

# Sustainability Appraisal Adoption Statement

Gedling Borough Local Planning Document  
July 2018



## **Introduction**

1. The Local Planning Document was adopted by Gedling Borough Council on 18 July 2018.
2. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced the requirement to carry out Sustainability Appraisals as an integral part of the preparation of new plans.
3. Paragraph 165 of the National Planning Policy Framework states “A sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors”. The European Directive 2001/42/EC is commonly referred to as Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA.
4. The Borough Council has produced this adoption statement in accordance with Regulation 16 (4) (a) to (f) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, which incorporates European Directive 2001/42/EC into UK legislation.
5. As required by regulation 16 (4), this statement sets out:-
  - (a) how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme;
  - (b) how the environmental report has been taken into account;
  - (c) how opinions expressed in response to the public consultation have been taken into account;
  - (d) how the results of any consultations involving other Member States have been taken into account;
  - (e) the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and
  - (f) the measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan or programme.

### **(a) How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan (i.e. the Local Planning Document)**

6. The first stage of the Sustainability Appraisal was to identify its scope i.e. the sustainability issues and problems facing the Borough; other policies, plans or programmes that were relevant to the Local Planning Document; and the Borough’s baseline information.

7. The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (2013) sets out the review of all documents and strategies considered relevant to the Local Planning Document. It establishes the environmental, social and economic situation and allows opportunities and synergies between the plans and the Local Planning Document to be identified, as well as any potential conflicts. It contains issues and objectives, targets, the implications for the Local Planning Document and the implications for the Sustainability Appraisal. Responses from the consultation on the Scoping Report highlight a number of documents missing from the list of plans, policies and programmes. The review of the plans, policies and programmes and the table identifying the key messages have been updated in 2016 and are included in the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Appendix A: Scoping Report Update (May 2016).
8. The Scoping Report describes the characteristics of the Borough based on the baseline data (as of 2013). Where available, the baseline data has been updated to 31 March 2015 and included in the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Appendix A: Scoping Report Update (May 2016).
9. Through the analysis of the baseline data and officer knowledge, a number of sustainability issues facing the Borough have been identified and reported in the Scoping Report. It is considered that the amended list of plans, policies and programmes in the light of the responses from the consultation on the Scoping Report and the updated baseline information to 2015 do not change the sustainability issues identified in the Scoping Report.
10. An SA Framework, which is based on the review of plans, policies and programmes, the analysis of the baseline data and the identification of sustainability issues, was established for the Aligned Core Strategy. As the issues have not changed significantly since the Aligned Core Strategy, it was viewed appropriate to use the same SA Framework to test the sustainability of the Local Planning Document. However, the SA Framework has been amended as the result of the consultation comments on the Scoping Report, the comments received on the Sustainability Appraisal of the publication version of the Aligned Core Strategy and the SA group.
11. The SA Framework contains a list of 15 SA objectives covering environmental, social and economic issues and was used to assess the reasonable alternative options for the development management policies and the development management policies.
12. The SA Matrix (which covers the same 15 SA objectives) was created and used for the assessment of the reasonable alternative sites and the site allocations for consistency purposes.
13. The Local Planning Document was also screened to identify any likely significant effects on European sites and, where necessary, to consider potential mitigation measures. The Habitats Regulations Assessment was carried out in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.

14. The Sustainability Appraisal has been used to guide and inform the decision-making process when developing the Local Planning Document. The SA Framework has been used during the appraisal process and the findings have been published at each stage of the Local Planning Document.

15. The key stages of the preparation of the Local Planning Document and the Sustainability Appraisal as well as the Habitats Regulations Assessment and Equality Impact Assessment are set out in Table 2.

**Table 2: Key Stages of the Local Planning Document, Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment and Equality Impact Assessment**

