there are some disparities between wards in NWL, with regards to health deprivation and disability domain. This is reflected in life expectancies as it is 7.3 years lower for both men and women in the most deprived areas of North West Leicestershire than in the least deprived areas. This is shown in Figure 2.6 below. The health deprivation and disability domain measures the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life from poor physical or mental health and is comprised of the following indicators:

- Years of potential life lost: An age and sex standardised measure of premature death;
- Comparative illness and disability ratio: an age and sex standardised morbidity/disability ratio;
- Acute morbidity: an age and sex standardised rate of emergency admission to hospital; and

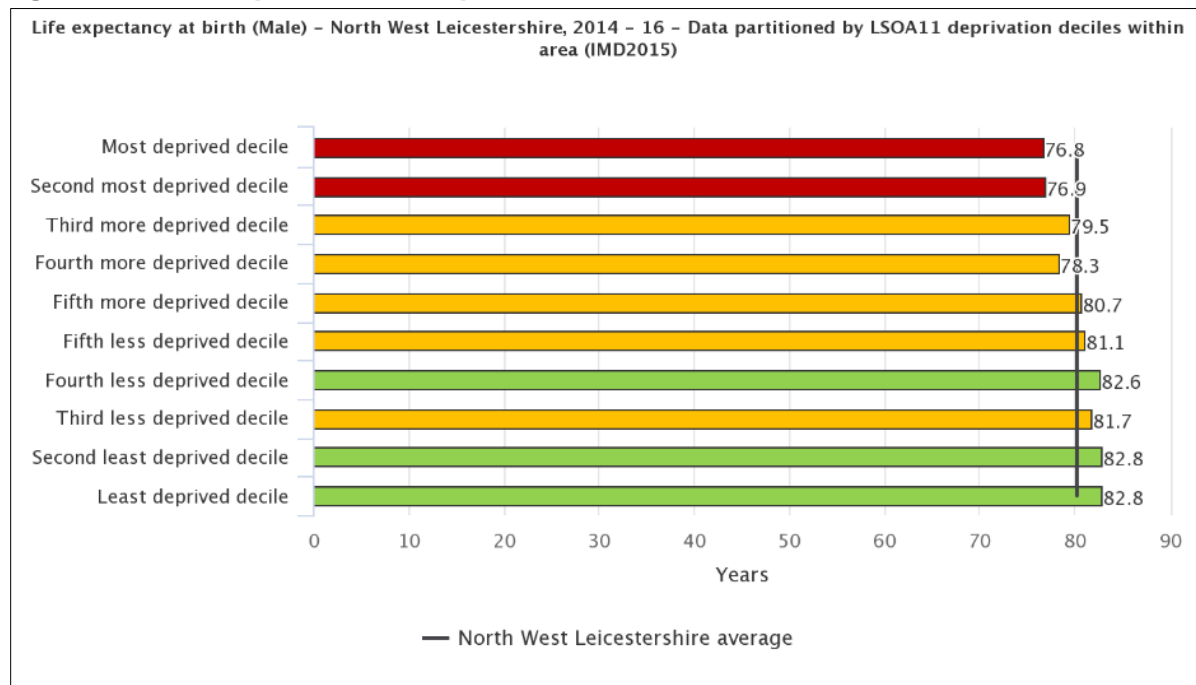
¹⁶ Public Health England, Local Authority Health Profiles

¹⁷ Leicestershire County Council, School Health Profile 2016/17 North West Leicestershire, <http://www.lsr-online.org/uploads/north-west-leics-school-health-profile-2016-17.pdf> Accessed on: 19/07/2018

¹⁸ Department of Local Communities & Local Government, English Indices of Deprivation 2015

- Mood and anxiety disorders: a composite based on the rate of adults suffering from mood and anxiety disorders, hospital episodes data, suicide mortality data and health benefits data¹⁹.

Figure 2.6: Life Expectancies Disparities¹⁶

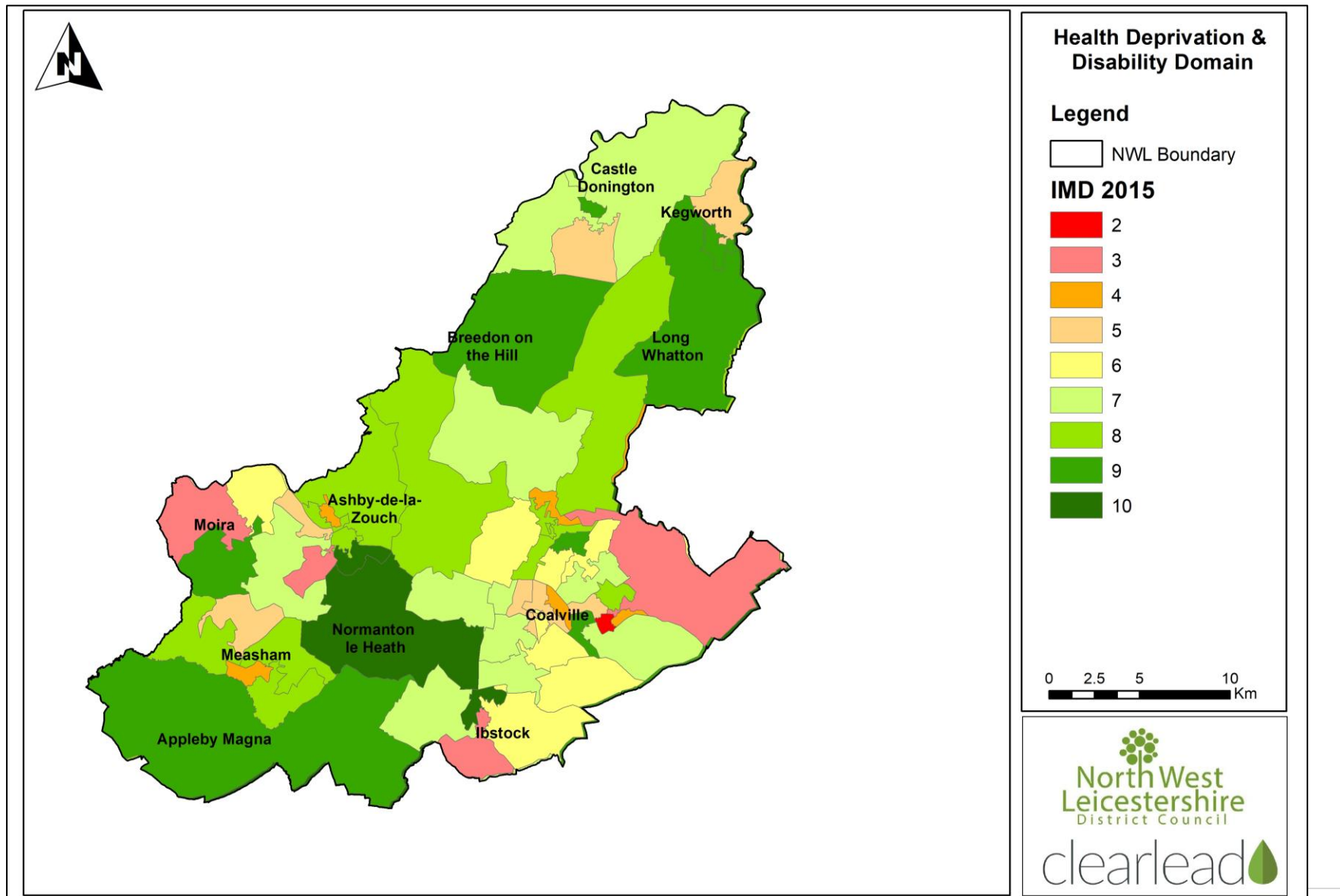


Areas within the Greenhill ward are amongst the top 20% of most deprived neighbourhoods in England, and areas within Ibstock and Heather, Moira and Ashby Willesley are amongst the top 30% most deprived neighbourhoods with regards to health deprivation and disability. However, the wards of Ravenstone and Packington, Moira, Ibstock and Heather and Ashby Castle have areas which are among the top 10% of least deprived neighbourhoods in the county. Figure 2.7 shows areas of deprivation broken down by wards, where 1 is the most deprived and 10 is the least deprived.

Much of the population of NWL live in rural or semi-rural areas, which could be contributing further to health and disability deprivation, as access to health service provision is low in some areas of the District. With an ageing population, additional needs will need to be met including access to services to support the rural economy.

¹⁹ Department of Local Communities & Local Government, English Indices of Deprivation 2015, Technical Report

Figure 2.7: Health & Disability Deprivation



According to the World Health Organisation²⁰, physical inactivity is the 4th leading risk factor for global mortality and is directly responsible for 6% of deaths (about 3.2 million) globally. By achieving a minimum level of 150 minutes of physical activity a week, an adult could potentially experience a 19% reduction in mortality risk²¹.

66.4% of adults (18+) in NWL are considered to be either overweight or obese. This number is above both the national average of 61.3% and regional average of 63.3%¹⁶. The National Active People Survey²² carried out in 2016, identified that in NWL only 34.7% of the population took part in 1 session a week (at least 1 activity at moderate intensity for at least 30 minutes). Whilst 54% of people living in District took part in physical activity.

In light of these statistics, the Council put together a Physical Activity Team and created a Physical Activity Commissioning Plan, aimed at developing a range of new activities and programmes each year to help residents lead a healthier lifestyle. As a result of this, the 2016/17 Activity Commissioning Plan²³ registered over 95,000 attendances to physical activity sessions throughout the district.

An Open Space audit was carried out for the District in 2007²⁴. This identified that there is shortfall in provision of recreation grounds and open space, but an over provision of children's play areas in Coalville and a slight under provision in Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The study identified an over-provision in respect of recreation grounds in Ibstock and Kegworth, but under-provision in respect of children's play areas and local open space. There was slight deficit in respect of both recreation grounds and local open space, but over-provision in respect of children's play areas in Measham.

Long Term Health & Disability

Table 2.9 shows the long term health and disability of residents in the District. 81.3% of the District's residents consider themselves to be in either good or very good health, with 82.3% of the population not regarding their day-to-day activities as limited. 5% of the population describe their health as bad or very bad and 8% of the population's day-to-day activities being limited a lot, which is lower than the national average of 8.3%.

²⁰ WHO, Global Health Risks, Mortality and Burden of Disease Attributable to Selected Major Risks, 2009

²¹ Hertfordshire Physical Activity And Sport Framework (2015)

²² Sport England, National Active People Survey (2016)

²³ North West Leicestershire Commissioning Plan,

<https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/north-west-leicestershire-physical-activity-commissioning-plan> Accessed on: 20/07/2018

²⁴ North West Leicestershire, Open Space Audit, 2007

Table 2.9: Long Term Health & Disability ²⁵						
General Health	Very good or good health		Fair health		Bad or very bad health	
	75,375	(81.3%)	12,695	(13.7%)	4,627	(5.0%)
Long-term health problem or disability	Day-to-day activities not limited		Day-to-day activities limited a little		Day-to-day activities limited a lot	
	76,318	(82.3%)	8,997	(9.7%)	7,382	(8.0%)

Air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts and is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society: children and older people, and those with heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues, because areas with poor air quality are also often in more deprived areas²⁶. According to the North West Leicestershire Air Quality Annual Status Report (2018)²⁷, the District has the highest fraction of attributable deaths to particulate air pollution in Leicestershire.

The District currently runs a Disability Action Group for disabled residents, carers, and organisations providing services for disabled people. The group meet quarterly and have implemented a number of successful initiatives, including:

- Raising awareness of disability equality;
- Carrying out access audits of council run services such as leisure centres;
- Acting as a consultative group on major planning applications;
- Recognising and celebrating The International Day of Disabled person; and
- Lobbying the County Council to improve public transport in some areas of the District.

²⁵ ONS, Census 2011 Subnational Long Term Health & Disability

²⁶ Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006

²⁷ North West Leicestershire Air Quality Annual Status Report, 2018

Crime

Figure 2.8 shows the types of crimes committed in NWL between June 2017 and May 2018. The most common type of crime committed was violent crime, with 1,744 cases reported during this period, making up over a quarter of the total number of reported crimes. The second most reported crime at 19% was anti social behaviour. There are a low number of robberies, drug, bike theft, theft from a person and possession of a weapon-related crimes reported in the District.

Figure 2.8: Types of Crime in NWL²⁸

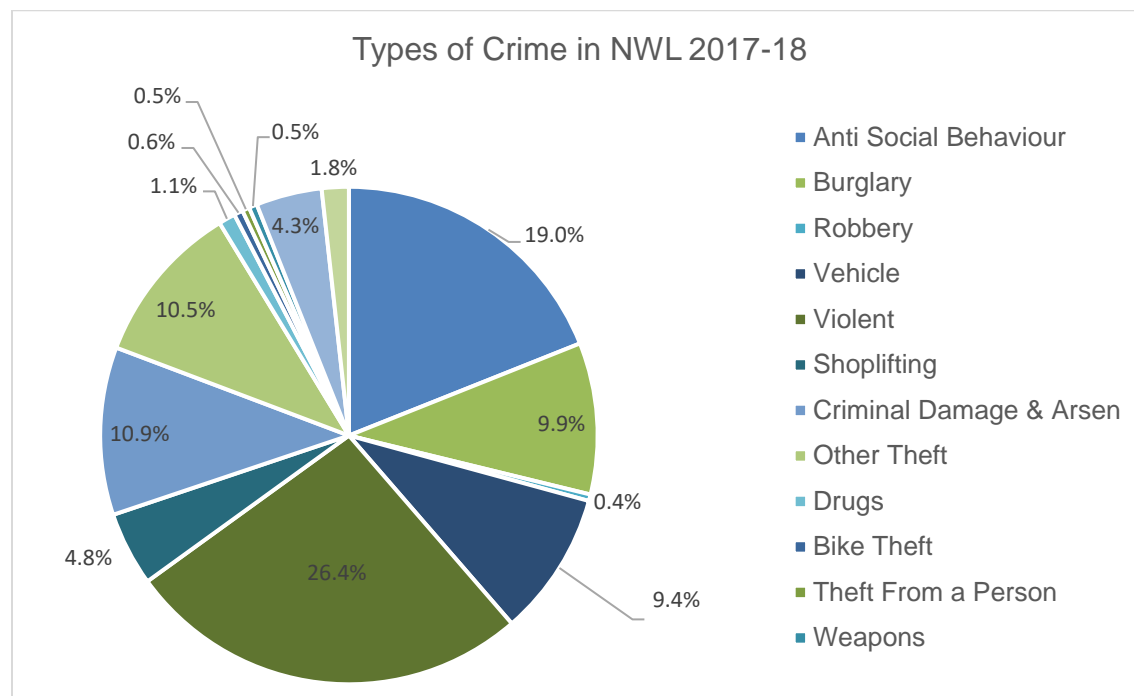


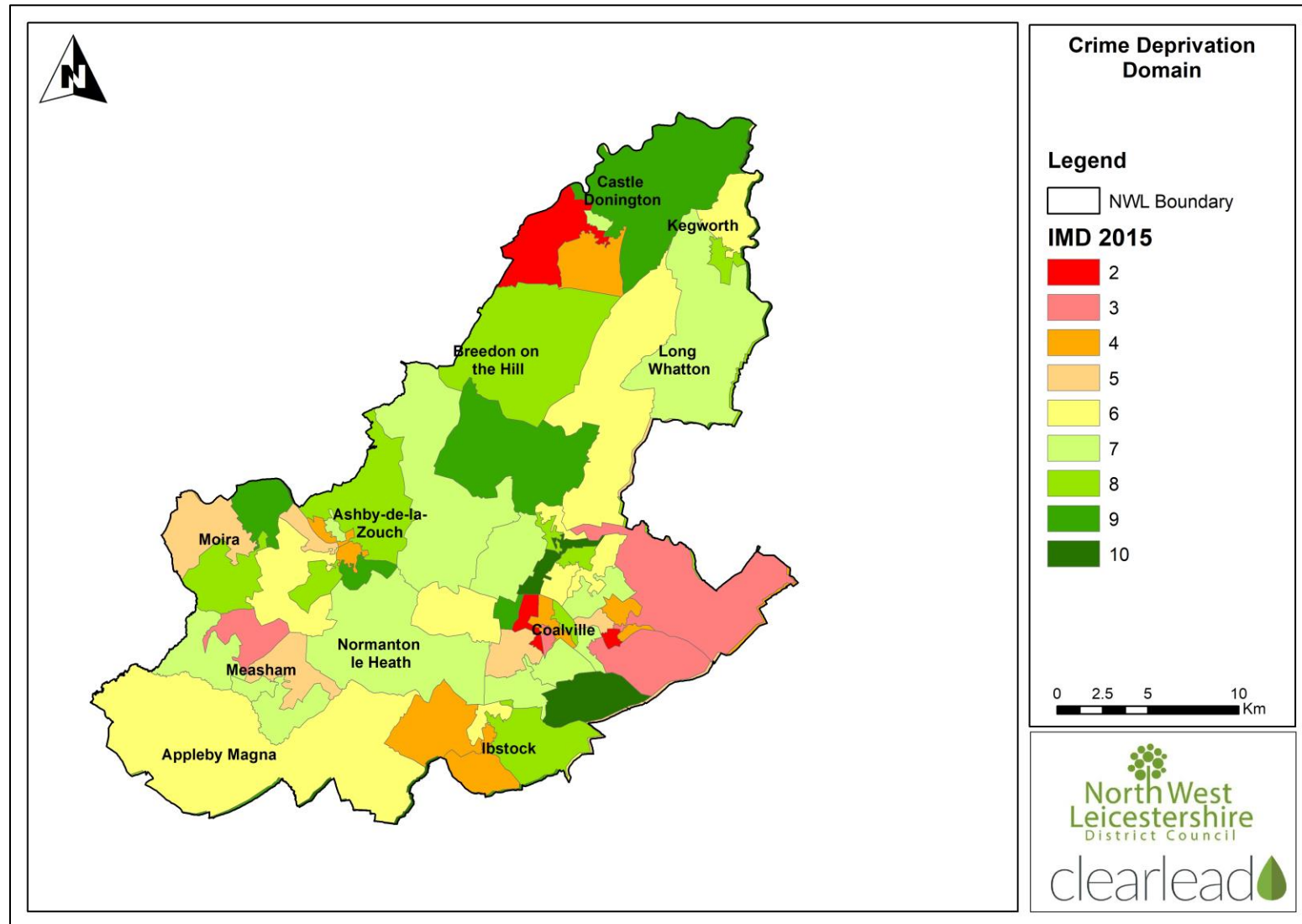
Table 2.10 shows the changes in types of crime in NWL for the month of May for each year since 2013. This shows that the total number of crimes is up by 34% over this period. The biggest increase in crimes is within the 'other' category (+650%), with the second biggest increase in public order (+290%). There is also a significant increase in violent crimes, with an increase of 178%. However, there have been decreases in anti-social behaviour, bike theft and theft from a person.

²⁸ UK Crime Statistics, 2018

Table 2.10: Changes in Types of Crime²⁸							
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change
Anti -Social Behaviour	162	159	117	142	171	138	-15%
Burglary	42	42	33	27	89	61	+45%
Robbery	3	2	1	3	0	3	0%
Vehicle	46	46	50	52	84	72	+57%
Violent	67	86	37	94	148	186	+178%
Shoplifting	33	19	24	45	34	37	+12%
Criminal damage and Arson	58	49	41	58	86	70	+21%
Other Theft	62	68	43	63	60	62	0%
Drugs	13	12	2	7	4	14	+8%
Bike Theft	6	11	2	3	2	3	-50%
Theft from a person	24	3	4	2	1	8	-67%
Weapons	2	2	4	2	3	3	+50%
Public Order	10	10	9	20	21	39	+290%
Other	2	3	0	7	12	15	+650%
Total	530	215	367	525	715	711	+34%

The English Indices of Deprivation 2015 highlights that there are some disparities between wards in NWL with regards to the crime domain. The crime domain measures the risk of personal and material victimisation at the local level. Areas around Castle Donington, Coalville and Greenhill being among the top 20% of most deprived neighbourhoods in England with regards to crime. Figure 2.9 shows crime deprivation at a ward level in NWL, where 1 is the most deprived and 10 is the least deprived.

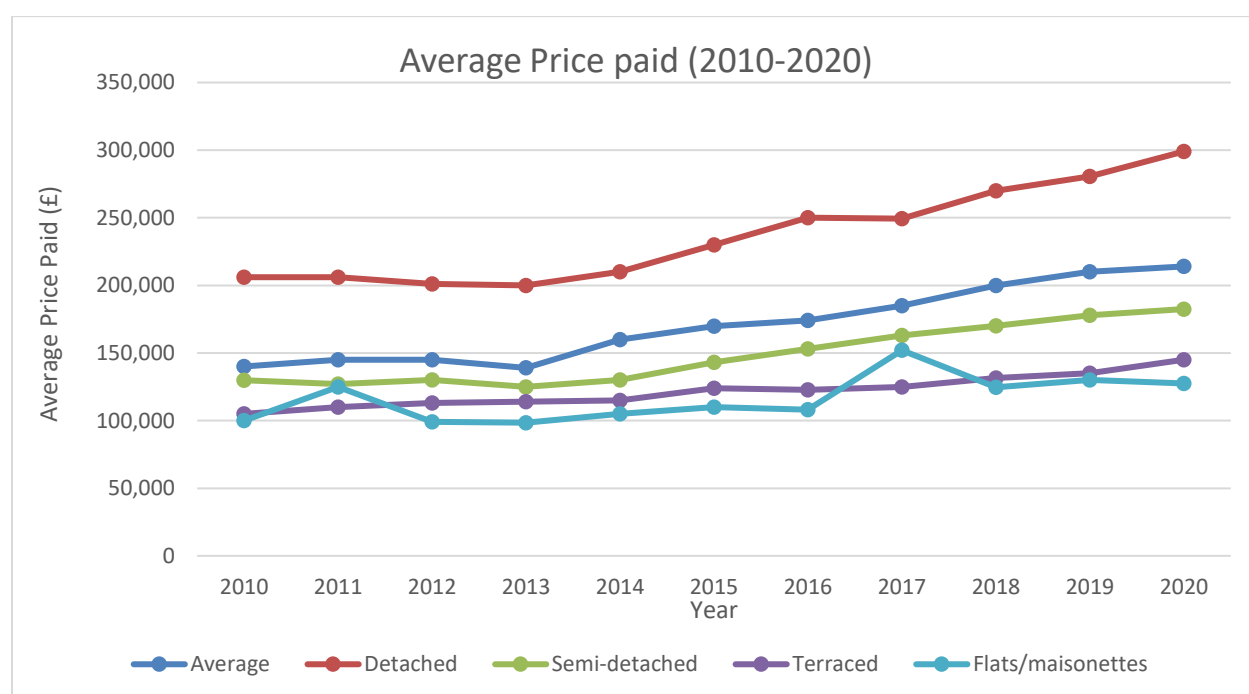
Figure 2.9: Crime Deprivation



3 Housing

House prices have continued to rise in the District, with the current average price paid standing at £214,000²⁹ (as of March 2020). However this remains below the England average of £245,000 and the Leicestershire average of £224,000³⁰. Since 2010, the average house price paid in the District has risen by 25%; an average rise of £74,000. Figure 3.1 below shows the average price paid for each type of housing in the District. As expected the average price paid for a detached house in the district exceeds that of the average house price, but despite this detached housing has seen the largest area of growth since 2010, rising by 45% (£93,000).

