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# **Melton Local Plan: Emerging Options (Draft Plan)**

## **Sustainability Appraisal Report**

Prepared by LUC  
November 2015

**Project Title:** Sustainability Appraisal of the Melton Local Plan

**Client:** Melton Borough Council

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# 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Sustainability Appraisal Report has been prepared by LUC on behalf of Melton Borough Council as part of the integrated Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the emerging Melton Local Plan.
- 1.2 This report relates to the Emerging Options (Draft Plan) version of the Local Plan (January 2016) and it should be read in conjunction with that document.

## Context for the Melton Local Plan

- 1.3 Melton Borough covers an area of 48,138ha in the north eastern part of Leicestershire. It is bordered by Rushcliffe, Newark and Sherwood, South Kesteven, Rutland, Harborough and Charnwood Districts.
- 1.4 Melton is a predominantly rural Borough with a total population of approximately 50,376 according to the 2011 Census. The main activities of the Borough are centred on the market town of Melton Mowbray and there are around 70 villages within the surrounding rural area. The population is split approximately 50/50 between Melton Mowbray and the rural villages. Outside of Melton Mowbray, Asfordby, Bottesford, Long Clawson and Waltham on the Wolds act as local service centres.
- 1.5 The landscape of Melton Borough is typically rolling hills and valleys. The most prominent features are the escarpments defining the southern edge of the Vale of Belvoir and Borough Hill, the former iron-age fort to the south of the Borough. There are extensive areas of high quality agricultural land within Melton and outside of built up areas, arable farming is widespread.

## The Local Plan

- 1.6 Melton Borough Council is preparing a new-style Local Plan to guide development in the Borough over the next 25 years. Once adopted, the new Local Plan will replace the saved policies from the existing Local Plan which was adopted in 1999.
- 1.7 The Council previously prepared a Core Strategy which was submitted to the Secretary of State in September 2012 and Examination hearing sessions took place in spring 2013. However, on the Inspector's recommendation the Council withdrew the Core Strategy and commenced work on the preparation of a new-style Local Plan.
- 1.8 The first iteration of the Local Plan, the Issues and Options document, was subject to consultation between October 2014 and January 2015. The Issues and Options consultation introduced the background to the preparation of the new Local Plan and described what the Plan would include and the timeframe for its production. It also included a proposed vision and strategic objectives for the Local Plan as well as options for the level of growth, the overall spatial strategy, locations for large-scale development and the settlement hierarchy. Options for a wide range of policy approaches were also presented, relating to housing, economic development, environmental protection and infrastructure delivery.
- 1.9 An SA report was produced in-house by Melton Borough Council in relation to the Issues and Options consultation document and was subject to consultation at the time. That SA work has been drawn on as appropriate during the preparation of this SA report for the Emerging Options (Draft Plan).

## Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.10 Sustainability Appraisal is a statutory requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It is designed to ensure that the plan preparation process maximises the contribution that a plan makes to sustainable development and minimises any potential adverse impacts. The SA process involves appraising the likely social, environmental and economic effects of the policies and proposals within a plan from the outset of its development.
- 1.11 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is also a statutory assessment process, required under the SEA Directive<sup>1</sup>, transposed in the UK by the SEA Regulations (Statutory Instrument 2004, No 1633). The SEA Regulations require the formal assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment and which set the framework for future consent of projects requiring Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)<sup>2</sup>. The purpose of SEA, as defined in Article 1 of the SEA Directive 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....with a view to promoting sustainable development'*.
- 1.12 SEA and SA are separate processes but have similar aims and objectives. Simply put, SEA focuses on the likely environmental effects of a plan whilst SA includes a wider range of considerations, extending to social and economic impacts. National Planning Practice Guidance<sup>3</sup> shows how it is possible to satisfy both requirements by undertaking a joint SA/SEA process, and to present an SA report that incorporates the requirements of the SEA Regulations. The SA/SEA of the Melton Local Plan is being prepared in line with this integrated approach and throughout this report the abbreviation 'SA' should therefore be taken to refer to 'SA incorporating the requirements of SEA'.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 1.13 The requirement to undertake formal Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) of plans was introduced in the Equality Act 2010, but was abolished in 2012 as part of a Government bid to reduce bureaucracy. Despite this, authorities are still required to have regard to the provisions of the Equality Act, namely the Public Sector Duty which requires public authorities to have due regard for equalities considerations when exercising their functions.
- 1.14 In fulfilling this duty, many authorities still find it useful to produce a written record of equalities issues having been specifically considered. In the SA work undertaken previously in relation to the Issues and Options, Melton Borough Council incorporated an EqIA within the SA (several of the SA objectives address equalities issues, for example the objective relating to health). The same integrated approach is taken in this SA report for the Emerging Options.

### Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.15 Under Article 6 (3) and (4) of the Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) land-use plans are also subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The purpose of HRA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of a European designated site and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site. The HRA process for the Melton Local Plan is being undertaken by LUC and reported on separately to the SA, and the findings are being taken into account in the SA where relevant.

### Structure of this report

- 1.16 This report is the SA report for the Emerging Options version of the Melton Local Plan (January 2016). **Table 1.1** below signposts how the requirements of the SEA Regulations have been met within this SA report.

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<sup>1</sup> SEA Directive 2001/42/EC

<sup>2</sup> Under EU Directives 85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC concerning EIA.

<sup>3</sup> <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

**Table 1.1: Requirements of the SEA Regulations and where these have been addressed in this SA Report**

SEA Regulation Requirements	Where covered in this SA report
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is (Art. 5 and Annex I):	
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes	Chapter 3 and Appendix 2.
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme	Chapter 3 and Appendix 3.
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	Chapter 3 and Appendix 3.
d) 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.	Chapter 3 and Appendix 3.
e) 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	Chapter 3 and Appendix 2.
f) 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. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects)	Chapters 4-7 and Appendices 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11.
g) 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;	Chapters 4-7 and Appendices 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11.
h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	Chapters 2 and 4 and Appendix 8.
i) a description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	Chapter 8.
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	A separate non-technical summary document will be prepared to accompany the SA report for the Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan.
The report shall 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 (Art. 5.2)	Addressed throughout this SA report.



SEA Regulation Requirements	Where covered in this SA report
<p><b>Consultation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4)</li> </ul>	<p>Consultation on the SA Scoping Report for the Melton Local Plan was undertaken between July and August 2014.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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 (Art. 6.1, 6.2)</li> </ul>	<p>Consultation is being undertaken in relation to the Melton Local Plan between January and April 2016 and will continue to be for all future iterations of the plan. The current consultation document is accompanied by this SA report.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7).</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8)</b></p>	
<p><b>Provision of information on the decision:</b> 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: the plan or programme as adopted 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 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; and the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9)</p>	<p>To be addressed after the Local Plan is adopted.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring</b> of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)</p>	<p>To be addressed after the Local Plan is adopted.</p>
<p><b>Quality assurance:</b> environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive (Art. 12).</p>	<p>This report has been produced in line with current guidance and good practice for SEA/SA and this table demonstrates where the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met.</p>

1.17 This section has introduced the SA of the Melton Local Plan. The remainder of the report is structured into the following sections:

- **Chapter 2: Methodology** describes the approach that has been taken to the SA of the Local Plan.
- **Chapter 3: Sustainability context for development in Melton** summarises the relationship between the Melton Local Plan and other relevant plans, policies and programmes; describes the social, economic and environmental characteristics of the Borough and identifies the key sustainability issues.
- **Chapter 4: Findings of supplementary SA work for the policy options** summarises the findings of the additional SA work that has been undertaken in relation to options for the Local Plan policies since the Issues and Options consultation in 2014.
- **Chapter 5: SA findings for the large-scale site options** summarises the SA findings for the reasonable large-scale development site options that have been considered for allocation in the Melton Local Plan.

- **Chapter 6: SA findings for the small-scale site options** summarises the SA findings for the reasonable small-scale residential site options that have been considered for allocation in the Melton Local Plan.
- **Chapter 7: SA findings for the Emerging Options** summarises the SA findings for the current Emerging Options version of the Local Plan and describes the cumulative effects of the Local Plan as a whole. Consideration is also given to possible mitigation measures and recommendations are made for ways in which to maximise the benefits of the Local Plan and minimise its adverse effects.
- **Chapter 8: Monitoring** describes the approach that should be taken to monitoring the likely significant effects of the Local Plan and proposes monitoring indicators.
- **Chapter 9: Conclusions** summarises the key findings from the SA and describes the next steps to be undertaken in the preparation of the Local Plan and the SA.

1.18 The main body of the SA report is supported by a number of appendices as follows:

- **Appendix 1** presents the comments that were received in relation to the consultations on the SA Scoping Report in summer 2014, the SA Report for the Issues and Options in late 2014 and the revised SA framework in July 2015.
- **Appendix 2** sets out the updated review of relevant plans, policies and programmes (this was originally presented in the SA Scoping Report).
- **Appendix 3** presents the updated baseline information for Melton Borough (this was originally presented in the SA Scoping Report).
- **Appendix 4** includes a compatibility assessment between the SA objectives and the Local Plan strategic priorities.
- **Appendix 5** sets out the assumptions that were applied during the appraisal of the small-scale residential site options.
- **Appendix 6** presents the detailed SA matrices for the small-scale residential site options.
- **Appendix 7** presents the detailed SA matrices for the large-scale development site options.
- **Appendix 8** lists the small and large-scale site options that have been considered for allocation in the Local Plan and explains why each one is included or not in the Emerging Options document.
- **Appendix 9** presents detailed SA matrices for some of the Local Plan policy options, supplementing the SA work that was carried out at the Issues and Options stage in 2014.
- **Appendix 10** presents the detailed SA matrices for the policies in the Emerging Options version of the Local Plan.



## 2 Methodology

- 2.1 In addition to complying with legal requirements, the approach being taken to the SA of the Melton Local Plan is based on current best practice and the guidance on SA/SEA set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance, which involves carrying out SA as an integral part of the plan-making process. **Table 2.1** below sets out the main stages of the plan-making process and shows how these correspond to the SA process.

**Table 2.1: Corresponding stages in plan making and SA**

<b>Local Plan Step 1: Evidence Gathering and engagement</b>
SA stages and tasks
<p><b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives</li> <li>• 2: Collecting baseline information</li> <li>• 3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems</li> <li>• 4: Developing the SA framework</li> <li>• 5: Consulting on the scope of the SA</li> </ul>
<b>Local Plan Step 2: Production</b>
SA stages and tasks
<p><b>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1: Testing the Plan objectives against the SA framework</li> <li>• 2: Developing the Plan options</li> <li>• 3: Evaluating the effects of the Plan</li> <li>• 4: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects</li> <li>• 5: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Plans</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1: Preparing the SA Report</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage D: Seek representations on the Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1: Public participation on Plan and the SA Report</li> <li>• 2(i): Appraising significant changes</li> </ul>
<b>Local Plan Step 3: Examination</b>
SA stages and tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2(ii): Appraising significant changes resulting from representations</li> </ul>
<b>Local Plan Step 4 &amp; 5: Adoption and Monitoring</b>

## SA stages and tasks

- 3: Making decisions and providing information

### **Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Plan**

- 1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring
- 2: Responding to adverse effects

2.2 The methodology set out below describes the approach that has been taken to the SA of the Melton Local Plan to date and provides information on the subsequent stages of the process.

## Stage A: Scoping

2.3 The SA process began in July 2014 with the production of a Scoping Report for the Local Plan, which was produced in-house by Melton Borough Council.

2.4 The scoping stage of the SA involves understanding the social, economic and environmental baseline for the plan area as well as the sustainability policy context and key sustainability issues. The Scoping Report presented the outputs of the following tasks:

- Policies, plans and programmes of relevance to the Local Plan were identified and the relationships between them were considered, enabling any potential synergies to be exploited and any potential inconsistencies and incompatibilities to be identified and addressed.
- Baseline information was collected on environmental, social and economic issues. This baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring the likely effects of the Local Plan and helps to identify alternative ways of dealing with any adverse effects identified.
- Key sustainability issues for the Borough were identified.
- A Sustainability Appraisal framework was presented, comprising the SA objectives against which options and subsequently policies would be appraised. The SA framework provides a way in which the sustainability impacts of implementing a particular plan can be described, analysed and compared. It sets out a series of sustainability objectives and associated questions that can be used to 'interrogate' options and policies drafted during the plan-making process. These SA objectives define the long-term aspirations of the Borough with regard to social, economic and environmental considerations. During the SA, the performances of the plan options (and later, policies) are assessed against these SA objectives and appraisal questions.
- The SA Scoping Report also included an assessment of the compatibility of the strategic objectives in the Local Plan and the SA objectives in the SA framework.

2.5 Public and stakeholder participation is an important element of the SA and wider plan-making processes. It helps to ensure that the SA report is robust and has due regard for all appropriate information that will support the plan in making a contribution to sustainable development. The SA Scoping Report for the Local Plan was published in July 2014 for a five week consultation period with the statutory consultees (Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage (now Historic England)) and other interested parties.

2.6 **Appendix 1** lists the comments that were received during the Scoping consultation and describes how each one has been addressed in the SA work undertaken since then. In light of the comments received a number of amendments have been made to the review of plans, policies and programmes, the baseline information and the key sustainability issues. Updated versions of those parts of the Scoping Report are presented in **Appendices 2 and 3** of this SA report and are summarised in **Chapter 3**. A number of consultation comments were also received from consultees in relation to the SA framework, although these have been superseded by comments that were received during the consultation on the revised SA framework produced by LUC in July 2015, as described below.

- 2.7 When LUC was commissioned in June 2015 to assist Melton Borough Council with the remaining stages of the SA for the Local Plan, a review of the SA work undertaken to date was carried out, including a review of the Scoping Report. This review resulted in LUC proposing a number of amendments to the SA framework, in order to ensure that it clearly addresses all of the SEA topics<sup>4</sup> within the headline SA objectives and therefore allows for a robust appraisal of options and policies. A number of other recommendations were made in relation to the Scoping work, including the need to ensure that the baseline information addresses all of the SEA topics and potential revisions to make the review of plans, policies and programmes more concise.
- 2.8 A revised SA framework was produced by LUC in July 2015 and sent to the three statutory consultees (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) for comment. The consultation responses, which were generally supportive of the changes made, are presented in **Appendix 1**. As a result of the comments received from Historic England, a small number of additional sub-objectives were added to the SA objective relating to the historic environment.
- 2.9 The review of relevant plans, policies and programmes and the baseline information have also been updated as part of the preparation of this SA report and will continue to be updated as necessary at each stage of the SA process to ensure that they reflect the current situation in Melton and take account of the most recent sources of information. The recommendations made by LUC in the review of the original Scoping Report have been addressed in the updated versions presented in this SA report, i.e. the review of plans, policies and programmes was refined and some areas of the baseline information were expanded.
- 2.10 **Table 2.1** overleaf presents the updated version of the SA framework for the Melton Local Plan which now includes 17 headline SA objectives along with their associated sub-questions, and shows how all of the 'SEA topics' have been covered by the SA objectives. This is the revised SA framework, including the changes that were made in July 2015 and subject to consultation with the three statutory consultees. The total number of SA objectives has increased by one, to 17, and some of the objectives have been split to ensure that none of the objectives attempt to address too many different topics. Changes have also been made to the sub-objectives to ensure that they are appropriate for the revised headline objectives.

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<sup>4</sup> The SEA topics are listed in the SEA Regulations and include: 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.

**Table 2.1: SA framework for the Melton Local Plan**

SA Objectives	Decision-Making Criteria	Relevant Topic(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	Will it supplement the current range of residential accommodation that will contribute to the overall needs of the community? Will it contribute to the stock of affordable housing in places where a need has been established? Will it facilitate accommodation for members of the community with particular housing needs?	Population Material assets
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	Will it increase levels of qualification? Will it create high knowledge jobs? Will it improve access to educational facilities?	Population
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	Will it utilise and enhance existing transport infrastructure? Will it help to develop a transport network that minimises the impact on the environment? Will it reduce journeys undertaken by car encouraging alternative modes of transport?	Air Climatic factors Material assets
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	Will it help to reduce commuting out of the Borough for employment? Will it add to the range of businesses in the Borough? Will it supplement the rural economy? Will it contribute to the number of jobs within the Borough? Will it increase jobs in the sectors that are currently underrepresented in the Borough? Will it encourage visitors to the Borough? Will it encourage inward investment?	Population Material assets
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	Will it protect or foster the character of the local landscape?	Landscape
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	Will it protect existing or facilitate new wildlife habitat? Will it protect or increase the amount of woodland? Will it protect or improve the condition of SSSIs and other sites of ecological interest? Will it protect or improve geodiversity in the Borough?	Biodiversity Flora Fauna
7. To conserve and enhance Melton’s historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	Will it foster local distinctiveness of built form? Will it protect important architectural and archaeological assets? Will it protect or contribute to the appearance of the built form? Will it foster local distinctiveness of built form? Will it conserve or enhance heritage assets including, buildings, conservation	Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage

SA Objectives	Decision-Making Criteria	Relevant Topic(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
	areas, landscape features and architectural and archaeological assets? Will it protect or contribute to the appearance of the built form? Will it protect the setting of heritage assets? Will it lead to the repair and re-use of a heritage asset or tackle heritage at risk?	
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	Will it make use of previously developed land? Will it minimise the loss of good agricultural land? Will it safeguard mineral deposits?	Soil
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	Will it improve access to cultural and recreational facilities? Will it enhance the provision of recreational and cultural facilities? Will it promote the participation in recreational and cultural activities?	Population
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	Will it enhance the provision of educational facilities? Will it promote participation in educational facilities? Will it contribute to the number and range of jobs within the Borough? Will it contribute to the stock of affordable housing in places where a need has been established?	Population
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Will it contribute to the reduction in crime levels? Will it reduce people's fear of crime? Will it reduce road traffic accidents? Will it improve the safety of pedestrians or cyclists?	Population
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	Will it reduce household waste? Will it increase waste recovery and recycling? Will it assist in maximising the use of recycled and secondary materials?	Material assets
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	Will it provide the type of land and buildings of a type required by businesses? Will it improve the diversity of jobs available? Will it reduce traffic congestion in the Borough?	Material assets Population
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	Will it improve access to health facilities? Will it encourage a healthy life style e.g. a healthy diet and encourage physical activity? Will it improve human health? Will it increase, or enhance the opportunities for sporting recreational physical activity?	Human health
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	Will it reduce levels of air pollution? Will it improve energy efficiency? Will it promote renewable forms of energy?	Air Climatic factors
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the	Will development be in an area at risk of flooding?	Climatic factors



SA Objectives	Decision-Making Criteria	Relevant Topic(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	Will it require mitigation to facilitate development? Will it increase the risk of flooding? Will the development tackle existing flooding issues?	Material assets
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	Will it reduce levels of water pollution? Will it encourage efficient water consumption?	Water

## SA Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

- 2.11 Developing options for a plan is an iterative process, usually involving a number of consultations with public and stakeholders. Consultation responses and the SA can help to identify where there may be other 'reasonable alternatives' to the options being considered for a plan.
- 2.12 Regulation 12 (2) of the SEA Regulations requires that:  
*"The (environmental or SA) report must identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of—*  
*(a) implementing the plan or programme; and*  
*(b) reasonable alternatives, taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme."*
- 2.13 It should be noted that any alternatives considered to the plan need to be 'reasonable'. This implies that alternatives that are not reasonable do not need to be subject to appraisal. Examples of unreasonable alternatives could include policy options that do not meet the objectives of the plan or national policy (e.g. the National Planning Policy Framework) or site options that are unavailable or undeliverable.
- 2.14 It also needs to be recognised that the SEA and SA findings are not the only factors taken into account when determining which options to take forward in a plan. Indeed, there will often be an equal number of positive or negative effects identified for each option, such that it is not possible to 'rank' them based on sustainability performance in order to select an option. Factors such as public opinion, deliverability and conformity with national policy will also be taken into account by plan-makers when selecting options for their plan.
- 2.15 This section provides an overview of how the appraisal of options has fed into the selection of emerging options for the Melton Local Plan and more information about this process is provided in **Chapter 4**. Detailed information about the reasons for selecting and rejecting site options is set out in **Appendix 8**.