| Date          | Stage   |
|---------------|---|
| October 2013  | Public consultation on Local Planning Document Issues and Options document and the <b>Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report</b> (which is the first stage of the SA process).   |
| 2013 - 2015   | A series of workshops on potential development sites in Bestwood Village, Calverton, Ravenshead, Burton Joyce, Lambley and Woodborough.   |
| November 2014 | SA assessment of the reasonable alternative options for the development management policies was undertaken.   |
| December 2014 | SA assessment of the reasonable alternative options for the site allocations for housing was undertaken.  |
| Early 2015    | SA assessment of the reasonable alternative options for the site allocations for employment was undertaken.   |
| 2015          | A series of workshops on a range of issues including design, climate change, transport and retail and employment.   |
| December 2015 | SA assessment of the draft development management policies was undertaken.  |
| December 2015 | SA assessment of the draft site allocations was undertaken.   |
| May 2016      | Public consultation on Local Planning Document Publication Draft document, the <b>Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report</b> including <b>Appendices A to H</b> (which sets out the findings of the SA assessment of the reasonable alternative options and the proposed policies and site allocations), the <b>Habitats Regulations Assessment</b> and the <b>Equality Impact Assessment</b> .   |
| October 2016  | Submission of the Local Planning Document and the Sustainability Appraisal to the Planning Inspectorate, including the <b>Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum: Alternative Sites to the Site Allocations for Housing</b> (which looked at the findings of the SA assessment of the three additional reasonable alternative sites that had not been assessed previously and required further consideration).   |
| December 2016 | <b>Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 2: Appraisal of Housing Distribution for Key Settlements and Policies LPD 62 and LPD 63</b> (which looked at the findings of the SA assessment of the options for the apportioning the remaining oversupply between the three key settlements and the policies on comprehensive development and housing distribution contained in Part B of the Local Planning Document) was published in response to the Inspector's Initial Questions for the Council. |

| Date                         | Stage  |
|------------------------------|--|
| February 2017                | <b>Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 3: Review of SA Assessment on Reasonable Alternative Sites and Allocation Sites based on Second Heritage Assessment</b> (which reviewed the SA assessment of the reasonable alternative sites and site allocations using information from the Assessment of Impact of LPD Development Sites on Scheduled Monuments to inform SA objective 3: heritage and design) was published.  |
| February, March and May 2017 | Public hearing sessions of the Local Planning Document. The hearing session on the Sustainability Appraisal took place on Tuesday 7 February 2017.   |
| June 2017                    | The Inspector suspended the hearings and invited the Council to propose additional housing allocations and for them to be consulted upon.  |
| September 2017               | Public consultation on the Local Planning Document Additional Housing Allocations, the <b>Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 4: Review of SA Assessment on Policy LPD 63 (now LPD 64) and Additional Site Allocations for Housing</b> (which provided a SA assessment of the revision to the housing distribution policy and the additional six site allocations for housing in the Arnold part of the urban area, Calverton and Ravenshead), the <b>Addendum to the Habitats Regulations Assessment – Additional Housing Allocations</b> and the <b>Addendum to the Equality Impact Assessment – Additional Housing Allocations</b> .<br><br>Comments were also invited on the previous <b>Sustainability Appraisal Addendums 1, 2 and 3</b> . |
| November and December 2017   | Continuation of the public hearing sessions of the Local Planning Document.  |
| February 2018                | Public consultation on the Local Planning Document Main Modifications, the <b>Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Modifications</b> (which provided a SA assessment of the development management and site allocations policies as amended by the proposed modifications) and the <b>Habitats Regulations Assessment and Equality Impact Assessment – Main Modifications</b> .   |
| 26 June 2018                 | Inspector's Report received on the Local Planning Document.  |
| 18 July 2018                 | Gedling Borough Local Planning Document adopted.   |

**(b) How the environmental report (i.e. the Sustainability Appraisal report) has been taken into account**

16. At each stage of preparing the Local Planning Document, the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal, including the Habitats Regulations Assessment, were taken into account to inform the development of the development management policies and site allocations policies.

Scoping Report / Issues and Options / Workshops

17. Public consultation on the Local Planning Document Issues and Options document and the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report took place in October

2013. Changes were made to the list of plans, policies and programmes, baseline data, sustainability issues table and the SA Framework in the light of the consultation responses. The baseline data, sustainability issues and SA Framework were used to inform the SA assessment on the reasonable alternative options.

18. After the consultation responses on the Local Planning Document Issues and Options had been taken into account and all reasonable alternative options identified, the process to appraise the reasonable alternative options in a workshop format started in November and December 2014. Paragraph 2.20 of A Practice Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2005) states that the Directive does not prescribe who is to carry out an SEA, but normally it is the task of the Responsible Authority i.e. the body which prepares and/or adopts the plan. In the light of the comments received on the Sustainability Appraisal of the Aligned Core Strategy, an SA group was set up to undertake the SA assessment of the Local Planning Document. The SA group consisted of:

- Officers from Planning Policy, Housing Strategy, Economic Development, Public Protection and Parks and Street Care at Gedling Borough Council;
- Officers from Nature Conservation, Historic Environment and Highways at Nottinghamshire County Council;
- Representative from Natural England;
- Representative from Historic England<sup>1</sup>; and
- Representative from Environment Agency.