Figure 3.1: Average House Price Paid (2010 -2020)²⁹



²⁹ ONS Median House Prices for Administrative Geographies: HPSSA dataset 9 accessed on 12/11/2020

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/medianhousepriceforationalandsubnationalsectoralgeographiesquarterlyrollingyearhpssadataset09>

³⁰ ONS Median House Prices for Administrative Geographies: HPSSA dataset 9 accessed on 12/11/2020

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/datasets/medianhousepriceforationalandsubnationalsectoralgeographiesquarterlyrollingyearhpssadataset09>

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment³¹ (2014) (paragraph 2.42) identified variation in the average value of existing homes in the HMA, based on Council Tax bands. This identified:

- Prices £125,000-£150,000 in Coalville, Ibstock and smaller villages around NWL;
- Prices £150,00 - £200,000 in Kegworth and Castle Donington;
- Prices £200,000-£225,000 in Ashby-de-la-Zouch; and
- No areas in NWL are in the top band of over £225,000.

There is a clear price distinction between homes in rural and urban locations in the region. For example, in 2015 the average house price in East Midlands Towns was £235,000, Villages £275,000 and Hamlets £273,000³². This is likely to have a considerable impact on the rural economy in the sub-region, as households earning modest wages will be very unlikely to be able to access housing locally unless affordable properties are available.

Research undertaken for the SHMA and reported in the SHMA 2014 indicates that:

- A high proportion of Coalville is terraced housing, with a shortage of three-bedroom homes;
- In Castle Donington there is a shortage of homes on the market, the village high street is enjoying a renaissance due to growth of the village and interest from tourists, most resale housing is over £250k; and
- In Ashby-de-la-Zouch many homes are being bought by investors as there is shortage of rental in the area. There is a considerable unmet demand for 4 bedroom homes. Homes here often sell to people who are willing to commute out of the District for work.

The SHMA 2014 identified that the district council owns 4,480 dwellings and registered providers own 2,059 rented and shared ownership, most of which is family housing, although they are looking to provide additional smaller units. In particular, there is a need for homes for young single people, accommodation for vulnerable people of all ages and bungalows for older people.

Figures in the SHMA 2014 from the 2001 and 2011 Census show that overcrowding (based on Census room standards) has increased by 17% in the District in the 10 years between 2001 and 2011. However, the increase for England & Wales and East Midlands was much higher, 32% and 36% respectively. In the 2011 Census there were 1,140 households living in overcrowded accommodation in NWL.

³¹ Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment Leicester and Leicestershire Local Planning Authorities , June 2014, prepared by GL Hearn

³² ONS House Price Statistics for Small Areas (HPSSAs) - Supplementary Data for Rural-Urban House Prices and Sales

The Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment³³ (2012) Housing chapter contains profiles for each local authority housing market area. For NWL these are:

- Different settlements in North West Leicestershire have very different overall characteristics, with a fairly distinctive division of wealth – Ashby-de-la-Zouch attracts wealthier households while Coalville houses more blue collar households. The majority of the district is rural;
- All settlements in North West Leicestershire are popular among families, and Ashby-de-la-Zouch in particular is popular among 'wealthy executives'. There is also a large elderly population across the district;
- The majority of households in North West Leicestershire are White British (95%), one of the highest in Leicestershire. There is no dominant ethnic minority group;
- Though semi-detached and detached housing are the most common property types overall in the district, there is a concentration of terraced housing in Coalville as well as a significant number of flats predominantly provided as affordable housing. There is considerable need for bungalows within the district;
- From a low base level the amount of privately rented accommodation is increasing, though this is more likely to be as a consequence of a suppressed housing market than any long term commitment to the sector on the part of property owners; and
- Though two bedroom apartments were similarly priced with two bed houses during the mid-2000's there is more evidence to show that they have the lowest property values across the district at present. It should also be noted that the price of apartments is far less stable than other property types.

There is a very large discrepancy (around £70,000) between the entry level for three and four bed houses. Prices are lower around the more urban areas, particularly Coalville and Ibstock. Current average house prices range from £94,000 in parts of Coalville to £352,000 in the villages in the rural south of the district. There is also a low average in Castle Donington which appears to have less of an influence on the price of properties in the nearby rural area.

The Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA) (2017)³⁴ for Leicester & Leicestershire Authorities identified the housing needs in the county which are reproduced in Table 3.1. The total housing need in NWL for the period between 2011 – 36 is 8,960, equating to a need of 448 houses per annum. Due to the strong economic growth in the District, NWL is one of two districts in the county that has an identified housing need to support economic growth. The HEDNA projected that 32 houses per year will be needed to support the economic growth in NWL.

³³ NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland Public Health (March 2012) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

³⁴ Housing & Economic Development Needs Assessment Main Report, Leicester & Leicestershire Authorities and the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership, January 2017

Table 3.1: Total Housing Need in Leicestershire (2011 – 2036)³⁴					
	Demographic Need (10 Year Migration Trends)	Affordability Adjustment	Supporting Economic Growth	Objectively Assessed Need (per annum)	Total Projected Housing Delivery by 2036
Leicester	1516	152	-	1668	33360
Blaby	301	60	-	361	7220
Charnwood	947	47	-	994	19880
Harborough	447	67	-	514	10280
Hinckley & Bosworth	413	41	-	454	9080
Melton	134	20	16	170	3400
NW Leicestershire	378	38	32	448	8960
Oadby & Wigston	129	26	-	155	3100

Table 3.2 shows the percentage mix of housing needs. Of the 8960 new homes needed, 3980³⁵ of these will need to be affordable, with the highest percentage of these (35-40%) required to be two bedroomed properties. This differs from the market housing trend, where the greatest need is for three bedroomed properties. The lowest demand in affordable housing is for four or more bedroomed properties, whereas the lowest demand in market housing is for one bed properties.

Table 3.2: Percentage Mix of Housing Needs³⁵				
	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4+ Bedroom
Market Housing	0-10%	30-40%	45-55%	10-20%
Affordable Housing	30-35%	35-40%	25-30%	5-10%

The population in the District is set to continue to increase, with one of the largest increases in the over 75s; between 2011 – 2036 it is projected that the population of over 75s will increase by 7,833. Leicestershire County Council's Accommodation Strategy for Older People 2016-26³⁶ highlighted the need for additional extra care housing provision, particularly for wheelchair adapted homes. Table 3.3 shows the need for specialist housing to support older people,

³⁵ North West Leicestershire Local Plan Examination Housing Land Requirements, Implications For Local Plan Arising From the Publication of the HEDNA

³⁶ Leicestershire County Council's Accommodation Strategy for Older People 2016-26

identifying a need of 53 new homes per annum and a total of 1,325 homes over the 25 year period up to 2036.

Table 3.3: Projected Need for Specialist Housing for Older People, 2011-36³⁵		
Local Authority District	Change in Population aged 75+	Per Annum Need (2011 -2036)
Leicester	13,867	94
Blaby	7,318	50
Charnwood	12,972	88
Harborough	9,301	63
Hinckley & Bosworth	9,563	65
Melton	4,672	32
North West Leicestershire	7,833	53
Oadby & Wigston	3,990	27

The average private sector rent in NWLD is £576, which is well below the county average of £752³⁷. The Valuation Office Agency determines Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates used to calculate housing benefit for tenants renting from private landlords. These rates are based on private market rents being paid by tenants in the broad rental market area. This is the area within which a person might reasonably be expected to live.

Table 3.4 shows the monthly Local Housing Allowance rates from April 2018 compared with the average private monthly rental values. This highlights the shortfall between average rents and the maximum level of Local Housing Allowance per property type, which could mean that residents who are benefit dependent could face difficulty in accessing accommodation in the private rental sector. The greatest difference is in three bed properties, with a shortfall of -£198.52.

³⁷ Zoopla, Area Guide for North West Leicestershire, Current asking rents in North West Leicestershire, July 2018
 Accessed on 04/07/18 <https://www.zoopla.co.uk/market/north-west-leicestershire/?q=North%20West%20Leicestershire>

Table 3.4: Average Rents & Housing Allowance				
	NWLDC Monthly Allowance³⁸	Average Monthly Rent in NWLDC³⁷	Shortfall	National Allowance³⁹
1 Bedroom	£336.84	£417.00	-£80.16	£1,042.56
2 Bedroom	£421.92	£574.00	-£152.08	£1,209.32
3 Bedroom	£490.48	£689.00	-£198.52	£1,417.84
4 Bedroom	£641.20	£817.00	-£175.80	£1,668.08

Table 3.5 shows those households accepted as homeless between 2011 – 2018. This count refers to the annual number of households that the local authority has agreed it has a duty to house under the 1996 Housing Act. There is a general downward trend in the number of homeless households in the NWL District since 2011/12, but numbers have fluctuated over this time. 2013/14 saw the highest number of households declared at 46. When compared with Figure 6.2, which shows the number of people on the housing waiting list, the trend is replicated, with 2013 seeing the highest number on the waiting list at 1,059. The lowest number of households declared was in 2016/17 with just 10.

Table 3.5: Homeless Households⁴⁰	
Year	Number of households accepted as homeless
2011/12	39
2013/14	46
2014/15	30
2015/16	34
2016/17	10
2017/18	32

Each local housing authority is required to consider housing needs within its area, including the needs of homeless households, to whom local authorities have a statutory duty to provide assistance. A 'main homelessness duty' is owed where the authority is satisfied that the applicant

³⁸ North West Leicestershire District Council, Local Housing Allowance, April 2018 Accessed on 04/07/18 https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/current_lha_rates

³⁹ Valuation Office Agency, Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates applicable from April 2017 - March 2018

⁴⁰ House of Commons Library, Local Authority Homelessness Statistics (England), 2018



is eligible for assistance, unintentionally homeless and falls within a specified priority need group⁴¹.

NWL District Council maintains a register of home seekers who wish to be accommodated by the Council and/or Registered Providers operating in the District. Properties that become available to let will normally only be allocated to home seekers on the housing register and preference may be given to those with a local connection to the District. The Council operate 5 bands of priority⁴²:

- Band 1 – Potential Housing Need
- Band 2 – Low Housing Need
- Band 3 – Medium Housing Need
- Band 4 – High Housing Need
- Band 5 – Priority Housing Need

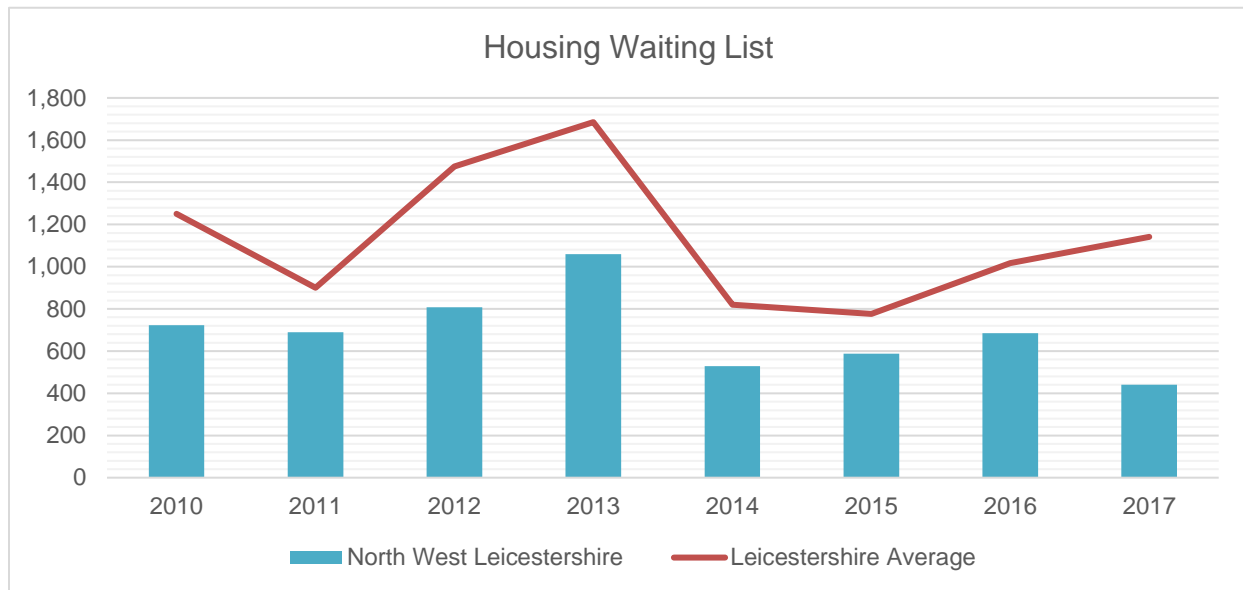
Depending on the circumstances and individual needs, homeless households are considered to be between bands 3 and 5. The District has a limited supply of suitable housing, with more people qualify for housing than can be re-housed each year.

Figure 3.2 shows those on the housing waiting list, compared with the average for Leicestershire. The figure shows that the NWL trend is closely related to the county average, both peaking in 2013 and again in 2016. However, unlike the county average, NWL has continued to decrease in numbers on the waiting list, with 2017 seeing the fewest applicants at 440.

⁴¹ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Homelessness Data: Notes & Definitions

⁴² North West Leicestershire District Council Allocations & Lettings Policy, 2018

Figure 3.2: Households on the Local Authority Housing Waiting List⁴³



In terms of housing affordability, statistics⁴⁴ show in 2018 that full-time workers in Leicestershire could expect to pay an estimated 7.9 times their annual workplace -based earnings on purchasing a home in Leicestershire. This has increased from an estimated 6.4 times their annual work-place based earnings ten years previously in 2008. The data shows that housing affordability in Leicestershire has worsened compared with England as a whole.

⁴³ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Open Data, Households on Housing Waiting Lists, 2017, Accessed on: 05/07/2018 <http://opendatacommunities.org/data/homelessness/housing-waiting/households>

⁴⁴ Office for National Statistics House Price to Work-placed earnings ratio 2018

4 Employment & Economy

North West Leicestershire has a diverse and prosperous economy, based in the heart of the National Forest with strong road, rail freight, air and digital infrastructure⁴⁵. The 2019 Growth Plan for North West Leicestershire sets out a long-term strategy for the growth of the local economy and is influenced by the Government's Industrial Strategy and the emerging Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). The Strategy makes clear that since the 2014 growth plan was published there has been significant investment in the district and in its market towns.

In recent years, the NWL District has experienced the strongest employment growth relative to its size in Leicestershire. Between 1991 and 2015 an additional 20,500 jobs have been created⁵⁴. The key drivers of this employment growth have been the professional, scientific and technical, wholesale, retail, administrative and transportation and storage sectors. The district will continue to have a significant role to play in delivering Leicestershire's planned growth.

Further growth is also expected in NWL linked to the East Midlands Gateway (the Strategic Rail Freight Interchange) which will provide a freight terminal large enough to accommodate 775m-long trains, provide up to 557,414 sq m of warehouses as well as supplying 7,000 new jobs⁴⁶. Similarly the continued growth of East Midlands Airport will create new employment at the airport⁴⁷.

According to the Office for National Statistics⁴⁸ the economic activity rate in NWL is 76.6%, which is less than the regional average of 79.7% and the national average of 78.9%. 83% of men are employed which is similar to the regional average of 84.1% and the national average of 83.5%. 23.4% of the population are economically inactive compared to 20.3% regionally and 21.1% nationally. Of those who are economically inactive, 79.2% of them do not wish to be employed, which suggests that limited capacity exists to expand local labour supply.

⁴⁵ NWLDC (2019) North West Leicestershire Economic Growth Plan 2019-2021

⁴⁶ Roxhill, East Midlands Gateway SRFI, <http://www.roxhill.co.uk/portfolio/kegworth/> Accessed on: 05/07/2018

⁴⁷ NWLDC (2019) North West Leicestershire Economic Growth Plan 2019-2021

⁴⁸ Nomis, Labour Market Profile, North West Leicestershire

Table 4.1: Employment and unemployment, 2018-2019 (Aged 16+ *) ⁴⁹				
	North West Leicestershire	North West Leicestershire	East Midlands	Great Britain
	(Numbers)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Economically Active	51,700	76.6	79.7	78.9
In Employment	47,500	70.1	76.0	75.6
Employees	39,500	58.9	66.7	64.6
Self Employed	8,100	11.2	9.1	10.7
Unemployed	2,300	4.6	4.6	4.1

* Numbers are for those aged 16 and over, % are for those aged 16-64

⁴⁹ Nomis, Labour Market Profile, North West Leicestershire (July 2018-June 2019)
<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157146/report.aspx#tabempunemp>
 Accessed on 09/12/2019

Figure 4.1: Employment Deprivation

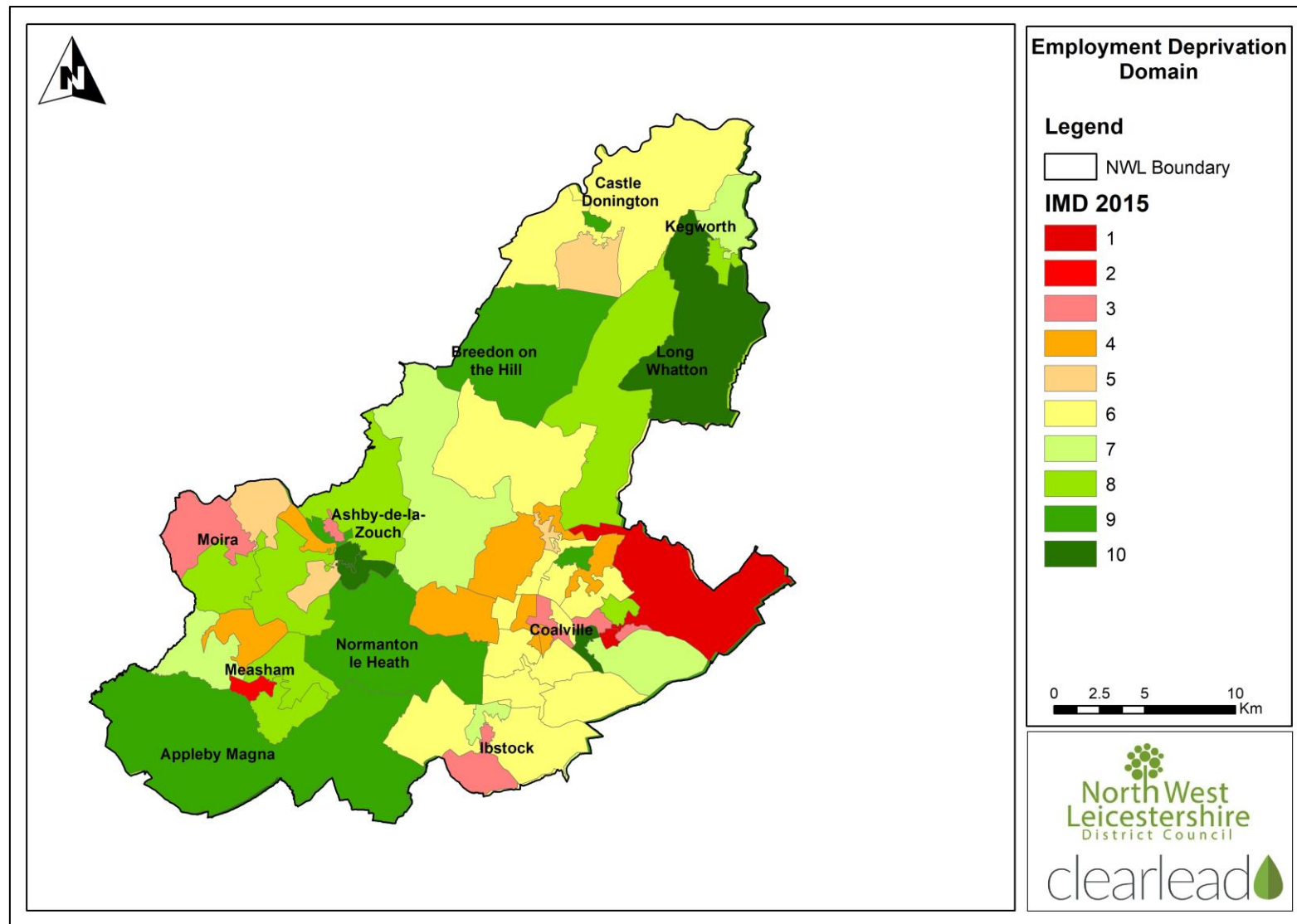


Figure 4.1 shows the levels of deprivation in the District with regards to employment, where 1 is the most deprived and 10 is the least deprived. The Employment Deprivation Domain measures the proportion of the working-age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market. This includes people who would like to work but are unable to do so due to unemployment, sickness or disability, or caring responsibilities¹². The indicators include:

- Claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance (both contribution-based and income based), women aged 18 to 59 and men aged 18 to 64;
- Claimants of Employment and Support Allowance (both contribution-based and income-based), women aged 18 to 59 and men aged 18 to 64;
- Claimants of Incapacity Benefit, women aged 18 to 59 and men aged 18 to 64;
- Claimants of Severe Disablement Allowance, women aged 18 to 59 and men aged 18 to 64; and
- Claimants of Carer's Allowance, women aged 18 to 59 and men aged 18 to 64.

LSOAs 009C and 009A within the ward of Greenhill (Coalville) are considered to be among the top 10% of deprived LSOAs in England and LSOA 012D in Measham is ranked amongst the top 20% of least deprived LSOAs in England with regards to employment. Conversely, LSOAs in Kegworth and Whatton, Whitwick and Ashby Castle (Ashby de -la-Zouch) are amongst the top 10% of least deprived LSOAs in England with regards to the employment domain.

Employment levels have continued to rise year on year since 2012. Between 2012 and 2013, employment levels were below the regional and national averages, but since 2015 they have remained well above the both the regional and national averages. Despite this, employment rates fell slightly in 2016, from 84.5% to 80.6%, but this rose again in 2017, to a high of 86.7%. Figure 7.2 shows the changes in employment rates.