### Identification and appraisal of site options

- 2.16 Reasonable options for the small-scale (non-strategic) residential site allocations to be made in the Local Plan were identified by Melton Borough Council. Sites that were identified through the Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) were taken as the starting point and were subject to a sieving exercise by Council officers to identify any that were considered not to be reasonable and so would not require SA.
- 2.17 Sites with 75% or more 'red constraints' were discounted from the initial assessment process by the Council. Red constraints were considered by the Council to be restrictions such as flood risk (flood zone 3), active mineral extraction sites and hazardous installations. Sites with valid planning consent or that were currently under construction were also discounted from the assessment process, on the basis that they already formed part of the deliverable supply.
- 2.18 Sites with a net capacity of fewer than 10 units were also discounted from further consideration as the Council considered it unlikely these sites would require allocation to bring them forward for development, as historic development rates in Melton Borough suggest that small sites (fewer than 10 dwellings) naturally come forward through the development process. Sites that are not adjoining or adjacent to a settlement were also discounted from the process, on the basis that they were not considered by the Council to be consistent with the principles of the NPPF and sustainable development.
- 2.19 Once the Council had completed the site sieving exercise, 39 reasonable residential site options were identified and subject to SA by LUC in accordance with the methodology described further ahead in this chapter. The findings were presented in a summary SA note which was provided to the Melton Borough Council officers preparing the Local Plan. The SA note was a working document intended to inform the plan preparation process rather than a full SA report and was not made publicly available at the time. The SA findings for the 39 reasonable options for small-

scale site allocations are summarised in **Chapter 6** of this report and the detailed SA matrices can be found in **Appendix 6**.

- 2.20 As well as the small-scale residential site options described above, a number of options for larger-scale strategic allocations have also been subject to SA. Most of these large-scale options also emerged through the Council's SHLAA work. Five large-scale site options were subject to SA by Melton Borough Council at the Issues and Options stage and the findings were described in the October 2014 SA Report. Since that time the Council in conjunction with LUC has determined that there are seven further reasonable options for large-scale development sites in the Borough and those options have now also been subject to SA. Due to the time that has passed since the five original large-scale site options were subject to SA in 2014 and the risk of inconsistencies between that work and more recent SA work for the other large-scale site options, the site appraisal work that was undertaken at the Issues and Options stage has been reviewed and supplemented to take into account the latest available information. This approach ensures that a robust and consistent assessment of all 12 of the reasonable large-scale development site options has been undertaken.
- 2.21 As with the smaller-scale site options, the SA findings for the large-scale site options were described in an internal SA note to the Council prior to the production of the Emerging Options version of the Local Plan, so that the SA findings could be taken into account in decision making. The SA findings for the large-scale site options are summarised in **Chapter 5** of this SA report and the detailed SA matrices are presented in **Appendix 7**.
- 2.22 The Council took into account the findings of the SA as well as other relevant factors when deciding which site options to select for inclusion in the Emerging Options version of the Local Plan, and which options to reject. **Appendix 8** lists the site options considered (both small and large-scale) and explains the reasons for selecting or rejecting each one.

#### Identification and appraisal of policy options

- 2.23 High level options for the policies to be included in the Melton Local Plan were identified at the Issues and Options stage in 2014 and most were subject to SA by Melton Borough Council at that time, with the findings described in the October 2014 SA Report. Reasonable alternative options for Local Plan policies were identified by the Council and were drawn from the most up-to-date evidence, in particular in relation to the levels of development required in the district.
- 2.24 A small number of the policy options set out in the Issues and Options document were not subject to SA at that time as the Council considered that they would not have an effect on the overall social, economic and environmental conditions of the Borough. For completeness, those options have now been subject to SA by LUC and the findings are presented in **Chapter 4** and **Appendix 9** of this SA Report.
- 2.25 LUC has also undertaken some supplementary SA work in relation to the policy options that were set out in Section 4 of the Issues and Options consultation document. Those options relate to the spatial strategy for the Local Plan and are therefore key to informing the approach that will be taken to growth in the Borough over the plan period. The SA work for those options that was undertaken by the Council in 2014 and presented in the SA Report for the Issues and Options has been reviewed and supplemented to take into account the latest available evidence and has been restructured in light of the revisions to the SA framework since 2014. The updated SA matrices for the spatial strategy options are presented in **Appendix 9** of this SA report and the findings are summarised in **Chapter 4**. The updated SA matrices were presented to the Council in an internal SA note prior to the preparation of the Emerging Options document, so that the findings could be taken into account in decision making.
- 2.26 The Council took into account the findings of the SA as well as other relevant factors when deciding which policy options to select. The decision making process for the policy options is described in more detail in **Chapter 4** of this report.
- 2.27 Once the Council had produced the Emerging Options version of the Local Plan, the more detailed policies (including site allocations) were also subject to SA and the findings are presented in **Chapter 7** and **Appendices 10 and 11** of this report.

## SA Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal report

- 2.28 This SA report describes the process that has been undertaken to date in carrying out the SA of the Melton Local Plan. It sets out the findings of the appraisal of options and emerging options, highlighting any likely significant effects (both positive and negative, and taking into account the likely secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term and permanent and temporary effects), making recommendations for improvements and clarifications that may help to mitigate negative effects and maximise the benefits of the plan as it is drafted in full. It also describes the reasons for selecting or rejecting certain options during the preparation of the Local Plan.

## SA Stage D: Consultation on the Melton Local Plan and this SA Report

- 2.29 Melton Borough Council is inviting comments on the Local Plan Emerging Options and this SA Report. Both documents are being published on the Council's website for consultation between January and April 2016.

## SA Stage E: Monitoring implementation of the Local Plan

- 2.30 Recommendations for monitoring the social, environmental and economic effects of implementing the Melton Local Plan are presented in **Chapter 8**.

## Appraisal methodology

- 2.31 The reasonable policy and site options for the Local Plan and the Emerging Options now set out in the January 2016 Local Plan have been appraised against the SA objectives in the SA framework (see **Table 2.1** earlier in this section)<sup>5</sup>, with scores being attributed to each option or policy to indicate its likely sustainability effects on each objective as follows:

**Figure 2.1 Key to symbols and colour coding used in the SA of the Melton Local Plan**

++	The option or policy is likely to have a <b>significant positive</b> effect on the SA objective(s).
++/-	The option or policy is likely to have a mixture of <b>significant positive</b> and <b>minor negative</b> effects on the SA objective(s).
+	The option or policy is likely to have a <b>positive</b> effect on the SA objective(s).
0	The option or policy is likely to have a <b>negligible</b> or no effect on the SA objective(s).
-	The option or policy is likely to have a <b>negative</b> effect on the SA objective(s).
--/+	The option or policy is likely to have a mixture of <b>significant negative</b> and <b>minor positive</b> effects on the SA objective(s).
--	The option or policy is likely to have a <b>significant negative</b> effect on the SA objective(s).
?	It is <b>uncertain</b> what effect the option or policy will have on the SA objective(s), due to a lack of data.
+/- or ++/--	The option or policy is likely to have an equal mixture of <b>both minor or both significant positive and negative</b> effects on the SA objective(s).

<sup>5</sup> Note that the options appraisal work that was undertaken at the Issues and Options stage in 2014 involved using the earlier version of the SA framework.

- 2.32 Where a potential positive or negative effect is uncertain, a question mark is added to the relevant score (e.g. +? or -?) and the score is colour coded as per the potential positive, negligible or negative score (e.g. green, yellow, orange, etc.).
- 2.33 The likely effects of the options and emerging options need to be determined and their significance assessed, and this inevitably requires a series of judgments to be made. This appraisal has attempted to differentiate between the most significant effects and other more minor effects through the use of the symbols shown above. The dividing line in making a decision about the significance of an effect is often quite small. Where either (++) or (--) has been used to distinguish significant effects from more minor effects (+ or -) this is because the effect of an option or emerging option on the SA objective in question is considered to be of such magnitude that it will have a noticeable and measurable effect taking into account other factors that may influence the achievement of that objective. However, scores are relative to the scale of proposals under consideration.
- 2.34 The SA findings for the Local Plan options are described in **Chapters 4-6** and the likely effects of the Local Plan Emerging Options as a whole are summarised in **Chapter 7**, including an assessment of the potential cumulative impacts of the Emerging Options version of the Local Plan as a whole.

### Assumptions applied during the SA

- 2.35 SA inevitably relies on an element of subjective judgement. However, in order to ensure consistency in the appraisal of a reasonably large number of small-scale residential site options, a detailed set of assumptions was developed and applied. These assumptions are presented in **Appendix 5** and were applied through the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) data. Assumptions were not used in the SA of the large-scale site options because much more information was available about the nature of the sites and their proposed use; therefore each site was appraised on its own merits drawing on that information. However, the GIS data that was compiled for the SA of small-scale site options was also used to inform judgements about the likely effects of development at the large-scale sites.

### Difficulties Encountered

- 2.36 It is a requirement of the SEA Regulations that consideration is given to any data limitations or other difficulties that are encountered during the SA process. During the appraisal of the policy options the fact that options had not yet been worked up in detail (comprising only suggested policy approaches) meant that at times it was difficult to assess in detail the likely effects of the options on each SA objective. Once the Emerging Options had been worked up in more detail it was possible to draw more certain conclusions about the likely effects, as described in this report.
- 2.37 There was a need to ensure that a large number of small-scale site options could be appraised consistently. This was achieved by the use of assumptions relating to each SA objective, as described above.
- 2.38 It should be noted that Grade 3 agricultural land comprises both Grade 3a and Grade 3b agricultural land. Only Grade 3a agricultural land, which covers about 21% of England's farmland, falls into the classification of best and most versatile agricultural land. The NPPF advises that planning authorities should seek to use areas of poorer quality land for development in preference to that of a high quality. The breakdown between Grade 3a and Grade 3b agricultural land is not available for Melton Borough, and therefore under the precautionary principle it has been assumed that Grade 3 land has the potential to be best and most versatile agricultural land.
- 2.39 No other specific data limitations or difficulties were encountered during the SA process.

# 3 Sustainability Context for Development in Melton

## Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

3.1 The Melton Local Plan is not prepared in isolation, being greatly influenced by other plans, policies and programmes and by broader sustainability objectives. It needs to be consistent with international and national guidance and strategic planning policies and should contribute to the goals of a wide range of other programmes and strategies, such as those relating to social policy, culture and heritage. It must also conform to environmental protection legislation and the sustainability objectives established at the international, national and regional levels.

3.2 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires:

*(1) "an outline of the...relationship with other relevant plans or programmes"; and*

*(5) "the environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation"*

3.3 It is necessary to identify the relationships between the Melton Local Plan and the relevant plans, policies and programmes so that any potential links can be built upon and any inconsistencies and constraints addressed.

3.4 During the Scoping stage of the SA, a review was undertaken of the other plans, policies and programmes that are relevant to the Local Plan, as described in **Chapter 2**. This review has been revised and updated since it was originally presented in the SA Scoping Report in July 2014, in light of comments received during the Scoping consultation and to make the review more concise, ensuring that it reviews an appropriate range of up-to-date plans, policies and programmes in an appropriate level of detail. The updated review can be seen in full in **Appendix 2** and the key findings are summarised below.

### *Key international plans, policies and programmes*

3.5 At the international level, Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the 'SEA Directive') and Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive') are particularly significant as they require Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to be undertaken in relation to the emerging Melton Local Plan. These processes should be undertaken iteratively and integrated into the production of the plan in order to ensure that any potential negative environmental effects (including on European-level nature conservation designations) are identified and can be mitigated.

3.6 There are a wide range of other EU Directives relating to issues such as water quality, waste and air quality, most of which have been transposed into UK law through national-level policy; however the international directives have been included in **Appendix 2** for completeness.

### *Key national plans, policies and programmes*

3.7 The most significant development in terms of the policy context for the Melton Local Plan has been the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which replaced the suite of Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs). The purpose of the NPPF was to streamline national planning policy, having reduced over a thousand pages of policy down to around 50 pages. The Local Plan must be consistent with the requirements of the NPPF. The NPPF sets out information about the purposes of local plan-making, stating that:

*"Local Plans must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. To this end, they should be consistent with the principles and policies set out in this Framework, including the presumption in favour of sustainable development."*

- 3.8 The NPPF also requires Local Plans to be 'aspirational but realistic'. This means that opportunities for appropriate development should be identified in order to achieve net gains in terms of sustainable social, environmental and economic development; however significant adverse impacts in any of those areas should not be allowed to occur.
- 3.9 The NPPF requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver:
- the homes and jobs needed in the area;
  - the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
  - the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
  - the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
  - climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.
- 3.10 In addition, Local Plans should:
- plan positively for the development and infrastructure required in the area to meet the objectives, principles and policies of this Framework;
  - be drawn up over an appropriate time scale, preferably a 15-year time horizon, take account of longer term requirements, and be kept up to date;
  - be based on co-operation with neighbouring authorities, public, voluntary and private sector organisations;
  - indicate broad locations for strategic development on a key diagram and land-use designations on a proposals map;
  - allocate sites to promote development and flexible use of land, bringing forward new land where necessary, and provide detail on form, scale, access and quantum of development where appropriate;
  - identify areas where it may be necessary to limit freedom to change the uses of buildings, and support such restrictions with a clear explanation;
  - identify land where development would be inappropriate, for instance because of its environmental or historic significance; and
  - contain a clear strategy for enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, and supporting Nature Improvement Areas where they have been identified.

#### *Local plans, policies and programmes*

- 3.11 At the sub-regional and local levels there are a wide range of plans and programmes that are specific to Leicestershire and Melton Borough and which provide further context for the emerging Local Plan. These plans and programmes relate to issues such as housing, transport, renewable energy and green infrastructure, and have also been reviewed in **Appendix 2**.

## Baseline Information

- 3.12 Baseline information provides the context for assessing the sustainability of proposals in the Melton Local Plan and it provides the basis for identifying trends, predicting the likely effects of the plan and monitoring its outcomes. The requirements for baseline data vary widely, but it must be relevant to environmental, social and economic issues, be sensitive to change and should ideally relate to records which are sufficient to identify trends.

- 3.13 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires data to be gathered on biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the inter-relationship between the above factors. As an integrated SA and SEA is being carried out, baseline information relating to other 'sustainability' topics has also been included; for example information about housing, social inclusiveness, transport, energy, waste and economic growth.
- 3.14 As with the review of relevant plans, policies and programmes, a number of amendments have been made to the baseline information since it was originally presented in the July 2014 SA Scoping Report in light of consultation comments received and to update the information, drawing on the most recent evidence sources. Certain parts of the baseline information have also been expanded to ensure that all of the SEA topics are adequately covered. The updated baseline information is presented in **Appendix 3**.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- 3.15 A set of key sustainability issues for Melton Borough was identified during the Scoping stage of the SA and was presented in the July 2014 Scoping Report. In light of comments received during that consultation and the updated baseline information that has since been collated a small number of amendments have been made to the key sustainability issues. The key issues have also been reviewed to ensure that they link clearly to the baseline information and some of the issues have been reworded for clarity.
- 3.16 In recognition of the SEA Regulation requirement (Schedule 2) that the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme must be described in the Environmental Report, **Table 3.2** overleaf describes the likely evolution of each key sustainability issue if the Melton Local Plan were not to be adopted.



**Table 3.1: Key Sustainability Issues for the Melton Local Plan and likely evolution without the Plan**

Key Sustainability Issue	Likely evolution of the issue without implementation of the Local Plan
The need for local communities to have responsibility for their areas.	Local community groups will continue to take responsibility. A number of Parish Councils within the Borough are preparing neighbourhood plans to help shape development within their local area. The NPPF supports the use of neighbourhood plans to give people power to deliver sustainable development at a local level. The neighbourhood plan must reflect the strategic policies of the Local Plan and as such the absence of a Local Plan at Borough level will mean the neighbourhood plans will lack authority.
The average age of the population is ageing.	The average age of the population at the end of the plan period will be an ageing population, if the new Local Plan does not encourage younger people to remain in the Borough, or encourage young families to migrate into the Borough. The NPPF requires that local authorities plan for housing for a variety of different types of people including older people and those with young families. This is to be achieved through the Local Plan and the provision of facilities such as appropriate housing which will not only cater for older people but also families with younger children will help to encourage the development of a more balanced population in the Melton in terms of age. Without the implementation of the new Local Plan this issue would therefore be less well addressed.
The need for housing that meets the needs of the local population.	Development of housing would happen but it would be less controlled, and would not deliver the desired outcome to meet the needs of the local community. The NPPF requires that an appropriate evidence base should be drawn upon to identify the local need for housing and where this housing should be located. Without this approach up to date policy would be lacking to accommodate local growth, meet demand for the identified 200 to 250 annual housing supply in the Borough and satisfy local requirements for housing type including affordable housing. Without the implementation of the new Local Plan this issue would therefore be less well addressed.
The need for affordable housing, due to average house prices being higher than the regional average.	The need for affordable housing would increase as house prices are expected to rise. Affordable housing and the right type of housing may not be delivered in the most appropriate locations where there is the most need. The NPPF requires that policy is set to meet affordable housing on site and as such the implementation of a new Local Plan would be required to achieve this aim. The Melton Local Plan 1999 through its Housing policies sought to negotiate the provision of affordable housing at allocated sites and also in areas where local need was identified; however housing affordability continues to be identified as a local issue. As such it is expected that this sustainability issue would continue to exist if the new Local Plan was not implemented.
The need to ensure that there is adequate site provision for Gypsies and Travellers.	Without providing sites for the Gypsy and Traveller community, the requirements of this specific group will not be met. The Melton Local Plan 1999 highlights that there are only occasional incursions of gypsy caravans into the Borough and as such did not allocate any sites. If the new Local Plan does not allocate any sites, the current local demand may not be met.
Accessibility and sustainable transport links need to be improved within the rural areas of the Borough.	The NPPF requires that both planning decisions and policies should take account of whether opportunities for sustainable transport modes have been fully realised. The Melton Plan 1999 provides support for development which makes appropriate use of public transport, pedestrian and cycling links particularly at major developments. However, the new Local Plan presents an opportunity to specify requirements for sustainable transport integration and promotion within future development. Without this approach being adopted, local sustainable transport provision is less likely to improve.
The need to attract higher knowledge	At present Melton shows a lower level of employment focussed in the higher knowledge service sector of the economy

Key Sustainability Issue	Likely evolution of the issue without implementation of the Local Plan
based industries to the Borough.	than the national average. Although the Melton Local Plan 1999 does not place an emphasis on the higher knowledge sector over other business uses it does allocate significant areas of the land for employment use and specific office use (B1 use class); however the Plan is out of date. Without the implementation of the new Local Plan this issue would therefore be less well addressed.
The need to increase the number of businesses locating in Melton.	The NPPF requires that local authorities plan proactively to allow for development to meet the needs of business. As such the Local Plan process should be used to meet this need. Without the implementation of the new Local Plan this issue would therefore be less well addressed.
The need to ensure the continuing regeneration of Melton Town Centre.	The NPPF does require that a sequential test be applied in the absence of an up-to-date Local Plan. This should help to mitigate the loss of town centre uses, however specific policies which protect these uses should allow for planned and more sustainable growth of Melton Mowbray town centre. Without the implementation of the new Local Plan this issue would therefore be less well addressed.
The need to maintain levels of tourism in the Borough while preventing any detrimental impact on the local environment.	The importance of tourism for the local economy will continue. The Melton Local Plan 1999 provides support for development which involves the extension, intensification or refurbishment of established tourist attractions and allows for the adaption of rural buildings for appropriate tourist use with consideration for surrounding countryside. As such the maintenance of an important local tourist sector is addressed through the current plan but a new Local Plan provides an opportunity for up to date policies to address this issue more effectively.
The need to stimulate the local economy, increasing economic growth and average earnings while addressing skills shortages within the Borough.	The Melton Plan 1999 supports development for new education facilities; however this approach did not result in a noticeable improvement in local skill levels or employment opportunities and as such a continued skill shortage is likely if a new relevant policy is not adopted.
The need to continue to protect and enhance human health, including a reduction in road traffic accidents.	Peoples' health in Melton is currently better than the national average and it is important to continue to improve this. If the new Local Plan was not implemented the NPPF promotes development which supports healthy communities through planning decisions which provide appropriate services and open spaces. The framework also promotes safe environments and it is expected that this approach would help to maintain the good quality of local health. However, a new Local Plan provides an opportunity for up to date policies to address this issue more effectively.
There is an identified lack of provision of open space facilities in the north and east of the Borough.	The north (particularly at Bottesford) and east of Melton are likely to continue to experience a local deficit in open space provision. The NPPF requires that Local Plans and planning decisions should promote high quality public space and policy should protect existing open space. As such this issue is addressed to some extent but the new Local Plan offers opportunities for up to date and locally specific policies. The Melton Plan 1999 did require residential development to make a contribution to playing space and amenity open space although given that these policies did not address this sustainability issue over the course of the Plan period it is expected that if the new Local Plan was not implemented the trend would continue.
The need to improve the condition of SSSIs in Borough most of which are currently in unfavourable condition.	The majority of the SSSIs within the Borough are in unfavourable recovering condition. The Melton Local Plan 1999 supports development in the countryside (where the majority of SSSIs are located) where it does not impact upon the conservation of the natural environment. The NPPF provides additional policy, requiring the planning system to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. Given that 10 out of the 12 SSSIs which have been identified as being in unfavourable condition are currently recognised as improving it is expected that the condition of