19. In November 2014, the SA group undertook the SA assessment of the reasonable alternative options for the development management policies, using the SA Framework. Following the SA workshop, additional policy options came forward as the result of the Employment Land Forecasting Study and the Retail Study which were published in 2015. The SA assessment was undertaken using the same approach used at the SA workshop. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) provides the summaries of the appraisals and the accompanying Appendix B: Reasonable Alternative Options for Policy Topics provides the full findings of the appraisals and recommendations.

20. The findings of the SA assessment fed into the Local Planning Document process to inform the development management policies for the Local Planning Document. As part of the policy preparation process, a series of topic based workshop sessions were held during 2015 involving parish councils, adjoining local authorities, people with specialist knowledge, community representatives, community groups and organisations with particular interests to assist in identifying policy options for inclusion in the Local Planning Document. Policies were drafted and shared with technical experts for their initial comments. All of the responses received through this process were used to inform the development management policies for the Local Planning Document.

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<sup>1</sup> Previously known as English Heritage.

21. In December 2014, the SA group undertook the SA assessment of the reasonable options for the site allocations for housing, using the SA Matrix. Following the SA workshop, additional sites came forward for housing and the SA assessment was undertaken using the same approach used at the SA workshop. As the employment requirements were unknown at the time of the SA workshop in December 2014, the SA assessment of the reasonable options for the site allocations for employment was undertaken in 2015 using the same approach used at the SA workshop.
22. The findings of the SA assessment fed into the site selection process. The Site Selection Document - Main Report (May 2016) including the appendices and the Employment Background and Site Selection Paper (May 2016) explained how the allocated housing and employment sites were chosen from the reasonable alternative sites.
23. The findings of the SA assessment and other evidence were used to inform the site allocations for the Local Planning Document.

#### Publication Draft

24. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) provides a detailed account on how the Sustainability Appraisal process informed the Local Planning Document since the scoping stage.
25. Consultation on the Local Planning Document Publication Draft and its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal was held between May and July 2016. A number of alternative sites to the proposed site allocations were put forward. These included reasonable alternative sites that had already been considered through the site selection process, variations on sites that had been previously considered and new sites not previously considered. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum: Alternative Sites to the Site Allocations for Housing (October 2016) looked at the findings of the SA assessment of the three additional reasonable alternative sites that had not been assessed previously and required further consideration. The Site Selection Document Addendum (October 2016) explained the outcome of the additional reasonable alternative sites.

#### Submission / Examination

26. Following the submission of the Local Planning Document and its accompanying documents including the Sustainability Appraisal to the Planning Inspectorate in October 2016, the Inspector produced Initial Questions for the Council including questions regarding the Sustainability Appraisal. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 2: Appraisal of Housing Distribution for Key Settlements and Policies LPD62 and LPD63 (December 2016) looked at the findings of the SA assessment of the options for apportioning the oversupply between the three key settlements and the policies on comprehensive development and housing distribution contained in Part B of the Local Planning Document.

27. During the examination, Calverton Parish Council raised concerns regarding certain evidence documents, including the Landscape and Visual Analysis of Potential Development Sites and The Impact of Possible Development Sites on Heritage Assets. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 3: Review of SA Assessment on Reasonable Alternative Sites and Allocation Sites based on the second heritage assessment (February 2017) reviewed the SA assessment of the reasonable alternative sites and site allocations using information from the Assessment of Impact of LPD Development Sites on Scheduled Monuments (February 2017) to inform SA objective 3: heritage and design.

#### Additional Housing Allocations

28. In June 2017, the Inspector made it known that she had significant concerns about the soundness of one of the housing allocations and postponed the hearing session to allow the Council to undertake a public consultation exercise on proposed new housing allocations and on the Council's amended five year supply and housing trajectory for the plan period. The Site Selection Document Addendum 3 – Consideration of Additional Housing Allocations (September 2017) explained how the additional six allocated housing allocations had been chosen from the reserve sites drawn from the Site Selection Document. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Addendum 4: Review of SA Assessment on Policy LPD63 (now LPD64) and Additional Site Allocations for Housing (September 2017) provided a SA assessment of the revision to the housing distribution policy and the additional six site allocations for housing in the Arnold part of the urban area, Calverton and Ravenshead.