NWL is situated in a highly accessible position in the midlands, with excellent road links, a growing international airport and Strategic Rail Freight Interchange and it is a highly competitive location for growth opportunities to capture local and regional demand. Due to the location, the area has proved attractive to investors, and this has been linked to the high levels of employment growth in the area.

Figure 4.2: Employment rates (2012 – 2017)⁴⁹

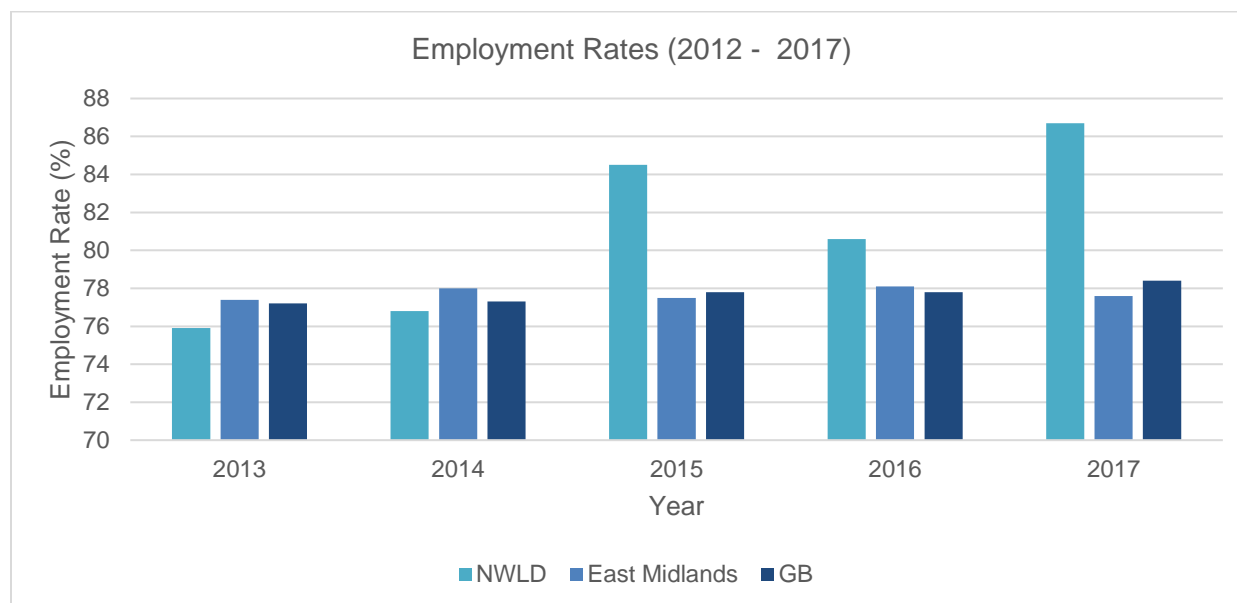


Table 4.2 below shows the type of employment in the District by occupation. The largest number of the working population in NWL are employed within the managers, directors and senior officials; associate professional and technical roles or professional occupations which, when combined, represents 45% of the working population. This is higher than the regional average but lower than the national average. The biggest employment sector (individually) is the skilled trade occupations, which employs 9,400. The percentage of those employed within skilled trade occupations exceeds the regional and national averages at 19.9%%.

Table 4.2: Employment by Occupation (Jul 2018 – Jun 2019)⁴⁹				
	North West Leicestershire	North West Leicestershire	East Midlands	Great Britain
	(Numbers)	(%)	(%)	(%)
1 Managers, Directors And Senior Officials	8,000	17.0	10.9	11.3
2 Professional Occupations	6,400	13.7	18.3	21.2
3 Associate Professional & Technical	7,000	14.9	13.1	14.8
4 Administrative & Secretarial	4,300	9.1	9.9	9.7
5 Skilled Trades Occupations	9,400	19.9	11.7	10.0
6 Caring, Leisure And Other Service Occupations	5,300	11.2	9.5	9.0

Table 4.2: Employment by Occupation (Jul 2018 – Jun 2019)⁴⁹				
	North West Leicestershire	North West Leicestershire	East Midlands	Great Britain
	(Numbers)	(%)	(%)	(%)
7 Sales And Customer Service Occs	#	#	7.1	7.3
8 Process Plant & Machine Operatives	#	#	8.1	6.2
9 Elementary Occupations	#	#	11.3	10.2

#: Sample size is too small to provide reliable estimate

68% of NLW workforce is sourced from Leicester and Leicestershire local authorities⁵⁰. 63.1% of the district's residents work in NWL, with 8.2% in Charnwood, 5.7% in Leicester and 3.8% in Derby⁵¹. 60% Of those commuting outside of the District, are employed in either managerial or professional jobs.

Table 4.3 shows the qualification attainment within the District. The attainment of a NVQ4 qualification or above is 32.4%, which is lower than the both the East Midlands (33.2%) and the national averages (39.3%). 83.3% of the population have at least a NVQ1 or above. There are large disparities between wards, with Greenhill (Coalville) and Measham featuring in the top 10% of most deprived areas in England, with regards to education, skills and training. Conversely, wards such as Appleby, Valley and Ravenstone and Packington are some of the least deprived areas in England, with regards to education, skills and training.

Table 4.3: Qualifications (Jan 2018-Dec 2018)⁴⁹				
	North West Leicestershire	North West Leicestershire	East Midlands	Great Britain
	(Level)	(%)	(%)	(%)
NVQ4 And Above	20,300	32.4	33.2	39.36
NVQ3 And Above	34,700	55.5	54.0	57.8
NVQ2 And Above	47,700	76.1	72.0	74.9
NVQ1 And Above	52,200	83.3	84.1	85.4

⁵⁰ Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), 2014

⁵¹ District Profile for North West Leicestershire (2012)

Table 4.4 shows employment by industry of those living within the District. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, is the biggest employment sector of those living in the District, employing 9,000 people, making up 16.1% of the employment share. The second biggest sector is transportation and storage, employing 8,000 people and making up 14.3% of the employment share. When compared regionally and nationally this share far exceeds the average of 5.3% and 4.9% respectively. The smallest sector in the district is the water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities, employing just 175 people, although when compared regionally and nationally the sector is relatively small across the board.

Table 4.4: Employment by Industry (2017)⁴⁹				
	North West Leicestershire	North West Leicestershire	East Midlands	Great Britain
	(Employee Jobs)	(%)	(%)	(%)
B : Mining And Quarrying	1,750	3.1	0.2	0.2
C : Manufacturing	7,000	12.5	13.1	8.1
D : Electricity, Gas, Steam And Air Conditioning Supply	600	1.1	0.7	0.4
E : Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management And Remediation Activities	175	0.3	0.6	0.7
F : Construction	3,500	6.2	5	4.6
G : Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	9,000	16.1	17.1	15.3
H : Transportation And Storage	8,000	14.3	5.3	4.9
I : Accommodation And Food Service Activities	4,000	7.1	7.5	7.5
J : Information And Communication	1,250	2.2	2.2	4.2
K : Financial And Insurance Activities	600	1.1	1.5	3.6
L : Real Estate Activities	600	1.1	0.9	1.6
M : Professional, Scientific And Technical Activities	6,000	10.7	6.5	8.6
N : Administrative And Support Service Activities	5,000	8.9	9.5	9
O : Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	700	1.2	3.9	4.3
P : Education	3,000	5.4	8.7	8.9
Q : Human Health And Social Work Activities	2,500	4.5	13.1	13.3
R : Arts, Entertainment And Recreation	1,250	2.2	2.2	2.5

Table 4.4: Employment by Industry (2017)⁴⁹				
	North West Leicestershire	North West Leicestershire	East Midlands	Great Britain
	(Employee Jobs)	(%)	(%)	(%)
S : Other Service Activities	800	1.4	1.8	2.1

Table 4.5 presents the average earnings of both males and females in full time employment in the District. Overall weekly pay is £596.80, which is higher than the regional average of £547.40 and the national average of £587.00. The gross weekly pay of females in the District (£465.90) is lower than the regional average of £476.10 and the national average of £528.90. Gross weekly pay for males in NWL (£660.30) is higher than both the regional (£590.30) and national (£632.00) averages. The grossly hourly pay for males in the District (£15.95) is higher than the regional average of £14.23 and national average of £15.44. In contrast the gross weekly pay for females in the District (£12.22) is lower than both the regional £12.49 and national £13.99 averages.

Table 4.5: Earnings⁵²			
	NWL	East Midlands	GB
Grossly Weekly Pay			
Full-Time Males	£ 660.30	£ 590.30	£ 632.00
Full-Time Females	£ 465.90	£ 476.10	£ 528.90
All Full Time Employees	£ 596.80	£ 547.40	£ 587.00
Grossly Hourly Pay - Excluding Overtime			
Full-Time Males	£ 15.95	£ 14.23	£ 15.44
Full-Time Females	£ 12.22	£ 12.49	£ 13.99
All Full Time Employees	£ 14.66	£ 13.63	£ 14.88

⁵² Nomis ONS annual survey of hours and earnings – residents analysis 2019

Table 4.6: Gender Pay Gap (per week)⁴⁹			
	Men	Women	Gender Gap
NWL	£ 660.30	£ 465.90	-£ 194.40
East Midlands	£ 590.30	£ 476.10	-£ 114.20
GB	£ 632.00	£ 528.90	-£ 103.10

Table 4.6 shows the gender pay gap in the district. The difference in pay between males and females in the District is £194.40 per week. This is worse than both the regional average of £114.20 and the national average £103.10 per week.

The North West Leicestershire Economic Growth Plan⁵³ 2019-21 sets out the economic ambitions for North West Leicestershire as a thriving and ambitious district in the heart of the National Forest. It sets out how since the 2014 growth plan was published there has been significant investment in the district and in its market towns. Example investment are as follows:

- £23 million investment to build a new leisure centre in Coalville;
- A £500,000 series of grant programmes to support the creation and growth of SME businesses and retailers in North West Leicestershire to support the creation of new jobs;
- A £7 million initiative to increase capacity at the M1 junction and A42 junction; and
- The ongoing development of SEGRO Logistics Park at East Midlands Gateway.

The Leicester and Leicestershire, Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) 2014 - 2020⁵⁴, sets out the economic ambition and priorities for Leicester and Leicestershire. Leicester and Leicestershire have been allocated £111 million worth of funding from European Structural and Investment Funds⁵⁵. The allocations are as follows:

- Structural Funds allocation: £54m
- European Social Fund: £54m
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: £3.5m

This EU funding along with additional local funding has been earmarked for five major growth projects in Leicestershire:

- Leicester Launchpad
- East Midlands Gateway Strategic Rail Freight Interchange

⁵³ NWLDC (2019) North West Leicestershire Economic Growth Plan 2019-2021

⁵⁴ Leicester and Leicestershire, Strategic Economic Plan 2014 - 2020

⁵⁵ Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership, European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy 2014-2020



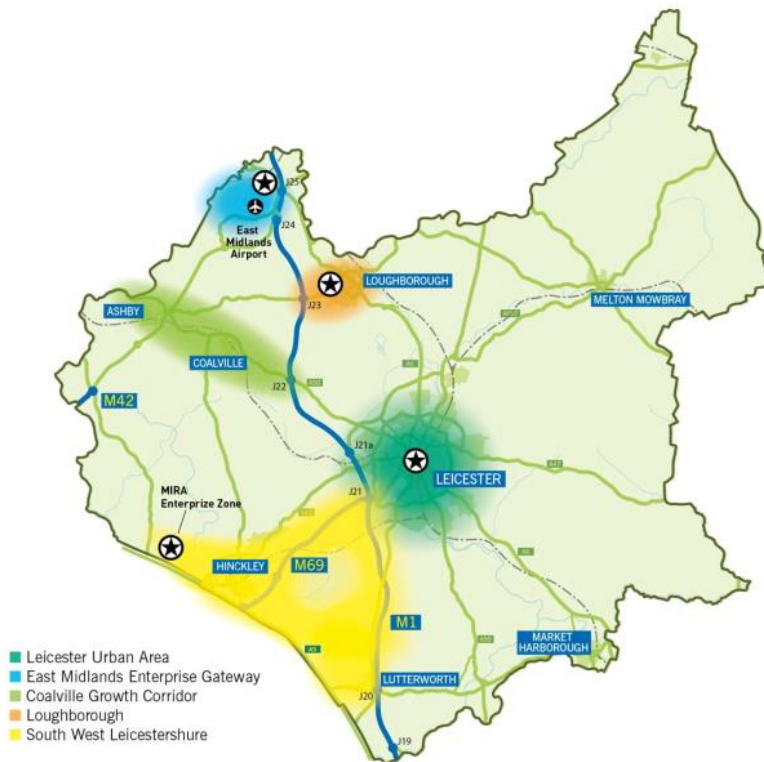
- Loughborough University Science & Enterprise Parks
- MIRA Technology Park (MTP) Enterprise Zone
- Coalville Growth Corridor

High levels of employment in the transportation and storage sector is influenced by East Midlands Airport which is the second largest cargo airport in the UK, with DHL, UPS and TNT all having major distribution facilities based around the airport. The East Midlands Gateway will provide a unique 250 acre distribution and logistics development alongside East Midlands Airport and the M1 with a rail terminal providing up to 557,414 sq m of large scale warehousing to establish the UK's largest multi modal hub creating over 7,000 new jobs⁵⁴.

There are also plans for development in the Coalville Growth Corridor, along the A511 between Ashby, Coalville and Bardon, which is a key route in the county linking east to west. It is considered that improvements along the A511 corridor could unlock significant housing and commercial developments, which will enable the construction of 5,275 houses and 25 hectares of employment developments that have been planned, but remain constrained by poor transport infrastructure. Figure 4.3 outlines the locations of the Coalville Growth Corridor and the East Midlands Gateway.

A number of other growth opportunities within the District include the Castle Donington Industrial Area, Bardon Hill, Stephenson and Hermitage Industrial Estates, the Amazon Distribution Centre and Ashby Business Park have been completed. These have resulted in growth in the wholesale, transportation and storage sectors with a lesser impact on the professional, scientific and technical and administrative and support sectors.

Figure 4.3: Key Growth Areas in Leicestershire



A Retail and Leisure Capacity Study⁵⁶ was completed in February 2019. The purpose of this study was to provide a robust and credible evidence base to inform the Council's work on the early review of the adopted Local Plan, as well as considering changes since previous evidence was prepared. The updated Local Plan following the substantive review will reflect the emerging employment, housing, retail and leisure needs up to 2039.

The study also made recommendations for the main centres in North West Leicestershire District and how identified growth could be accommodated. These recommendations are summarised as follows:

- The majority of new floorspace for convenience goods could be distributed in Coalville;
- In qualitative terms, food store retail provision is strong within the District with no areas of deficiency in food store provision being identified;

⁵⁶ Retail and Leisure Capacity Study: Final Report, Lichfields, February 2019

- Investment is needed in the District to retain the existing levels of comparison goods expenditure;
- Growth in expenditure should provide opportunities to enhance food and beverage provision within all centres;
- Residents in the District have limited access to most types of commercial leisure and entertainment facilities;
- One of the short term priorities for accommodating growth should be the reoccupation of vacant floorspace in the centres; and
- Ashby de la Zouch and Coalville have several development opportunities which offer potential to accommodate all of the projected growth up to 2036.

Table 4.7 shows the vacancy rates within the main settlements. This shows the highest level of vacancy (by a significant amount) is in Coalville with the rate in 2018 slightly higher than the previous peak in 2014. The vacancy rate in Ashby-de-la-Zouch has decreased slightly in the past 12 months, and is still the lowest percentage of any centre in the district over the same period by 3.1%. Ibstock is the only town where vacancy rates, these have risen from 0% vacancy to 10.87% between 2016-2018.

Town/Settlement	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Coalville	14.7%	15.7%	14.7%	10.1%	12.9%	17.2%
Ashby-de-la-Zouch	4.7%	3.7%	3.1%	0.5%	1.6%	1%
Castle Donington	3.6%	2.7%	0%		3.6%	7.1%
Ibstock	0.0%	1.8%		0%	2.7%	10.8%
Measham	5.9%	5.9%	8.8%		2.9%	2.9%

Figures from 2009 Leicestershire STEAM analysis show that NWL made £147.3 million in tourism revenue. Tourism in NWL is related to growth around the National Forest and the airport. Tourism venues in and around the District include: Ashby Castle, Breedon Priory Church, Calke Abbey, Donington Grand Prix Collection and Park, Donington Le Heath Manor House, and East Midlands Airport Aeropark.

The Ashby Canal runs through the District and has a current and future potential to benefit the tourism economy. The northern section of the canal has been restored from Moira to Donisthorpe and links Conkers, Moira Furnace and Donisthorpe Woodland Park in an area that is developing as a tourist destination.

Restoration is now focused on extending the current terminus of the canal from Snarestone northwards for a distance of 4.5 km to a new canal wharf at Measham. The power to acquire the necessary land and to construct and maintain the canal was provided in October 2005 when the

⁵⁷ North West Leicestershire Annual Monitoring Report 2017/18

Leicestershire County Council (Ashby-de-la-Zouch Extension) Order was approved under the powers of the Transport and Works Act 1992. The main objectives of the restoration are to:

- Advance and accelerate continuing economic regeneration of the area and contribute to rural diversification and social inclusion through opportunities for employment, leisure, recreation, learning and skills;
- Provide a green gateway to the National Forest and develop and link the recreational tourism facilities;
- Improve the environmental quality of the area;
- Provide a recreational, cultural and social resource for the local community; and
- Connect Measham, and ultimately Moira, to the national waterways network.

Tourism currently accounts for 7% of all employment in Leicestershire⁵⁸. The District has a number of notable attractions including Conkers Visitor Centre within the National Forest, Ashby Castle and Donington Race Circuit, which has been selected as the headquarters and testing centre for a new programme of international races involving electric vehicles. In 2016, Leicester and Leicestershire was ranked 34th out of 38 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas in England, for total number of overnight stays, with 285,9⁵⁹. The Leicestershire LEP has identified that there is clear potential for NWL to link into the County's wider tourism activities and develop mutually supportive packages with other attractions such as Calke Abbey and Twycross Zoo. Such packages could extend the length of time spent in the area and increase overall expenditure by visitors.

⁵⁸ Leicester & Leicestershire Economic Assessment Summary, 2010

⁵⁹ Visit England, Tourism Survey 2016, LEP Areas

5 Transport & Access

NWL benefits from excellent road transport links, strategically placed at the intersections of the M1 and A42 motorways, making it a leading location for the logistics and distribution industry. The A42/M42 provides a route to the South West, the M1 to the central North and the South East, whilst the A50 links the District with both Leicester and Burton Upon Trent.

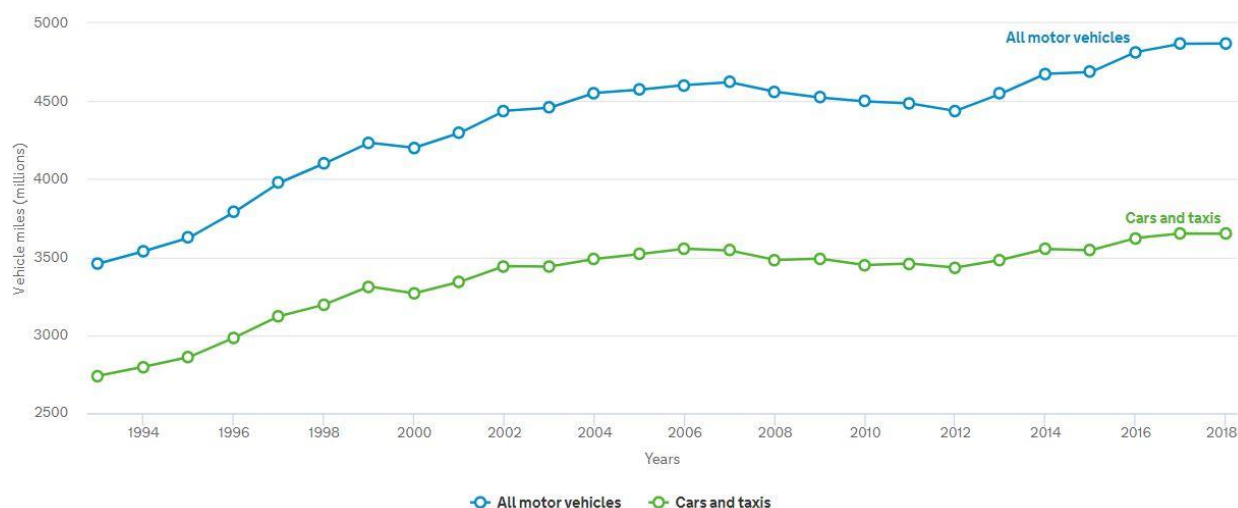
Despite a well-connected road network, the District currently has no passenger rail services. The Leicester & Burton rail freight line runs north-west from Leicester to Burton upon Trent and is used to transport aggregates from Bardon Hill Quarry. The new East Midlands Parkway Station lies just outside of the District, approximately 4km from Kegworth. This station provides regular services on the London to Nottingham mainline. However, there are currently no bus services to and from the station and very limited walking and cycling options, meaning either a car and taxi are the only real suitable modes of access.

Figure 5.1 shows the total amount of motor vehicles on major roads, in million miles, from 2011 to 2018 within Leicestershire. It shows that the total vehicle mileage is up from 4,485,700 in 2011 to 4,869,000 in 2018.

In 2016, 92% of all journeys to work in the District were made using a private car or van, whilst just 7% were made on foot⁶⁰. This far exceeds the national average of 78%. Details on other modes such as cycling and bus and coach travel could not be provided as sample sizes are too small to provide reliable estimates.

⁶⁰ ONS, Travel to work methods and the time it takes to commute from home to work, Labour Force Survey, 2007 to 2016

Figure 5.1: Annual traffic by vehicle type in Leicestershire, in million vehicle miles 2011 to 2018⁶¹



There are a number of bus routes that connect the main settlements of Coalville, Ibstock, Castle Donington and Ashby-de-la-Zouch, as well as larger centres such as Loughborough, Leicester, Nottingham and Burton upon Trent. However, these services become limited at evening and weekends. Kegworth is located in the north-east corner of the District, and despite being well-connected to Loughborough, Derby and Nottingham, with the exception of Castle Donington, it has no public transport links with any other settlements within the District.

East Midlands Airport is located in the north of the District and is one of the UK's major freight airports. The airport has seen significant growth in both passenger numbers and cargo freight since the mid-1990s and supports businesses within the sub-region, as well as a range of markets across much of England. The airport also provides a connection for international business travellers and tourists.