Key Sustainability Issue	Likely evolution of the issue without implementation of the Local Plan
	these sites would continue to improve in the absence of the new Local Plan. However, the new Local plan would provide additional specific support for local important biodiversity sites and as such would help to prevent any further sites falling in unfavourable condition.
The need to protect the limited amount of geodiversity which has been identified and designated within the Borough.	The NPPF does protect sites of mineral extraction giving weight to these areas in terms of economic value while geodiversity is expected to be protected through local plan policies. Therefore, without an up to date Local Plan addressing this issue, it would be less well addressed.
The need to manage flood risk.	The NPPF supports development which is not within areas of high flood risk and does not increase flood risk elsewhere. A sequential and exception test is to be applied when approaching the location of development through the Local Plan in relation to areas of flood risk. Development would be less controlled in relation to flood risk therefore if the Local Plan was not adopted and given that there are areas of high flood risk in the Borough this could potentially lead development being located within these areas, increasing flood risk in other areas.
The need to ensure that brownfield sites are redeveloped and the developments of greenfield sites are kept to a minimum.	The percentage of homes provided on previously land in the Borough fell from 50.3% in 2011/2012 to 15.6% in 2012/2013. The NPPF encourages the reuse of previously developed land which may help to ensure some reuse of local brownfield sites. However it is expected that allocating sites which are brownfield where possible through the Local Plan would result in the increased use of these sites
The need to protect and enhance the historic environment.	The NPPF requires that in determining planning applications, applicants are aware of heritage assets affected by development. However without allocating specific sites for housing, employment and other types of development in the Borough development is more likely to be proposed in areas which may affect the setting of heritage assets. The Melton Local Plan 1999 requires that development is sympathetic to the exist character of the area it is within and also protects Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas and the new Local Plan should build on these requirements with an up to date policy.
Areas of land which have been contaminated exist within the Borough and this issue needs to be considered when development is proposed.	The implementation of the plan is not expected to result in a change in the number of contaminated sites in the Borough. The NPPF provides mitigation for the effects of contaminated land on development, placing the responsibility for safe development of these types of sites with the developer. The implementation of the Local Plan should, however, guide development to appropriate sites through site allocation and specific local policy guidance.
The need to provide for the development of renewable energy locally.	The NPPF requires that local authorities have a proactive strategy to mitigating climate change. However there is also a requirement on the local authority to approve applications for renewable energy development if the impacts are acceptable or can be made so. As such without the implementation of the Local Plan development for renewable energy schemes is more likely to be proposed in a less coordinate manner and may potentially be in areas which are less suitable for this type of development in sustainability terms. This is particularly likely considering the NPPF's requirement for all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources.

## 4 Findings of Supplementary SA work for the Policy Options

- 4.1 This chapter summarises the findings of the supplementary SA work that has been undertaken in relation to policy options for the Local Plan since the Issues and Options stage in 2014. As described in **Chapter 2**, most of the policy options that were set out in the Issues and Options consultation document were subject to SA by Melton Borough Council at the time and the findings were presented in the SA report for the Issues and Options. However, a small number of the options were not subject to SA at that time; therefore they have now been appraised for completeness. In addition, the SA work that was undertaken by the Council in 2014 in relation to the spatial strategy options has been revised and updated to take account of the most recent evidence.

### Revised SA findings for the spatial strategy options

- 4.2 This section summarises the findings of the supplementary SA work that has been undertaken in relation to the policy options that were set out in Section 4 of the Issues and Options document, the Spatial Strategy. These options relate to the amount of development that should take place in Melton and how it should be distributed. As described in **Chapter 2** this supplementary SA work has been undertaken on the basis of the revised SA framework i.e. the 17 SA objectives that were subject to consultation with the statutory consultees in July 2015. As well as allowing for the SA work on the spatial strategy options to be updated and expanded to take account of the latest available evidence, this additional stage of work provided an opportunity to examine how the options would perform against the revised set of SA objectives.
- 4.3 There were four key questions in the spatial strategy section of the Issues and Options consultation document that have been subject to supplementary SA work:

#### **Q6: What level of Growth (homes and jobs) should Melton Borough provide for?**

- Option 1: Demographic based (195 dwellings per annum)
- Option 2: Mid-range (220 dwellings per annum)
- Option 3: Supporting economic growth (245 dwellings per annum)

#### **Q7: How should Melton Borough grow?**

- Option 1: Melton Mowbray focus: development focused on Melton Mowbray with small scale development in rural settlements.
- Option 2: Reduced Melton Borough focus: majority of development still in Melton Mowbray but with increased development in rural villages.
- Option 3: Dispersed development: increased development in settlements across the Borough with further reduction in development in Melton Mowbray.
- Option 4: The majority of development concentrated in one location.

#### **Q8: How do you think that development in the Borough<sup>6</sup> should be provided?**

- Option 1: Concentrated in a single large development on the edge of town

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<sup>6</sup> Note that these options relate to how development should be provided at Melton Mowbray rather than within the whole Borough, which is considered separately under Question 7.

- Option 2: Provided through a few larger developments
- Option 3: Development completely dispersed around the town

**Q12: What do you think is the best approach to defining the roles of settlements in the form of a settlement hierarchy?**

- Option 1: Establish settlement roles and a hierarchy based on the size of communities and the level of services and facilities provided within them, resulting in development being directed towards the large communities with services and restricting development in smaller communities with limited or no services.
- Option 2: Establish settlement roles and a hierarchy based on factors which in addition to individual roles recognise the relationships between communities e.g. hubs and satellites.

4.4 **Table 4.1** overleaf presents the SA scores for the Spatial Strategy options.

4.5 The options for the level of growth to take place in Melton are very mixed – under all three options housing development would take place to meet at least the minimum level of objectively assessed housing need which would have positive effects on **housing** (SA objective 1). However, under Option 1 the level of housing growth would not be sufficient to support economic growth in the Borough; therefore a minor rather than significant positive effect is likely in relation to housing and significant negative effects are likely in relation to the **economy and employment** (SA objective 4), **social and economic inclusion** (SA objective 10) and **economic growth** (SA objective 13). Conversely the highest growth option, Option 3, would deliver housing growth at a level that would support the growth of Melton’s economy and therefore significant positive effects are likely in relation to the economic SA objectives. All three options for the level of growth could have negative effects on the **landscape** (SA objective 5), **biodiversity** (SA objective 6), **cultural heritage** (SA objective 7) and the **efficient use of land** (SA objective 8) because they would all result in the development of a large number of homes over the Plan period which could negatively affect the environment. Under Option 3, the effects could be significant due to the higher level of housing development that would occur. However, in all cases the potential negative effects are uncertain as they will depend on the exact location and design of the new housing and there may be opportunities to mitigate the negative effects.

4.6 The options for how Melton Borough should grow are also very mixed. Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray (under Option 1 in particular but also under Option 2) would have positive effects on several of the SA objectives as there would be better opportunities to use **sustainable transport** (SA objective 3) which can also benefit **health** (SA objective 14) and levels of **greenhouse gas emissions** (SA objective 15) and people would have easier **access to services** (SA objective 9). However, focussing most development at the town would limit opportunities to support rural communities through new development and could further draw economic and social activities towards Melton Mowbray to the detriment of the health and vitality of the rural villages. Therefore, while Option 3 (dispersed development) would have largely negative effects due to the likely higher level of car use and less good access to services, jobs and facilities for most people, there would also be some potential minor positive effects in relation to improving access to housing and services in rural areas.

**Table 4.1: SA scores for the Spatial Strategy options for the Local Plan**

SA objective	What level of growth should there be?			How should Melton Borough grow?				How do you think development in the Borough <sup>7</sup> should be provided?			What should be the approach to defining the roles of settlements?	
	195 dwellings/year	220 dwellings/year	245 dwellings/year	Melton Mowbray focus	Reduced Melton Mowbray focus	Dispersed development	The majority of development in one location	Single large development on the edge of town	A few large developments	Completely dispersed around the town	Based on size of communities and available services	Recognise relationships between communities
1. Housing	+	++?	++	++/-	++/-	+/-	++/-	++	++	+	+	+/-?
2. Education	-	+	++	++/-	+	-?	+/-	++/-	++/-	+/-	++?	+
3. Sustainable transport	0	+?	+?	++	++	-?	+/-?	++	+	-?	++	-
4. Economy and employment	--	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Landscape	-?	-?	--?	+/--?	+/--?	-?	+/--?	--?	--?	-?	?	?
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	-?	-?	--?	+/--?	+/--?	+/-?	+/--?	--?	--?	-?	?	?
7. Cultural heritage	-?	-?	--?	--?	--?	-?	--?	+/--?	+/--?	-?	?	?
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	-?	-?	--?	--?	--?	-?	--?	--?	--?	-?	?	?
9. Access to services	0	0	0	++/-?	++/-?	--/+?	--/+?	++/-	++/-?	+/-	++	+
10. Social and economic inclusion	--	+	++	--/+	--/+	-	--	+	+	-	++	+/-
11. Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Waste	+?	-?	-?	0?	0?	?	+/-?	0	0	+	0	0
13. Economic growth	--	++	++	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	0	0
14. Health	0	0	0	++/-	++/-	-	-/+?	++/-	++/-	-/+	++	+/-
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	0	0	0	++	++	-?	+/--?	++	++	-/+	++	-
16. Flood risk	?	?	?	-?	-?	?	-?	--?	--?	+/-?	0	0
17. Water quality	0	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0

<sup>7</sup> Note that these options relate to how development should be provided at Melton Mowbray rather than within the whole Borough, which is considered separately under Question 7.

- 4.7 In terms of how development should be provided at Melton Mowbray, the effects of Options 1 and 2 are largely similar as both would focus development in a small number of larger sites, particularly under Option 1 which would involve having a single large development. This approach could have positive effects in terms of improved **access to services** (SA objective 9) and **employment** opportunities (SA objective 4) as it should be possible to develop relatively self-contained settlements where journey lengths are shorter and car use is not required as much. This would have further benefits for **health** (SA objective 14) and reduced **greenhouse gas emissions** (SA objective 15). However, the effects of a small number of larger developments on the environment could be more significant and potential significant negative effects are therefore identified in relation to Options 1 and 2 for the **landscape** (SA objective 5), **biodiversity** (SA objective 6) **cultural heritage** (SA objective 7) and **efficient use of land** (SA objective 8). Distributing development more widely around the town (Option 3) is likely to have largely minor negative effects as there would be less opportunity to develop relatively self-contained new settlements where there is the critical mass of people required to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities.
- 4.8 The options for defining the roles of settlements in the Local Plan are negligible for a number of the SA objectives, because of their specific nature. However, Option 1 could have significant positive effects on **education** (SA objective 2), **sustainable transport** (SA objective 3), **access to services** (SA objective 9), **social and economic inclusion** (SA objective 10), **health** (SA objective 14) and **greenhouse gas emissions** (SA objective 15). This is because new development is likely to be focussed in the towns and villages that provide the best access to existing services and facilities, reducing the need to travel. Under Option 2 the likely effects are generally mixed because, while development would also be located in areas where services and facilities are generally accessible, they may be in a nearby town or village rather than within the same settlement as the housing and therefore journeys may be longer in comparison to Option 1. Opportunities to walk and cycle day to day are also likely to be more limited as people are more likely to need to travel between settlements.

## SA findings for the additional policy options

- 4.9 This section presents the findings for a small number of policy options that were presented in the Issues and Options consultation document in 2014 but that were not subject to SA at that time. For some of the policy options where this was the case, SA work cannot be carried out as the options presented did not comprise distinct alternatives approaches that could be subject to appraisal. However, in some cases the options could reasonably be appraised and this work has now been undertaken. As described in **Chapter 2**, the SA framework that was used for the SA of the Issues and Options in 2014 was slightly different to the current version (prior to the amendments made by LUC and subject to consultation in summer 2015). For consistency with the earlier options appraisal work, these policy options have been subject to SA using the original SA framework which comprised 16 SA objectives.
- 4.10 Options relating to eight consultation questions from the Issues and Options document have been subject to SA and the findings described in this chapter:

### Q14: What do you think is the best approach for achieving a housing mix that is suited to current and future housing needs?

- Option 1: Continue with the current approach of ensuring all housing provision meets specifically identified housing needs, as identified by evidence such as the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.
- Option 2: Consider housing mix on a site by site basis, in conjunction with a site size threshold.

### Q61: What policy approach should the Local Plan take to achieving a high quality design in the Borough?

- Option 1: Set out an over-arching design policy for the whole Borough applicable to any part of the Borough.



- Option 2: Set specific design criteria for specific locations and specify design criteria for each of the site allocations within the Local Plan.
- Option 3: Allow local communities to develop design guidance for their villages.

**Q63: How should the Local Plan address gateways and through routes of Melton Mowbray?**

- Option 1: Include a specific policy which deals with gateways and through routes to Melton Mowbray Town Centre.
- Option 2: Deal with gateways and through routes to Melton Mowbray Town Centre in an overarching design policy covering all types of developments.

**Q68: How should village envelopes be taken forward through the Local Plan?**

- Option 1: To review all the existing village envelopes and adjust them through the Local Plan process.
- Option 2: Have defined envelopes for specific villages as a tool to limit development and have the criteria based approach in villages where development would be encouraged in accordance with the spatial strategy for the Borough.
- Option 3: Not have defined town or village envelopes, and have a detailed policy setting out criteria for use in assessing each proposal on its merits using criteria.

**Q72: Should the Local Plan contain a policy on housing density?**

- Option 1: Set local density standards, with broad density ranges for different areas of the Borough.
- Option 2: Ensure, on a site by site basis, that development achieves the optimum level of density appropriate to the sites location, context, infrastructure and public transport accessibility.
- Option 3: Set out densities for each allocated site and a series of criteria against which to assess unallocated sites.

**Q73: The Borough Council currently relies on the NPPF for guidance on heritage assets when determining planning applications. How should the new Melton Borough Local Plan consider Heritage Assets?**

- Option 1: Individual policies addressing historic landscapes, archaeological sites, listed Buildings and their settings and conservation areas.
- Option 2: A single policy regarding the protection of all heritage assets and to retain Conservation Areas as set out in the current Melton Borough Local Plan.
- Option 3: Continue to rely on the detail contained with the NPPF and National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG).

**Q77: How should the Local Plan ensure a range of appropriate uses are provided for in the Town Centre to ensure its offer, viability and vitality is maintained?**

- Option 1: Include a policy or policies which within the Town Centre restricts any continuous frontages (primary or secondary) to specific uses and concentrations of single uses.
- Option 2: Adopt a more flexible approach considering each proposal on its merits and its ability to add to the offer, vitality and viability of the Town Centre.

**Q79: How should the Local Plan deal with proposals for equestrian related development in the rural area?**

- Option 1: By relying on general policies that cover development in rural areas.
- Option 2: A specific policy to cover the development of all stables and equestrian activity.

4.11 The SA findings for these policy options are presented in **Table 4.2** overleaf.



**Table 4.2: SA scores for the Local Plan options not appraised at Issues and Options stage**

SA objective	Housing mix		High quality design			Gateways and through routes		Village envelopes			Housing density			Heritage assets			Town centre uses		Equestrian development	
	Option 1	Option 2	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 1	Option 2	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 1	Option 2	Option 1	Option 2
1. Housing	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Sustainable transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	?	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Learning and enterprise	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Social inclusion	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	?	?	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Economy	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	+	-?	+/-?
6. Employment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	+	-?	+/-?
7. Natural environment	0	0	+	++	++	0	0	++/-	++/-	++/-	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+
8. Historic environment	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+/-	+/-	+/-	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	+
9. Efficient use of resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10. Community facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	+	0	0
11. Economic inclusion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	+	0	0
12. Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Waste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14. Economic growth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15. Health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Climate change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	?	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- 4.12 The specific nature of these policy options means that a large number of negligible effects have been identified for many of the SA objectives. Positive effects on **housing** (SA objective 1) are expected to result from both of the options for housing mix as both Options 1 and 2 would seek to deliver a mix of housing types within new developments. Option 1 is likely to have a significant positive effect as it would involve following the current approach which has been proven successful in delivering a mix of housing and addressing demand for smaller and single storey dwellings in particular. Option 2 would have a minor rather than significant positive effect because, although it would involve requiring some element of housing mix, there would be more flexibility meaning that a suitable mix may be less likely to be delivered, particularly where the viability of developments would be affected.
- 4.13 In relation to the approach to achieving high quality design, Options 2 and 3 would both have significant positive effects on the **natural environment** (SA objective 7) as they would involve setting detailed design criteria relevant to specific locations within the Borough, which would be particularly effective in ensuring that new development is suitably designed and in keeping with its surroundings, thereby avoiding adverse impacts on local character. Option 1 would still involve setting design criteria and would provide a clear and consistent framework for developers; therefore it would have a positive effect on SA objective 7. However, this effect would be minor rather than significant as the guidance would be generic for the whole Borough and would not reflect local circumstances at the lower level.
- 4.14 For the approach to gateways and through routes in Melton Mowbray, Option 1 is likely to have a minor positive effect on **social inclusion** (SA objective 4), the **economy** (SA objective 5) and the **historic environment** (SA objective 8) as including a specific policy in the Local Plan addressing this issue would help to improve the appearance of gateways into Melton Mowbray and so could enhance the overall impression of the town for visitors, boosting the tourism economy and encouraging investment. This approach would also improve the quality of the built environment and would therefore benefit the setting of heritage assets. Option 2 would have negligible effects on all of the SA objectives as not including a policy in the Local Plan addressing gateways and through routes would mean that opportunities to bring about benefits would be lost but negative effects would not be expected to occur.
- 4.15 The options for the approach to defining village envelopes would have fairly mixed effects on the SA objectives. While continuing to define envelopes for all villages that currently have one (Option 1) would provide clarity for developers about where development is generally acceptable and should be an effective way of avoiding development in inappropriate locations, it is less flexible than a criteria-based policy (Option 3) which would address a number of specific sustainability topics within the criteria. However, the effects of Option 1 are to some extent uncertain depending on what factors are taken into account in the review and update of the village envelopes policy for the new Local Plan. The effects of Option 2 are part way between those of Options 1 and 3 as the approach would involve a hybrid of those two options.
- 4.16 In relation to the options for the Local Plan approach to housing density, Option 1 would have a minor positive effect on **housing** (SA objective 1) as it define broad density ranges for different areas of the Borough and so would take into account locally specific circumstances to some extent but not at the very local (site) level. Option 2 involves determining the optimum housing density on a site by site basis which would help to ensure the viability of the development and encourage housing delivery. However, stipulating the optimum housing density may conflict with the housing needs of a local community in terms of the type of housing delivered. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore identified. Similarly to Option 2, Option 3 is likely to have mixed effects on housing as it will tailor housing density ranges at the site level, although in this case only for allocated sites. Options 2 and 3 would also have potential positive effects on **sustainable transport** (SA objective 2), **social inclusion** (SA objective 4) and the **natural environment** (SA objective 7). This is because those options would take into account a range of relevant factors when determining appropriate housing densities on a site by site basis.
- 4.17 The three options for the approach to be taken in the Local Plan to the protection of heritage assets would have largely negligible effects due to their specific nature. However, Option 1 would have a significant positive effect on the **historic environment** (SA objective 8) as providing a high level of detail in separate policies addressing historic landscapes, archeologically sites, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas would go a long way towards helping to conserve and even enhance Melton's heritage assets. Option 2 is likely to have a minor rather than significant

positive effect on SA objective 8 as a single policy protecting all types of heritage assets would still help to ensure that Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings are protected and where possible enhanced; however effects may be less significant where a single generic policy for all types of heritage assets is used. A negligible effect is likely to result from Option 3 as the absence of a policy is unlikely to affect any of the SA objectives – while opportunities to bring about more positive effects would be missed, negative effects are not expected as guidance in the NPPF relating to the historic environment would still apply to all new development in Melton Borough.