#### Main Modifications

29. Further appraisal was undertaken to assess the impact of the proposed Main Modifications to the Local Planning Document. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Modifications (February 2018) concluded that the overall outcomes did not change the overall conclusions of the SA assessment as reported in the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016).

30. The final assessment of the development management policies and site allocations are set out in the following documents:-

- Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) and its accompanying appendices; and
- Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Modifications (February 2018) (including appendices).

#### Inspector's Report

31. The Inspector's Report concludes that the SA has been undertaken at each stage of the preparation of the Local Planning Document. Paragraph 32 of the Inspector's Report acknowledges that the SA is an iterative process, with further SA carried out to address any deficiencies identified or where new information or



assessments have been presented or changes to the plan's policies and proposals are put forward.

### Habitats Regulations Assessment

32. The Local Planning Document was also screened to identify any likely significant effects on European sites and, where necessary, to consider potential mitigation measures. The Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) describes the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.
33. During the Aligned Core Strategy process, a potential significant effect on an area of land that may be designated in the future as a European site was identified. It found that there could potentially be significant effects of the Aligned Core Strategy on the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area. (The screening process followed a precautionary approach, as advised by Natural England, and assumed the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area is progressed through the normal classification process, via potential Special Protection Area and classified Special Protection Area status, but it has not been confirmed when a decision on its final status is expected).
34. Since the adoption of the Aligned Core Strategy, work has been ongoing with the development of the Local Planning Document which confirms that there has not been any significant change in policy to housing distribution. The screening exercise as it relates to the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area is effectively a 'shadow' HRA given that the area is not a designated site. However, as the Local Planning Document is in general conformity with the Aligned Core Strategy no significant impact has been revealed. The majority of the policies have been ruled out as they will not have a likely significant effect on the prospective Sherwood Forest SPA (or other European sites) and therefore will not need to be taken forward to the next stage of assessment.
35. A review of the proposed site allocations for housing and employment in the Local Planning Document also confirms that there are no significant effects. The proposed housing distribution in the Local Planning Document highlights that in the more sensitive areas with respect to prospective Sherwood Forest SPA the actual numbers have been reduced. However, mitigation measures will still be required including green infrastructure and visitor management which should help avoid the likelihood of a significant effect on the prospective Sherwood Forest SPA. The need for a further assessment of potential effects has been included within policy.
36. A further Habitats Regulation Appraisal was undertaken to assess whether the proposed additional housing allocations would result in potential significant effects on the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area. The Addendum to Habitats Regulations Assessment (September 2017) concluded there would be no significant impact arising from the additional housing allocations.
37. For the Main Modifications to the Local Planning Document, a further Habitats Regulation Appraisal was undertaken and the Habitats Regulations Assessment

and Equality Impact Assessment – Main Modifications (February 2018) concluded that it was considered that there would be no significant effects upon the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area as a result of the proposed Main Modifications to the Local Planning Document.

38. Following the examination of the Local Planning Document, paragraph 37 of the Inspector’s Report concluded that the Habitats Regulations Assessments undertaken confirm that there would be no significant effects upon the prospective SPA.

### **(c) How opinions expressed in response to the public consultation have been taken into account**

#### Scoping Report / Issues and Options / Workshops

39. In October 2013, the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report was consulted on alongside the Issues and Options stage of the Local Planning Document during 8 week consultation. The three statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, Historic England<sup>2</sup> and Environment Agency) were invited to comment on the Scoping Report. Specific questions were included in the Scoping Report to assist consultees with their responses.

40. The key issues raised in the consultation on the Scoping Report and the Council response are summarised in Appendix A1 of the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft (May 2016). Changes were made to the list of plans, policies and programmes, baseline data, sustainability issues table and the SA Framework in the light of the consultation responses.

41. The comments on the Issues and Options document informed the preparation of the Local Planning Document. Further details can be found in the Local Planning Document Issues and Options Report of Consultations – Sites (May 2014) and Local Planning Document Issues and Options Report of Consultations – Topics (May 2014).