East Midlands Airport is well connected by road, via the M1, A42, A50 and A52. There is a 24-hour a day, 7 day a week bus network (Skylink) connecting the airport to Coalville, Shepshed and Kegworth as well larger centres such as Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Long and Loughborough.

Despite having good road connections there are no direct rail links with East Midlands Airport. East Midlands Parkway rail station is approximately 6 miles away. 71% of staff employed at the Airport commute via private car, 9.4% travel by bus, 1.6% cycle and 13.9% car share⁶². The East Midlands Airport Sustainable Development Plan (2015)⁶² seeks to encourage the increased use

⁶¹ Department for Transport, Traffic Counts Leicestershire <https://roadtraffic.dft.gov.uk/local-authorities/60> Accessed on: 13/06/2019

⁶² East Midlands Airport Sustainable Development Plan, 2015

of public transport journeys to the airport, for both passengers and staff and is looking to develop new bus services to Ilkeston, Coalville, Shepshed Ashby, Swadlincote and Burton.

In November 2016, the Secretary of State confirmed part of the Phase 2b route of the High Speed 2 (HS2). This route will go through the district as part of the Eastern leg connecting the East Midlands, South Yorkshire, Leeds and the North East. This will pass through the district on the route of the M42 then A42, passing between Measham and Ashby-de-la-Zouch. A new station the 'East Midlands Hub' would be provided in Toton, in the outskirts of Nottingham to the north east of the district. Figure 5.2 shows the route of the Phase 2B.

Figure 5.2: HS2 Phase 2B Route⁶³



The number 52 National Cycle Route runs north to south through the District. This is a 50 mile cycle route that starts in Warwick and finishes just west of Loughborough, where it joins National Route 6. Most of the route is on roads, but there are sections through Coalville, Thringstone and Ravenstone that benefit from being traffic-free. Other National Cycle Routes in the District include

⁶³ New Civil Engineer, HS2 routes for Phase 2 confirmed, Katherine Smale, 18th July 2017, <https://www.newcivilengineer.com/business-culture/hs2-routes-for-phase-2-confirmed/10021706.article> Accessed on: 20/07/2018



Route 63, running from Burton on Trent to Wisbech, Route 6 running from Watford to Cumbria and Route 15 linking Belton to Grantham.

NWL has commissioned cycling strategies for both Coalville and Ashby de la Zouch, in order to support the economic growth of the area and maximise the tourism, active travel and recreational cycling opportunities for residents and visitors to the District. It is thought that the national cycleways associated with the HS2 route through the district should connect to these local networks.⁶⁴

⁶⁴ North West Leicestershire Cycling Strategy Part 2: Ashby de la Zouch, 2016

6 Air, Noise & Light Pollution

Air Pollution

Air pollution in NWL is predominantly a result of emissions from road vehicles. Carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOX), volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and small particulate matter (PM¹⁰) are among the pollutants emitted from vehicle exhausts. These compounds can cause severe cardio-vascular and respiratory harm to people, especially in the long term, and also have adverse effects on the natural and built environment.

There are five Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in the NWL District all of which have been declared for their exceedance nitrogen dioxide (NO²). These are detailed in Table 6.1 below. Figures 6.1 and 6.2 show the locations of the AQMAs in the District.

Table 6.1: AQMA in the NWL District ⁶⁵		
AQMA Name	Description	Date declared
Castle Donington AQMA	An area encompassing the High Street and Bondgate area of Castle Donington. The northern extent of the AQMA has been amended to include the junction of Bondgate with The Spittal and the southern extent shall extend to the Moira Arms.	09/01/2008
Coalville AQMA	An area encompassing parts of Stephenson Way, Broom Leys Road and Bardon Road in Coalville.	09/01/2008
Copt Oak AQMA	An area encompassing 10 properties in the part of the village of Copt Oak that lies within the boundaries of the NWL District.	30/07/2009
Kegworth AQMA	Busy trunk road fronted by residential properties.	26/07/2004
M1 AQMA	Motorway with selected close properties.	26/07/2004

⁶⁵ Defra, Air Information Resource, AQMAs Declared by North West Leicestershire District Council

Figure 6.1: AQMAs in the North of the District

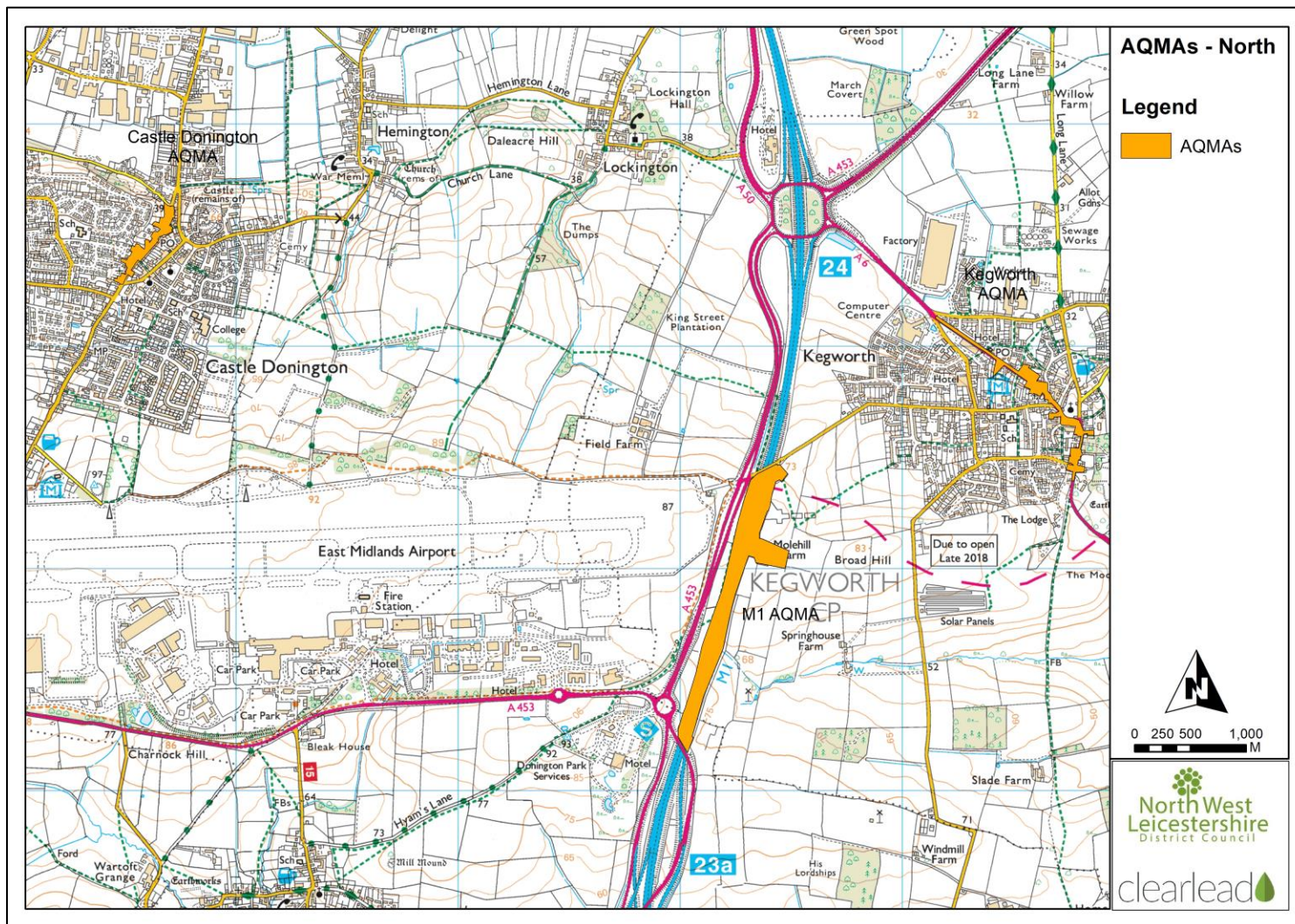
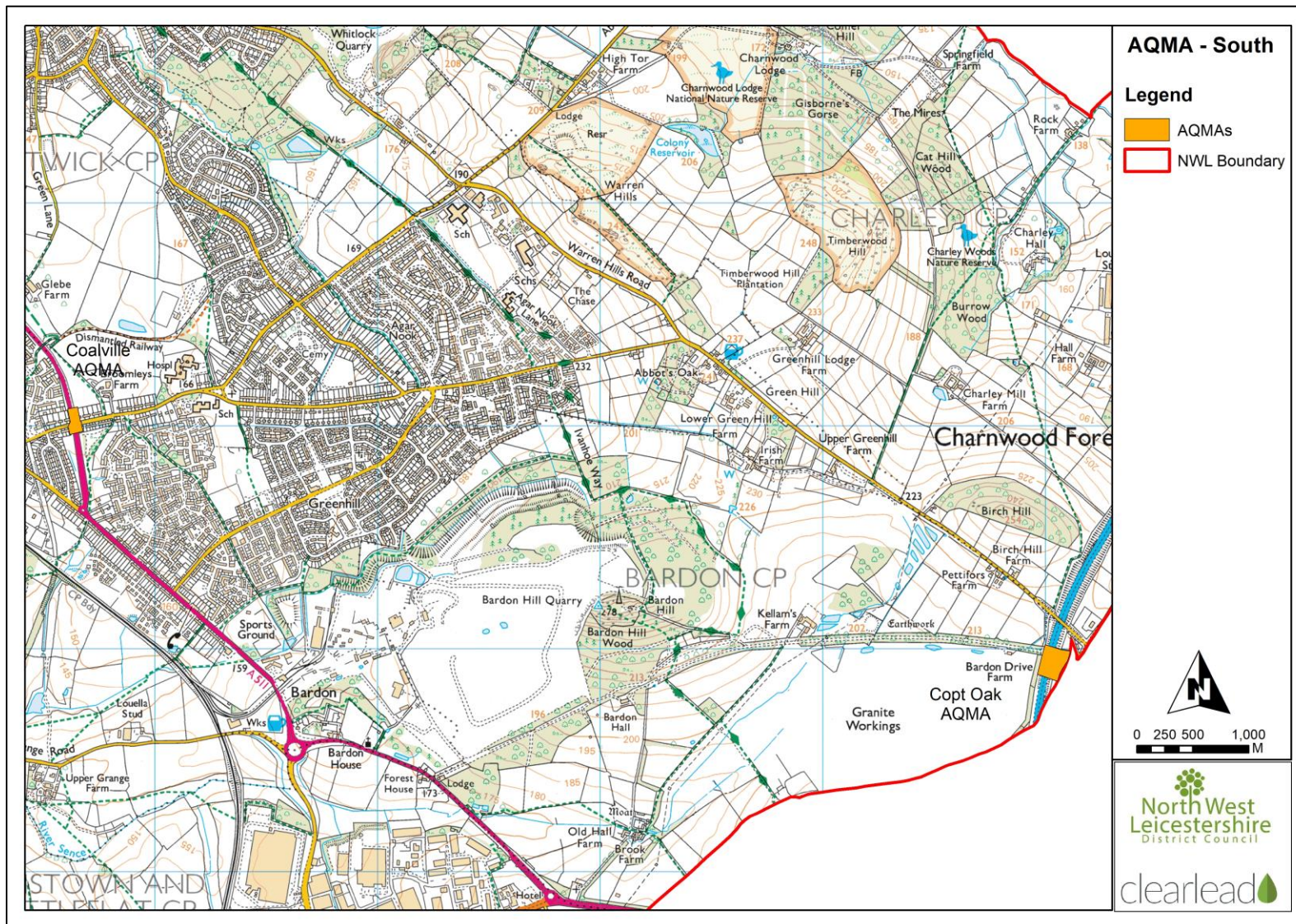


Figure 6.2: AQMAs in the South of the District





As part of the UK Air Quality Strategy (2000) and the EU First Daughter 50 Directive (99/30/EC) the annual limit values for both particulates and nitrogen dioxide is $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ⁶⁶. According to the North West Leicestershire Air Quality Annual Status Report (2018)⁶⁷, the District has the highest fraction of attributable deaths to particulate air pollution in Leicestershire with 6 deaths in 2018.

The Air Quality Annual Status Report concluded that of the five AQMAs, Copt Oak and Castle Donington both contain smaller sites that exceeded the nitrogen dioxide standard. The report also highlight that with regards to particulate matter (PM^{10}), the national annual mean air quality standard of $40\mu\text{g}.\text{m}^{-3}$, was not exceeded at either of these sites. The daily mean standard of $50\mu\text{g}.\text{m}^{-3}$, was exceeded 20 times, which is within the national limit of 35 times per year. However, this number continues to increase year on year.

Noise

Noise pollution is the result of high levels of noise or an unpleasant sound that causes temporary disruption. This can be applicable to sounds or noises that are unnatural in either their volume or their production.

⁶⁶ Defra, National Air Quality Objectives and European Directive Limit and Target Values for the Protection of Human Health, 2010

⁶⁷ North West Leicestershire Air Quality Annual Status Report, 2018

The principle noise sources in the District are road traffic, in particular the motorways and major trunk roads. East Midlands Airport is also a key source of noise complaints, especially with the increasing role as a freight hub requiring night flights. At current there is no limit on night flights but East Midlands Airport, have introduced new noise surcharge and a more stringent noise penalty scheme.

The airport has also put measures in place to monitor and manage aircraft noise, which includes monitoring systems to help monitor existing noise with the purpose of improving performance. This monitoring system tracks planes and enables production of community noise reports and enforcement of night noise fines. There are permanent noise monitors in place a Kegworth, Castle Donington, Sutton Bonington, Weston upon Trent and Wilson, which provide data which contributes to monthly community noise reports published online.

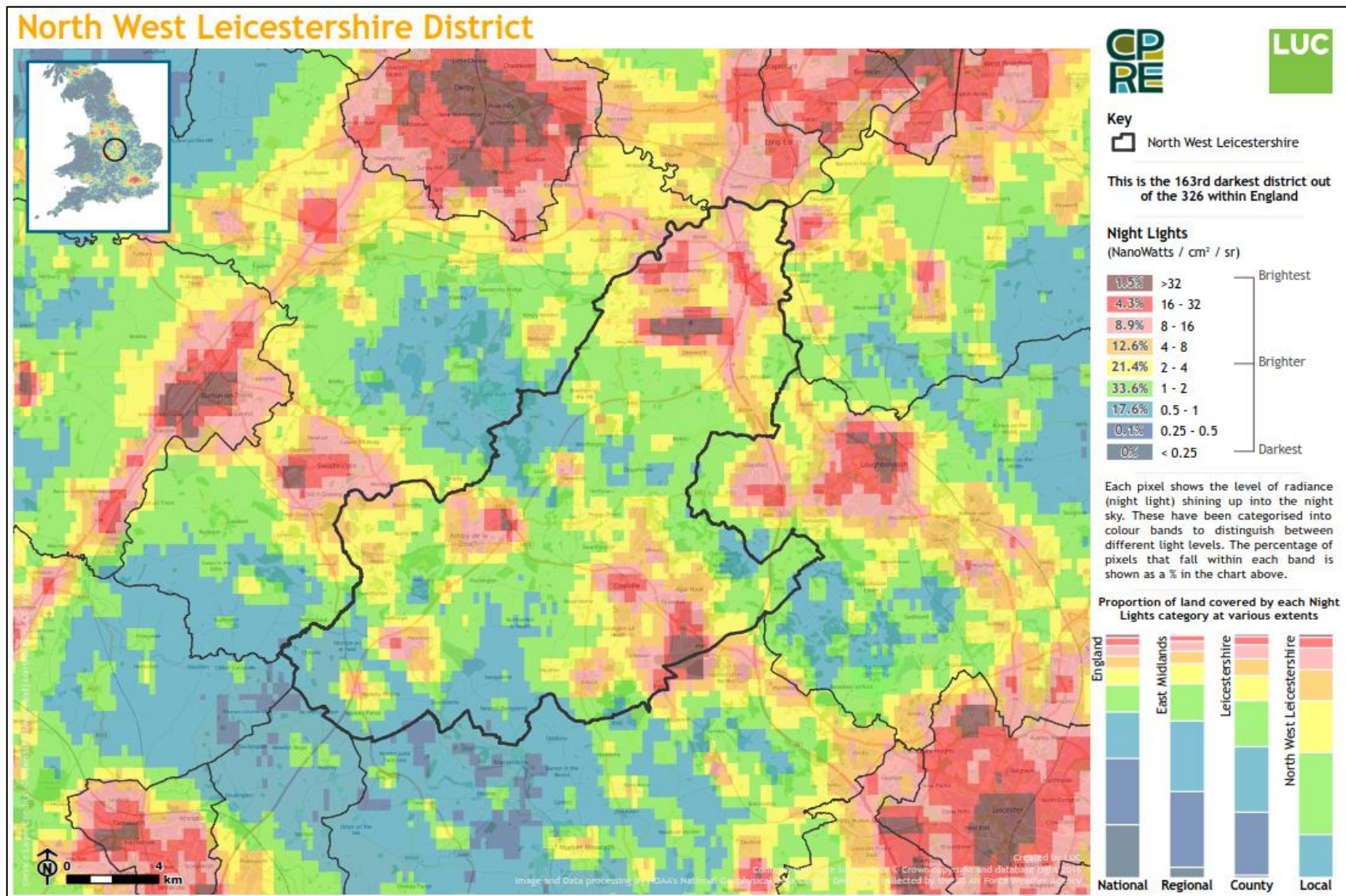
Light Pollution

Light pollution is caused by excessive or intrusive artificial light arising from poor or insensitive design. Light pollution can have a detrimental effect on the character and amenity of an area after dark. NWL is ranked as the 163rd darkest district out 326 in England⁶⁸. Figure 9.4 shows the level of light pollution in the District. Each pixel on the map shows the level of radiance (night light) shining up into the night sky, which have been categorised into colour bands to distinguish between different light levels.

Figure 6.4 also shows the percentage of the district that falls under each lighting band. This highlights that NWL has no areas identified as the <0.25 Nano Watts/cm²/sr otherwise known as the darkest skies. 33.6% of the light in the District falls 1-2 Nano Watts/cm²/sr. Areas with the brightest of skies (>32 Nano Watts/cm²/sr) are located around Coalville, junction 13 of the A42 outside of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Castle Donington, East Midland Airport and Junctions 24 and 24A of the M1.

⁶⁸ Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE), England's Light Pollution and Dark Skies Satellite Map, 2016

Figure 6.4: Light Pollution⁶⁸



7 Climate Change

Estimates of carbon dioxide emissions have been produced in BEIS⁶⁹ statistics for each Local Authority in the UK from the following categories:

- Industry, commercial & public sector (including electricity-related emissions)
- Domestic (including electricity-related emissions)
- Transport
- Land use, land use change and forestry (including removals of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere)

Table 7.1 shows the local, regional and national carbon emission estimates broken down into sectors. In 2016, total emissions in the District were estimated at 1,183.4 tonnes, with similar total emissions being sourced from industry and transport. This matches the national trend. The lowest contribution comes from domestic emissions at just 14.47% (171.3 tonnes), which is far lower than the regional (24.10%) and national (27.96%) averages. Transport makes up the second highest percentage, which highlights the reliance upon private cars and the strong distribution / logistics sector within the District.

	NW Leics.	% of Total	Leics.	% of Total	UK	% of Total
Industry and Commercial	522.2	41.12%	1,422.6	32.27%	133,293.3	38.65%
Domestic	171.3	14.47%	1,062.5	24.10%	96,429.8	27.96%
Transport	500.7	42.31%	1,974.2	44.78%	126,801.1	36.77%
Total	1,183.4		4,407.7		344,824.3	
Per Capita Emissions (t)	11.6		6.3		5.2	

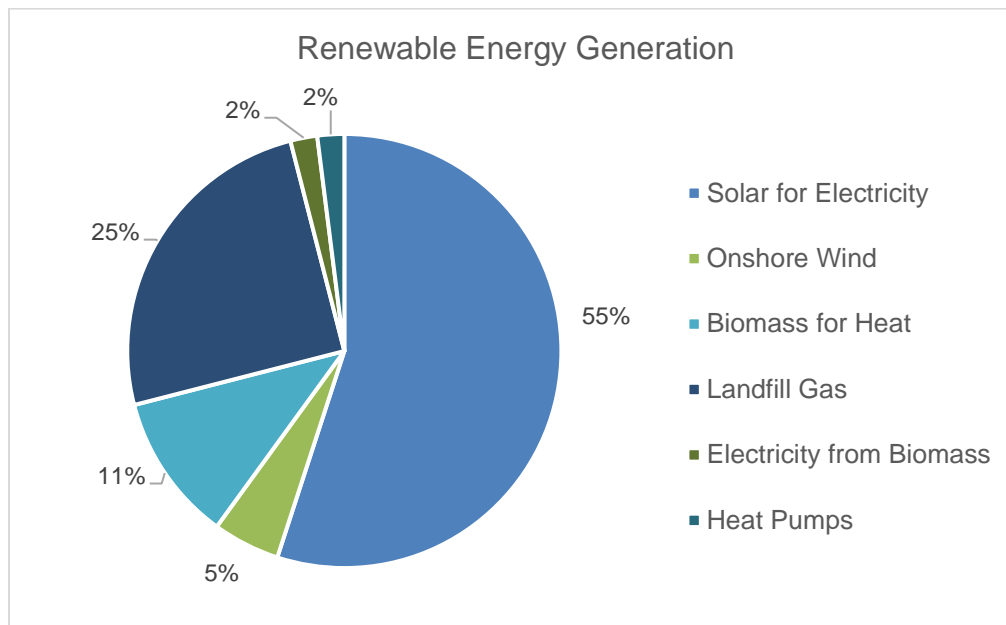
Since 2005, overall emissions and those from industry/commercial and domestic sectors have seen steady decreases, however, the transport sector had decreased from 2005-2012 and since 2013 to 2017 is increasing on an annual basis⁶⁹.

⁶⁹ UK local authority carbon dioxide emissions estimates 2020, BEIS Accessed on: 11/11/2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2018>

The charity Green Alliance Trust has estimated the generation and capacity for renewable energy generation in local authorities across England and Wales in 2016. Currently NWL generates 81,129 MWh⁷⁰, giving it an overall rank of 134 out of 348 local authorities across England and Wales. Figure 7.3 shows the breakdown of renewable energy sources in NWL, of which solar for electricity makes the greatest contribution at 55%. The second largest contribution comes from landfill gas.