- 4.18 Option 1 relating to town centre uses could have minor negative effects on the **economy** (SA objective 5) and **employment** (SA objective 6) as well as **access to facilities** (SA objective 10) and **economic inclusion** (SA objective 11) as town centre uses along continuous frontages would be restricted to specific uses – this approach could result in high vacancy rates if demand for those uses is low. Under Option 2 there would be more flexibility to consider proposals individually, seeking to increase the range of business in the town centre and benefitting vitality allowing for market forces to be responded to.
- 4.19 In relation to the policy options for equestrian development, Option 1 could have minor negative effects on the **economy** (SA objective 5) and **employment** (SA objective 6). This is because the option would involve relying on general rural development policies in the Local Plan when assessing applications for equestrian facilities. This could mean that there is a less clear framework for applicants considering this type of proposal which could hinder the development of appropriate proposals which can otherwise benefit the rural economy. However, general rural development policies should still provide some guidance. Under Option 2 a specific policy would be included in the Local Plan addressing equestrian development proposals and so there would be a clearer framework for applicants considering this type of proposal which could mean that appropriate applications are more likely to be successful, to the benefit of the rural economy and employment. However, this approach may also result in more restrictive criteria applying, hindering equestrian developments. A potential but uncertain mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore identified in relation to the rural economy and new business formation for Option 2.

## 5 Sustainability Appraisal Findings for the Large-Scale Site Options

- 5.1 This chapter describes the SA findings for the options for large-scale sites to be allocated in the emerging Melton Local Plan. This SA work was undertaken in summer 2015 and provided to the Council in an internal SA note at that time so that it could inform decision making about which sites to take forward as Emerging Options.
- 5.2 A total of 12 reasonable alternative large-scale site options have been subject to SA. The following options are for directions of growth or Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUEs) also referred to as 'Sustainable Neighbourhoods' directly adjacent to the edge of Melton Mowbray:
- Melton East (direction of growth)
  - Melton West (direction of growth)
  - Melton North (SUE)
  - Melton South, incorporating Melton South East (SUE)
  - Melton South, not incorporating Melton South East (SUE)
  - Melton South East (SUE)
  - Thorpe Arnold (SUE)
- 5.3 The other options are potential SUEs or new settlements either separate from the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray or elsewhere in the Borough:
- Welby (SUE)
  - Belvoir Road, Bottesford (SUE)
  - Normanton Airfield (new settlement)
  - Dalby Airfield (new settlement)
  - Six Hills (new settlement)
- 5.4 Five of these large-scale site options were identified at the Issues and Options stage and were subject to SA at that time. Since then a number of additional options have been identified by the Council and have now also been subject to SA. The SA work undertaken previously for the five sites identified at the Issues and Options stage has also been revised and updated to ensure that all options are appraised consistently and to take account of the latest available evidence.
- 5.5 Information about the proposed uses and potential advantages and disadvantages of developing the large-scale site options has been taken from the Council's document: 'Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options'. GIS data has also been used to inform judgements about the likely sustainability effects of development at each site, although the assumptions used for the SA of small-scale site options were not applied as they were not appropriate for these larger sites, for which more specific information was available about the likely nature of development at each site.
- 5.6 The likely effects of the large-scale site options are summarised below in relation to each SA objective. Particular consideration has been given to the likely significant effects identified (both positive and negative), in line with the requirements of the SEA Regulations. Where relevant, effects are classified as short, medium or long-term. The SA scores for all of the large-scale site options are presented in **Table 5.1** overleaf, and the detailed SA matrices are presented in **Appendix 7**. It should be noted that the scores shown in **Table 5.1** are prior to mitigation – as described in the SA matrices, many of the potential negative effects identified may be able to be mitigated through the design of the development and through the implementation of relevant policies in the emerging Local Plan. Mitigation is considered further in **Chapter 7** in relation to the selected emerging site options.

**Table 5.1: Summary of SA scores for the large-scale site options**

	Melton East	Melton West	Melton North	Melton South (inc. Melton South East)	Melton South	Melton South East	Thorpe Arnold	Welby	Belvoir Road, Bottesford	Normanton Airfield	Dalby Airfield	Six Hills
1. Housing	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++?	++?	++
2. Education	++/--?	++/--?	++	++	++	++/--?	++/--?	+/-?	+?/-	-?	-?	--
3. Sustainable transport	++	++/-	++/-	++/--?	++/--?	++	++	+/-?	+/-	--?	+/--?	--
4. Economy and employment	+/-	++	++	++	++	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/--	--/+?	+/--
5. Landscape	--?	--?	--/+?	--/+?	--/+?	--?	--?	--?	--?	--?	--?	--?
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	-?	--?	--?	--?	--?	-?	-?	-?	-?	--?	-?	-?
7. Cultural heritage	-?	--?	--?	--?	--?	-?	--?	--?	--?	--?	0	0?
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--?	--?	--?	--?
9. Access to services	++/--?	++?	++?	++	++	++/--?	++/--?	+/-?	-	--?	++/--?	--?
10. Social and economic inclusion	+/-	+	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	+/-?	+/-	-?	+	-?
11. Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Waste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0
13. Economic growth	-	++	++	+	+	-	+/-?	-?	-	+/-	+/--?	+/-
14. Health	++/--?	++/--?	+	++	++	++/-	++/--?	+/-?	+/-	-?	-?	--?
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	++	++/-	++/-	++/-	++/-	++	++	+/-?	+/-	--	+/--?	--
16. Flood risk	--?	--?	-?	-?	-?	-?	--?	--?	-?	-?	-?	-?
17. Water quality	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

**SA objective 1: To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough**

- 5.7 All of the large-scale site options would have significant positive effects on this SA objective as all would provide for the development of significant amounts of housing to meet the identified need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum in Melton Borough up to 2036<sup>8</sup>. Compared to the smaller-scale site options, these 12 sites could all deliver at least 430 homes with several options potentially providing upwards of 1,500 homes. The largest site options are Melton North, Melton South, Melton South (incorporating Melton South East), Melton West and Six Hills.
- 5.8 Three of the large-scale site options would provide for the delivery of a lower amount of housing than the other nine options – Belvoir Road, Bottesford; Melton East; and Thorpe Arnold SUEs. However, even though some of the sites would provide for more modest amounts of housing, the Council is of the view that all would be of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the developments, which is higher than the 37% requirement indicated in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Therefore, all of the sites would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.
- 5.9 While the number of homes that could be delivered at each site individually provides a useful indication of the contribution that each site alone could make to Melton’s housing needs, the options will need to be considered as part of the overall development strategy for the Borough and the total number of homes that can be delivered at all of the allocated sites will need to be assessed against Melton’s objectively assessed housing need. While larger sites can make a greater individual contribution, the full capacity of the larger sites would not necessarily be required and there are other issues associated with large-scale sites such as potentially greater landscape impacts and pressure on local services unless new provision is made. (These issues are considered under other SA objectives below.) Therefore, it is not necessarily preferable that the larger sites are allocated over smaller options even though they could accommodate more homes.

**SA objective 2: To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education**

- 5.10 The effects of the large-scale site options on education will depend primarily on their proximity to existing schools (and whether there is capacity at those schools to accommodate increased demand). Effects will also depend on whether new schools may be provided as part of the development of each site.
- 5.11 The large-scale residential development that will result from the Local Plan, regardless of which sites are eventually allocated, will result in an increase in demand for school places. While increased demand may help to ensure that existing schools remain viable, particularly in the smaller villages, there is also a risk that they may become overloaded. Information about current levels of capacity at the Borough’s schools shows that there is some capacity although there is uncertainty attached to all of the potential effects on this SA objective.
- 5.12 The sites that are in close proximity of Melton Mowbray are generally likely to have the most positive effects on education, i.e. the SUE options to the north, south and south east of the town as well as the directions of growth to the east and west and the SUE between Melton Mowbray and Thorpe Arnold. The rural nature of the Borough means that Melton Mowbray has a far greater concentration of schools than the rural areas, especially at secondary level. Many of the Borough’s villages do not include a school and the only secondary school outside of Melton Mowbray is at Bottesford in the far north of the Borough. Therefore, development at Melton Mowbray will provide residents (especially children) with good access to existing education facilities, including via public transport, compared to development away from the town. The Six Hills SUE would have a significant negative effect on access to education due to its remoteness from education facilities in both Melton Mowbray and Bottesford.
- 5.13 However, the proximity to existing educational facilities in Melton Mowbray and Bottesford needs to be balanced with the opportunities to provide additional support for rural schools, which would be lost if development takes place around the edge of Melton Mowbray and Bottesford. The

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<sup>8</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

development of large-scale SUEs or new settlements could in many cases involve the delivery of a new school which will ensure that the growing population is supported and can also contribute to community cohesion (addressed separately under SA objective 10 below).

- 5.14 The provision of new schools is particularly important where a new settlement is proposed, away from an existing settlement, i.e. the site options at Six Hills and Normanton Airfield. New schools are likely to be provided as part of the development of some of the other large site options (Melton North, Melton South, Melton South East and Melton South incorporating Melton South East); however for the other options there is less certainty about the delivery of a new school. The larger site options are generally more likely to involve the provision of a new primary school.
- 5.15 When the Council is determining which site options to allocate in the Local Plan for large-scale growth, further consideration should be given to the capacity of nearby schools to accommodate new pupils and the viability of either providing a new school or new school places through developer contributions. Any requirements for improvements to education infrastructure should be built into the relevant Local Plan policies and consideration should also be given to the extent to which people will be able to make use of sustainable modes of transport (including safe walking and cycling for children) to access schools. This issue is considered further under SA objective 3 below.

**SA objective 3: To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices**

- 5.16 The rural nature of Melton Borough means that public transport services outside of Melton Mowbray are generally limited, although there is reasonable provision at Bottesford in the north of the Borough which includes a railway station. Therefore, the site options that are located within close proximity of Melton Mowbray would generally offer the best opportunities for residents to make use of sustainable modes of transport day to day. As well as existing bus services, people would be able to access Melton Mowbray railway station and jobs, services and facilities are more densely concentrated at the town, reducing journey lengths and the need to travel.
- 5.17 However, some of the SUE options around Melton Mowbray are some distance from the town centre (up to 3km), particularly at the far edges of the larger sites such as Melton North and Melton South SUEs. Therefore, even if development takes place at one of the Melton Mowbray SUE options, sustainable transport infrastructure should be incorporated as part of the development – this may include improved or additional bus services or new cycle routes and footpaths. These should be well-lit to encourage their use all year round.
- 5.18 Where sites would deliver new settlements in more isolated areas, levels of car use are likely to be particularly high, given the challenges of achieving self-containment. This is the case for the sites at Six Hills, Dalby Airfield and Normanton Airfield. While there may be opportunities to provide new bus routes to serve these developments, this is not yet certain and journey times are still likely to be high and services limited which may mean that people are more likely to drive.
- 5.19 A number of the options for large-scale development around the fringe of Melton Mowbray could help to deliver a bypass at the town. While this could ease congestion at the town which brings a number of benefits in relation to air quality and the local economy (addressed separately under other SA objectives), road improvements may also make ongoing car use more attractive and make it more difficult to achieve modal shift. Conversely, development in other locations which would not contribute to the delivery of a bypass is likely to compound congestion problems by resulting in high levels of car use as people travel from more rural areas to work and other activities in Melton Mowbray.
- 5.20 Overall, the likely effects of large-scale development on sustainable transport will be most positive if development is located close to the main urban centre of Melton Mowbray. However, development in any location should incorporate sustainable transport links. This should be addressed in the relevant Local Plan policies.



**SA objective 4: To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community**

- 5.21 The development proposed at each large-scale site option is primarily residential. However a number of the sites (particularly those that are larger in size) would offer opportunities to incorporate new employment development. As well as contributing to the available employment land in the Borough, co-locating residential and employment development would offer opportunities for new residents, including those without a car, to have good access to jobs. The SUE options at Melton North, Melton South, Melton South (incorporating Melton South East) and Melton West would offer the best opportunities to deliver employment land as part of the development, which in turn would also be located in proximity of Melton Mowbray's sustainable transport links, enabling easier access for people who don't live locally.
- 5.22 The site option at Dalby Airfield already includes some employment land. Therefore the effects of that option on this SA objective will depend largely on whether those existing employment uses are incorporated as part of the development or whether they would be lost to housing. There may also be the option to expand the employment uses as part of a larger mixed-use development.
- 5.23 In general, development at Melton Mowbray (i.e. the SUE options to the north, south and south east of the town as well as the directions of growth to the east and west) would mean that residents have the best level of access to the jobs that are focussed there. However, it is also recognised that some people will commute to work in locations outside of the Borough. Where development takes place at Melton Mowbray, people would be able to access the railway station which provides access to Leicester and other employment destinations further afield. However, development in the north of the Borough, i.e. the Bottesford SUE or Normanton Airfield, could contribute to high levels of out-commuting by car to Grantham, which is closer to those sites than Melton Mowbray.
- 5.24 While large-scale development in more rural locations could help to deliver employment opportunities in those areas alongside housing, people commuting to and from the site that do not live locally would be likely to use cars to get to work. Locations at Melton Mowbray are generally more commercially attractive (based on the findings of the Employment Land Review) and offer better transport links so may be more attractive to investors. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective will be most positive if one of the larger site options around Melton Mowbray is allocated.

**SA objective 5: To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape**

- 5.25 It is inevitable that large-scale new development in a rural Borough such as Melton could have significant effects on the character and quality of the landscape. The challenge will therefore be to identify the locations where impacts on the landscape will be least significant and where the development may be most successfully integrated into the surroundings. The rural nature of Melton Borough means that large-scale brownfield sites are not available<sup>9</sup> and the development of any of the site options would therefore be on greenfield land.
- 5.26 Parcels of land around the main settlements in the Borough have been assessed for their settlement fringe sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study. Around Melton Mowbray, in most areas the settlement fringe is of medium-high overall sensitivity to development although the landscape character zones on the western edge of the town are slightly less sensitive, being classed as medium or medium-low sensitivity. Therefore, the direction of growth at Melton West may have less of an effect on the landscape than the sites to the north, south and east of the town. The effects of all of the options are highly dependent on the design and layout of the eventual development and all would significantly alter the overall scale and built form of Melton Mowbray.
- 5.27 Outside of Melton Mowbray, the more rural site options lie in areas that were not assessed for their sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space

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<sup>9</sup> The two airfield site options (Normanton and Dalby) are considered to be greenfield with the exceptions of the runways and buildings. In any case, development that replaces the airfield infrastructure is likely to be significantly different in appearance to that which it would replace.



Study. However, introducing new larger scale built development in more isolated locations such as the potential new settlements at Six Hills, Normanton Airfield or Dalby Airfield, or the SUE at the hamlet of Welby, are likely to be particularly intrusive and alter the character of the rural landscape. At Normanton and Dalby Airfields there is currently only fairly isolated built development.

- 5.28 It is essential that robust mitigation for impacts on the landscape is built into the Local Plan, particularly any site-specific policies that may come forward in relation to large-scale site options. Development should be designed and sited so as to cause the minimum impacts on the landscape and mitigation such as planting should be incorporated.
- 5.29 A number of Areas of Separation have been designated in the Borough, and some of the large-scale site options would involve development taking place within those areas, contributing to the coalescence of settlements. The SUE at Bottesford would extend into the Area of Separation to the east of Bottesford, and so could contribute to the coalescence of Bottesford and the hamlet of Easthorpe. The Thorpe Arnold SUE site would almost entirely cover the Area of Separation between Melton Mowbray and Thorpe Arnold. The Area of Separation between Melton Mowbray and Burton Lazars would be affected by the Melton South or Melton South SUEs, with effects likely to be particularly significant if the two sites were allocated in combination. It would be very difficult if not impossible to mitigate these effects.
- 5.30 In two cases, the potential for minor positive effects on the landscape was identified. Both the northern and southern edges of Melton Mowbray currently comprise 'hard' development boundaries which currently impact on the quality of the landscape in those areas. Sympathetic development at either the Melton North or Melton South SUEs could therefore improve the character of the landscape in these areas.

#### **SA objective 6: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough**

- 5.31 The large-scale development on greenfield land that would result from the allocation of any of the large-scale site options could result in habitat loss, negatively affecting biodiversity. However, the key determinant of the likely effects of each site on this SA objective is its proximity to biodiversity features, as development could result in damage or disturbance, including during the short-term construction phase.
- 5.32 Potential significant negative effects on this SA objective were identified in relation to the site options at Normanton Airfield, Melton North, Melton South, Melton South (incorporating Melton South East), and Melton West. This is because those sites are within particularly close proximity of Local Wildlife Sites or other biodiversity features which could be affected by development and Melton North and Melton South (incorporating Melton South East) include areas that were assessed as being of moderate or high ecological value in the Biodiversity Study that has been undertaken by White Young Green on behalf of Melton Borough Council. Minor negative effects could occur as a result of development of the other large-scale site options.
- 5.33 However, in all cases the potential negative effects are uncertain as effects will depend largely on the design and layout of the site and it may be possible to incorporate mitigation such as green infrastructure to safeguard existing habitats or bring about habitat creation. It is assumed that site surveys would be carried out at the planning application stage; however site specific policies in the Local Plan should deliver mitigation as appropriate in relation to any of the allocated sites. The incorporation of green infrastructure should be encouraged.
- 5.34 The potential for development within the Borough to affect European designated sites around Melton is being considered through the separate Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), and the findings will be taken into account during later stages of the SA as they become available.

#### **SA objective 7: To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings**

- 5.35 Designated heritage assets such as Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments are distributed throughout Melton Borough, although the concentration is highest in Melton Mowbray. Eight of the 12 large-scale site options could have significant negative effects, reflecting their proximity to heritage features that could be affected by development. However, in all cases the potential

effects are uncertain as it may be possible to achieve mitigation through the design and layout of the development.

- 5.36 A number of the site options have listed buildings within their boundaries. Melton North contains a Scheduled Monument (Sysonby Grange). Melton South and Melton South (incorporating Melton South East) would involve development in close proximity of another Scheduled Monument (St Mary and Lazarus Hospital).
- 5.37 While the potential for development to impact upon the setting of these assets has been identified, it is not possible at this strategic level of assessment to determine with certainty the likelihood of effects. Some assets are already affected by existing unsympathetic development (for example, the A606 runs directly past listed buildings at Burton Lazars which have been identified as being within close proximity of the SUE south east of Melton). In such cases, new development may be less likely to have additional adverse effects beyond those that already exist or may even offer the opportunity to improve the wider setting of heritage features.
- 5.38 Site specific policies in the Local Plan should deliver mitigation as appropriate in relation to any of the allocated sites, seeking to avoid adverse effects on the historic environment and bring about improvements where possible.

### **SA objective 8: To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality**

- 5.39 Some of Melton Borough is classified as high quality 'Best and most versatile' agricultural land and large-scale development in most locations is therefore likely to result in the loss of this resource, particularly as there are no large-scale development site options on brownfield land. In addition, there are several Minerals Consultation Areas in the Borough, a number of which are within close proximity of large-scale development site options which could potentially lead to sterilisation of these resources, or delays in the delivery of development until the mineral resources have been worked out.
- 5.40 All of the 12 site options could have significant negative effects on this SA objective as all are at least partly within areas of Grade 2 or 3 agricultural land. Development should be steered where possible to Grade 3b land in place of Grade 2 or Grade 3a in order to avoid adverse effects.

### **SA objective 9: To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough**

- 5.41 Access to existing services and facilities will be easiest to achieve if development takes place at Melton Mowbray as the highest concentration of services is available there. Some of the large-scale site options in more remote areas, such as Six Hills, Normanton Airfield and Dalby Airfield, would be located some distance from Melton Mowbray and unless new services and facilities are provided as part of the development, people are likely to need to travel longer distances. Journeys are also more likely to need to be undertaken by car, potentially resulting in exclusion for people who rely on public transport. To achieve a full range of services and facilities (e.g. education to sixth form level, health services, retail, places of worship, library, restaurants, public houses, sports and leisure, etc.) would require a new settlement to be of sufficient scale and population size to support such services and facilities<sup>10</sup>.
- 5.42 While development in rural areas may stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in those locations and provide support for the ongoing viability of existing rural services, there is uncertainty attached to the potential for many of the site options to deliver a relatively self-contained settlement and several, particularly those that are smaller in size, would rely on existing provision.
- 5.43 Therefore, if sites away from Melton Mowbray are allocated it is essential that they are delivered as self-supporting settlements, incorporating shops and essential facilities, in order to avoid potential social exclusion and high levels of car use.