42. Between 2013 and 2015, the Borough Council held a series of workshops in order to understand the views of local residents in relation to potential development sites in Bestwood Village, Calverton, Ravenshead, Burton Joyce, Lambley and Woodborough. A series of workshops were also held in 2015 on a range of issues including design, climate change, transport and retail and employment, in order to inform the preparation of the Local Planning Document.

43. The resulting masterplanning reports for Bestwood Village, Calverton and Ravenshead and a summary of the feedback from each of the community workshops in Burton Joyce, Lambley and Woodborough and details of the discussion at the topic workshops are summarised in the following documents:-

- Masterplanning for Key Settlements – Bestwood Village (June 2015)

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<sup>2</sup> Previously known as English Heritage.

- Masterplanning for Key Settlements – Calverton (April 2014)
- Masterplanning for Key Settlements – Ravenshead (April 2014)
- Local Planning Document Workshops – Burton Joyce, Lambley and Woodborough (April 2015)
- Local Planning Document Workshops – Topic Schedules of Options and Notes (May 2016)

### Publication Draft

44. After the consultation on the publication draft of the Local Planning Document, the Borough Council published the Report of Responses (October 2016) and Report of Responses Addendum: Comments received from Nottinghamshire CPRE (January 2017). The Council's response to the issues raised is also included in the Reports of Responses.
45. Comments on the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft are included in the Report of Responses, which recommends no change to the Sustainability Appraisal Main Report or SA assessment in light of the comments received.
46. Comments on the Habitats Regulations Assessment are included in the Report of Responses and no further action was required to the Habitats Regulations Assessment in light of the comments received.

### Additional Housing Allocations

47. In September 2017, public consultation took place on the additional housing allocations to the Local Planning Document. In addition to consultation on Sustainability Appraisal Addendum 4 (which provided a SA assessment of the revision to the housing distribution policy and the additional six site allocations for housing) the previous Sustainability Appraisal Addendums since the submission of the Local Planning Document were also made available for comment.
48. The Borough Council published the Additional Housing Allocations Report of Responses (November 2017) which summarised the comments received on the additional housing allocations, including the Council's response.
49. All comments on the Addendums<sup>3</sup> to the Sustainability Appraisal are included in the Report of Responses and no change was recommended to the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum, Addendum 2 and Addendum 3 in light of the comments received.
50. All comments on the Habitats Regulations Assessment are included in the Report of Responses and no further action was required to the Habitats Regulations Assessment in light of the comments received.

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<sup>3</sup> Addendum, Addendum 2, Addendum 3 and Addendum 4.

## Proposed Main Modifications

51. In February 2018, public consultation took place on the Main Modifications on the Local Planning Document. The Sustainability Appraisal for the Main Modifications included the SA assessment on all site allocations, including the additional housing allocations, which has been amended to reflect the comments made previously.
52. After the Main Modifications consultation, the Borough Council published the Report of Summaries (March 2018). Comments received on the Sustainability Appraisal Main Modifications regarding the SA assessment on one of the housing allocations and the SA matrix. These comments are included in the Report of Summaries.

## Inspector's Report

53. Paragraph 28 of the Inspector's Report acknowledges that the Borough Council has amended the SA Framework as a result of consultation responses on the Scoping Report and comments received on the SA of the publication version of the Aligned Core Strategy. Paragraph 31 of the Inspector's Report notes that there have been some criticisms of the SA, including the alternatives considered, decisions made regarding the site allocations and the review of the Green Belt, along with the Council's approach and confirms that the SA carried out by the Council conforms to the Planning Practice Guidance which states that a SA 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 plan.

## **(d) How the results of any consultations involving other Member States have been taken into account**

54. It has been confirmed that there have been no European transboundary issues associated with the Local Planning Document.

## **(e) The reasons for choosing the plan (i.e. the Local Planning Document) as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with**

55. The Sustainability Appraisal has been a key element in the preparation of the Local Planning Document.
56. For the development management policies, Section 8 of the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) describes the reasonable alternative options that were appraised for the development management policies. The section describes the options considered for the development management policies, the findings of the SA assessment and the outcome of the Local Planning Document process.