Figure 7.3: Renewable Energy Generation, Breakdown by Source (2016)⁷⁰



Renewable energy generation in the District makes up 13% of the total electricity consumption, which exceeds the county average of 8.6%. It is anticipated that the District has a capacity for 57.6 MW, of which 82% could be supplied by solar for electricity. This puts the District into the top 100 local authorities in England and Wales, with a rank of 92.

The Council is committed to a 'Green Footprints Challenge' with the aim of making people feel proud to be part of a 'greener' District. It was launched in 2008 and through community leadership it aims to work with residents and businesses to implement schemes to tackle climate change and increase resilience to it.

⁷⁰ The Green Alliance, Renewable Energy Locator, <https://renewablelocator.green-alliance.org.uk/area/374> Accessed on: 06/07/2018

Flooding

The Humber river basin district covers approximately 26,000km², and comprises 15 river catchments and three flood risk areas⁷¹. North West Leicestershire falls within the River Trent Catchment area. Fluvial flooding is the primary source of flood risk in NW Leicestershire. The northern and eastern parts of the District are vulnerable to flooding from the River Trent and River Soar, whilst the southern and western parts of the District are vulnerable to flooding from the River Mease, River Sense and other tributaries of the River Trent and River Soar, including Gilwiskaw Brook and Grace Dieu Brook.

The main urban areas at risk of fluvial flooding from the River Trent are, Hemington, Lockington and Castle Donington, whilst Kegworth is at risk from the River Soar. Diseworth is at risk of flooding from Whatton Brook, Osgathorpe and Belton from Westmeadow Brook, Thingstone and Whitwick from Grace Dieu Brook, whilst Ashby de la Zouch and Packington from Gilwiskaw Brook and Appleby Magna is at risk from minor watercourses and tributaries⁷². Figure 7.4 shows the flood zones in the District.

The Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016⁷³ identified the potential localised risk of pluvial flooding particularly where drainage system capacities have been exceeded by sudden periods of high intensity rainfall. Areas identified to be at risk of pluvial flooding include Coalville, Measham, Blackfordby, Appleby Magna, Peggs Green and Castle Donington’.

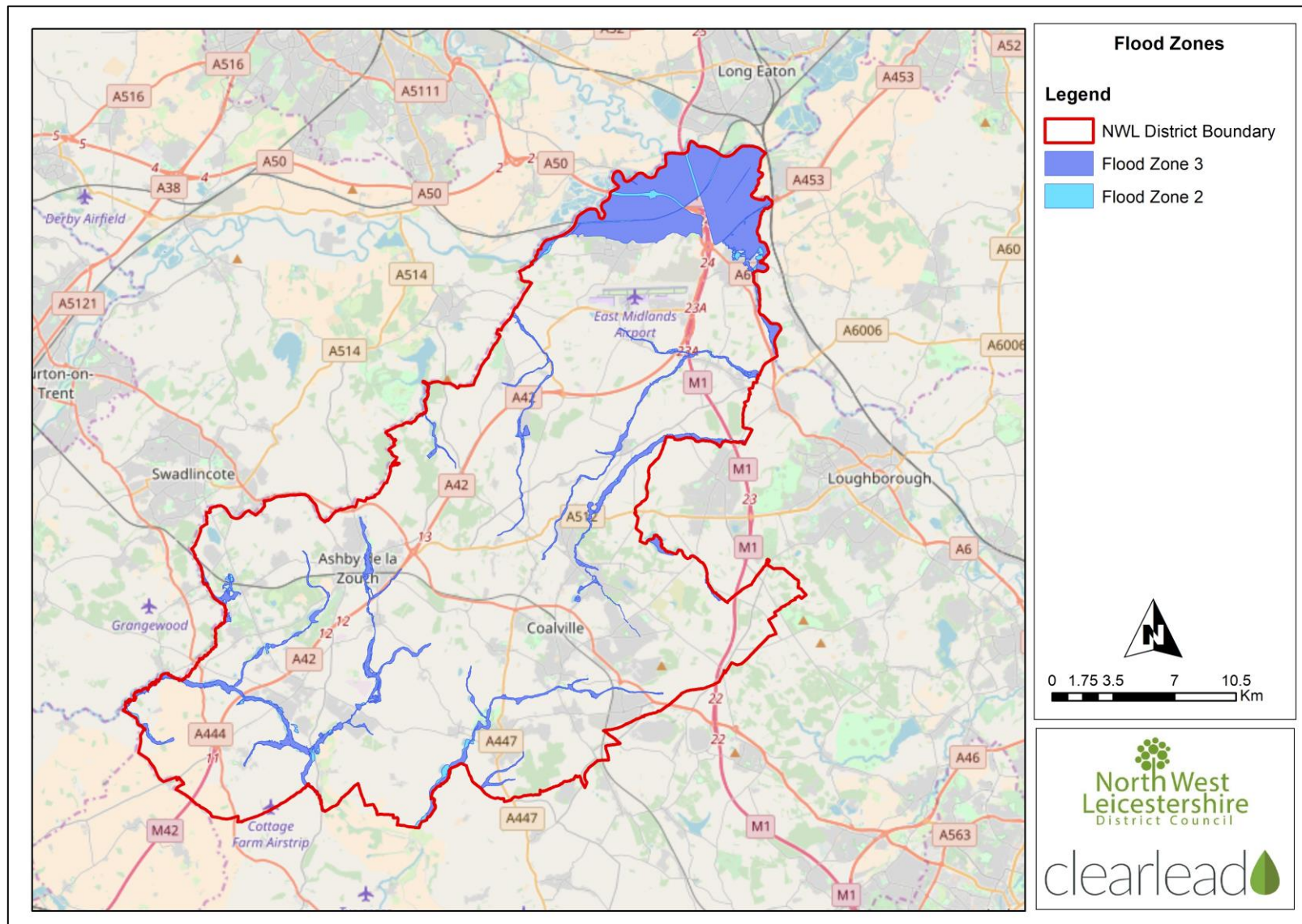
The impacts of climate change are expected to be warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers. Sea levels are expected to rise and, together with an increase in rainfall, lead to more frequent flooding of rivers. Extreme weather events such as storms or heat waves are likely to be more frequent.

⁷¹ Humber Flood Risk Management Plan (2016), Environment Agency

⁷² North West Leicestershire SFRA Report (2015 update) Prepared by Atkins

⁷³ North West Leicestershire Infrastructure Delivery Plan, 2016

Figure 7.4: Flood Zone



8 Biodiversity & Geodiversity

Biodiversity

Biodiversity includes not only the variety of individual species but also the genetic diversity within species and the range of ecosystems that support them. Despite Leicestershire being largely rural, it is amongst one of the poorest counties in the UK for sites of recognised nature conservation value. The very best sites (Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)) represent only about 1.3 % of the land area⁷⁴. There is one internationally designed nature conservation area in the district, the River Mease Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The SAC is at risk from adverse effects mainly from agricultural run off and in some cases in the past from waste water treatment outflows. In March 2012, Natural England finalised a Restoration Plan and technical document to support the improvement of the River and restore features on which protected wildlife depends.

In addition to these sites, the District has one National Nature Reserve (NNR); Charnwood Lodge; and five Local Nature Reserves (LNR); Moira Junction, Nature Alive, New Lount Saltersford Wood, Saltersford Wood and Snibston Grange. Figure 8.1 shows the distribution of nature conservation sites within the District.

The majority of the land in the District is used for farming, which is one of the main reasons why habitats for wildlife are being reduced, squeezing out the local wildlife and leading to their continued decline. According to the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland BAP, the following are the main reasons for biodiversity decline in the region:

- Modern farming methods;
- Development (housing, roads, mineral extraction);
- Recreational activities;
- Drainage schemes; and
- Tidying up and destruction of rough ground and 'brown-field' land.

There are 17 designated SSSI sites within the District⁷⁵. Table 8.1 below lists these along with the reasons for designation and current condition. The majority of SSSI designations have been awarded for their biological contributions, with just Bardon Hill designated solely for geological reasons. The majority of sites are either in favourable or unfavourable but recovering condition. Blackbrook Reservoir, Lount Meadows and Grace Dieu & High Shapley SSSI sites have areas demonstrating decline. 100% of the Ashby Canal and the River Mease SSSI are in unfavourable

⁷⁴ Space for Wildlife - The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 - 2026

⁷⁵ Excludes Blackbrook Reservoir SSSI located within Charnwood District but adjacent to the boundary with NWL. This SSSI could potentially be affected by development within NWL and this would be considered within the SA should any development be proposed in this part of NWL within the Local Plan Substantive Review.

condition with no change since the previous condition survey. 44% of the Dimmesdale site has now been destroyed.

Table 8.1: SSSI Conditions⁷⁶		
SSSI Site Name	Designation	Condition
Pasture & Aspin Woods	Biological	23% Favourable
		76% Unfavourable - Recovering
Breedon Cloud Wood & Quarry	Mixed	93% Favourable
		7% Unfavourable - Recovering
Breedon Hill Quarry	Biological	100% Unfavourable - Recovering
Donington Park	Biological	100% Unfavourable - Recovering
Lockington Marshes	Biological	32% Favourable
		68% Unfavourable - Recovering
Dimmesdale	Mixed	26% Unfavourable - Recovering
		28% Unfavourable - No Change
		44% Destroyed
Lount Meadows	Biological	49% Unfavourable - Recovering
		51% Unfavourable - declining
Ashby Canal	Biological	100% Unfavourable - No Change
Newton Burgoland Marshes	Biological	58% Unfavourable - Recovering
		42% Favourable
Oakley Wood	Biological	100% Favourable
River Mease	Biological	100% Unfavourable - No Change
Bardon Hill	Geological	100% Favourable
Holly Rock Fields	Biological	45% Favourable
		55% Unfavourable - No Change
Coalville Meadows	Biological	100% Unfavourable - Recovering
Charnwood Lodge	Biological	67% Unfavourable - Recovering
		33% Favourable
Blackbrook Reservoir	Biological	15% Favourable
		85% Unfavourable - Declining
Grace Dieu & High Shapley	Mixed	3% Favourable
		60% Unfavourable - Recovering
		5% Unfavourable - No Change
		30% Unfavourable - Declining

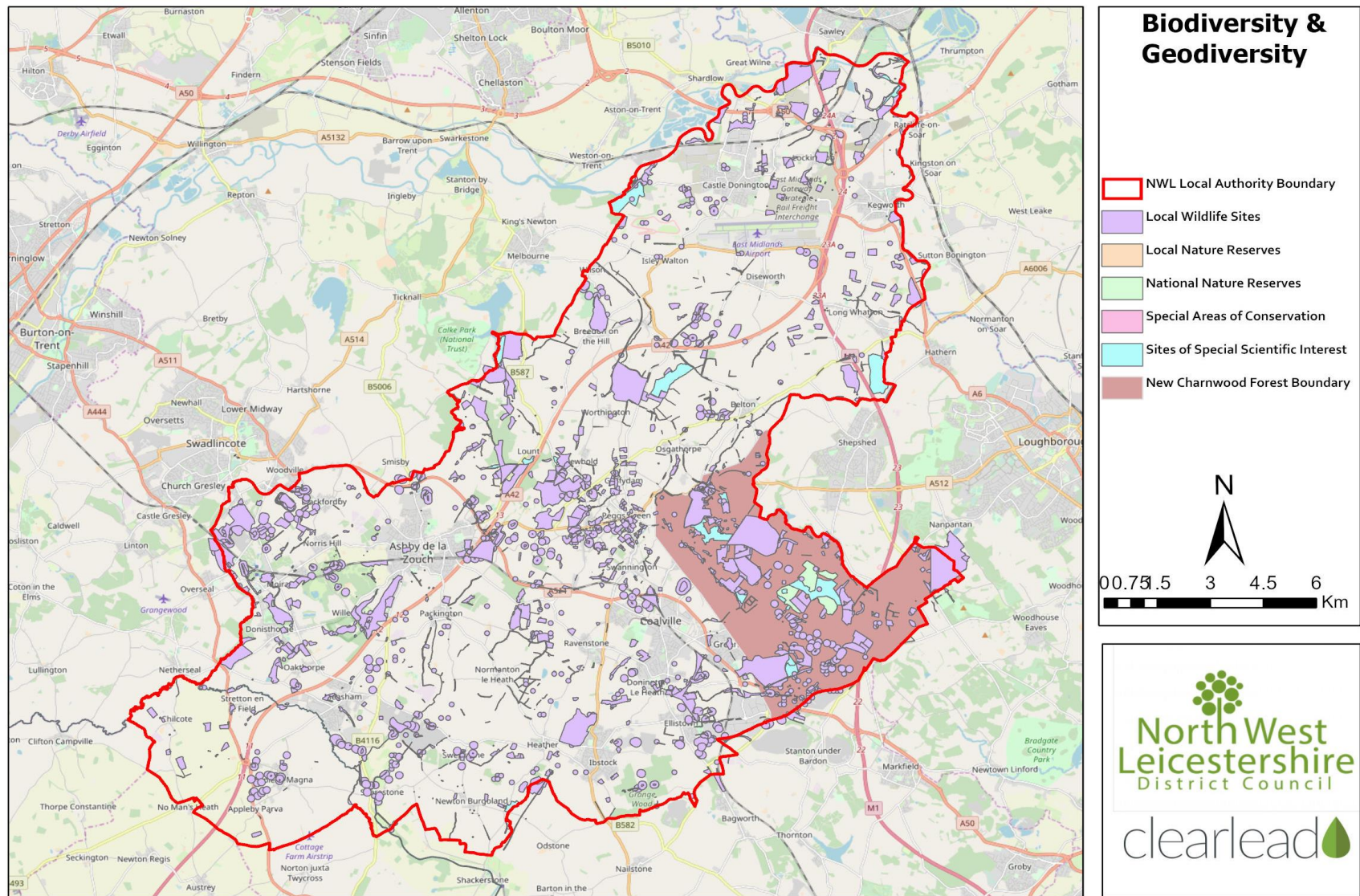
Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) are important areas for wildlife in NWL and have been identified using robust, scientifically-determined criteria and detailed ecological surveys. The criteria are also developed specifically for Leicestershire. LWS are listed as designated sites in the NPPF. Equally

⁷⁶ Natural England, Designated Sites View



Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust reserves are managed for wildlife and are also important sites for wildlife and biodiversity within the District.

Figure 8.1: Biodiversity and Geodiversity within the District



The north of the District is bounded by the Trent River Valley. Over the past two centuries, industrialisation along the Trent has taken its toll and agriculture, mineral extraction and development have all led to a loss of reed beds, wet grassland and other habitats. As a result species such as redshank, lapwing and otters have suffered dramatic decline in numbers.

In light of this the 'Transforming the Trent Valley Living Landscape' project led by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. The long-term vision of the project is to create a wildlife corridor along the Derbyshire Trent Valley, linking wetlands and other low-lying habitats and reconnecting the river, floodplain and the wildlife that depends on them. The project aims to boost recreation and leisure facilities, promote access and connectivity whilst presenting a varied and biodiverse landscape of habitats that encourages environmental conservation.

Erewash Borough Council is currently undertaking work to comprehensively map the section of the Trent Valley area within its area, recording key elements including assets, leisure and recreational facilities, land owners and land uses. Sawley Marina is located within NWL and is identified as a key attraction in the Trent Valley area.

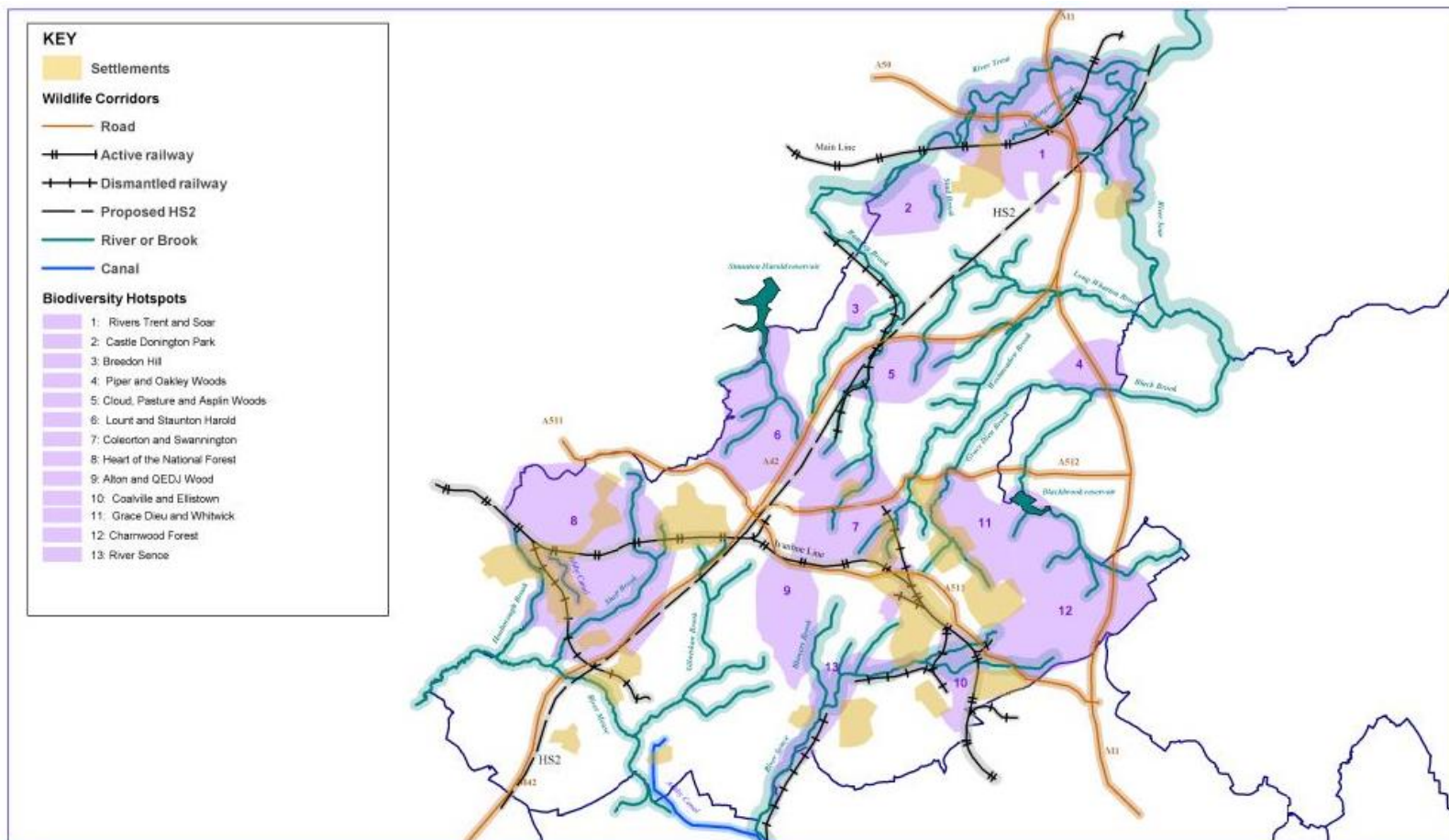
The Trent River Valley represents one of the Districts numerous wildlife corridors. Other wildlife corridors include⁷⁷:

- River Mease and tributaries (International and national importance);
- River Soar (Regional and national importance);
- M1 (Regional importance);
- Ivanhoe Railway (Regional importance);
- Gilwiskaw Brook (County importance);
- River Sence (County importance);
- Black Brook (County importance);
- Grace Dieu Brook (County importance);
- Ashby Canal (County importance);
- M42/A42 (County importance);
- Measham Railway/Ivanhoe Way (County importance);
- Long Whatton, Diseworth and Westmeadow Brooks (Local importance);
- Ramsley Brook (Local importance);
- Swannington Railway/Cloud Trail (Local importance);
- A511 (Local importance); and
- A512 (Local importance).

Figure 8.2 is reproduced from the draft North West Leicestershire: Ecological Network, LRERC 2015 document and shows wildlife corridors and biodiversity hotspots within NWL.

⁷⁷ Draft North West Leicestershire: Ecological Network, LRERC 2015

Figure 8.2: Wildlife Corridors and Biodiversity Hotspots within the NWL



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05/11/2014

(Reproduced from draft North West Leicestershire: Ecological Network, LRERC 2015)

Geodiversity

Geodiversity defined as 'the variety of rocks, fossils, minerals, natural processes, landforms and soils that underlie and determine the character of our landscape and environment'⁷⁸.

In addition to their SSSI status, Bardon Hill Quarry and Breedon Cloud Wood and Quarry are designated Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGs). These are the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Sites are selected under locally-developed criteria, according to their value for education, scientific study, historical significance or aesthetic qualities⁷⁸.

In the eastern area of the District, extending west to Coalville, lies Charnwood Forest. Although it is not formally designated, the Forest is of both biological and geological importance, making up part of the wider National Forest as well as a Regional Park. The Forest is home to some of the oldest rocks in the UK, and remains the only place in Western Europe where Precambrian fossils have been found.

Charnwood Forest Regional Park is a partnership of local authorities, agencies, user groups and land management organisations, who are all working to manage and promote the unique cultural and heritage features of the area. The partnership has recently received National Lottery Funding for a two year development which will lead to the delivery of around £3 million worth of projects to protect and celebrate Charnwood Forest between 2020 and 2025. One of the main aims of the project is to gain UNESCO Geo Park Status, which will see international recognition and protection, which could limit development in certain areas within close proximity to the site.

Green Infrastructure & Natural Capital

Natural England defines green infrastructure as:

'a strategically planned and delivered network comprising the broadest range of high quality green spaces and other environmental features. It should be designed and managed as a multifunctional resource capable of delivering those ecological services and quality of life benefits required by the communities it serves and needed to underpin sustainability. Its design and management should also respect and enhance the character and distinctiveness of an area with regard to habitats and landscape types'⁷⁹.

⁷⁸ UK Geodiversity Action Plan, 2017

⁷⁹ Natural England, Green Infrastructure Guidance

The Landscape Sensitivity and Green Infrastructure Study for Leicester & Leicestershire, 2017⁸⁰ identified that areas toward the east of Coalville are green infrastructure deficient. It highlighted that parts of NWL generally have a poorer living environment than other areas in the County, and the delivery of high quality green infrastructure alongside new development has the greatest potential to positively impact on health and well-being in these areas.

The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan⁸¹ aims to support local authorities in assessing and improving their provision of green infrastructure. The Plan also aims to develop a Nature Recovery Network to protect and restore wildlife and provide opportunities to re-introduce species that have been lost from the countryside. This Nature Recovery Network will provide 500,000 hectares of additional wildlife habitat, more effective linkages to existing protected sites and landscapes, as well as urban green and blue infrastructure⁸¹. As well as helping wildlife thrive, the Nature Recovery Network could be designed to bring a wide range of additional benefits: greater public enjoyment; pollination; carbon capture; water quality improvements and flood management.