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<sup>10</sup> The TCPA is of the view that the number of homes for a new settlement would need to be will be in the range of at least 4,000-5,000 in order to support a secondary school, which it considers to be "the basic building block when designing the size of a new town" TCPA (March, 2007) Best Practice in Urban Extensions and New Settlements.

### **SA objective 10: To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion**

- 5.44 The effects of large-scale site options on this SA objective are closely linked to the effects described under other SA objectives including 1: housing 2: education and 4: economy and employment. In general, effects on social deprivation will be more positive if large-scale development comes forward at one of the sites around Melton Mowbray as access to services and jobs will be good in comparison to rural areas. It may also be more likely that employment land can be delivered alongside housing in that area as it is considered to be more commercially attractive (based on the findings of the Employment Land Review) and this may help to secure economic inclusion.

### **SA objective 11: To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime**

- 5.45 The effects of large-scale development on levels of crime and fear of crime in Melton will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the sites which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the sites which are not yet known.
- 5.46 The allocation of any of the large-scale sites for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of sites. Therefore, the effects of all 12 site options on this SA objective are negligible.

### **SA objective 12: To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials**

- 5.47 All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.
- 5.48 Levels of recycling will not be affected by the allocation of any of the site options, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development and levels of uptake will depend on the behaviour of residents. Policies should be included in the Local Plan to ensure that sustainable waste management systems are considered in the design of new developments, and to encourage the reuse of existing buildings and materials where possible.
- 5.49 As most of the sites are on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited and negligible effects are identified. However, the Normanton Airfield and Dalby Airfield site options incorporate a small number of existing buildings and so may offer limited opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials. Potential but uncertain minor positive effects are therefore identified for those options.

### **SA objective 13: To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth**

- 5.50 The effects of the large-scale site options on this SA objective will depend to some extent on whether they would deliver employment land alongside the new housing, which would provide new employment premises in the Borough and therefore encourage inward investment. These issues are addressed under SA objective 4 above. However, effects will also depend on the extent to which development would help to deliver improvements to transport infrastructure and reduce congestion in the Borough, which can otherwise adversely affect the local economy.
- 5.51 As described under SA objective 3: sustainable transport, a number of the options for large-scale development around the fringe of Melton Mowbray could help to deliver a bypass at the town. While this could ease congestion at the town, road improvements may also make ongoing car use more attractive and make it more difficult to encourage modal shift which would have disadvantages in relation to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions (addressed separately under SA objective 15 below). However, development in other locations which would not contribute to the delivery of a bypass is likely to compound congestion problems by resulting in

high levels of car use, likely to be on roads that are less well-suited to accommodating additional traffic, as people travel from more rural areas to work and other activities in Melton Mowbray.

- 5.52 Effects on this SA objective are therefore likely to be most positive if large-scale development is allocated at the larger of the 12 site options, assuming this would allow for greater opportunities to incorporate employment land provision. However, proximity to sustainable transport infrastructure should also be taken into account as some of the larger sites are not well-served by public transport links, such as Normanton Airfield and Six Hills. Sites around Melton Mowbray would also have more positive effects as they are better connected and could contribute to the delivery of a bypass at the town.

#### **SA objective 14: To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life**

- 5.53 The effects of the large-scale site options on health will depend largely on their proximity to existing healthcare facilities such as GPs. Effects will also depend on whether new facilities may be provided as part of the development of each site, and on the extent to which developments would offer opportunities to walk and cycle day to day, thereby increasing levels of physical activity. Green infrastructure can also be beneficial in this regard.
- 5.54 The large-scale residential development that will result from the Local Plan, regardless of which sites are eventually allocated, will result in an increase in demand for services such as healthcare facilities in Melton. While increased demand may help to ensure that existing facilities remain viable, particularly in the smaller villages, there is also a risk that they may become overloaded.
- 5.55 The sites that are in close proximity of Melton Mowbray are generally likely to have the most positive effects on health, i.e. the SUE options to the north, south and south east of the town as well as the directions of growth to the east and west and the SUE between Melton Mowbray and Thorpe Arnold. The rural nature of the Borough means that Melton Mowbray has a far greater concentration of healthcare facilities than the rural areas and contains the Borough's only hospital. Most of the villages do not include a health centre. Therefore, development at Melton Mowbray will provide residents with good access to existing healthcare facilities, including via public transport, compared to development away from the town. The Six Hills SUE, which is isolated from both Melton Mowbray and Bottesford would have a significant negative effect on access to healthcare facilities.
- 5.56 Development around Melton Mowbray would also mean that people are more likely to be able to walk or cycle day to day as journeys to access jobs, services and facilities are likely to be shorter. In rural areas, levels of car use are likely to be much higher which will contribute to people living more sedentary lifestyles. Increased levels of activity can therefore be encouraged if developments incorporate walking and cycle paths as well as green infrastructure, and this should be required in site-specific policies to be included in the Local Plan.
- 5.57 However, the advantages of development at Melton Mowbray in relation to access to healthcare also need to be balanced with the fact that opportunities to provide additional support for rural services would be lost if development takes place around the edge of Melton Mowbray, and the development of large-scale SUEs or new settlements could in many cases involve the delivery of services which may include a new health centre.
- 5.58 When the Council is determining which site options to allocate in the Local Plan for large-scale growth, further consideration should be given to the availability of healthcare facilities and the viability of either providing a new health centre or additional GP places locally through developer contributions. Any requirements for improvements to healthcare infrastructure should be built into the relevant Local Plan policies and consideration should also be given to the extent to which people will be able to make use of sustainable modes of transport to access services, which is important not only in terms of reducing traffic volumes and emissions, but also to allow for those who do not have access to a car or are unable to drive to access health facilities.
- 5.59 A number of the site options have railway lines or strategic roads either adjacent to or within the sites. The A607 cuts through the centre of the Thorpe Arnold SUE, for example, and the direction of growth at Melton East would be directly adjacent to the railway line. The health and wellbeing of residents in parts of these sites could therefore be negatively affected by noise and/or air pollution. If sites are allocated that are in close proximity of major roads or railway lines,

mitigation should be built into the relevant Local Plan policies, for example by requiring residential properties to be located outside of those parts of the sites, or by incorporating mitigation such as acoustic glazing.

**SA objective 15: To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough**

- 5.60 The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which the development is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation, although the potential is likely to be greatest if the largest site options such as Melton North and Melton South (incorporating Melton South east) are taken forward due to their scale.
- 5.61 There are currently no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAS) declared in Melton Borough; however there are congestion issues in the town and it is important to ensure that new large-scale development does not contribute to increased air pollution.
- 5.62 As described above in relation to SA objective 3: sustainable transport, the site options that are located within close proximity of the Melton Mowbray would generally offer the best opportunities for residents to make use of sustainable modes of transport day to day and therefore reduce emissions and air pollution. As well as existing bus services, people would be able to access Melton Mowbray railway station, and jobs, services and facilities are more densely concentrated at the town, reducing journey lengths and the need to travel by car. Where sites would deliver new settlements in more isolated areas, levels of car use and the associated emissions are likely to be particularly high. This is the case for the sites at Six Hills, Dalby Airfield and Normanton Airfield.
- 5.63 As described under SA objective 3 above, a number of the options for large-scale development around the fringe of Melton Mowbray could help to deliver a bypass at the town. While this could ease congestion at the town which could bring notable benefits in relation to reducing air pollution, improvements to the road network may also make ongoing car use more attractive and make it more difficult to encourage modal shift and thereby reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, development in other locations away from Melton Mowbray which would not contribute to the delivery of a bypass is likely to compound congestion problems by resulting in high levels of car use as people travel from more rural areas to work and other activities in Melton Mowbray.
- 5.64 Overall, the effects of large-scale development on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution are likely to be most positive if the development is located close to the main urban centre of Melton Mowbray. However, development in any location should incorporate sustainable transport links and this should be addressed in the relevant Local Plan policies.

**SA objective 16: To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere**

- 5.65 Where development is proposed at areas that fall within flood zone 3, or that are at high risk of surface water flooding, negative effects may be significant. This is the case for the potential SUEs at Melton East, Melton West, Welby and Thorpe Arnold. The direction of growth at Melton East is particularly constrained in relation to flood risk and it may be difficult to mitigate by avoiding development in that part of the site, as the remaining area of the site would be significantly reduced.
- 5.66 All of the large-scale site options would involve the development of large areas of previously undeveloped land, which could reduce infiltration and increase runoff, increasing surface water flood risk. However, all new development offers opportunities to incorporate mitigation such as SuDS. The incorporation of green infrastructure may also have benefits in terms of flood risk mitigation (as well as the potential health and biodiversity benefits described separately above). Green infrastructure provision may be more viable at the larger site options where there are opportunities to provide significant green infrastructure. Therefore, while all of the options could have negative effects on this SA objective, in all cases there is uncertainty attached.
- 5.67 Mitigation for the potential effects on flood risk should be incorporated into Local Plan policies, and if sites are allocated that include areas of high flood risk it should be specified that built

development would not take place in that part of the site, or where it could contribute to flood risk through surface water run-off.

### **SA objective 17: To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources**

- 5.68 The likely effects of the large-scale site options on this SA objective cannot be determined at this stage, and uncertain scores are therefore given for all sites.
- 5.69 While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development, rather than its location. Therefore, it is important that policies addressing this issue are included in the Local Plan, regardless of which large-scale site(s) may eventually be allocated for development.
- 5.70 There is only one Source Protection Zone in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at any of the 12 large scale site options.
- 5.71 The effects of large-scale development on water quality would depend largely on whether the local sewage treatment works have the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes, which is not yet known. The likely effects on this SA objective are therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.

### **Overall conclusions**

- 5.72 While there are both advantages and disadvantages of developing any of the large-scale site options considered, in general the large-development sites around Melton Mowbray are more likely to result in positive effects than those in the more remote rural parts of the Borough. The potential Melton South and Melton North SUEs have generally more positive and fewer negative effects than other large-scale site options, both around Melton Mowbray and elsewhere in the Borough.
- 5.73 The relatively isolated site options at Six Hills and Normanton Airfield would have the least positive sustainability effects of the 12 sites considered - eight potentially significant negative effects were identified for both site options. The ability to provide a full range of services and facilities, plus jobs, in these locations will be dependent upon the size and mix of development that could be delivered on these sites.
- 5.74 While the site options at Thorpe Arnold; Belvoir Road, Bottesford; and Welby score more positively for most SA objectives than the Six Hills and Normanton Airfield sites, there are still a relatively high number of potential negative effects associated with those sites. While they are less isolated than the Six Hills and Normanton Airfield sites they are mainly located away from the urban edge of Melton Mowbray (except for the Thorpe Arnold SUE) and therefore would not bring the same social and economic benefits that are associated with the site options that are adjacent to Melton Mowbray.
- 5.75 Development around Melton Mowbray will offer better opportunities for residents to make use of sustainable transport, reducing car use and the associated emissions and congestion. People would also have better access to the wider range of jobs, services and facilities that are located there, compared to development in more rural parts of the Borough. While sites in the north of Melton are not completely isolated, they may result in higher levels of out-commuting, with people travelling outside of the Borough to locations such as Grantham and Nottingham to access jobs and services. Similarly, development in the west of the Borough (at Six Hills) could result in particularly high levels of out-commuting to Loughborough and Leicester. This could result in some of the economic benefits of population growth being lost from Melton Borough. However, these benefits are balanced with the lost potential to stimulate rural services, if development continues to be focussed at Melton Mowbray.
- 5.76 The social and economic benefits of potential large-scale development tend to be most significant for the larger of the 12 site options, such as Melton North and Melton South, as they are likely to offer the best opportunities to incorporate jobs, services and facilities, and for the new



developments to operate as relatively self-contained communities. However, it will be more challenging to mitigate the effects of development on the environment, in particular the sensitive landscape around Melton Mowbray, if large sites are taken forward.

- 5.77 Potential significant negative effects on the landscape were identified for all 12 site options, due to the scale of the development that would result and in light of the sensitivity of much of the Borough's settlement fringe to development. Around the urban fringe of Melton Mowbray, all of the land parcels assessed in the emerging Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study have been classified as being of at least moderate sensitivity, with many areas being highly sensitive to development. However, for the Melton North and Melton South SUEs, which are in areas classed as being of high and moderate-high sensitivity respectively, the potential to bring about improvements to the settlement fringe by softening the existing 'hard' settlement edge were also highlighted. In both cases, this is part of a mixed effect overall as the potential for significant negative effects at both sites was also identified due to the sensitivity of the settlement fringe in those areas and the fact that both sites would involve large-scale development on mainly greenfield land.
- 5.78 Similarly, negative effects were identified for all 12 of the large-scale site options in relation to the loss of high quality agricultural land, due to the large extent of Grade 1, 2 and 3 land within the Borough. In particular, the sites closest to Melton Mowbray all include at least some Grade 2 agricultural land. While Belvoir Road, Dalby; Normanton Airfield, Dalby Airfield and Six Hills are all likely to have significant negative effects as they include Grade 3 agricultural land, these effects were uncertain as it is not known if they include Grade 3a or Grade 3b land. None of those sites include large expanses of Grade 2 land that would be lost, while this is the case for all of the sites around Melton Mowbray.
- 5.79 The sites that scored most negatively in relation to biodiversity were Melton North, Melton South, Melton West and Normanton Airfield, as they are within closest proximity of known biodiversity features. However, effects cannot be assessed with certainty purely on the basis of proximity and it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the design of sites.
- 5.80 The sites with the least potential for negative effects on cultural heritage were Dalby Airfield and Six Hills, which are both located away from the high concentration of heritage assets such as listed buildings that exists at Melton Mowbray. Potential significant negative effects were identified for most of the other site options due to their proximity to assets which could be affected by development, although at Melton East and Melton South East minor rather than significant negative effects were identified.
- 5.81 Flood risk has been identified as a particularly significant issue at four of the site options: Melton East, Melton West, Welby and Thorpe Arnold, reflecting the fact that there are large expanses of flood zones 2 and 3 to the east and west of Melton Mowbray in proximity of those sites. It would therefore be particularly important to incorporate mitigation if any of those sites were allocated. However, in the case of Melton East it would be difficult to avoid developing within flood zone 3 due to the high proportion of the site that is at high risk of flooding.

## 6 Sustainability Appraisal Findings for the Small-Scale Site Options

- 6.1 This section describes the SA findings for the options for small-scale residential sites to be allocated in the Melton Local Plan. As described in **Chapter 2** this appraisal work was carried out and presented previously to Melton Borough Council in the form of an internal SA note so that it could inform decision making about which sites to select and which to reject as Emerging Options.
- 6.2 A total of 39 reasonable alternative residential site options have been subject to SA by LUC on behalf of the Council. A set of assumptions was devised to ensure that this number of reasonable site options could be appraised consistently – these assumptions are presented in **Appendix 5**.
- 6.3 The likely effects of the small-scale residential site options are summarised below in relation to each SA objective. Particular consideration has been given to the likely significant effects identified (both positive and negative), in line with the requirements of the SEA Regulations. Where relevant, effects are classified as short, medium or long-term.
- 6.4 The SA scores for all of the small-scale residential site options are presented in **Table 6.1** overleaf, and the detailed SA matrices are presented in **Appendix 6**. The appraisal matrices in **Appendix 6** are divided into those that have since been selected as emerging sites by the Council (see **Chapter 7**) and the rejected options. For the selected site options, additional evidence relating to biodiversity and flood risk was published after the initial options appraisal work was carried out and therefore for some sites the appraisal against SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 16: flood risk has since been updated. This information is presented in a second row of scores/justification which it should be noted was added after the initial round of options appraisal work which is summarised in this chapter.
- 6.5 It should also be noted that the scores shown in **Table 6.1** are prior to mitigation – as described in the SA matrices, many of the potential negative effects identified may be able to be mitigated through the design of the development and through the implementation of relevant policies in the emerging Local Plan. Mitigation is considered further in **Chapter 7** in relation to the selected emerging sites.

### **SA objective 1: To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough**

- 6.6 All of the residential site options are expected to have at least a minor positive effect on the objective of providing housing to meeting the needs of those in the Borough, due to the nature of the development proposed.
- 6.7 Sites that have capacity to accommodate more than 100 new homes are considered to be large and so will have a significant positive effect on the provision of housing. Larger sites are also likely to offer better opportunities for affordable housing to be integrated into developments.
- 6.8 Five of the 39 site options are likely to have a significant positive effect: MBC/057/13, MBC/012/13, MBC/192/15, MBC/056/13 and MBC/153/15. These sites are distributed throughout the Borough at Melton Mowbray, Bottesford Waltham on the Wolds and Wymondham. Therefore, the geographical distribution of the sites that are allocated is not expected to influence the achievement of this SA objective, with effects depending purely on site size.

### **SA objective 2: To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education**

- 6.9 All of the 39 residential site options are expected to have at least a minor positive effect on ensuring that the people of Melton have access to education. This is because all of the sites are located within towns and villages that contain at least one school. The majority of the sites (all apart from five: MBC/181/15, MBC/011/13, MBC/076/13, MBC/026/15 and MBC/144/15) are



within walking distance (taken to be 600m) of an existing school and so could have a significant positive effect.

- 6.10 However, in all cases the potential positive effects are uncertain as the effects of new residential development on education will depend on the capacity of these schools to accommodate new pupils. It is therefore important that consideration is given to the potential for existing schools to become overloaded, particularly if a number of sites are allocated in close proximity of one another, and that additional school places are provided alongside residential development if required to meet the growing demand.

**Table 6.1: Summary of SA scores for the small-scale residential site options**

	SA1: Housing	SA2: Education	SA3: Sustainable transport	SA4: Employment	SA5: Landscape	SA6: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	SA7: Historic environment	SA8: Efficient use of land and resources	SA9: Social cohesion	SA10: Social deprivation	SA11: Crime and safety	SA12: Waste	SA13: Local economy	SA14: Health	SA15: Greenhouse gases	SA16: Flood risk	SA17: Water
MBC/104/13	+	+++?	++	+	?	-?	0?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/108/13	+	+++?	++	+	?	--?	0?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/106/13	+	+++?	++	+	--?	--?	0?	--	++	++	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/149b/14	+	+++?	++	++	-?	--?	0?	--	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/113/13	+	+++?	++	++	-?	-?	0?	--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/073/13	+	+++?	++	++	-?	-?	0?	--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/112/13	+	+++?	++	++	-?	-?	0?	--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/111/13	+	+++?	++	++	-?	--?	0?	0/--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/004/15	+	+++?	++	++	?	-?	0?	+?/0	+	++	0	+	0	0/--?	+	-	?
MBC/057/13	++	+++?	++	++	--?	--?	0?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/012/13	++	+++?	++	+	--?	--?	0?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/181/15	+	+	++	+	--?	-?	0?	+?/-	++	+	0	+	0	++	+	0	?
MBC/011/13	+	+	++	+	-?	-?	0?	--?	++	+	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/010/15	+	+++?	++	+	--?	--?	-?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/076/13	+	+	++	+	--?	--?	--?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	+/-?	+	-	?
MBC/080/13	+	+++?	0	-	?	--?	-?	--	+	++/-	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/079/13	+	+++?	0	-	--?	-?	-?	--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/095/13	+	+++?	0	-	-?	-?	-?	--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/096/13	+	+++?	0	-	--?	--?	-?	--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/092/13	+	+++?	0	-	?	--?	--?	+?/-	+	++/-	0	+	0	++	+	0	?
MBC/191/15	+	+++?	0	-	-	-	0?	--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/026/15	+	+	0	+	--?	--?	0?	0/--?	++	+	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/168/15	+	+++?	0	+	--?	--?	-?	0/--?	++	++	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/150/15	+	+++?	0	-	?	--?	0?	+?/0	++	++/-	0	+	0	++	+	0	?
MBC/169/15	+	+++?	0	-	?	--?	0?	+?/0	++	++/-	0	+	0	++/-?	+	0	?
MBC/144/15	+	+	0	+	--?	--?	0?	0/-	++	+	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/028/13	+	+++?	0	+	--?	--?	-?	0/--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/027/15	+	+++?	0	+	?	--?	0?	0/--?	++	++	0	-	0	++	+	--	?
MBC/164/15	+	+++?	0	-	--?	-?	0?	--	++	++/-	0	-	0	0/--?	+	-	?
MBC/055/13	+	+++?	0	-	-?	--?	-?	--?	++	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/192/15	++	+++?	0	-	-?	--?	-?	--	++	++/-	0	-	0	0/--?	+	-	?