57. For the site allocations policies, Section 10 of the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) includes Table 18 and 19 which contain lists of the reasonable alternative sites that were appraised for the site allocations for housing and employment. The section describes the findings of the SA assessment and referred to the Site Selection Document - Main Report (May 2016) and the Employment Background and Site Selection Paper (May 2016) which explained how the allocated housing and employment sites had been chosen from the reasonable alternative sites.
58. Following consultation on the Local Planning Document Publication Draft, a further SA assessment (Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft) was carried out due to a number of alternative sites not previously considered to the proposed site allocations being put forward. The Site Selection Document Addendum (October 2016) explained the outcome of the three additional reasonable alternative sites.
59. Following the submission of the Local Planning Document and its accompanying documents including the Sustainability Appraisal to the Planning Inspectorate in October 2016, the Inspector's Initial Questions for the Council included two questions regarding the Sustainability Appraisal. The two questions were (i) whether Policy LPD63 contained in Part B of the Local Planning Document had been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal, and (ii), whether the approach taken to the reduced housing in the key settlements of Bestwood Village, Calverton and Ravenshead had been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal.
60. The Inspector noted that the distribution of housing between the key settlements of Bestwood Village, Calverton and Ravenshead differed in the Local Planning Document Plan to that set out in the Aligned Core Strategy. The Housing Background Paper explained the approach taken to the distribution of housing in the Local Planning Document and referred to an 'oversupply' of housing in the urban area and land adjoining Hucknall area which could be used to reduce the amount of housing at other locations. The approach taken to the distribution of homes between the key settlements had not been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal because it had been considered that there were no reasonable alternative options to apportioning the remaining oversupply between the three key settlements. The Council's response to the Inspector's Initial Questions explains in more detail. Options had been identified (but dismissed as not being reasonable options for Sustainability Appraisal purposes) as follows:-
- The reduction of all 430 homes from either one of the three key settlements;
  - Splitting the reduction of 430 homes equally between the three key settlements; and
  - Splitting the 430 homes proportionately between the three key settlements based on their share of the housing figure identified in the Aligned Core Strategy.
61. A second addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft was published in December 2016 which looked at the findings of the SA assessment of the options for the apportioning the remaining oversupply between the three

key settlements and the policies on comprehensive development and housing distribution contained in Part B of the Local Planning Document.

62. During the examination, Calverton Parish Council raised some concerns regarding the supporting documents, including the Landscape and Visual Analysis of Potential Development Sites and The Impact of Possible Development Sites on Heritage Assets. Specifically, it was considered that the landscape assessment did not take account of the views of local residents and that the Impact of Possible Development Sites on Heritage Assets in Gedling Borough Council (2015) did not include Scheduled Monuments in the assessment and an officer judgement was made as to the potential impact of development sites. The Council commissioned a second independent heritage assessment. In response to the Inspector's questions on this matter, the Assessment of Impact of LPD Development Sites on Scheduled Monuments (2017) was used to review the SA assessment and did not supersede the Impact of Possible Development Sites on Heritage Assets in Gedling Borough Council (2015) which had informed SA objective 3 (heritage and design) in the SA assessment.
63. A third addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft was published in February 2017 which reviewed the SA assessment of the reasonable alternative sites and site allocations using information from the Assessment of Impact of LPD Development Sites on Scheduled Monuments to inform SA objective 3: heritage and design.
64. In June 2017, the Inspector made it known that she had significant concerns about the soundness of one of the housing allocations and postponed the hearing session to allow the Council to undertake a public consultation exercise on the proposed new housing allocations and on the Council's amended five year supply and housing trajectory for the plan period. The Site Selection Document Addendum 3 – Consideration of Additional Housing Allocations (September 2017) explained how the additional six allocated housing allocations had been chosen from the reserve sites drawn from the Site Selection Document.
65. A fourth addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft was published in September 2017 which provided a SA assessment of the revision to the housing distribution policy and the additional six site allocations for housing.
66. Paragraph 33 of the Inspector's Report notes that there has been some criticism about the nature and extent of the Reasonable Alternatives assessed and questions about the Council's approach. The Inspector confirms that the Borough Council has carried out an adequate SA of the Local Planning Document and reasonable alternatives have been considered to a sufficient degree. It represents the most appropriate strategy in the circumstances.