This work will be underpinned by a natural capital approach. This is defined as:

'The elements of nature that directly and indirectly produce value or benefits to people, including ecosystems, species, fresh-water, land, minerals, the air and oceans, as well as natural processes and functions'⁸².

The 25 Year Environment Plan promotes a natural capital approach to achieve more effective decisions that can support environmental enhancement and help deliver benefits such as reduced long-term flood risk, increased biodiversity, and a boost to long-term prosperity⁸¹.

⁸⁰ Landscape Sensitivity and Green Infrastructure Study for Leicester & Leicestershire, 2017 Prepared by LUC

⁸¹ HM Government, A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, 2018

⁸² The Natural Capital Coalition, <https://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/natural-capital/> Accessed on: 20/07/2018

9 Landscape, Townscape & Land

Landscape Character

Landscape character is defined as *'a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse'*⁸³.

Landscape gives a locality its sense of place, making it different from neighbouring localities.

Landscapes can be areas designated for their natural beauty or ambience but can also be 'ordinary' places that are not given statutory protection. Urban landscapes also have an important role to play in affecting the quality of people's lives, therefore enhancing 'townscapes' is also important.

Natural England have defined natural subdivisions in England, known as National Character Area (NCA). These are based on a combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and economic activity. There are 159 National Character Areas in total and they which follow natural, rather than administrative, boundaries. NWL falls into five landscape character areas; Trent Valley Washlands, Melbourne Parklands, Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield, Mease/Sence Lowlands and Charnwood as defined by Natural England. These areas have been defined below in Table 9.1 along with their key issues.

Table 9.1: National Character Area Profiles ⁸⁴		
Name	Natural England Description	Key Issues
Charnwood	Charnwood is a unique landscape, marked out by its geology and upland qualities, which contrast with the surrounding gentle lowlands'. It is formed by a mosaic of heathland, farmland, parkland and woodland. The underlying Precambrian geology has given rise to the distinct area of land characterised by exposures of rugged, rocky outcrops. It is a relatively well wooded landscape, with many areas of mixed, deciduous and coniferous woodlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor woodland and hedgerow management • Poor condition of drystone walls • Insensitive built development • Quarry extensions • Visitor pressures

⁸³ Landscape Character Assessment (2008) Landscape Character Network, <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20101111121753/http://www.landscapecharacter.org.uk/>

⁸⁴ Natural England, National Character Area Profiles. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles>

Table 9.1: National Character Area Profiles⁸⁴

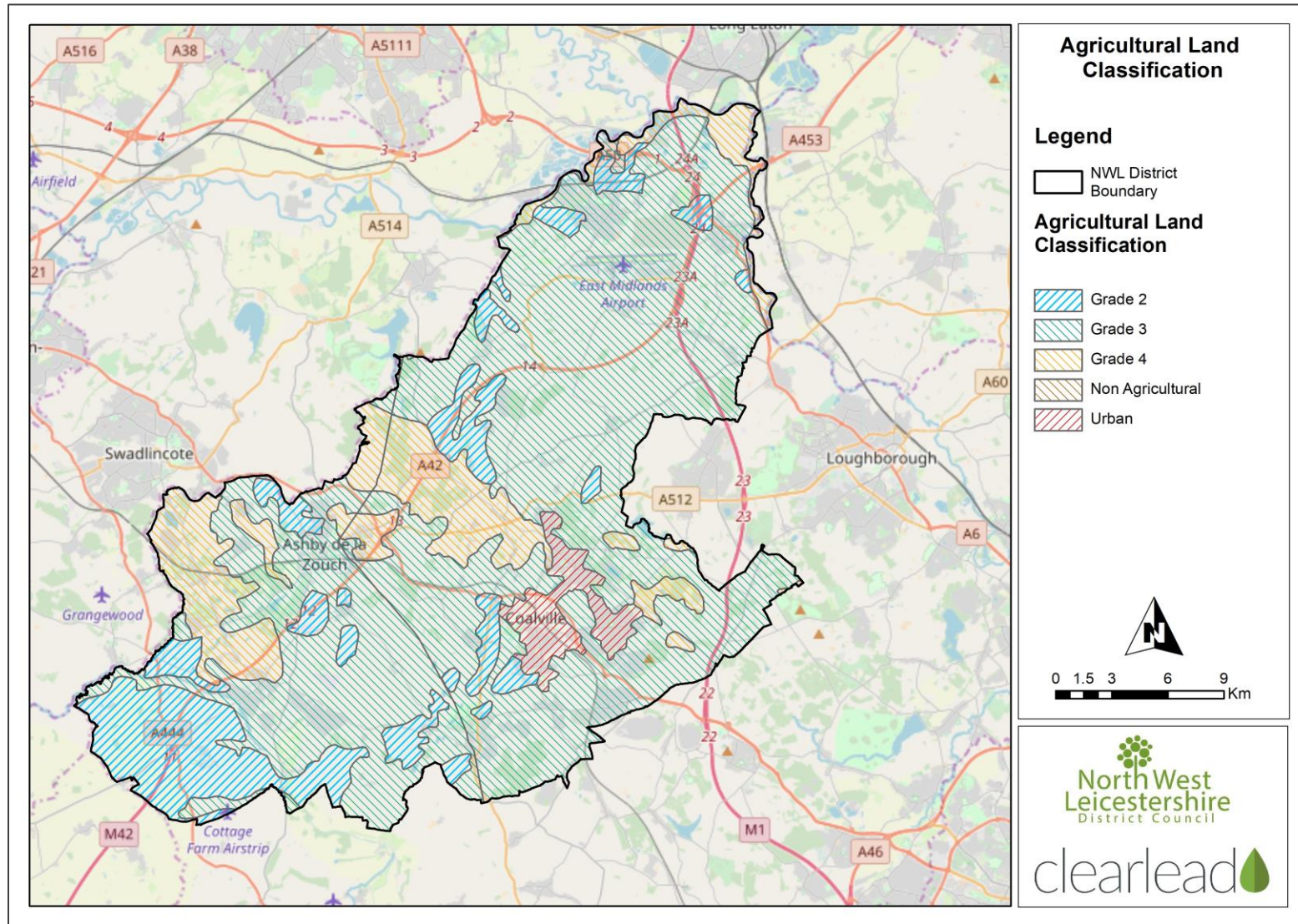
Name	Natural England Description	Key Issues
Mease/Sence Lowlands	The Mease/Sence Lowlands are a gently rolling agricultural landscape centred around the rivers Mease, Sence and Anker. The area extends across: Derbyshire in the north, Warwickshire in the south, Leicestershire in the east and Staffordshire in the west. With its towns lying on the fringes of the NCA, only a very small percentage of it is urban. These lowlands retain a rural, remote character, with small villages, red brick farmsteads and occasional historic parkland and country houses. The National Forest extends into the area north of the River Mease.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor hedgerow condition, due to loss and ageing of species and inappropriate species, • Loss of field ponds • Conversion of pasture to arable
Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield	The Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield landform consists of a plateau with unrestricted views of shallow valleys and gentle ridges that become less pronounced in the south due to a layer of glacial till. To the east the land rises steeply, affording views of the Charnwood NCA. Ancient woodland straddles part of the boundary in the north, where the land falls away affording views of the wooded rolling landscape of the Melbourne Parklands NCA. The River Mease SSSI and SAC forms part of the boundary with the Mease/Sence Lowlands NCA in the south-west and the Leicestershire Vales NCA forms a less visually defined border in the south.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of trees and hedgerows • Poor management of hedgerows • Potential high visibility of new development due to open character of landscape • Restoration of former mineral workings.
Melbourne Parklands	The Melbourne Parklands NCA is located between the ancient forests of Needwood and Charnwood. The Trent Valley forms its northern and western boundary, in a wide arc sweeping round from its confluence with the River Soar in the north-east, to Burton-upon-Trent in the south-west. It is a landscape of rolling farmland, ancient and plantation woodland and, as the name suggests, a cluster of landscaped parklands with grand country houses, one of which, Calke Abbey, boasts a Grade II* listed historic park and garden.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decline of woodland • Quarry extensions • Pressure on hedgerows due to arable intensification • Road widening and improvements expansion of East Midlands Airport.
Trent Valley Washlands	The Trent Valley Washlands NCA comprises the river flood plain corridors of the middle reaches of the River Trent's catchment in the heart of England. It is a distinctly narrow, linear and low-lying landscape, often clearly delineated at its edges by higher ground, and it is largely comprised of the flat flood plains and gravel terraces of the rivers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road, industrial and extractive development • Loss of hedgerows • Loss of small streams and drainage ditches.

Agricultural Land and Soils

The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) provides a framework for classifying land according to the extent to which its physical or chemical characteristics impose long-term limitations on agricultural use⁸⁵. The ALC system classifies land into five grades, with Grade 3 subdivided into Subgrades 3a and 3b. The best and most versatile land (BMV land) is defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a. This land is seen as the most productive, efficient and flexible land that can best deliver future crops for food and non-food uses such as biomass, fibres and pharmaceuticals. In general, the NWL area is predominantly Grade 3 (Good to moderate), with pockets of Grade 2 (Excellent) around areas such as Castle Donington, Breedon on the Hill, Appleby Magna and Ibstock. The area north of Ashby De-La-Zouch and to the west of Measham is made up of poorer, Grade 4 soil types. Figure 9.1 shows the soil gradings in the district.

⁸⁵ Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales, 1988

Figure 9.1: Agricultural Land Classification



The majority of the District lies within the National Forest, which spans the three counties of Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire. The East Midlands region has a low proportion of woodland therefore the overall aim of the National Forest is to increase woodland cover. The Forest is a nationally leading example of landscape scale forest creation, by securing 102 hectares of new forest habitat since 2012⁸⁶. Charnwood Forest Regional Park makes up part of the National Forest. Charnwood is a unique landscape marked out by its volcanic geology and, despite covering less than 10% of Leicestershire, contains more than 50% of the SSSI and 67% of the county's designated areas for geodiversity⁸⁷. Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust are leading the Charnwood Forest Living Landscape project which aims to conserve and enhance the unique wildlife, geology and character of Charnwood Forest.

Contamination and Ground Stability

The long history of coal mining within NWL has left a legacy of potential land instability and contamination issues. The Coal Authority has defined a 'Development High Risk Area' that covers some of the District. In this area the potential land instability and other safety risks associated with former coal mining activities are likely to be greatest. They include, for example, areas of known or suspected shallow coal mining, recorded mine entries and areas of former surface mining. Other than householder developments and those exceptions as identified on the Coal Authority's exemptions list, all new development proposals within the defined Development High Risk Area must be supported by a Coal Mining Risk Assessment, or equivalent, in order to identify any potential risks to the new development and any required remediation measures⁸⁸.

Other problems associated with coal mining include waste tip stability and environmental pollution. Remediation of colliery waste tips has been on-going for many years and many tips have been restored to productive use. The responsibility for determining the extent and effects of such constraints lies with developers.

Townscape

The NWL District is comprised of a variety of settlements including the towns of Coalville and Ashby de la Zouch, as well as a number of other smaller settlements, associated urban fringe and rural farmed areas. The area is also noted for its industrial heritage and past coal and clay industries are evident as previous workings and restored landscapes⁸⁹. Ashby de la Zouch town

⁸⁶ National Forest Company's Annual Report, 2017

⁸⁷ Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership Scheme

⁸⁸ North West Leicestershire Local Plan, adopted November 2017

⁸⁹ North West Leicestershire, Settlement Fringe Assessment, 2010



centre is historic and attractive with many notable buildings and churches. It is considered an attractive place to establish and expand business activity, namely due to its strategic location, visual setting and business offering, including modern units and industrial parks.

NWL District Council has been working with partners to deliver a range of projects aimed at regenerating Coalville town centre some of which will also achieve an improvement in townscape:

- Coalville Conservation Areas: Parts of the town centre have been designated as a Conservation Area, with the aim to protect the town's buildings and industrial heritage. This is considered an important way to regenerate and revitalise the town; and
- Shop Front Improvement Scheme: NWL District Council has been offering grants to local shop owners on Hotel Street and the High Street of 50%-70% of the cost towards repairs and restoration works. These streets have been identified for support in the design and upgrading of their fronts as they are located within the designated Coalville Conservation Area.

10 Cultural Heritage

Listing Buildings aim to *'mark and celebrate a building's special architectural and historic interest, and also brings it under the consideration of the planning system, so that it can be protected for future generations'*⁹⁰.

The categories of listed buildings are described by Historic England as the following⁹⁰:

- Grade I buildings are of exceptional interest. Only 2.5% of Listed Buildings are Grade I;
- Grade II* buildings are particularly important buildings of more than special interest. 5.8% of Listed buildings are Grade II*; and
- Grade II buildings are of special interest. 91.7% of all Listed Buildings are in this class and it is the most likely grade of listing for a home owner.

The National Heritage List for England also includes Scheduled Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens.

NWL has 675 buildings and monuments listed on the National Heritage List for England, of which seven are Grade I Listed, 602 are Grade II Listed, 40 are Grade II* Listed, 23 are Scheduled Monuments and three are Grade II* Listed Parks and Gardens⁹¹. Five of the buildings on the list are considered to be 'At Risk' and one Scheduled Monument and are listed on the Historic England Risk Register⁹². The entries and their conditions are listed in Table 10.1 below.

The Century Theatre, within the former Snibston Colliery site is on the Theatres Trust At Risk register due to its historic and cultural significance as Britain's oldest surviving travelling theatre which brought theatre to towns, that following the Second World War, had lost provision.

Figure 10.1 shows the distribution of Listed Buildings in the District, of which the majority are located in Ashby-de-le Zouch and Castle Donington.

⁹⁰ Historic England, Listed Buildings <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/listed-buildings/> Accessed on: 09/07/2018

⁹¹ Historic England, National Heritage List for England Search, <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results?q=north%20west%20leicestershire&county=North%20West%20Leicestershire&parish=-1&searchtype=nhlesearch&searchResultsPerPage=20> Accessed on: 13/01/2020

⁹² Historic England, Heritage at Risk Register, <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/> Accessed on 13/01/2020

Figure 10.1: Listed Buildings & Registered Parks & Buildings

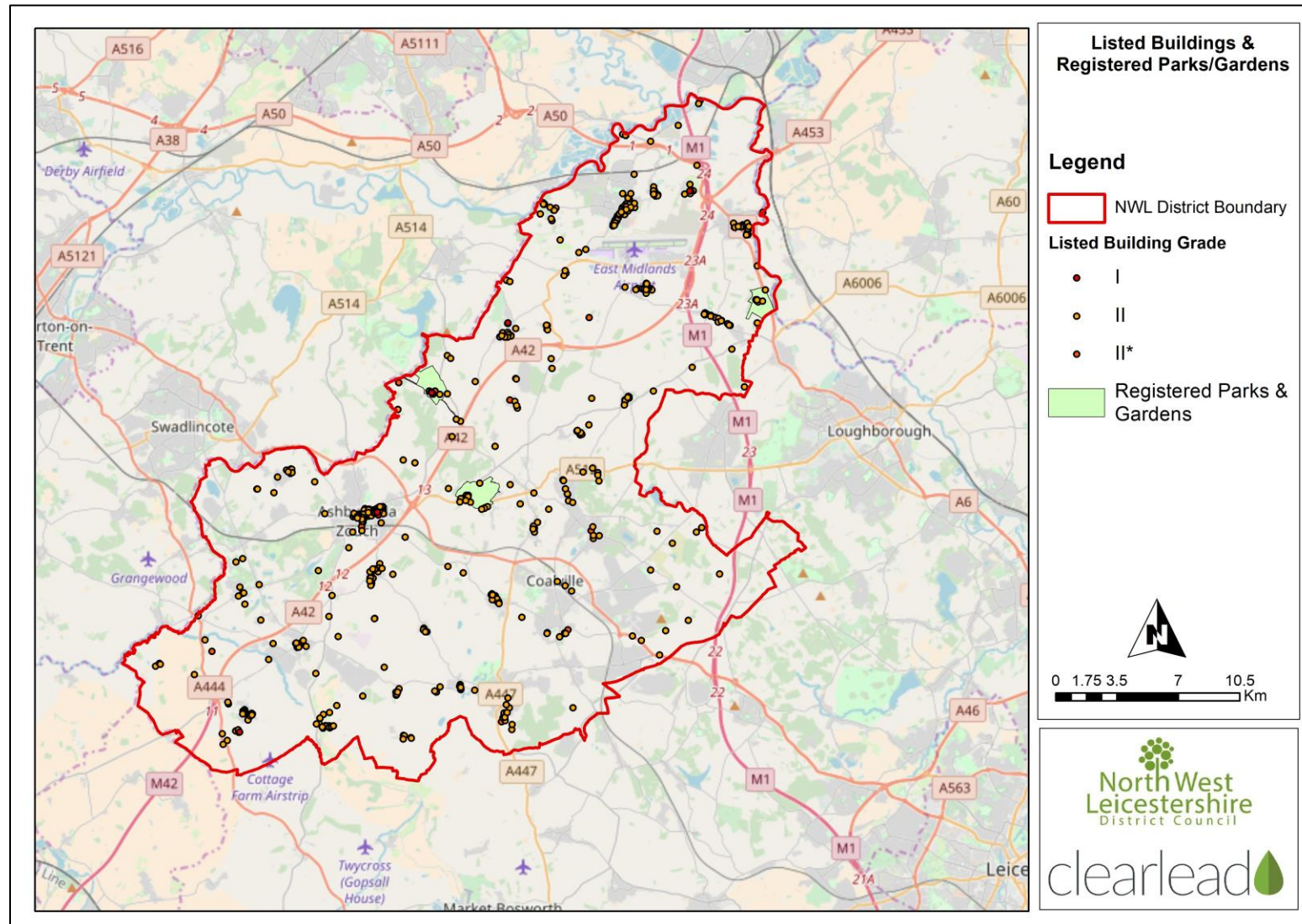


Table 10.1: Heritage at Risk⁹²			
Entry Name	Heritage Category	Condition	Priority Category
Church of St Michael, Clements Gate, Diseworth	Listed Building Grade II*	Poor	A – Immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or loss of fabric; no solution agreed
Church of St Michael and All Angels, Church Street, Appleby Magna	Listed Building Grade II*	Poor	D - Slow decay; solution agreed but not yet implemented
Church of St John the Baptist, Market Place, Belton	Listed Building Grade II*	Poor	A – Immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or loss of fabric; no solution agreed
Church of St Nicholas, Church Street, Lockington	Listed Building Grade I	Poor	B - Immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or loss of fabric; solution agreed but not yet implemented
Snibston Colliery, Ashby Road	Scheduled Monument	Fair	E - Under repair or in fair to good repair, but no user identified; or under threat of vacancy with no obvious new user (applicable only to buildings capable of beneficial use)
Church of St Mary and St Hardulph, Breedon Hill	Listed Building Grade I	Poor	C – Slow decay; no solution agreed

In addition to Listed Buildings, the District has 25 locally designated Conservation Areas (CA), which are designated for their architectural or historic interest, and the character is desirable to preserve or enhance. The designation of Conservation Areas such as Staunton Harold CA and Lockington CA introduces control over permitted developer rights and the demolition of buildings, as well as controls over works to trees. The Conservation Areas are mainly representative of rural, agricultural areas with traditional houses, cottages and farm buildings, as well as areas characteristic of the industrial revolution, Georgian architecture and country houses. Conservation Area Appraisals have been undertaken for each of the designated areas.

There is archaeological potential in North West Leicestershire from the Bronze Age, roman period, and more recent modern (industrial) period. An excavation in North West Leicestershire has led to the discovery of a Bronze Age gold hoard and aerial photographic searches had revealed unseen features of possible archaeological origin in and around the study area. Many of the sites had not yet undergone verification by archaeological investigation, but 25 sites of possible Bronze Age, or earlier, date had now been recorded in an around the study area. A number of these sites had been destroyed, with only a few being subject to prior archaeological recording. The area



was mainly arable agricultural land, and thus sites had been subject to much damage from plough erosion⁹³.

There are also a number of non-designated heritage assets that are of significance to the architectural, social and cultural history of the district and a number of these are listed on the Leicestershire Historical Environment Record (HER).

⁹³ University of Leicester Archaeological Services (2006) The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda: <http://www.le.ac.uk/ulas/publications/eastmidsw.html> (Accessed on: 02/08/18)

11 Water

Water Supply

NWL is underlain by a wide variety of geological strata, including Coal Measures, Mudstone, Sandstone as well as Sand & Gravel and Clay drift deposits. These encompass a range of aquifer types that are protected by groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs). The District contains Principle, Secondary A and Undifferentiated Secondary Aquifers. Principle Aquifers usually have an intergranular and/or fracture permeability meaning that they usually provide a high level of water storage. Areas around Castle Donington, Measham and Coalville are underlain by Principle aquifers which are considered to be vulnerable. High vulnerability indicates that there is a high likelihood that pollutants discharged at ground level (i.e. above the soil zone) could reach groundwater aquifers. The Environment Agency may not grant permits or licences for certain activities located within a sensitive location⁹⁴.

Severn Trent Water manages the water supply in the area. The Severn Trent Water Resources Management Plan 2019⁹⁵ sets out the long term plans in place to accommodate the impacts of population growth, drought, environmental obligations and climate change uncertainty in order to balance the supply and demand for water in the communities served.

Severn Trent Water have recently carried out a drought assessment which concluded that the raw water supplies are already resilient to a 1 in 200 year drought event, and therefore they do not anticipate needing to invest in new sources of water for the purpose of improving drought resilience⁹⁵. Despite this, the Water Resources Management Plan highlights that the population of the supply area is likely grow by a further 1.13 million people over the next 25 years⁹⁵ which will mean that water resources in the region will become more scarce. Severn Trent Water therefore aims to increase leakage and demand management efforts to offset this growth in water demand. To help with this Severn Trent Water will be investing in supply options alongside demand options as set out in their Water Resources Management Plan.

Through drainage network modelling, the North West Leicestershire District Council Detailed Water Cycle Study (2012)⁹⁶ has assessed sewer capacity and the potential improvements required from proposed population growth. This concluded that with minor modifications to the existing infrastructure, there are unlikely to be significant constraints on growth.

⁹⁴ Environment Agency Guidance, Protect Groundwater and Prevent Groundwater Pollution, 2017

⁹⁵ Severn Trent Water Water Resources Management Plan 2019

⁹⁶ North West Leicestershire District Council Detailed Water Cycle Study (2012) (Prepared by AMEC)

However, the study identified that wastewater treatment is likely to be at capacity at Snarrows WwTW which serves Coalville (from 2015) and Castle Donington WwTW (from 2023 onwards). The WwTW serving Ibstock and Kegworth however, were also identified as having capacity for new developments. Severn Trent Water are currently investigating solutions to reduce surface water flow to the Snarrows WwTW which uses up valuable capacity.