	SA1: Housing	SA2: Education	SA3: Sustainable transport	SA4: Employment	SA5: Landscape	SA6: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	SA7: Historic environment	SA8: Efficient use of land and resources	SA9: Social cohesion	SA10: Social deprivation	SA11: Crime and safety	SA12: Waste	SA13: Local economy	SA14: Health	SA15: Greenhouse gases	SA16: Flood risk	SA17: Water
MBC/054/13	+	++?	0	-	?	--?	-?	--?	++	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/070/13	+	++?	0	-	--?	--?	0?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/056/13	++	++?	0	-	--?	--?	0?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/068/13	+	++?	0	-	--?	--?	0?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0/-?	+	-	?
MBC/141/13	+	++?	0	-	--?	--?	-?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/048/13	+	++?	0	-	?	--?	-?	0/--	+	++/-	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/146/14	+	++?	0	-	-?	--?	0?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/153/15	++	++?	++	++/-?	?	-?	0?	++/0	++	++/-	0	+	0	++/-?	++	0	?

**SA objective 3: To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices**

- 6.11 The location of housing development can affect the achievement of this objective by determining how well connected housing sites are to services, facilities and employment opportunities. This has been assessed by Melton Borough Council as part of its site assessment work, which classified each site as either red, amber or green on the basis of its proximity to public transport links. Consideration was also given to how good the services offered are.
- 6.12 Reflecting the fact that all 39 residential site options are located within either Melton Mowbray, a Primary Rural Service Centre or a Secondary Rural Service Centre, none of the sites were rated by the Council as 'red' in terms of their access to access to public transport and no likely significant negative effects on this SA objective have therefore been identified. All of the site options are located within walking or cycling distance of a public transport node.
- 6.13 The 16 sites that are likely to have a significant positive effect on this SA objective are located within Asfordby, Asfordby Hill, Bottesford and Melton Mowbray. Asfordby and Bottesford have been classified as Primary Rural Service Centres in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities Report, while Melton Mowbray is the Main Urban Area in the Borough and as such it is expected that site options located there would be in close proximity of public transport links.
- 6.14 The remaining 23 sites were classed as 'amber' in the Council's site assessment and so are likely to have negligible effects. Those sites are distributed between Primary Rural Service Centres (Long Clawson and Waltham on the Wolds) and Secondary Rural Service Centres (Somerby, Frisby on the Wreake, Stathern, Wymondham and Croxton Kerrial). These settlements are located further from Melton Mowbray and the public transport services have been assessed by the Council as being less frequent at these locations, reflecting the rural nature of much of Melton Borough.
- 6.15 Therefore, effects on this SA objective will be most positive if sites are located in and around the larger settlements, where existing public transport services are better than in rural areas. However, the development of new housing in rural areas may help to stimulate the provision of improved public transport links in those areas.

**SA objective 4: To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community**

- 6.16 The location of residential development will affect the achievement of this SA objective by influencing how close residential development is to existing employment sites, as well as the public transport links that may provide access to employment opportunities further afield.
- 6.17 Just under half of the site options (18 out of 39) are outside of walking distance (taken to be 600m) from existing employment sites, and were classed as 'amber' in the Council's site assessment work in relation to access to sustainable transport links, i.e. there are public transport links within walking distance but they were assessed by the Council as providing limited services. Those sites are therefore likely to have a minor negative effect on this SA objective. No likely significant negative effects were identified as there were no sites that were classed as 'red' for sustainable transport in the Council's site assessment work.
- 6.18 The seven sites that are likely to have a significant positive effect on this SA objective are located at Asfordby Hill (six sites) and Bottesford (one site). These sites are located in close proximity of an employment site and also provide good access to public transport services. An additional site, the only site located in Melton Mowbray (MBC/153/15) is likely to have a significant positive effect on access to employment for that reason; however this positive effect is combined with a minor negative effect given that the site is currently in employment use and the development of housing at this location could therefore result in a loss of this current use.
- 6.19 The remaining 13 sites are likely to have a minor positive effect as they are either within 600m of an employment site but have not been classed as 'green' in the Council's site assessment work in

relation to public transport provision, or are further than 600m from an employment site or Melton Mowbray town centre, but have been classed as 'green'.

- 6.20 The SA work has shown that access to employment is likely to be best where sites are located in Melton Mowbray, Asfordby Hill and Bottesford where existing employment sites are located and public transport links are generally good. Effects will be less positive if residential development is located in the more rural parts of the Borough.

#### **SA objective 5: To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape**

- 6.21 All new residential development has the potential to negatively affect the character of the landscape, particularly given the rural nature of Melton Borough.
- 6.22 Of the 39 site options, 17 could have a significant negative effect on the settlement fringe either because they are assessed as being of high or moderate-high overall sensitivity to development in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study<sup>11</sup>, or because the site lies mostly within an Area of Separation. Areas of Separation have been identified in the Borough to prevent the coalescence of settlement and therefore development within those areas could have particularly negative effects on local character. Three sites (MBC/010/15, MBC/012/13 and MBC/076/13) lie within the Area of Separation on the edge of Bottesford.
- 6.23 A further 11 sites were identified as having a potential minor negative effect on this SA objective as they were found to be of moderate or moderate-low overall sensitivity to development in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study.
- 6.24 For all of the potential minor and significant negative effects identified in relation to this SA objective, there is uncertainty attached as effects on landscape character will be determined by the design of any development proposed and the incorporation of mitigation such as screening. The high number of potential negative effects identified shows that Melton Borough is relatively constrained in relation to landscape sensitivity and it will be important to ensure that appropriate mitigation is built into proposals for residential development. This mitigation should be delivered through relevant policies in the Local Plan.
- 6.25 The likely effects of the remaining 11 sites are uncertain because those sites are located in areas which were not assessed for their landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study and are outside of Areas of Separation. While effects can be indicated to some degree on the basis of whether the sites have previously been developed, further consideration will need to be given to the overall sensitivity of the landscape in those areas.

#### **SA objective 6: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough**

- 6.26 All of the 39 residential site options could potentially have at least a minor negative effect on conserving and enhancing biodiversity and geodiversity in Melton Borough, as new development may be harmful as a result of damage or disturbance to habitats and species. All of the site options are within 1km of at least one designated biodiversity asset, reflecting the widespread distribution of biodiversity designations and features within the Borough.
- 6.27 The majority of the site options (27 out of 39) are within 250m of a designated biodiversity or geodiversity site or known asset and as such could have a significant negative effect on this objective. The remaining 12 sites are within between 250m and 1km of an identified biodiversity or geodiversity asset and so could have a minor negative effect.
- 6.28 The high number of potential negative effects on this SA objective reflects the widespread distribution of biodiversity assets within the Borough - many of the villages contain known bat roosts or are located within close proximity of great crested newts' breeding ground [REDACTED]. As such, many of the sites which are located within the built up areas in Melton are still expected to have a negative impact on biodiversity and/or geodiversity and directing development to built up areas in place of rural locations cannot be assumed to avoid effects on biodiversity.

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<sup>11</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

- 6.29 The effects of all site options on this SA objective are uncertain at this stage, however, as the detailed proposals for each site are not yet known and it may be possible to incorporate mitigation such as green infrastructure.

### **SA objective 7: To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings**

- 6.30 The likely effects of the residential site options on the historic environment have been assessed by the Council as part of its site assessment work, and this assessment has been taken into account to inform the SA scores. The majority of the 39 sites appraised (25) are most likely to have a negligible effect on the historic environment as they were rated as 'green' by the Council, meaning that their development is not expected to have negative impacts on the historic environment. This reflects the fact that the residential site options are mainly outside of Melton Mowbray (only one site is located there) where there is a high concentration of the Borough's heritage assets. Melton Mowbray contains 122<sup>12</sup> of the Borough's 739 Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens and Scheduled Monuments and many of the remaining heritage assets in the Borough are at more rural locations where the sites appraised are not located.
- 6.31 Only two of the site options (MBC/076/13 and MBC/092/13) are identified as having a potential significant negative effect on the historic environment in Melton if they are developed for residential use. One site (MBC/076/13) overlaps with a Scheduled Monument in the north of the Borough, 'shifted medieval village earthworks and moat at Easthorpe', and the other (MBC/093/13) is within very close proximity of the listed Church of St John the Baptist.
- 6.32 The remaining 12 sites could have a minor negative effect on the historic environment as the Council's site assessment work showed that they could have an adverse effect on nearby historic assets but it was considered that there is potential for these effects to be mitigated. In all cases, the likely effects on this objective are uncertain and will depend on factors such as the design of the development.

### **SA objective 8: To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality**

- 6.33 Most of the land in Melton Borough has been classified as being Grade 3 agricultural quality (moderate to good quality agricultural land) and there is only a small amount of Grade 4 agricultural land (poor quality agricultural land) which is mainly located to the east of Melton Mowbray towards Leicester and to the west towards Wyomdham, as well as to the north of the Borough around the villages of Long Clawson and Eaton. Given the high amount of potentially good quality agricultural land in the Borough it is unsurprising that 32 of the 39 sites are likely to have a significant negative effect in relation to this SA objective.
- 6.34 Only six sites (MBC/004/15, MBC/181/15, MBC/092/13, MBC/150/15, MBC/169/15, MBC/153/15) are likely to have a positive effect on this SA objective as they are either partially or entirely on brownfield land. The prevalence of greenfield sites over brownfield sites within the 39 options reflects the rural character of the Borough and the limited availability of brownfield land for residential development. The sites which have been identified as likely to have a positive effect on this objective as they are on brownfield land are distributed between Melton Mowbray (one site), the Primary Rural Service Centres (Bottesford and Long Clawson which have one site and two sites respectively) and the Secondary Rural Service Centres (Asfordby Hill and Croxton Kerrial which have one site each); therefore there is only a minimal correlation between development occurring within the larger settlements in the Borough and the availability of brownfield land.
- 6.35 Two of the six site options that are expected to have a positive effect on efficient land use are also expected to have a negative effect on this objective (resulting in a mixed effect overall) as they are located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. These sites (MBC/092/13 and MBC/181/15) are located in Bottesford and Croxton Kerrial where sand and gravel and limestone Mineral Consultation Areas are located and development therefore could result in the sterilisation of minerals. Although Mineral Consultation Areas do not cover most of Melton they are spread throughout the Borough. Of all the settlements where residential site options are located, only Melton Mowbray, Long Clawson, Stathern, Wyomdham, Somerby and

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<sup>12</sup> English Heritage. Heritage at Risk Register, Accessed August 2015

parts of Asfordby Hill are not located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. Therefore, only 16 of the 39 site options are identified as having a negligible effect on the sub-objective of efficient use of mineral resources as most sites are located in the settlements which are in close proximity to Mineral Consultation Areas.

- 6.36 Therefore, it may be difficult to avoid the loss of high quality agricultural land due to its extent across the Borough and the limited availability of brownfield sites. Similarly, development is likely to take place near to Minerals Consultation Areas and consideration should therefore be given to the likelihood of sterilisation and opportunities for prior extraction should be explored if necessary.

### **SA objective 9: To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough**

- 6.37 All 39 of the small-scale residential site options are expected to have a positive effect on the objective of promoting social inclusion and cohesion in Melton. All of the site options are located within either Melton Mowbray, a Primary Rural Service Centre or a Secondary Rural Service Centre and as such should provide new residents with at least reasonably good access to existing services and facilities.
- 6.38 Twenty one of the 39 sites are located within either Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre (Bottesford, Asfordby, Long Clawson and Waltham on the Wolds) and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective. Sites at these locations are expected to provide a good level of access to services and facilities in comparison to sites which are located within the more rural parts of the Borough. Most of the sites appraised are located at the larger settlements in Melton and effects on this objective will be more positive if those sites are taken forward for development.
- 6.39 It is recognised that new residential development may help to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities; however the sites that have been appraised are small in scale and so are less likely to directly involve the provision of new services alongside the housing.

### **SA objective 10: To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion**

- 6.40 The effect that residential site options can have on reducing poverty, social deprivation and allowing for greater economic inclusion in the Borough will depend on the access they provide to education facilities and employment opportunities, and on the amount of housing they can provide. Sixteen of the 39 site options have been identified as having a significant positive effect on at least one of these sub-objectives while having no negative effects in relation to any. These sites are therefore recorded as having a significant positive on this objective. Most of the significant positive effects relate to access to education facilities given that most sites are located within 600m of a school (34 out of a total 39 sites appraised), and all sites are located within a settlement which contains a school.
- 6.41 Of the sites that are expected to have a significant positive effect on this objective three are located in Asfordby, six are located in Asfordby Hill, four are located in Bottesford and three are located in Long Clawson. Three of these settlements (Asfordby, Bottesford and Long Clawson) are Primary Rural Service Centres and as such these locations would be expected to provide a higher level of access to employment opportunities and education facilities. Asfordby Hill is a Secondary Rural Service Centre; however it is located within close proximity of Asfordby and is located on the main route from Asfordby to Melton and so can be expected to provide a good level of access to facilities potentially via public transport connections.
- 6.42 Minor negative effects were identified in relation to 19 of the 39 sites. These minor negative effects were identified as part of an overall mixed effect. The negative effects were all recorded in relation to the sub-objective of access to employment opportunities given that some of the sites are located further than 600m from an employment site and have been rated by the Council as 'amber' in relation to public transport provision. These sites are located within walking or cycling distance of public transport nodes but these nodes have been identified as having limited services. The exception to this is site MBC/153/15 which was given a minor negative score because that residential development at this location might result in the loss of the current employment use of the site.

- 6.43 Four of the site options (MBC/144/15, MBC/026/15, MBC/011/13 and MBC/181/15) are likely to have a minor positive effect on the objective of reducing poverty and social deprivation and securing economic inclusion in the Borough. These sites are all expected to have a minor positive effect on the sub-objectives of providing housing to meet demand in the Borough, providing good access to education and providing good access to employment. They are all located within a settlement which has a school and would provide a relatively low number of houses (less than 100) to help meet housing demand within the Borough. These sites are also all within 600m of an employment site or would provide good access to public transport nodes.

**SA objective 11: To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime**

- 6.44 The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on the objective of improving community safety, reducing crime and the fear of crime in Melton are considered to negligible.

**SA objective 12: To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials**

- 6.45 All new housing development will inevitably involve an increase in waste generation, but may also offer good opportunities for incorporating sustainable waste management practices, regardless of the location. Residential development sites which are located on brownfield land will involve the reuse of previously developed land and additionally may present opportunities for the reuse of buildings and recycling of materials already onsite.
- 6.46 Six of the 39 residential site options (MBC/004/15, MBC/181/15, MBC/092/13, MBC/150/15, MBC/169/15 and MBC153/15) are located either entirely or mostly on brownfield land and therefore might offer opportunities for the re-use of existing buildings and materials. Therefore, a potential minor positive effect on the objective of recycling materials is identified although this is uncertain depending on whether such opportunities would in fact exist when specific development proposals come forward.
- 6.47 The remaining 33 sites are located on greenfield land and would not offer opportunities for the reuse of onsite materials; therefore a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The prevalence of greenfield site options for residential development reflects the rural nature of Melton. However, if brownfield sites are eventually allocated for housing, consideration should be given to the potential for reusing onsite materials.

**SA objective 13: To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth**

- 6.48 The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Melton Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues were assessed separately under SA objective 3 and 4. Therefore, all of the residential site options have been assessed as having a negligible effect on providing physical infrastructure for economic growth in the Borough.

**SA objective 14: To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life**

- 6.49 Of the 39 site options, 18 are expected to have a significant positive effect on health in Melton. These sites are located within walking distance of a healthcare facility and provide nearby access to an open space or sports facility and public right of way. These sites are located mainly within the Primary Rural Centres of the Borough where healthcare facilities are located – hospitals and



GPs are only located in a limited number of the Borough's settlements (Croxtton Kerrial, Bottesford, Long Clawson, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray and Somerby).

- 6.50 However, of these 18 sites, eight could also have a minor negative effect on health and wellbeing given that they include a sport/recreation facility within their boundaries, and this could be lost if these sites are developed for housing. This is in all cases uncertain, however, as it may be possible to incorporate the open space, rights of way etc. into the sites. If any of those eight sites are allocated in the Local Plan, opportunities to retain or relocate these features should be explored.
- 6.51 A further six sites are likely to have a minor positive effect on health as they are located in villages that have a healthcare facility but are not within walking distance of that facility. These sites are also located within walking distance of a public right of way, an area of open space or a sports facility. Only one of these sites (MBC/076/13) also contained a facility which might be lost if residential development was to proceed at that location; a minor negative effect was therefore also identified for this site as part of a mixed effect overall.
- 6.52 The remaining 15 sites are located in villages that did not have a healthcare facility but are located within walking distance of a public right of way, an open space or a sports facility, and as such a negligible effect was scored for these sites. Four one of these sites (MBC/004/15, MBC/164/15, MBC/192/15 and MBC/068/13) also include a facility which might be lost if development was to proceed at those sites and so the negligible score is part of a mixed effect overall.
- 6.53 No overall negative scores were given for any of the site options, which suggests that access to open space and sport facilities is generally good for all site options. Healthcare facilities are less readily accessible but this reflects the rural nature of Melton.

**SA objective 15: To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough**

- 6.54 Residential development in the Borough will inevitably result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. This is expected to result from emissions directly from new properties and additionally from the increased vehicle traffic associated with new residential development.
- 6.55 While design issues may play a greater role than location in the reduction of greenhouse gases from buildings, the location of residential development may influence levels of emissions from vehicle traffic. Residential development which is located in close proximity to existing employment opportunities and services and which provides good access to public transport services may help to reduce the need for car use and the associated emissions. This would also help to improve air quality in the Borough – while there are currently no AQMAs with Melton, it is still important to maintain and enhance air quality across the Borough.
- 6.56 While all of the residential site options are located within at least a Secondary Rural Service Centre, only one (MBC/153/15) is located within Melton Mowbray. This site is expected to have a significant positive effect on the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality in Melton given that it is located within the Main Urban Area in the Borough and as such is likely to provide particularly good access to employment opportunities, services and public transport connections which may encourage new residents to make use of alternative forms of transport.
- 6.57 The remaining 38 sites are located within the Primary Rural Service Centres of Bottesford, Asfordby, Long Clawson and Waltham on the Wolds or within the Secondary Rural Service Centres of Asfordby Hill, Somerby, Frisby on the Wreake, Stathern, Wymondham and Croxtton Kerrial in the Borough. As such, these sites will provide reduced access to employment opportunities, services and public transport connections in comparison to development within Melton Mowbray. However, they are still expected to provide a relatively good level of access and as such are expected to have a minor positive effect on the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality in the Borough through reducing the need for car use.

**SA objective 16: To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere**

- 6.58 Only one site (MBC/027/15) has been identified as having a likely significant negative effect on this SA objective. This was the only site option that is located within an area which is classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). In addition, site MBC/057/13 is split by the river that runs through the site and potential flooding issues will need to be carefully considered there.
- 6.59 The majority (33 out of 39 sites) of the sites in the Borough were identified as having a minor negative effect on this SA objective given that they are not located in areas which were classified as being at high risk of flooding; however they are located on greenfield land and so development there would contribute to an increase in impermeable surfaces in the Borough, potentially reducing infiltration and increasing runoff.
- 6.60 Only five sites were expected to have a negligible effect on flood risk in the Borough. These sites are located on brownfield land and as such the development of these sites would not contribute to an increase in impermeable surfaces in the Borough.
- 6.61 Given that almost all of the site options are located outside of the main flood risk areas in Melton, the main factor which has contributed to the negative effects identified in relation to this SA objective is whether the sites are located on brownfield or greenfield land. If any of the greenfield sites, or site MBC/027/15, are taken forward for development it is particularly important that appropriate mitigation is incorporated; this may involve only developing the part of a site and instead incorporating open space.

**SA objective 17: To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources**

- 6.62 The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information was not available at the time of the site appraisals (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information). This information will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Source Protection zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the residential site options. The score given for all sites at this stage is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information becomes available.