**(f) The measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan (i.e. the Local Planning Document)**

67. Paragraph 12.4 of the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) states that a monitoring framework had been created for use post adoption of the Aligned Core Strategy. The Aligned Core Strategy and its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal contain monitoring arrangements which set out targets, indicators and delivery requirements for each policy in the Aligned Core Strategy and also to test the sustainability of the policies.
68. The monitoring framework has been amended to include new indicators to monitor the sustainability of the policies in the Local Planning Document.
69. The information monitored will be published in the Borough Councils' Authority Monitoring Reports at least yearly and the information will be made available on the website.
70. The Aligned Core Strategy and the Local Planning Document policies will be reviewed in the light of the results of monitoring and any other significant changes.

**Further Information**

71. To access the Sustainability Appraisal and other Local Planning Document related documents mentioned in this statement, please visit the Local Planning Document examination pages at the following web link:-

<http://www.gedling.gov.uk/lpdexamination>

72. To access the Authority Monitoring Report, please visit the following address:-

<http://www.gedling.gov.uk/resident/planningandbuildingcontrol/planningpolicy/amrandfiveyearhousinglandsupply>

## **Appendix 1 – Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring Framework**

Extract of Table 21 from the Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft Main Report (May 2016) which has been amended to reflect the renumbering of the policies and new policies.

| <b>SA objectives</b>  | <b>Local Planning Document Policies</b>  | <b>Indicators</b>  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>1. Housing</b><br>To monitor effects on ensuring that the housing stock meets the housing needs  | LPD 17 – Homes for Rural Workers<br>LPD 36 – Affordable Housing<br>LPD 37 – Housing Type, Size and Tenure<br>LPD 38 – Gypsy and Traveller Provision<br>LPD 39 – Specialist Accommodation<br>LPD 40 – Housing Development on Unallocated Sites<br>LPD 41 – Live Work Units<br>LPD 42 – Self Build and Custom Homes<br>LPD 51 – Upper Floors<br>LPD 63 – Housing Distribution<br>LPD 64 to LPD70 – Housing Allocations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population – by group</li> <li>• Housing completions – affordable homes, dwelling types, density, location</li> <li>• House prices</li> <li>• Number of homelessness acceptances</li> <li>• Number of empty homes</li> <li>• Number of pitches for gypsy and traveller communities</li> </ul>   |
| <b>2. Health</b><br>To monitor effects on improving health and reducing health inequalities   | LPD 20 – Protection of Open Space<br>LPD 21 – Provision of New Open Space<br>LPD 22 – Local Green Space<br>LPD 56 – Protection of Community Facilities   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of GP practices, community centres and leisure centres</li> <li>• Net change in Country Parks</li> <li>• Net change in open space</li> <li>• Net change in Local Green Space</li> </ul>  |
| <b>3. Heritage and Design</b><br>To monitor effects on providing better opportunities for people to value and enjoy the area's heritage including the preservation, enhancement and promotion of the cultural and built environment (including archaeological assets) | LPD 26 – Heritage Assets<br>LPD 27 – Listed Buildings<br>LPD 28 – Conservation Areas<br>LPD 29 – Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens<br>LPD 30 – Archaeology<br>LPD 31 – Locally Important Heritage Assets  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of heritage assets – Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monument and Parks and Gardens</li> <li>• Number of heritage assets at risk - - Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monument, Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas</li> <li>• Number of Conservation Areas</li> <li>• Number of Locally Important Heritage Assets</li> <li>• Number of Locally Important Heritage Assets at risk</li> <li>• Number of planning applications approved against Historic England advice</li> </ul> |
| <b>4. Crime</b><br>To monitor effects on improving community safety, reducing crime and the fear of crime   | LPD 35 – Safe, Accessible and Inclusive Development  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of crime – by type</li> </ul>  |