Water Quality:

Water Quality in the UK is based on standards set in the Water Framework Directive (2000)⁹⁷. The key objectives at European level are general protection of the aquatic ecology, specific protection of unique and valuable habitats, protection of drinking water resources, and protection of bathing water. All water courses must achieve the Water Framework Directive standard 'good' by 2027.

Surface Water:

Table 11.1 shows the water quality of the District's rivers, and the main reasons they are not achieving overall 'Good' status. Water quality is ranked from 'High' to 'Bad' and are judged for their ecological and chemical status.

Of the water bodies in the District, 50% of them are rated either 'Bad' or 'Poor'. Coventry and Ashby Canal is the only water body that is considered to be of a good water quality. With the exception of the Hemington Brook Catchment (trib of the Soar), all water bodies are not achieving 'Good' status, in part due to sewage discharge.

There is a significant issue with the water quality of the River Mease which is designated as an SAC. It is currently classified as being "Unfavourable No Change", due to high nutrient / phosphorus levels. The North West Leicestershire Infrastructure Delivery Plan⁹⁸ identified that future works are likely to be required in the Packington (and possibly Measham) Wastewater Treatment Work (WwTW) catchments in order to reduce the phosphate levels down from the previous objective of an annual average of 1mg/l to the Habitats Directive objective of 0.04mg/l downstream of Packington in the Gilwiskaw Brook and 0.05mg/l in the River Mease⁹⁸.

⁹⁷ The EU Water Framework Directive (2000) http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html
Accessed on: 5/11/2018

⁹⁸ North West Leicestershire Infrastructure Delivery Plan, 2016

Table 11.1: Surface Water Quality⁹⁹

Water Body Name	Overall Classification	Ecological	Chemical	Reasons for Not Achieving 'Good' Status
Mease from Gilwiskaw Bk to Hooborough Brook	Poor	Poor	Good	Urban development, sewage discharge and livestock
Gilwiskaw Brook from Source to River Mease	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Sewage discharge and livestock
Mease from Source to Gilwiskaw Brook	Poor	Poor	Good	Urban development, sewage discharge, livestock, drought, poor soil management and poor nutrient management
Sence from Source to Ibstock Brook	Poor	Poor	Good	Poor drainage, sewage discharge and livestock
Long Whatton Brook Catchment (trib of Soar)	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Sewage discharge, livestock, mining, transport drainage and river bank erosion
Soar from Long Whatton Brook to Trent	Bad	Bad	Good	Poor drainage, sewage discharge, livestock, arable land use, poor nutrient management
Trent from Dove to Derwent	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Transport drainage, sewage discharge and livestock
Ramsley Brook from Source to Carr-New	Poor	Poor	Good	Sewage discharge
Coventry and Ashby Canals	Good	Good	Good	N/A
Ibstock Brook from Source to River Sence	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Sewage discharge, livestock, private sewage treatment and land drainage
Hemington Brook Catchment (trib of the Soar)	Bad	Bad	Good	Drought, river bank erosion, poor agriculture and rural land management
Trent from Derwent to Soar	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Sewage discharge and transport drainage

⁹⁹ Environment Agency, Catchment Data Explorer, <http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/> Accessed on: 5/11/2018

Groundwater Quality:

According to the Water Directive Framework, the presumption in relation to groundwater should broadly be that it should not be polluted at all. Since groundwater moves slowly through the subsurface, the impact of human activities may last for a long time. This means that pollution that occurred some decades ago may still be threatening groundwater quality today and could continue to do so for several generations to come.

Table 11.2 shows the groundwater quality in the District. Groundwater quality is determined by quantitative and chemical elements. Overall, the Tame Anker Mease - Secondary Combined and Soar - Secondary Combined are the only groundwater sources achieving 'Good' overall status. Both the Lower Trent Erewash - Secondary Combined and the Tame Anker Mease - Coal Measures Swadlincote are classed as 'Poor' due to the presence of abandoned mining.

Table 11.2: Groundwater Quality⁹⁹				
Groundwater Source	Overall Classification	Quantitative	Chemical	Reasons for Not Achieving 'Good' Status
Soar - PT Sandstone	Poor	Good	Poor	Livestock, poor nutrient management
Lower Trent Erewash - Secondary Combined	Poor	Good	Poor	Abandoned mining
Tame Anker Mease - Coal Measures Swadlincote	Poor	Good	Poor	Abandoned mining
Tame Anker Mease - Secondary Combined	Good	Good	Good	N/A
Soar - Secondary Combined	Good	Good	Good	N/A
Tame Anker Mease - PT Sandstone Burton	Poor	Good	Poor	Diffuse sources

12 Waste & Minerals

Waste

NWL District Council operates a household kerbside recycling scheme, which includes a full range of recyclables including: glass, plastic, cans, paper, card, garden waste and textiles. There is currently no food waste kerbside collection, so residents have to compost their own waste should they wish to do so. Therefore, food waste makes up a high proportion of waste going to landfill or other final disposal. According to the North West Leicestershire Infrastructure Delivery Plan⁷³, waste collection rounds are operating to maximum capacity and are being supplemented with 'incremental back up rounds'.

Table 12.1 shows the household waste collected by the council since the 2014/15 financial year. Overall waste generation continues to rise in the District; rising by 5.7% since 2014/15. Household waste not sent for recycling has increased by 5.3% over this period. Household waste sent for recycling, composting or to be reused is also up by 6.1%. The biggest increase since 2014/15 has been in household green recycling and reuse, with a rise of 11.2%.

Table 12.1: Household Waste Collection						
Financial Year	Household - total waste (tonnes)	Household - waste sent for recycling/ composting /reuse (tonnes)	Household dry recycling/ reuse (tonnes)	Household green recycling/ reuse (tonnes)	Household - waste not sent for recycling (tonnes)	Household - regular collection (not recycled) (tonnes)
2014-15	39,506	18,395	7,858	10,537	21,111	19,893
2015-16	40,351	18,755	7,838	10,917	21,596	19,686
2016-17	41,739	19,510	7,793	11,717	22,230	20,251
% Change	5.7%	6.1%	-0.8%	11.2%	5.3%	1.8%

The District has an overall recycling rate of 46.7%, ranking it 127th out of 350 local authorities¹⁰⁰. Table 12.2 shows the recycling rates between 2012/13 to 2016/17. Over this time the recycling rate has remained more or less the same, however the local authority ranking has fluctuated.

¹⁰⁰ Let's Recycle, Local Authority League Tables, <https://www.letsrecycle.com/councils/league-tables/> Accessed on: 09/07/2018

Table 12.2: Recycling Rates		
Financial Year	Recycling Rate (%)	Local Authority Rank
2012/13	46.5	106
2013/14	46.3	122
2014/15	46.6	134
2015/16	46.5	123
2016/17	46.7	127

Minerals

Leicestershire is highly mineral rich and is one of the principal producers of minerals in the country, particularly igneous rock. Igneous rock extraction within the County accounts for around 75% of total sales in Leicestershire¹⁰¹. NWL also has a long history of coal mining, with it being mined in NWL from the medieval period.

The mineral resources within the County have been grouped into categories associated with their main uses. These are described as the following:

Igneous Rock: The igneous rock resources of Leicestershire have a relatively small spatial extent around the borders of Charnwood Forest and to the south-west of Leicester. Extraction is concentrated at four main sites: Bardon (within NWL); Cliffe Hill; Croft; and Mountsorrel.

Carboniferous Limestones: This appears at the surface in several small isolated inliers in NWL, close to the Leicestershire/Derbyshire border. At present, there are two of sites worked within NWL: at Breedon Hill and Cloud Hill.

Sand and Gravel Deposits: These occur in the valleys of the Rivers Wreake, Soar and Trent, as well as more complex series of isolated glacial deposits in areas to the south and west of Leicester. There are currently two sites in NWL that are currently active.

Brickclay: These resources are fairly extensive throughout Leicestershire. There are currently six brickworks with adjacent clay pits in the county, all located within NWL. There is a sequence of high quality pottery, pipe and refractory clays associated with the upper seams of the Middle Coal Measures of NWL and although restricted to a small area, these deposits have been recognised as an important national resource. The principal source of fireclay is currently the Donington Island site.

Coal: These deposits occur across the NWL District, as outcrops as well as in concealed measures towards the northeastern edge of the District. There is a small area where shallow coal reserves suitable for extraction by means of opencasting exist in the district. There is one

¹⁰¹ Leicestershire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Up to 2031, Pre-Submission, 2016



opencast site in the District: Longmoor (between Ravenstone and Normanton-le-Heath) where operations have now ceased.



North West Leicestershire District Council
Local Plan Partial Review
Final Sustainability Appraisal Report (incorporating
Equality Impact Assessment and Health Impact
Assessment)

Appendix C: Assessment Tables















Date: 26th November 2020

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Quality Management

Issue/revisi on	V 1	V 2	V 2.1	V 3	V4	V5
Report Status	Draft	Final	Final (minor amends)	Final (incorporating mods to Policy S1)	Final (Final Policy S1)	Final for Consultation
Date	03/09/19	18/09/19	20/09/19	12/11/20	18/11/20	26/11/20
Prepared by	I Teague / V Pearson	I Teague / V Pearson	I Teague	L Dunkerley	L Dunkerley	L Dunkerley
Signature						
Checked by	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell
Signature						
Project number	C0143					

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OHSAS 18001

Certificate Number. 16135



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1 Introduction

This appendix presents the assessments of the Policy S1 alternative options (2 to 5) and the assessment of the final Policy S1 wording incorporating main modifications following Examination. The wording of each option is included within the assessment tables in Section 2 and the differences between the alternative options is discussed within Section 6 of the main SA Report that this appendix accompanies. Option 1 was deemed to be not a reasonable alternative and has therefore not been subjected to SA. This is explained in Section 6 of the main SA Report.

Tables C1.2 and C1.3 present the criteria used within the assessments.

Table C1.1 presents the framework of SA Objectives and Sub-objectives against which the Policy S1 alternative options and the final S1 policy wording have been assessed.

Table C1.1: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Population & Communities	SA1 Improve the health and wellbeing of the District's population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable people to make healthy choices through the use of urban design and provision of open space and walking / cycling routes. • Ensure everyone has access to open space and recreation facilities.
	SA2 Reduce inequalities and ensure fair and equal access and opportunities for all residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all residents have equitable access to health services, taking into account the needs of an aging population. • Ensure all residents have equitable access to education, employment, community services and facilities. • Help ensure all children have access to a local school.
	SA3 Help create the conditions for communities to thrive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure an integrated approach to delivery of housing and community facilities. • Protect existing community facilities and ensure new facilities are built to support the needs of new housing development. • Help improve provision of local services, such as shops, GPs, public transport, and community service provision in the villages of northern North West Leicestershire. • Provide opportunities for residents to mix and meet. • Help design out crime from new development. • Plan for the district in the context of the wider region, including nearby areas of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.
Housing	SA4 Provide good quality homes that meet local needs in terms of number, type and tenure in locations where it can deliver the greatest benefits and sustainable access to services and jobs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a sufficient number of dwellings are provided to meet the needs of existing residents changing household size; to reduce commuting, improve access to services and jobs and to match employment growth. • Provide affordable homes of the tenure and size to meet the needs of each part of the District. • Provide market homes to meet needs and to match the economic growth aspirations of the wider area. • Provide homes that meet the lifetime needs of residents.

Table C1.1: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Employment & Economy	SA5 Support economic growth throughout the District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for employment developments which support existing well performing employment sectors, such as storage and distribution and growth sectors including high tech manufacturing. • Support initiatives to improve the tourism and leisure sector, in particular in the National Forest and Charnwood Regional Forest Park. • Protect key existing employment sites from change of use, especially where they support local employment needs. • Support and help protect the rural economy.
	SA6 Enhance the vitality and viability of existing town centres and village centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance footfall within town centres and village centres. • Support existing and new services and facilities (e.g. retail, restaurants etc.) within town centres and village centres.
	SA7 Provision of a diverse range of employment opportunities that match the skills and needs of local residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support new employment growth in all areas, including rural locations, where it will help meet a local employment need. • Maintain a diverse employment base, including growing the high skill job sector as well as lower skilled jobs to match the diverse job needs of the workforce.
Transport & Access	SA8 Reduce the need to travel and increase numbers of people walking, cycling or using the bus for their day-to-day travel needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new development has sustainable transport access to facilities, services and jobs; • Give priority to walkers and cyclists over car users. • Increase cycle use for commuting and access to services, creating direct cycle routes. • Reduce congestion in locations where it impacts on road safety, local amenity, causes severance, or adversely impacts on the economy. • Use development to help secure better public transport for the District, in particular links to nearby rail stations and East Midlands Airport and evening and weekend services.

Table C1.1: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Air, Noise & Light Pollution	SA9 Reduce air, light and noise pollution to avoid damage to natural systems and protect human health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new and existing communities are not adversely affected by poor quality air and noise pollution, either through their location or through causing a further deterioration as a result of new development. • Avoid exacerbating light pollution by keeping external lighting to the minimum required for safety and security.
Climate Change	SA10 Reduce carbon emissions throughout the District.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support proposals for decentralised (i.e. small and micro renewables) and low carbon energy generation. • Support large scale low carbon grid schemes where appropriately located. • All new development should be built to high energy efficiency standards.
	SA11 Ensure the District is resilient to the impacts of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the sequential test in Planning Practice Guidance in the allocation of sites in flood risk areas. • Ensure new development does not exacerbate the risk of flood off-site, for instance through use of sustainable drainage. • Ensure new development is designed and located to be resilient to the impacts of climate_change e.g. hotter summers, wetter winters and more extreme weather events. • Ensure new development contributes to Green Infrastructure within the District, where possible.
Biodiversity & Geodiversity	SA12 Protect and enhance the District's biodiversity and protect areas identified for their nature conservation and geological importance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that development results in a net gain in biodiversity and contribute to the achievement of BAP targets. • Protect sites designated for their nature conservation importance from adverse impacts of development, including the river Mease SAC. • Enhance access to the natural environment, including integrating greater biodiversity into urban areas. • Reduce habitat fragmentation and extend ecological corridors • Protect geological designations from adverse impacts of development. • Ensure that all water courses are achieving at least 'Good' ecological status

Table C1.1: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Landscape, Townscape & Land	SA13 Conserve and enhance the quality of the District's landscape and townscape character.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the character and distinctiveness of the District's landscape. • Help implement objectives for the National Forest and the Charnwood Forest Regional Park. • Enhance townscape character, particularly in Coalville Town Centre. • Enhance the transition for urban to rural at the edge of towns and villages. • Enhance the relationship between new and existing communities • Built design should help in creating vibrant places, making those approaching on foot a priority. • Help deliver built environment improvements through high quality design.
	SA14 Ensure land is used efficiently and effectively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage development on previously developed land. • Whenever possible protect the best quality agricultural land. • Encourage development at densities which are appropriate to the location and the local environment. • Where land has the potential to be contaminated or is known to be contaminated ensure that suitable investigation and remediation is carried out to bring it back into use. • Protect soil quality and avoid soil pollution. • Avoid the loss of and enhance the natural capital assets of the District.
Cultural Heritage	SA15 Conserve and enhance the character, diversity and local distinctiveness of the District's built and historic heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and conserve buildings and structures of recognised historic or architectural interest, and their settings. • Maintain and increase access to cultural heritage assets. • Protect and enhance the local historic environment and ensure new development respects the character of the historic environment. • Respect archaeological remains and protect or record according to guidance.

Table C1.1: SA Framework

SA Topic	SA Framework	
	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Water	SA16 Protect water resources and ensure they are used efficiently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure developments are designed to a high level of water efficiency. • Ensure surface and groundwater water resources are protected from pollution.
Waste & Minerals	SA17 Ensure the efficient use of natural resources, including reducing waste generation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new development incorporates space for waste sorting and storage to aid recycling. • Encourage sustainable construction making use of recycled and recyclable building materials. • Ensure the re-use of demolition waste. • Ensure minerals deposits and sites allocated for waste management are not sterilised through inappropriately located development.

Table C1.2: Definition of Assessment Criteria

Criterion	Description
Significance	An assessment of the significance of the potential effects identified. This could be a positive effect, negative effect, neutral effect, significant positive effect or significant negative effect. The definitions for these effects are detailed in .
Permanent/temporary	An assessment of whether the predicted effects would be permanent (P), or temporary (T).
Reversible/Irreversible	An assessment of whether or not the identified effect can be reversed (R) e.g. the loss of greenfield land to development would be irreversible (I).
Spatial extent	How far the effect is predicted to be spread geographically. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low (L) = A specific area within NWLDC boundary • Medium (M) = Across the entire NWLDC boundary, possibly reaching to neighbouring boroughs and districts • High (H) = Beyond the NWLDC Local Plan Boundary, with national or international ramifications
Magnitude	An assessment of the proportion of the receptor affected by the identified effect. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low (L) =20-40% of receptor or capacity affected • Medium (M) = 40-80% of receptor affected • High (H) =80+% of the receptor affected
Duration	An assessment of the time period the predicted effects are likely to last. This could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short (S)= 0-5 years • Medium (M) = 5-10 years • Long (L)= 10 years or more, up to the end of the Local Plan period (2031)
Direct/Indirect	An assessment of whether the predicted effect will be directly (D) as a result of option implementation, or indirectly (I) caused by the policy option.
Likelihood	An assessment of how likely it is that the implementation of the policy option will lead to the predicted effect. This could be low (L), moderate (M) or high (H).
Cumulative effect	An assessment of whether or not there is potential for a cumulative effect to occur on the SA objective as a result of the policy option working in combination with other circumstances, policies or factors. Y= potential cumulative effect. No potential cumulative effect identified.

Table C1.3: Definitions of Significance Scores

Symbol	Definitions of Significance of Effects Against the SA Objectives	Assumptions on the nature of effects
++	Significant Positive Effect: the policy option supports the achievement of this objective; it addresses all relevant sub-objectives and could result in a potentially significant beneficial effect e.g. improved access by walking and cycling modes to a local or town centre	<p>Permanent Continual</p> <p>Magnitude: High 80%+ receptor or environmental capacity affected; or Medium 40-80% of receptor or environmental capacity of affected</p> <p>The effect could be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhance and redefine the location in a positive manner, making a contribution at a county, national or international scale; enhance and redefine the location in a positive manner; repair or restore receptors badly damaged or degraded through previous uses; and/or improve one or more key elements/features/characteristics of a receptor with recognised quality such as a specific regional or national designation.
+	Minor Positive Effect: the policy option supports the achievement of this objective; it addresses some relevant sub-objectives, although it may have only a minor beneficial effect	<p>Reversible Infrequent or intermittent</p> <p>Magnitude: Low 20-40% of receptor or capacity affected.</p> <p>The size, nature and location of a proposed scheme would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve undesignated yet recognised receptor qualities at the neighbourhood/district scale; fit into or with the existing location and existing receptor qualities; and/or enable the restoration of valued characteristic features partially lost through other land uses.
0	Neutral Effect: the policy option has no impact or effect and is neutral insofar as the benefits and drawbacks appear equal and neither is considered significant	N/A
?	Uncertain Effect: Uncertain or insufficient information on which	N/A

Table C1.3: Definitions of Significance Scores

Symbol	Definitions of Significance of Effects Against the SA Objectives	Assumptions on the nature of effects
	to determine the assessment this stage	
-	Minor Negative Effect: the policy option appears to conflict with the achievement of this objective; it does not address relevant sub-objectives and may result in minor adverse effects	Reversible Infrequent or intermittent Magnitude: Low 20-40% of receptor or capacity affected. The size, nature and location of a proposed scheme would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be out of scale with the location; or • leave an adverse impact on a receptor of recognised quality such as a specific district designation.
--	Significant Negative Effect: the policy option works against the achievement of this objective; it could exacerbate relevant sub-objectives and may result in a potentially significant adverse effect e.g. loss of all or part of a designated ecological site of national importance.	Permanent Irreversible Continual Magnitude: High 80%+ receptor or environmental capacity affected; or Medium 40-80% of receptor or environmental capacity of affected The effect could be to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • permanently degrade, diminish or destroy the integrity of the receptor; • cause a very high quality receptor to be permanently changed and its quality diminished; • cannot be fully mitigated and may cumulatively amount to a severe adverse effect; • be at a considerable variance to the location, degrading the integrity of the receptor; and/or • will be substantially damaging to a high quality receptor such as a specific county or national designation.