## 7 Sustainability Appraisal Findings for the Emerging Options

7.1 This chapter presents the SA findings for the policies (including site allocations) in the Emerging Options version of the Local Plan. The findings are summarised below, grouped in line with the chapters of the Local Plan document. The detailed SA matrices for each policy can be found in **Appendix 10** and the detailed SA matrices for the selected emerging site allocations (allocated in policy C1) can be found in the first part of **Appendix 6**. As described in **Chapter 6** a small number of amendments were made to the SA matrices for the selected emerging site options after the initial options appraisal work was completed, to take into account some newly available evidence about biodiversity and flood risk. This information is reflected in a second row of scores and justification for SA objectives 6: biodiversity and 16: flood risk in the relevant site appraisal matrices.

### Spatial Strategy

7.2 The SA scores for the policies in this section of the Local Plan are set out in **Table 7.1** below.

**Table 7.1: SA scores for the Spatial Strategy policies in the Local Plan**

SA objective	SS1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development	SS2: Development Strategy	SS3: Sustainable Communities	SS4: South Melton Mowbray Sustainable Neighbourhood	SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood	SS6: Alternative development strategies and Local Plan review
1. Housing	+	++	+	++	++	++
2. Education	+	++/-	+	++	++	0
3. Sustainable transport	+	++	+/-	++/-	++/-	+
4. Economy and employment	+	++	+	++	++	++
5. Landscape	+	+/--?	+/-	+/--?	+?/--	0
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	+	+/--?	+	+/--?	+/--?	0
7. Cultural heritage	+	--?	+	--/+?	+/--?	0
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	+	--?	+?	--	--	0
9. Access to services	+	++/-	++	++	++	0
10. Social and economic inclusion	+	+/-	+	++	++	+
11. Crime	+	0	0	+	+	0
12. Waste	+	-?	0	0	0	0
13. Economic growth	+	++	0	++	++	+
14. Health	+	++/-	+/-	++	+	0
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	+	++	-	++/-	++/-	0
16. Flood risk	+	-?	+	+/--?	+/-	0
17. Water quality	+	?	0	+	+	0

- 7.3 The effects of the policies in the Spatial Strategy section of the Local Plan are very mixed. While the large-scale development proposed through these policies, particularly SS2, is likely to have significant positive effects on the social and economic SA objectives, effects on the environmental objectives are more negative.
- 7.4 In particular, significant positive effects are likely in relation to **housing** (SA objective 1) and the **economy and employment** (SA objective 4) as the policies provide for large-scale housing and employment to meet objectively assessed local needs. The fact that most of this development will be focussed at Melton Mowbray, including through the delivery of the two sustainable neighbourhoods north and south of the town, means that it will be generally well-accessible via **sustainable transport** (SA objective 3) and may result in good opportunities to walk and cycle day to day, benefiting **health** (SA objective 14). **Access to services** (SA objective 9) at the town will also be good and the policies provide for the delivery of new services and other infrastructure to meet increased demand.
- 7.5 However, the fact that large-scale development is proposed on greenfield land in areas of medium-high settlement fringe sensitivity means that there could be significant negative effects on the **landscape** (SA objective 5) and the **efficient use of land** (SA objective 8). While the policies make reasonable provision for mitigating impacts on the landscape, as well as the potential negative effects identified on **biodiversity** (SA objective 6) and **cultural heritage** (SA objective 7), the potential for impacts remains until detailed proposals for development sites (particularly the sustainable neighbourhoods) are known.

## Communities

- 7.6 The SA scores for the policies in this section of the Local Plan are set out in **Table 7.2** below.

**Table 7.2: SA scores for the Communities policies in the Local Plan**

SA objective	C1: Housing allocations	C2: Housing mix	C3: National space standard and smaller dwellings	C4: Affordable housing provision	Policy C5: Affordable housing through rural exception sites	C6: Gypsies and travellers	C7: Rural services	C8: Self build and custom build housing	C9: Healthy communities
1. Housing	++	++	+	++	++	++	0	++	+
2. Education	+	0	0	0	-	0	+	0	0
3. Sustainable transport	+	0	0	0	-	+	+	0	++
4. Economy and employment	0	0	0	0	-	0	+	0	+
5. Landscape	--?	0	0	0	--?	-/+?	0	+	0
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	-/+	0	0	0	0	-/+?	0	0	+
7. Cultural heritage	-/+	0	0	0	0	-?	0	0	0
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	--	0	0	0	-	-?	0	0	0
9. Access to services	+	+	0	+	++/-	+	++	0	+
10. Social and economic inclusion	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	+
11. Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+
12. Waste	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Economic growth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14. Health	+	+	0	0	-	0	+	0	++
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	+	0	0	0	-	0	+	0	++
16. Flood risk	+/-	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+
17. Water quality	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- 7.7 The specific nature of most of the policies in the Communities section of the Local Plan means that a large number of negligible effects on the SA objectives have been identified. However, most of the policies will have significant positive effects on **housing** (SA objective 1) as they allocate sites for residential development to meet local needs (policy C1) and require it to be of an appropriate mix (policy C2), incorporating a high proportion of affordable housing (policy C4). Provision is also made for sites for Gypsies and Travellers, to meet identified needs. Effects on **access to services** (SA objective 9) are also generally positive as the policies seek to ensure that new development delivers sustainable and balanced communities, served by the required infrastructure, in particular through policy C7.
- 7.8 However, the policies that would result in housing development (C1 and C5) could have significant negative effects on the **landscape** (SA objective 5) as sites are allocated through policy C1 in areas that have been assessed as being of medium or high landscape sensitivity and policy C5 could result in housing development in areas that would not normally be considered appropriate, in order to meet social and economic objectives. For that reason, the policy could have minor negative effects on a number of other SA objectives. The potential significant negative effects on the landscape are uncertain, however, until detailed proposals for development come forward. Policy C1 could also have a significant negative effect on the **efficient use of land and minerals** (SA objective 8) because many of the allocated housing sites are on greenfield land or are close to minerals consultation areas.

## Economy

- 7.9 The SA scores for the policies in this section of the Local Plan are set out in **Table 7.3** below.

**Table 7.3: SA scores for the Economy policies in the Local Plan**

SA objective	EC1: Employment growth in Melton Mowbray	EC2: Employment growth in the rural area	EC3: Existing employment sites	EC4: Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works	EC5: Other employment and mixed-use proposals	EC6: Melton Mowbray town centre	EC7: Retail development in the Borough	EC8: Tourism
1. Housing	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
2. Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Sustainable transport	++	+	++/-	+	+/-	+/-	+	+
4. Economy and employment	++	++	++	++	+	++	+	++
5. Landscape	+/--?	+	0	0	+	0	0	+
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	+/--?	+	0	+	+	0	0	+
7. Cultural heritage	+/--?	+	0	+	+	+	+	+
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	--	+	0	+	-?	0	+	+
9. Access to services	0	0	0	0	0?	+	+	+
10. Social and economic inclusion	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
11. Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Waste	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
13. Economic growth	++	+	++	+	+	++	0	0
14. Health	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	++	+	+/-	+	+/-	+	0	+/-
16. Flood risk	+/-	?	0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Water quality	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- 7.10 The likely effects of the policies in the Economy section of the Local Plan are generally mixed. Due to the nature of the policies and their aim to encourage economic growth and job creation, six of the eight policies are likely to have significant positive effects on the **economy and employment** (SA objective 4) and three are likely to have significant positive effects on **economic growth** (SA objective 13). Broadly positive effects are also identified in relation to **social and economic inclusion** (SA objective 10).
- 7.11 However, the effects of the Economy policies on the environmental SA objectives are more mixed, in particular in relation to policy EC1. That policy could have significant negative effects on the **landscape** (SA objective 5), **biodiversity and geodiversity** (SA objective 6), **cultural heritage** (SA objective 7) and the **efficient use of land and minerals** (SA objective 8) as it could result in employment development in close proximity of biodiversity and cultural heritage features, and on brownfield land in areas of higher landscape sensitivity. However, some of these effects are uncertain as they will depend on the detailed proposals for development that eventually come forward.

## Environment

- 7.12 The SA scores for the policies in this section of the Local Plan are set out in **Table 7.4** overleaf.
- 7.13 The policies in the Environment section of the Local Plan are likely to have broadly very positive effects on the SA objectives, particularly the environmental objectives, due to the fact that these policies seek to conserve and enhance Melton's high quality natural environment and to avoid negative effects occurring from the development proposed under other Local Plan policies. In particular, a number of significant positive effects are identified in relation to both the **landscape** (SA objective 5) and **biodiversity and geodiversity** (SA objective 6). Both issues are directly addressed by specific policies (EN1 and EN2 respectively), but are also addressed by criteria in a number of other policies. Significant positive effects are also identified in relation to **cultural heritage** (SA objective 7), **waste** (SA objective 12), **health** (SA objective 14), **greenhouse gas emissions and air quality** (SA objective 15) and **flood risk** (SA objective 16). In most cases these significant positive effects are associated with policies that directly address these issues and so should provide mitigation for the potential effects of development resulting from other Local Plan policies.
- 7.14 While some of the Environmental policies address quite specific topics and so a large number of likely negligible effects are identified, the policy relating to green infrastructure (EN3) in particular is likely to have a wide range of positive effects on several SA objectives, reflecting the multiple benefits of green infrastructure in relation to issues such as **sustainable transport** (SA objective 3), **health** (SA objective 14) and **flood risk** (SA objective 15). The policy relating to energy efficient development (EN9) is also likely to have a high number of positive effects due to the wide range of criteria addressed by the policy.
- 7.15 No likely significant negative effects are identified in relation to the Environmental policies in the Local Plan although policy EN1 could have a minor negative effects on the **economy and employment** (SA objective 4) because the policy requires that development is sensitive to its landscape setting and should not affect areas of tranquillity within the Borough. While this would have significant effects on the **landscape** (SA objective 5) and minor positive effects on **health** (SA objective 14), certain types of industrial developments may negatively impact upon tranquillity and the landscape and therefore may be incompatible with this policy.

**Table 7.4: SA scores for the Environment policies in the Local Plan**

SA objective	EN1: Landscape	EN2: Biodiversity and geodiversity	EN3: The Melton green infrastructure network	EN4: Areas of Separation	EN5: Local green space	EN6: Settlement character	EN7: Open space, sport and recreation	EN8: Climate change	EN9: Ensuring energy efficient and low carbon development	EN10: Energy generation from renewable sources	EN11: Minimising the risk of flooding	EN12: Sustainable urban drainage systems	EN13: Heritage assets
1. Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0
2. Education	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Sustainable transport	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0
4. Economy and employment	-	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+
5. Landscape	++	+	++	++	+	++	++	0	+	++	+	+	+
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	+	++	++	+	++	+	++	+	+	+	++	+	0
7. Cultural heritage	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	0	+	+	+	+	++
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0
9. Access to services	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0
10. Social and economic inclusion	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0
11. Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Waste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0
13. Economic growth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0
14. Health	+	0	+	0	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	0	0
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	++	++	0	0	0
16. Flood risk	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	++	++	0
17. Water quality	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	0

## Delivering Infrastructure

- 7.16 The SA scores for the only policy in this section of the Local Plan are presented in **Table 7.5** below.

**Table 7.5: SA scores for the Delivering Infrastructure policy in the Local Plan**

SA objective	IN1: Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure
1. Housing	0
2. Education	0
3. Sustainable transport	++
4. Economy and employment	+
5. Landscape	0
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	0
7. Cultural heritage	0
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	0
9. Access to services	+
10. Social and economic inclusion	+
11. Crime	0
12. Waste	0
13. Economic growth	++
14. Health	+
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	++
16. Flood risk	0
17. Water quality	0

- 7.17 This policy seeks to ensure that there is a safe and efficient transport network in place in Melton Mowbray. It includes a number of criteria for reducing the need to travel by car and increasing levels of cycling and walking and so is likely to have a significant positive effect on **sustainable transport** (SA objective 3). A significant positive effect is also likely in relation to **economic growth** (SA objective 13) and a minor positive effect in relation to the **economy and employment** (SA objective 4) as the policy will help to ensure that economic growth is not impeded by a sub-standard transport network. A significant positive effect is also likely in relation to **greenhouse gas emissions and air quality** (SA objective 15) as increasing the use of sustainable transport will help to reduce emissions and the associated air pollution. This will also benefit **health** (SA objective 14).
- 7.18 While the policy makes some provision for ongoing car use, including the provision of parking and some improvements to the highway network including the development of a relief road at Melton Mowbray, these measures are not considered to detract from the overall aim to achieve modal shift. It is assumed that the potential environmental effects of any improvements to the highway network will be assessed in detail at the planning application stage.
- 7.19 No likely negative effects, either minor or significant, are identified in relation to policy IN1.

## Development Management

- 7.20 The SA scores for the policies in this section of the Local Plan are set out in **Table 7.6** below.



**Table 7.6: SA scores for the Development Management policies in the Local Plan**

SA objective	D1: Raising the standard of design	D2: Equestrian development	D3: Agricultural workers' dwellings
1. Housing	0	0	+
2. Education	0	0	0
3. Sustainable transport	+	0	+
4. Economy and employment	+	+	+
5. Landscape	+	+?	+
6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	+	0	0
7. Cultural heritage	+	0	+
8. Efficient use of land and minerals	0	+	+
9. Access to services	0	0	0
10. Social and economic inclusion	0	0	0
11. Crime	+	0	0
12. Waste	+?	+	0
13. Economic growth	0	0	0
14. Health	+	0	0
15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	+	0	0
16. Flood risk	0	0	0
17. Water quality	0	0	0

- 7.21 The policies in the Development Management chapter of the Local Plan are likely to have broadly positive effects on the SA objectives because they seek to ensure that development proposed under other Local Plan policies will be of high quality in terms of its design and construction. Policy D1: Raising the Standard of Design is likely to have minor positive effects on a particularly high number of SA objectives because of the broad range of criteria addressed by the policy. However, the potential minor positive effect on **waste** (SA objective 12) is uncertain because while the policy text requires developments to include waste facilities where appropriate, it is not specified whether this includes facilities that allow for the sustainable management of waste such as storage facilities for recycling. Making this clearer within the policy text would improve the likely effects of the policy on SA objective 12.
- 7.22 While policies D2: Equestrian Development and D3: Agricultural Workers' Dwellings could result in some development in rural areas, it is likely to be of a small scale and the policies include generally robust criteria for ensuring that potential negative environmental effects are avoided. Both policies include criteria directly addressing the potential for impacts on the **landscape** (SA objective 5) and **efficient use of land** (SA objective 8), while policy D3 also addresses the potential impacts on **cultural heritage** (SA objective 7) and policy D2 addresses **waste** management (SA objective 12). Both of those policies would also have minor positive effects on the **economy and employment** (SA objective 4) because they would stimulate the rural economy by permitting appropriate equestrian developments and residential properties to support agricultural businesses. However, the potential minor positive effect of policy D2 on the **landscape** (SA objective 5) is to some extent uncertain because the current wording of the policy implies that some negative effect may be permitted – it is stated that developments must not have an 'overtly adverse effect on the landscape'. The effects of the policy would therefore be improved if this were to be amended to require no adverse effect.
- 7.23 No likely negative effects, minor or significant, were identified for any of the Development Management policies.

## Cumulative effects

- 7.24 **Table 7.6** at the end of this section presents a summary of the SA scores for all of the Emerging Options in the Melton Local Plan, including both the 40 headline policies and the 30 small scale residential sites that are allocated within policy C1 (the two large-scale site allocations each have their own policy, SS4 and SS5, and so scores for those site allocations are not listed separately to the policies). This enables an assessment to be made of the likely significant effects of the emerging Local Plan as a whole on each of the SA objectives, i.e. an assessment of cumulative effects as required by the SEA Regulations.
- 7.25 Under each of the SA objectives below, consideration is also given to ways in which the effects of the Local Plan may be mitigated.

### **SA objective 1: To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough**

- 7.26 The Local Plan makes provision for the development of at least 6,125 new homes between 2011 and 2036 to meet the objectively assessed housing need for the Borough. In accordance with policy C4, a target level of 37% affordable housing will be pursued which will help to ensure that housing is available to people on lower incomes and to address disparities between incomes and house prices. A mix of housing will also be provided in accordance with policy C2 to meet local needs, in particular the need for more small, entry level homes and housing for the elderly.
- 7.27 While most new housing development will be focussed at Melton Mowbray, the spatial strategy does make provision for some housing at smaller settlements to meet local needs there. All new housing will be delivered in accordance with the Local Plan policies relating to high quality design and construction, so it is assumed that the new housing will be high quality.
- 7.28 Overall, a cumulative **significant positive** effect is likely in relation to housing.

### **SA objective 2: To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education**

- 7.29 The large-scale residential development proposed through the Local Plan could result in increased pressure on existing schools and colleges if provision was not made to meet the increased demand for school places. However, the Local Plan makes good provision for new school places, particularly by providing for new primary schools and funding for secondary school places as part of the two sustainable neighbourhoods proposed to the north and south of Melton Mowbray.
- 7.30 The rural nature of Melton Borough means that it isn't realistic to expect that all residents will be within walking distance of a school; however the measures in the Plan relating to improvements to the sustainable transport network will help to ensure that more people are able to travel to schools and colleges by means other than car.
- 7.31 Most new residential development will be focussed at Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's schools and colleges; however this also means that opportunities to support rural schools through new development are limited. The Plan does, however, provide for some new development in smaller settlements which may help to maintain the viability of village schools.
- 7.32 Overall a cumulative **minor positive** effect is likely in relation to education.

### **SA objective 3: To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices**

- 7.33 The Local Plan makes good provision for improvements to the sustainable transport network, particularly through policy IN1: Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure and through the policies relating to the two new sustainable neighbourhoods to the north and south of Melton Mowbray. Proposals are included in these policies to improve bus services and provide safe new walking and cycle networks.
- 7.34 The fact that most new housing and employment development will be focussed at Melton Mowbray should mean that most people have shorter journeys to access jobs, services and

facilities, and they may be more easily able to walk and cycle day to day. In addition, the co-location of large-scale residential and employment development along with services and facilities as part of two relatively self-contained sustainable neighbourhoods at Melton Mowbray will help to reduce the resulting traffic generation. This is particularly the case at Melton South where the sustainable neighbourhood will include 20ha of employment development alongside the new housing. Provisions in the Plan relating to highway improvements could facilitate ongoing car use but overall the Local Plan makes good provision to mitigate these effects.

- 7.35 Overall a cumulative **significant positive** effect is likely in relation to sustainable transport.

**SA objective 4: To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community**

- 7.36 The Local Plan provides for the development of some 51 hectares of employment land to meet local needs and to ensure that there are jobs available to meet the needs of the growing population. Most of this employment land will be located at Melton Mowbray (around 31 hectares) which should mean that the jobs created are accessible for most people and can be reached via public transport. The allocation of this employment land, and the measures in the Plan to safeguard existing sites, should encourage inward investment and result in the delivery of jobs to meet the needs of the growing population. Co-locating employment development with housing, in particular at the Melton South sustainable neighbourhood where 20ha of employment land is allocated, will help to ensure that people (including those without a car) have convenient access to jobs.
- 7.37 New employment sites will be developed in accordance with other plan policies relating to standards for design and construction, so it is assumed that they will be high quality, increasing their attractiveness to investors.
- 7.38 Overall a cumulative **significant positive** effect is likely in relation to the economy and employment.

**SA objective 5: To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape**

- 7.39 The landscape of Melton Borough is rural in nature and the settlement fringe sensitivity in many areas is moderate-high; therefore the large-scale residential and employment development proposed through the Local Plan could have negative effects, particularly because a significant proportion of the development is to be delivered through two large scale sustainable neighbourhoods on greenfield land at Melton Mowbray. A number of the small-scale sites allocated through policy C1 are also expected to have significant negative effects on the landscape.
- 7.40 However, the Plan makes provision for mitigating the potential landscape-related impacts of new development, in particular through policy EN1: Landscape which requires new development to be sensitive to its landscape setting as defined in the Landscape Character Assessment and to respond to guidance in the assessments of settlement fringe sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study. New development is also required to be respectful of existing landscape character and tranquillity. Other measures in the Plan, such as policies seeking to enhance green infrastructure, will help to improve the overall setting of new development within the landscape. Therefore, the effects of new development on the landscape are to some extent uncertain until detailed proposals for particular sites come forward at the planning application stage.
- 7.41 Overall a cumulative **significant negative** effect is likely in relation to the landscape.