| SA objectives  | Local Planning Document Policies   | Indicators   |
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| <p><b>5. Social</b><br/>To monitor effects on promoting and supporting the development and growth of social capital</p>  | <p>LPD 50 – Development within Town and Local Centres<br/>LPD 53 – Markets<br/>LPD 56 – Protection of Community Facilities</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of community centres, leisure centres and libraries</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>6. Environment, Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure</b><br/>To monitor effects on increasing biodiversity levels and protecting and enhancing Green Infrastructure and the natural environment</p> <p><b>7. Landscape</b><br/>To monitor effects on protecting and enhancing the landscape character, including heritage and its setting</p> | <p>LPD 18 – Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity<br/>LPD 19 – Landscape Character and Visual Impact<br/>LPD 20 – Protection of Open Space<br/>LPD 21 – Provision of New Open Space<br/>LPD 22 – Local Green Space<br/>LPD 23 – Greenwood Community Forest and Sherwood Forest Regional Park</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Net change in Sites of Special Scientific Interest</li> <li>• Net change in Local Nature Reserves</li> <li>• Net change in Local Wildlife Sites</li> <li>• Number and percentages of Local Wildlife Sites under positive management</li> <li>• Net change in Local Geological Sites</li> <li>• Net change in Woodland and Ancient Woodland</li> <li>• Net change in Country Parks</li> <li>• Net change in open space</li> <li>• Net change in Local Green Space</li> <li>• Area of new open space</li> <li>• Amount of greenfield land lost to housing and other uses</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>8. Natural Resources</b><br/>To monitor effects on prudently managing the natural resources including water, air quality, soils and minerals</p> <p><b>9. Flooding</b><br/>To monitor effects on minimising the risk of flooding and steering development away from areas at highest flood risk</p>  | <p>LPD 3 – Managing Flood Risk<br/>LPD 4 – Surface Water Management<br/>LPD 5 – Managing Water Quality<br/>LPD 6 – Aquifer Protection<br/>LPD 7 – Contaminated Land<br/>LPD 8 – Unstable Land<br/>LPD 9 – Hazardous Substances<br/>LPD 10 – Pollution<br/>LPD 11 – Air Quality</p>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of planning applications in flood risk areas approved against Environment Agency advice</li> <li>• Number of planning applications approved against the Environment Agency advice on water quality</li> <li>• Number of planning applications approved against the Lead Local Flood Authority advice</li> <li>• Area in Flood Zones 2 or 3</li> <li>• Number of households in Flood Zones 2 or 3</li> <li>• Number of Sustainable Drainage Systems</li> <li>• Air Quality Management</li> </ul>  |

| SA objectives  | Local Planning Document Policies  | Indicators   |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>10. Waste</b><br/>To monitor effects on minimising waste and increasing the re-use and recycling of waste materials</p> <p><b>11. Energy and Climate Change</b><br/>To monitor effects on minimising energy usage and developing renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable sources</p>   | <p>LPD 1 – Wind Turbines<br/>LPD 2 – Other Renewable Energy Schemes</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carbon dioxide emissions per capita total</li> <li>• Energy per meter – by type</li> <li>• Energy consumed – by type</li> <li>• Renewable development – by type</li> <li>• New waste management facilities – by type</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>12. Transport</b><br/>To monitor effects on making efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, helping reduce the need to travel by car, improving accessibility to jobs and services for all and ensuring that all journeys are undertaken by the most sustainable mode available</p>   | <p>LPD 57 – Parking Standards<br/>LPD 58 – Cycle Routes, Recreational Routes and Public Rights of Way<br/>LPD 59 – Park and Ride<br/>LPD 60 – Local Transport Schemes<br/>LPD 61 – Highway Safety</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic growth</li> <li>• Number of cycle trips</li> <li>• Travel to work</li> <li>• Number of new homes with access to key community facilities and services – by walking, cycling and public transport</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>13. Employment</b><br/>To monitor effects on creating high quality employment opportunities</p> <p><b>14. Innovation</b><br/>To monitor effects on developing a strong culture of enterprise and innovation</p> <p><b>15. Economic Structure</b><br/>To monitor effects on providing the physical conditions for a modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies</p> | <p>LPD 44 – Retention of Employment and Employment Uses<br/>LPD 45 – Employment Development on Unallocated Sites<br/>LPD 46 – Expansion of Existing Employment Uses Not in the Green Belt<br/>LPD 50 – Development within Town and Local Centres<br/>LPD 53 – Markets<br/>LPD 54 – Development within Small Parades</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New office development</li> <li>• New industrial and warehouse development</li> <li>• Supply of employment land – by type</li> <li>• Area of employment land lost to housing or other uses</li> <li>• Labour supply</li> <li>• Unemployment rate</li> <li>• Skill levels of the working age population</li> <li>• Planning permissions for retail and other town centre uses</li> <li>• New retail development</li> <li>• Diversity of uses in centres</li> <li>• Proportion of vacant units</li> </ul> |