2 Assessment of Alternative Policy Options

Table C2.1: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 2

Option 2	<p>Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).</p> <p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district; provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres); Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes. <p>The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.</p>																
SA topic	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
Significance	0	0	?	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Permanent/ temporary	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	P	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reversible/ irreversible	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spatial extent	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table C2.1: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 2

Magnitude	N/A	N/A	N/A	H	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Duration (short, medium, long term)	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Direct/indirect	N/A	N/A	N/A	D	D	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Likelihood	N/A	N/A	N/A	H	H	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cumulative effect?	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
Summary of assessment	<p>A potential significant positive effect of high likelihood has been identified for SA4, as this option should help to deliver housing in the district which meets the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN). The housing context and needs of the wider Housing Market Area (HMA) must also be considered. Thus, a potential significant positive effect has been identified for SA4.</p> <p>Other policies within the adopted Local Plan, such as Policy IF1 Development and Infrastructure, will ensure that the community infrastructure required to support new development is put in place through developer contributions. A sub-objective of SA3 relates to planning for the District in the context of the wider region. This policy option does do this to a certain degree but there is no commitment to timeframe or mechanism for collaboration with neighbouring authorities included within the policy wording. Therefore, an uncertain effect is identified for SA3.</p> <p>A minor positive effect has been identified for SA5, due to the provision of 66ha of employment space for B1, B2 and B8 class uses. This should help to guide employment development to well performing employment sectors.</p> <p>With regards to the potential effects of this option on SA6 and SA7, whilst it is known that there will be 66ha land for employment, it is unclear where the space will be provided, or if this will help to provide jobs which meet local skills and need. However, this uncertainty can be mitigated by Local Plan policies such as Policy Ec2 (new employment sites) which sets out clear criteria new development for employment has to meet and retail policies such as Policy Ec8.</p>																

Table C2.1: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 2

	<p>A potential minor negative effect has been identified in relation to SA14, due to the high number of new dwellings required by this option. This could lead to the development of sites with densities which are not appropriate to the location and the local environment including loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital assets. For this reason, a potential minor negative effect has been identified.</p>
Cumulative Effect	<p>Potential cumulative effects have been identified in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA4: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on housing provision which meets the needs of existing residents as a result of changing household size; SA5: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on economic growth in the District; and SA14: A potential significant negative cumulative effect on land use resulting in the loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital resources through the development of the housing and employment uses identified within this policy option.
Mitigation for significant and uncertain effects	<p>SA14: the loss of best quality agricultural land and / or natural capital assets of the District would be unmitigable. However, SA of potential development sites within next iteration of the Local Plan.</p> <p>would look to identify the most sustainable sites for allocation SA3: inclusion of a timeframe and mechanism for collaboration with neighbouring authorities within the policy wording would reduce uncertainty identified in relation to achieving this objective.</p>
Recommended enhancement measures	None

Table C2.2: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 3

Option 3	<p>Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).</p> <p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district; • provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres) • Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes. <p>The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment. The submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work.</p>																
SA topic	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
Significance	0	0	?	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Permanent/temporary	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	P	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reversible/irreversible	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spatial extent	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Magnitude	N/A	N/A	N/A	H	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table C2.2: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 3

Duration (short, medium, long term)	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Direct/indirect	N/A	N/A	N/A	D	D	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Likelihood	N/A	N/A	N/A	H	H	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cumulative effect?	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
Summary of assessment	<p>A potential significant positive effect of high likelihood has been identified for SA4, as this option should help to deliver housing in the district which meets the OAN. The housing context and needs of the wider HMA must also be considered. Thus, a potential significant positive effect has been identified for SA4.</p> <p>Other policies within the adopted Local Plan, such as Policy IF1 Development and Infrastructure, will ensure that the community infrastructure required to support new development is put in place through developer contributions. A sub-objective of SA3 relates to planning for the District in the context of the wider region. This policy option does do this to a certain degree and includes a commitment to submit a replacement Local Plan following collaboration with neighbouring authorities, however, there is no commitment to a timeframe or mechanism for collaboration. Therefore, an uncertain effect is identified for SA3.</p> <p>A minor positive effect has been identified for SA5, due to the provision of 66ha of employment space for B1, B2 and B8 class uses. This should help to guide employment development to well performing employment sectors.</p> <p>With regards to the potential effects of this option on SA6 and SA7, whilst it is known that there will be 66ha land for employment, it is unclear where the space will be provided, or if this will help to provide jobs which meet local skills and need. However, this uncertainty can be mitigated by Local Plan policies such as Policy Ec2 (new employment sites) which sets out clear criteria new development for employment has to meet and retail policies such as Policy Ec8.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect has been identified in relation to SA14, due to the high number of new dwellings required by this option. This could lead to the development of sites with densities which are not appropriate to the location and the local</p>																

Table C2.2: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 3

	environment including loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital assets. For this reason, a potential minor negative effect has been identified.
Cumulative Effect	<p>Potential cumulative effects have been identified in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA4: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on housing provision which meets the needs of existing residents as a result of changing household size; • SA5: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on economic growth in the District; and • SA14: A potential significant negative cumulative effect on land use resulting in the loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital resources through the development of the housing and employment uses identified within this policy option.
Mitigation for significant and uncertain effects	<p>SA14: the loss of best quality agricultural land and / or natural capital assets of the District would be unmitigable. However, SA of potential development sites within next iteration of the Local Plan. would to identify the most sustainable sites for allocation</p> <p>SA3: inclusion of a timeframe and mechanism for collaboration with neighbouring authorities as well as a timeframe for submission of a replacement Local Plan within the policy wording would reduce uncertainty identified in relation to achieving this objective.</p>
Recommended enhancement measures	None

Table C2.3: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 4

Option 4	<p>Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).</p> <p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district; • provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres) • Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes. <p>The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment. This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will follow upon completion of this work.</p>																
SA topic	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
Significance	0	0	?	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Permanent/temporary	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	P	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reversible/irreversible	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spatial extent	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Magnitude	N/A	N/A	N/A	H	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table C2.3: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 4

Duration (short, medium, long term)	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Direct/indirect	N/A	N/A	N/A	D	D	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Likelihood	N/A	N/A	N/A	H	H	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cumulative effect?	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
Summary of assessment	<p>A potential significant positive effect of high likelihood has been identified for SA4, as this option should help to deliver housing in the district which meets the OAN. The housing context and needs of the wider HMA must also be considered, and the requirement for a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) should also help to ensure that this is carried out in a fair and amenable manner. Thus, a potential significant positive effect has been identified for SA4.</p> <p>Other policies within the adopted Local Plan, such as Policy IF1 Development and Infrastructure, will ensure that the community infrastructure required to support new development is put in place through developer contributions. A sub-objective of SA3 relates to planning for the District in the context of the wider region. This policy option does do this to a certain degree and includes a commitment to establishing a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan but without a timeframe for collaboration with neighbouring authorities. Therefore, an uncertain effect is identified for SA3.</p> <p>A minor positive effect has been identified for SA5, due to the provision of 66ha of employment space for B1, B2 and B8 class uses. This should help to guide employment development to well performing employment sectors.</p> <p>With regards to the potential effects of this option on SA6 and SA7, whilst it is known that there will be 66ha land for employment, it is unclear where the space will be provided, or if this will help to provide jobs which meet local skills and need. However, this uncertainty can be mitigated by Local Plan policies such as Policy Ec2 (new employment sites) which sets out clear criteria new development for employment has to meet and retail policies such as Policy Ec8.</p>																

Table C2.3: Assessment of Alternative Policy Option 4

	<p>A potential minor negative effect has been identified in relation to SA14, due to the high number of new dwellings required by this option. This could lead to the development of sites with densities which are not appropriate to the location and the local environment including loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital assets. For this reason, a potential minor negative effect has been identified.</p>
Cumulative Effects	<p>Potential cumulative effects have been identified in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA4: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on housing provision which meets the needs of existing residents as a result of changing household size; SA5: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on economic growth in the District; and SA14: A potential significant negative cumulative effect on land use resulting in the loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital resources through the development of the housing and employment uses identified within this policy option.
Mitigation for significant and uncertain effects	<p>SA14: the loss of best quality agricultural land and / or natural capital assets of the District would be unmitigable. However, SA of potential development sites within next iteration of the Local Plan would to identify the most sustainable sites for allocation.</p> <p>SA3: inclusion of a timeframe for collaboration with neighbouring authorities and review of the Local Plan within the policy wording would reduce uncertainty identified in relation to achieving this objective.</p>
Recommended enhancement measures	None

Table C2.4: Assessment of Policy Option 5

Option 5	<p>Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).</p> <p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district; • provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (B1, B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres) • Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes. <p>The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment. This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and the submission of a replacement Local Plan will take place within 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed by all of the authorities.</p>																
SA topic	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
Significance	0	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Permanent/temporary	N/A	N/A	P	P	P	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reversible/irreversible	N/A	N/A	I	I	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spatial extent	N/A	N/A	M	M	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Magnitude	N/A	N/A	H	H	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table C2.4: Assessment of Policy Option 5

Duration (short, medium, long term)	N/A	N/A	L	L	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Direct/indirect	N/A	N/A	I	D	D	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Likelihood	N/A	N/A	H	H	H	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cumulative effect?	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
Summary of assessment	<p>A potential significant positive effect of high likelihood has been identified for SA4, as this option should help to deliver housing in the district which meets the OAN. The housing context and needs of the wider HMA must also be considered within a set timeframe, and the requirement for a SOCG should also help to ensure that this is carried out in a fair and amenable manner. Thus, a potential significant positive effect has been identified for SA4.</p> <p>Other policies within the adopted Local Plan, such as Policy IF1 Development and Infrastructure, will ensure that the community infrastructure required to support new development is put in place through developer contributions. A sub-objective of SA3 relates to planning for the District in the context of the wider region. Unlike the other policy alternative options assessed, this option should achieve this sub-objective with positive effect through the inclusion of the commitment to establishing a SOCG with neighbouring authorities and the submission of a replacement Local Plan within 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed by all of the authorities. Therefore, a potential minor positive effect is identified in respect of SA3.</p> <p>A minor positive effect has been identified for SA5, due to the provision of 66ha of employment space for B1, B2 and B8 class uses. This should help to guide employment development to well performing employment sectors.</p> <p>With regards to the potential effects of this option on SA6 and SA7, whilst it is known that there will be 66ha land for employment, it is unclear where the space will be provided, or if this will help to provide jobs which meet local skills and need. However, this uncertainty can be mitigated by Local Plan policies such as Policy Ec2 (new employment sites) which sets out clear criteria new development for employment has to meet and retail policies such as Policy Ec8.</p>																

Table C2.4: Assessment of Policy Option 5

	A potential minor negative effect has been identified in relation to SA14, due to the high number of new dwellings required by this option. This could lead to the development of sites with densities which are not appropriate to the location and the local environment including loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital assets. For this reason, a potential minor negative effect has been identified.
Cumulative Effect	<p>Potential cumulative effects have been identified in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA3: A potential significant positive cumulative effect is identified in respect of helping to create the conditions for communities to thrive, particularly in the context of the wider region; • SA4: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on housing provision which meets the needs of existing residents as a result of changing household size; • SA5: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on economic growth in the District; and • SA14: A potential significant negative cumulative effect on land use resulting in the loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital resources through the development of the housing and employment uses identified within this policy option.
Mitigation for significant and uncertain effects	SA14: the loss of best quality agricultural land and / or natural capital assets of the District would be unmitigable. However, SA of potential development sites within next iteration of the Local Plan would to identify the most sustainable sites for allocation.
Recommended enhancement measures	None.

3 Assessment of Final Policy S1

Table C.5: Assessment of Final Policy S1

Final Policy S1	<p>Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).</p> <p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district; • provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (the former B1 (now part of Class E), B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres) <p>Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.</p> <p>The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) and Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs. This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) dealing with the redistribution of unmet need arising in Leicester City or elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA.</p> <p>A replacement Local Plan (the Substantive Review) will be submitted for Examination within 18 months of the date of whichever is the sooner of either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A SOCG being agreed by the HMA/FEMA authorities; or • 21 May 2021. 																
SA topic	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17
Significance	0	0	++	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Permanent/temp orary	N/A	N/A	P	P	P	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table C.5: Assessment of Final Policy S1

Reversible/irreversible	N/A	N/A	I	I	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spatial extent	N/A	N/A	M	M	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Magnitude	N/A	N/A	H	H	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Duration (short, medium, long term)	N/A	N/A	L	L	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	N/A	N/A
Direct/indirect	N/A	N/A	I	D	D	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I	N/A	N/A	N/A
Likelihood	N/A	N/A	H	H	H	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cumulative effect?	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
Summary of assessment	<p>A potential significant positive effect of high likelihood has been identified for SA4, as this option should help to deliver housing in the District which meets the OAN. The housing context and needs of the wider HMA/FEMA must also be considered within a set timeframe, and the requirement for a SOCG should also help to ensure that this is carried out in a fair and amenable manner. Thus, a potential significant positive effect has been identified for SA4.</p> <p>Other policies within the adopted Local Plan, such as Policy IF1 Development and Infrastructure, will ensure that the community infrastructure required to support new development is put in place through developer contributions. A sub-objective of SA3 relates to planning for the District in the context of the wider region. This option should achieve this sub-objective with a high likelihood of a positive effect through the inclusion of the commitment to establishing a SOCG with neighbouring authorities and the submission of a replacement Local Plan within 18 months of the date at which the SOCG is agreed by all of the authorities or 21</p>																

Table C.5: Assessment of Final Policy S1

	<p>May 2021 whichever is the sooner. The final Policy S1 wording which includes a specific timeframe for submission should result in a potential significant positive effect in respect of SA3.</p> <p>A potential minor positive effect has been identified for SA5, due to the provision of 66ha of employment space for B1, B2 and B8 class uses. This should help to guide employment development to well performing employment sectors.</p> <p>With regards to the potential effects of the final policy wording on SA6 and SA7, whilst it is known that there will be 66ha land for employment, it is unclear where the space will be provided, or if this will help to provide jobs which meet local skills and need. However, this uncertainty can be mitigated by Local Plan policies such as retail policies e.g. Policy Ec8 and Policy Ec2 (new employment sites) which sets out clear criteria which new development for employment has to meet.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect has been identified in relation to SA14, due to the high number of new dwellings required by the policy. This could lead to the development of sites with densities which are not appropriate to the location and the local environment including loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital assets. For this reason, a potential minor negative effect has been identified for SA14.</p>
Cumulative Effect	<p>Potential cumulative effects have been identified in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA3: A potential significant positive cumulative effect is identified in respect of helping to create the conditions for communities to thrive, particularly in the context of the wider region; • SA4: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on housing provision which meets the needs of existing residents as a result of changing household size; • SA5: A potential significant positive cumulative effect on economic growth in the District; and • SA14: A potential significant negative cumulative effect on land use resulting in the loss of best quality agricultural land, soil resources and other natural capital resources through the development of the housing and employment uses identified within this policy option.
Mitigation for significant and uncertain effects	<p>SA14: the loss of best quality agricultural land and / or natural capital assets of the District would be unmitigable. However, SA of potential development sites within the next iteration of the Local Plan would help to identify the most sustainable sites for allocation.</p>

Table C.5: Assessment of Final Policy S1

Recommended enhancement measures	None.
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North West Leicestershire District Council
Local Plan Partial Review Final Sustainability
Appraisal Report (incorporating Equality Impact
Assessment and Health Impact Assessment)

Appendix D: Main Modifications Screening Table









Date: 26th November 2020

Prepared by:

ClearLead Consulting Limited
The Barn, Cadhay, Ottery St Mary, Devon, EX11 1QT, UK

Quality Management

Issue/revision	V1	V2	V3
Report Status	DRAFT	Final (Final Policy S1)	Final for Consultation
Date	12/11/20	18/11/20	26/11/20
Prepared by	L Dunkerley	L Dunkerley	L Dunkerley
Signature			
Checked by	J Mitchell	J Mitchell	J Mitchell
Signature			
Project number	C0143		

LIMITATIONS

This report has been prepared by ClearLead Consulting Limited solely for the use of the Client and those parties with whom a warranty agreement has been executed, or with whom an assignment has been agreed. Should any third party wish to use or rely upon the contents of the report, written approval must be sought from ClearLead Consulting Limited; a charge may be levied against such approval.

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- the use of this document by any third party with whom an agreement has not been executed.

The work undertaken to provide the basis of this report comprised a study of available documented information from a variety of sources (including the Client) and discussions with relevant authorities and other interested parties. The opinions given in this report have been dictated by the finite data on which they are based and are relevant only to the purpose for which the report was commissioned. The information reviewed should not be considered exhaustive and has been accepted in good faith as providing true and representative data pertaining to site conditions. Should additional information become available which may affect the opinions expressed in this report, ClearLead Consulting Limited reserves the right to review such information and, if warranted, to modify the opinions accordingly.

It should be noted that any recommendations identified in this report are based on information provided by the Client and as gathered during the site survey. In some cases access cannot be granted to all areas of the site, in these instances and in the absence of information to the contrary, ClearLead Consulting Limited will use the information provided to complete the report.



ISO 9001

ISO 14001

ISO 45001

Certificate Number. 16135



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1 Introduction 1

1 Introduction

All of the proposed main modifications were screened to determine if they were significant and further SA work was required or could be screened out from appraisal as not significant. The screening identified that only one main modification (MM8) concerned changes to a policy (Policy S1). Instead, the majority of the main modifications relate to minor edits to the supporting text to Policy S1 itself. Therefore, these have been screened out as not significant in terms of the SA as they are unlikely to give rise to significant effects. Only one main modification (MM8) was screened in and has been carried forward for further consideration through the SA process in Section 8 of the main SA report. Full details of the screening exercise are presented in Table D.1 below. Modifications are expressed either in the conventional form of ~~strike through~~ for deletions and underlining for additions of text, or by specifying the modification words in *italics*.

The page numbers and paragraph numbering below refer to the Pre-Submission Local Plan (November 2019), and do not take account of the deletion or addition of text.

Table D.1 Main Modifications Screening Table					
MM Ref	Page	Policy/ Paragraph	Main Modification	Reason for modification	Screened in ? Yes/No
MM1	7	1.3	The preparation of the Local Plan included a number of consultations and the plan was the subject of an Examination in early 2017. Following receipt of the Inspector's Report in October 2017, the plan was adopted in November 2017. <u>The plan was then subjected to Partial Review in 2020. This amended Policy S1 and non-policy supporting text only. This did not include any review of the need for development in the District or the allocation of land to meet it. Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as Amended by the 2017 amendment) requires that a local plan review must be completed every 5 years.</u>	The modification provides context and explains the distinction between the partial review and the substantive review. It does not significantly affect the findings of the SA of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review.	No

Table D.1 Main Modifications Screening Table

MM Ref	Page	Policy/ Paragraph	Main Modification	Reason for modification	Screened in ? Yes/No
			Use Classes Order 2015)). A study ¹ in respect of the need for additional provision for distribution uses (Class B8) of more than 9,000sq metres has identified a need for both additional road and rail connected sites across the HMA but it did does not identify any specific requirements for individual districts/boroughs. Within North West Leicestershire such provision has already been made through a Strategic Rail Freight Interchange (SRFI) near to East Midlands Airport/M1 Junction 24 (referred to as Roxhill), which was approved by the Secretary of State in January 2016.		
MM3	22	5.8	Policy S1 recognises that there is a need to undertake an early review of the Local Plan. This is because whilst the current total provision of employment land is about 291 hectares, there is a mismatch between the type of land identified as being required in the HEDNA and the actual provision. <u>As noted, the HEDNA required the provision of 66ha of employment land. This excluded land to be used for strategic distribution (i.e. those of more than 9,000sq metres). At the time of the adoption of the Local Plan in November 2017, there was a shortfall of about 29 hectares of employment land when compared to the HEDNA requirement for (the former) Class B1 (now part of Class E), B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres. This reflects the fact that the HEDNA was completed</u>	The modifications provide additional clarity and does not significantly affect the findings of the SA of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review.	No

¹ Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Distribution Study

Table D.1 Main Modifications Screening Table

MM Ref	Page	Policy/ Paragraph	Main Modification	Reason for modification	Screened in ? Yes/No
			towards the end of the process of preparing this plan. In addition, it is <u>was</u> apparent that not all of the other HMA authorities <u>would</u> will be able to accommodate their housing needs within their boundaries. <u>Therefore, Policy S1 included provision for the local Plan to be subject to an immediate review. This review was undertaken as the Partial Review in 2020 and resulted in an amendment to Policy S1 and the non-policy supporting text only. A Substantive Review of the Local Plan was also begun.</u>		
MM4	22	New paragraph 5.9	Since the adoption of this Local Plan in November 2017, the government introduced a new way for the identification of housing requirements. This is referred to as the 'standard method'. The partial review continued to be based on the HEDNA due to the publication by the government of draft proposals to amend the standard method. In addition, the issue of unmet need from Leicester City, for both housing and employment, had not been finally agreed by the HMA/FEMA authorities.	The modification reflects updated method for the identification of housing requirements. It does not significantly affect the findings of the SA of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review.	No
MM5	22	New paragraph 5.10	The Substantive Review which the Council is undertaking, will take account of the requirements arising from the standard method. It will also take account of any unmet need from elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA, particularly Leicester City, which the Council is required to accommodate as a result of The Council is committed to working with the other HMA/FEMA authorities to agree how and where this unmet need will be accommodated. It may, therefore, be necessary for additional provision to be made for housing (and/or employment) when this work is	The modification is a clarification of process and does not significantly affect the findings of the SA of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review.	No

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			completed. This will be done via a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG). For the avoidance of doubt, agreed will be taken to mean that each authority has signed off the SOCG. This is allowed for in Policy S1 which also requires the replacement Local Plan prepared through the Substantive Review to be submitted for Examination within 18 months of the SOCG being agreed.		
MM6	22	New paragraph 5.11	The completion of the SOCG is not within the Council's control. However, it is important that the Council continues to progress the Substantive Review to submission. Therefore, Policy S1 also provides for an alternative date for the replacement Local Plan (Substantive Review) to be submitted in the event that a SOCG is not agreed. This alternative date requires submission within 18 months of 21 May 2021 (i.e. by 21 November 2022). This date accords with the requirement for local plans to be reviewed every five years.	The modification is a clarification of process and does not significantly affect the findings of the SA of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review.	No
MM7	22	New paragraph 5.12	The Substantive Review will also have regard to the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan which sets out a long-term vision and strategy for growth in Leicestershire. In addition, it will need to have regard to a new strategic warehousing study ² commissioned by the HMA/FEMA authorities as well as any other new evidence and studies.	The modification clarifies the coverage of the Substantive Review and does not significantly affect the findings of the SA of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Review.	No

² Warehousing and Logistics in Leicester and Leicestershire: Managing growth and change

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MM8	23	Policy S1	<p>Policy S1 – Future housing and economic development needs</p> <p>Over the plan period to 2031 provision will be made to meet the housing and employment land needs of the district as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017).</p> <p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provision will be made for the development of a minimum of 9,620 dwellings (481 dwellings per annum) which is the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) and Housing Requirement for the district; provision will be made for 66 hectares of land for employment purposes (<u>the former B1 (now part of Class E), B2 and B8 of less than 9,000sq metres</u>) <p>Provision will also be made for 7,300sq metres for shopping purposes.</p> <p><u>The Council will continue to work collaboratively with the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) and Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) authorities to establish the scale and distribution of any additional provision that may be necessary in North West Leicestershire and elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA as a result of the inability of one or more authority to accommodate its own needs as identified in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and</u></p>	<p>The modification provides clarity in respect of how the issue of unmet need in Leicester City will be addressed and to provide a timeframe for submission of the Substantive Review.</p> <p>Therefore, this is a significant change to the policy wording which should be appraised.</p>	Yes

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			<p>Economic Development Needs Assessment. This will be done through a Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) dealing with the redistribution of unmet need arising in Leicester City or elsewhere in the HMA/FEMA.</p> <p><u>A replacement Local Plan (the Substantive Review) will be submitted for Examination within 18 months of the date of whichever is the sooner of either:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>A SOCG being agreed by the HMA/FEMA authorities; or</u> <u>21 May 2021.</u> <p>The District Council will commence a review of this Local Plan (defined as being publication of an invitation to make representations in accordance with Regulation 18 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) by the end of January 2018 or within 3 months of the adoption of this Local Plan (whichever is the later). The Plan Review will be submitted for examination within two years from the commencement of the review. In the event that the reviewed plan is not submitted within two years then this Local Plan will be deemed to be out of date.</p>		