**SA objective 6: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough**

- 7.42 The large scale development proposed through the Local Plan could affect biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly because a lot of the development is proposed on greenfield sites (although it is recognised that brownfield sites can still harbour valuable biodiversity). The loss of large areas of greenfield land, particularly at the two sustainable neighbourhoods to the north and south of Melton Mowbray, could result in the loss of valuable habitat and disturbance to species,

particularly during the construction phase. A number of the small-scale sites allocated through policy C1 are also expected to have significant negative effects on biodiversity and geodiversity due to their proximity to designated sites and known biodiversity features and because some have been identified as being of moderate ecological sensitivity in the Biodiversity Study that has been carried out by White Young Green on behalf of the Council. However, the effects of new development on Melton's biodiversity and geodiversity are to some extent uncertain until detailed proposals for particular sites come forward at the planning application stage.

- 7.43 However, the Local Plan makes good provision for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly through policy EN2: Biodiversity and Geodiversity which requires ecologically sensitive areas to be protected and encourages development to contribute to wildlife networks. A number of the criteria-based policies in the Plan also make reference to the protection of biodiversity and the measures seeking to improve green infrastructure in the Borough will benefit habitat creation and improve connectivity. This could result in enhancements as well as mitigation.
- 7.44 Overall a cumulative **mixed (minor positive and significant negative)** effect is likely in relation to biodiversity and geodiversity.

#### **SA objective 7: To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings**

- 7.45 The large scale housing and employment development proposed through the Local Plan could adversely affect heritage assets and their settings, particularly because a large proportion of the new development is directed to previously undeveloped sites meaning that the setting of nearby heritage assets could be significantly altered. A number of the small-scale sites allocated through policy C1 are also expected to have significant negative effects on cultural heritage due to their proximity to designated assets such as listed buildings and Scheduled Monuments. However, the effects of new development on cultural heritage are to some extent uncertain until detailed proposals for particular sites come forward at the planning application stage.
- 7.46 However, the Local Plan makes good provision for the protection and enhancement of cultural heritage assets, in particular through policy EN13: Heritage Assets which requires new development to make a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness, and seeks to encourage the enhancement of the built historic environment and its setting. This could result in enhancements as well as mitigation.
- 7.47 Overall a cumulative **mixed (minor positive and significant negative)** effect is likely in relation to the historic environment.

#### **SA objective 8: To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality**

- 7.48 The Local Plan proposes large-scale development on greenfield land, in particular through the allocation of the two sustainable neighbourhoods at Melton Mowbray but also through the allocation of some of the small scale sites that are included in policy C1. This will result in the loss of large areas of undeveloped land, much of which is of good to moderate agricultural quality. While the Plan makes some provision for encouraging development on brownfield land, given the nature of the Borough, the scope for this is relatively limited
- 7.49 Overall a cumulative **significant negative** effect is likely in relation to the efficient use of land and minerals.

#### **SA objective 9: To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough**

- 7.50 Most of the development proposed through the Local Plan is to be located at Melton Mowbray where there is relatively good access to the concentration of existing services and facilities. However, this approach will draw activity away from rural areas and opportunities to stimulate improvements to community services and facilities in those areas will be limited.
- 7.51 The Local Plan includes policies seeking to ensure that there are adequate community facilities available to support population growth, in particular by making provision for new facilities as part of the new sustainable neighbourhoods proposed to the north and south of Melton Mowbray. Co-

locating services and facilities with residential development will ensure that people have convenient access and the sustainable transport improvements proposed through the Local Plan will also address accessibility.

- 7.52 Overall a cumulative **mixed (significant positive and minor negative)** effect is likely in relation to access to services.

#### **SA objective 10: To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion**

- 7.53 The measures included in the Local Plan to provide employment land and increase economic growth (as described under SA objective 4 above) will help to reduce poverty and social exclusion by increasing the range and quality of available jobs. This will in turn help to address social deprivation and exclusion. As described under SA objectives 1 and 2 above, the Local Plan makes good provision for affordable housing delivery and access to education which will further address this objective.

- 7.54 Overall a cumulative **minor positive** effect is likely in relation to this objective.

#### **SA objective 11: To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime**

- 7.55 Most of the policies in the Local Plan will not have a direct effect on this objective, although a small number of the policies such as C9: Healthy Communities make reference to ensuring that walking and cycle routes are safe. In general this SA objective will be affected by the design and layout of new development (e.g. the incorporation of lighting) which will not be detailed until the planning application stage. However, policy D1 addresses this issue to some extent, requiring development to be designed to reduce crime and the perception of crime.

- 7.56 Overall a cumulative **minor positive** effect is likely in relation to crime and safety.

#### **SA objective 12: To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials**

- 7.57 Large-scale development, as proposed through the Local Plan, will inevitably result in an increase in overall waste generation but not on a per capita basis. Levels of recycling will be determined largely by the behaviour of individuals; however policy EN9 supports development proposals that can demonstrate the effective use of materials that are sourced from high up the waste hierarchy and that incorporate site waste management plans which emphasises waste minimisation, re-use and recycling during demolition and construction.

- 7.58 Most of the development sites that are allocated through the Local Plan are located on greenfield land and so there will be limited opportunities to reuse materials onsite. It is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection that operates in the Borough will be extended to cover new residential developments.

- 7.59 Overall a cumulative **mixed (minor positive and minor negative)** effect is likely in relation to waste.

#### **SA objective 13: To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth**

- 7.60 The measures in the Local Plan seeking to reduce congestion (improving the sustainable transport network and specific highways schemes) will help to make the Borough more attractive to investors. In addition, the allocation of around 51ha of employment land will ensure that there are sites available for development and they should be developed to high standards, in line with other Plan policies.

- 7.61 The population growth resulting from housing development will increase size of workforce.

- 7.62 Overall a cumulative **significant positive** effect is likely in relation to enabling economic growth.

#### **SA objective 14: To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life**

- 7.63 The Local Plan proposes improvements to the walking and cycle network which will help to improve levels of day-to-day activity, benefitting health. Increased walking and cycling may also

be facilitated by the location of most development at Melton Mowbray where journey times to access jobs, services and facilities are likely to be shorter. The provision of improved green infrastructure, open space and sports facilities through policies EN3 and EN7 in particular will also encourage and enable people to engage in active recreation.

7.64 While the population growth that will result from the residential development proposed through the Local Plan could put pressure on healthcare facilities such as existing GP surgeries, provision is made through the Plan for improvements to infrastructure to support the new development. While healthcare infrastructure is not always referred to specifically, this is taken to be included within community facilities.

7.65 Overall a cumulative **minor positive** effect is likely in relation to health.

#### **SA objective 15: To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough**

7.66 The large-scale development proposed through the Local Plan will inevitably result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions from buildings but this will depend to some extent on the design of development. Policies in the Local Plan require new development to meet high standards of energy efficiency and encourage the incorporation of renewable energy generation, in particular policies EN9 and EN10.

7.67 In terms of emissions from vehicle traffic, the Local Plan makes good provision for improvements to the sustainable transport network, particularly through policy IN1: Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure and through the policies relating to the two new sustainable neighbourhoods to the north and south of Melton Mowbray. Proposals are included in these policies to improve bus services and provide safe new walking and cycle networks.

7.68 The fact that most new housing and employment development will be focussed at Melton Mowbray should mean that most people have shorter journeys to access jobs, services and facilities, and they may be more easily able to walk and cycle day to day, reducing emissions from car use. In addition, the co-location of large-scale residential and employment development along with services and facilities as part of two relatively self-contained sustainable neighbourhoods at Melton Mowbray will help to reduce the resulting traffic generation. Improvements to the highway network (particularly the proposed relief road) will help to reduce congestion and the associated pockets of poor air quality, although they could also encourage car use.

7.69 Overall a cumulative **mixed (significant positive and minor negative)** effect is likely in relation to greenhouse gas emissions and air quality.

#### **SA objective 16: To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere**

7.70 The allocation of large areas of greenfield land through the Local Plan could reduce the extent of permeable surfaces available for infiltration and therefore increase flood risk, particularly because some of the emerging site options include areas of higher flood risk (although it is possible that built development could be avoided in those areas). However, the Local Plan encourages the use of SuDS and the development of buildings that are adaptable to the impacts of climate change including flooding. The Plan also directs most new development to areas of lower flood risk. Measures seeking to protect and enhance the green infrastructure network will also be of benefit to flood risk management.

7.71 Overall a cumulative **mixed (minor positive and minor negative)** effect is likely in relation to flooding.

#### **SA objective 17: To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources**

7.72 The large-scale development proposed through the Local Plan will inevitably result in an increase in demand for water abstraction and treatment; however levels of per capita water consumption will not be affected. The Local Plan encourages the efficient use of water resources through policy EN9: Ensuring energy efficient and low carbon development. The policies that seek to manage

flood risk (as described above under SA objective 16) will indirectly benefit water quality by reducing the likelihood of water pollution resulting from flood events.

**Overall a cumulative minor positive effect is likely in relation to water quality and the efficient use of water resources.**



**Table 7.6: Summary of SA scores for the policies and small site allocations in the Emerging Options Local Plan**

	1. Housing	2. Education	3. Sustainable transport	4. Economy and employment	5. Landscape	6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	7. Cultural heritage	8. Efficient use of land and minerals	9. Access to services	10. Social and economic inclusion	11. Crime	12. Waste	13. Economic growth	14. Health	15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	16. Flood risk	17. Water quality
<b>Preferred Policies</b>																	
SS1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SS2: Development strategy	++	++/-	++	++	+/--?	+/--?	--?	--?	++/-	+/-	0	-?	++	++/-	++	-?	?
SS3: Sustainable communities	+	+	+/-	+	+/-	+	+	+?	++	+	0	0	0	+/-	-	+	0
SS4: South Melton Mowbray sustainable neighbourhood (strategic allocation)	++	++	++/-	++	+/--?	+/--?	--/+?	--	++	++	+	0	++	++	++/-	+/-?	+
SS5: Melton Mowbray north sustainable neighbourhood	++	++	++/-	++	+?/--	+/--?	+/--?	--	++	++	+	0	++	+	++/-	+/-	+
SS6: Alternative development strategies and local plan review	++	0	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
C1: Housing allocations	++	+	+	0	--?	-/+	-/+	--	+	0	0	-	0	+	+	+/-	+/-
<b>Preferred Site Allocations (allocated in Policy C1)</b>																	
MBC/104/13: Fields South of Bypass and North of Regency Road, Asfordby	+	++?	++	+	?	-?	0?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/106/13: Land East of Station Lane and South of Klondyke Way, Asfordby	+	++?	++	+	--?	0?	0?	--	++	++	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/113/13: Land off Stanton Road, Stanton Road, Asfordby Hill	+	++?	++	++	-?	0?	0?	--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/073/13: Land to the west of Houghton Close and south of the A6006, Asfordby Hill	+	++?	++	++	--?	0?	0?	--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/112/13: Land off Houghton Close, Glebe Road, Asfordby Hill	+	++?	++	++	-?	0?	0?	--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/111/13: West Side, Asfordby Hill	+	++?	++	++	-?	0?	0?	0/--?	+	++	0	-	0	0	+	-	?



	1. Housing	2. Education	3. Sustainable transport	4. Economy and employment	5. Landscape	6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	7. Cultural heritage	8. Efficient use of land and minerals	9. Access to services	10. Social and economic inclusion	11. Crime	12. Waste	13. Economic growth	14. Health	15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	16. Flood risk	17. Water quality
<b>Preferred Site Allocations (allocated in Policy C1)</b>																	
MBC/004/15: Land off Crompton Road/Main Street, Asfordby Hill	+	++?	++	++	?	0?	0?	+?/0	+	++	0	+?	0	0/-?	+	-	?
MBC/057/13: Land at Rectory Farm, Bottesford	++	++?	++	++	--?	-?	0?	--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	--	?
MBC/181/15: Land off Normanton Lane, Bottesford	+	+?	++	+	--?	0?	0?	+?/-	++	+	0	+?	0	++	+	0	?
MBC/080/13: Lings View Farm, Middle Street, Croxton Kerrial	+	++?	0	-	?	0?	-?	--	+	++/-	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/079/13: Land west of Saltby Road & east of Highfields Farm, Croxton Kerrial	+	++?	0	-	--?	0?	-?	--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?
MBC/095/13: Land to the east of Saltby Road and south of A607, Croxton Kerrial	+	++?	0	-	-?	-?	-?	--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/092/13: Farm (Church Farm) to the west of Middle Road, Croxton Kerrial	+	++?	0	-	?	0?	--?	+?/-	+	++/-	0	+?	0	++	+	0	?
MBC/191/15: Land off Great Lane, Frisby on the Wreake	+	++?	0	-	-?	-?	0?	--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/026/15: Field south of Coronation Avenue, West of Melton Road, Long Clawson	+	+?	0	+	--?	0?	0?	0/--?	++	+	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/168/15: Land off Sandpit Lane, Long Clawson	+	++?	0	+	--?	0?	-?	0/--?	++	++	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/150/15: Birleys Garage, Waltham Lane, Long Clawson	+	++?	0	-	?	-?	0?	+?/0	++	++/-	0	+?	0	++	+	-	?
MBC/169/15: Canal Farm, Long Clawson	+	++?	0	-	?	0?	0?	+?/0	++	++/-	0	+?	0	++/-?	+	0	?
MBC/144/15: Corner of Broughton Lane and Hickling Lane, Long Clawson	+	+?	0	+	--?	0?	0?	0/-	++	+	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/028/13: Land off Back Lane, Long Clawson	+	++?	0	+	--?	0?	-?	0/--?	++	++	0	-	0	++/-?	+	-	?

	1. Housing	2. Education	3. Sustainable transport	4. Economy and employment	5. Landscape	6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	7. Cultural heritage	8. Efficient use of land and minerals	9. Access to services	10. Social and economic inclusion	11. Crime	12. Waste	13. Economic growth	14. Health	15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	16. Flood risk	17. Water quality
<b>Preferred Site Allocations (allocated in Policy C1)</b>																	
MBC/027/15: Land north of East End, (Bruns Farm, The Pinale), Long Clawson	+	++?	0	+	?	--?	0?	0/--?	++	++	0	-	0	++	+	--	?
MBC/164/15: Land East of Melton Road, Waltham on the Wolds	+	++?	0	-	--?	0?	0?	--	++	++/-	0	-	0	0/--?	+	-	?
MBC/055/13: Land adjacent of Bescaby Lane, Waltham on the Wolds	+	++?	0	-	-?	-?	-?	--?	++	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/192/15: Land at Manor Farm, rear of High Street, Waltham on the Wolds	++	++?	0	-	-?	0?	-?	--	++	++/-	0	-	0	0/--?	+	-	?
MBC/054/13: Land at 48 High Street, Waltham on the Wolds	+	++?	0	-	?	--?	-?	--?	++	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/070/13: Land known as Brickyard Lane, Wymondham	+	++?	0	-	--?	--?	0?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/056/13: Glebe Road, Wymondham	++	++?	0	-	--?	--?	0?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	0	+	-	?
MBC/048/13: Land off Burrough Road	+	++?	0	-	?	0?	-?	0/--	+	++/-	0	-	0	+	+	-	?
MBC/146/14: Football field, Oakham Road	+	++?	0	-	-?	-?	0?	0/--?	+	++/-	0	-	0	++	+	-	?
<b>Preferred Policies</b>																	
C2: Housing mix	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
C3: National space standard and smaller dwellings	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C4: Affordable housing provision	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C5: Affordable housing through rural exception sites	++	-	-	-	--?	0	0	-	++/-	++	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
C6: Gypsies and travellers	++	0	+	0	-/+?	-/+?	-?	-?	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0
C7: Rural services	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0

	1. Housing	2. Education	3. Sustainable transport	4. Economy and employment	5. Landscape	6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	7. Cultural heritage	8. Efficient use of land and minerals	9. Access to services	10. Social and economic inclusion	11. Crime	12. Waste	13. Economic growth	14. Health	15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	16. Flood risk	17. Water quality
<b>Preferred Policies</b>																	
<b>C8: Self build and custom build housing</b>	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>C9: Healthy communities</b>	+	0	++	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	++	++	+	0
<b>EC1: Employment growth in Melton Mowbray</b>	0	0	++	++	+/--?	+/--?	+/--?	--	0	++	0	0	++	+	++	+/-	+
<b>EC2: Employment growth in the rural area (outside of Melton Mowbray)</b>	0	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	?	0
<b>EC3: Existing employment sites</b>	0	0	++/-	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	+	+/-	0	0
<b>EC4: Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works</b>	0	0	+	++	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	0
<b>EC5: Other employment and mixed-use proposals</b>	+	0	+/-	+	+	+	+	-?	0?	+	0	0	+	+	+/-	0	0
<b>EC6: Melton Mowbray town centre</b>	0	0	+/-	++	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	++	+	+	0	0
<b>EC7: Retail development in the Borough</b>	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>EC8: Tourism</b>	0	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	0
<b>EN1: Landscape</b>	0	0	0	-	++	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
<b>EN2: Biodiversity and geodiversity</b>	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+
<b>EN3: The Melton green infrastructure network</b>	0	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0
<b>EN4: Areas of Separation</b>	0	0	0	0	++	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>EN5: Local green space</b>	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0
<b>EN6: Settlement character</b>	0	0	0	0	++	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0
<b>EN7: Open space, sport and recreation</b>	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	0
<b>EN8: Climate change</b>	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	+	0
<b>EN9: Ensuring energy efficient and low carbon development</b>	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	++	+	+	++	0	+

	1. Housing	2. Education	3. Sustainable transport	4. Economy and employment	5. Landscape	6. Biodiversity and geodiversity	7. Cultural heritage	8. Efficient use of land and minerals	9. Access to services	10. Social and economic inclusion	11. Crime	12. Waste	13. Economic growth	14. Health	15. Greenhouse gases and air quality	16. Flood risk	17. Water quality
<b>Preferred Policies</b>																	
<b>EN10: Energy generation from renewable sources</b>	0	0	0	0	++	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	++	0	0
<b>EN11: Minimising the risk of flooding</b>	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	++	+
<b>EN12: Sustainable urban drainage systems</b>	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+
<b>EN13: Heritage assets</b>	0	0	0	+	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>IN1: Transport and strategic transport infrastructure</b>	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	++	+	++	0	0
<b>D1: Raising the standard of design</b>	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	0
<b>D2: Equestrian Development</b>	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0
<b>D3: Agricultural workers' dwellings</b>	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Mitigation

- 7.73 It is a requirement of the SEA Regulations that consideration is given to “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”. For many of the potential negative effects identified in relation to the Melton Local Plan, mitigation will be provided through the implementation of other policies in the Local Plan itself.
- 7.74 **Table 7.7** below identifies the Local Plan policies that are expected to provide mitigation for the potential negative effects (both minor and significant) of other Local Plan policies. Note that only those SA objectives for which potential negative effects were identified have been included in the table. Three out of the 17 SA objectives are unlikely to be negatively affected by the policies or site allocations in the Local Plan.

**Table 7.6 Possible mitigation for potential negative effects identified**

SA objectives for which potential minor or significant negative effects have been identified	Other Local Plan policies providing possible mitigation
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	Specific policy criteria in <b>SS4: South Melton Mowbray Sustainable Neighbourhood</b> and <b>SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood</b> will help to ensure that those developments are supported by adequate education infrastructure.  <b>IN1: Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure</b> will help to ensure that people are able to easily reach schools and colleges even where they are outside of walking distance.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	<b>IN1: Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure</b> will enable more people to make use of sustainable transport day to day. Specific criteria in policies including <b>SS4: South Melton Mowbray Sustainable Neighbourhood</b> should result in sustainable transport provision to support new development.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	The policies in the Economy section of the Local Plan ( <b>EC1-EC8</b> ) will combine to help diversify and strengthen the local economy.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	<b>EN1: Landscape</b> seeks to ensure that the quality and character of Melton’s landscapes are protected and enhanced and will apply to all new development including at the allocated sites. <b>D1: Design</b> also includes specific criteria relating to ensuring that the design and layout of new development is appropriate for the surroundings.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	<b>EN2: Biodiversity and Geodiversity</b> seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity assets in the Borough and will apply to all new development including at the allocated sites.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton’s historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	<b>EN13: Heritage Assets</b> seeks to protect and enhance heritage assets in the Borough and will apply to all new development including at the allocated sites.

SA objectives for which potential minor or significant negative effects have been identified	Other Local Plan policies providing possible mitigation
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	<b>SS3: Sustainable Communities</b> requires proposals for small-scale developments on non-allocated sites to avoid the loss of high quality agricultural land where possible.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	<b>SS3: Sustainable Communities</b> requires proposals for small-scale developments on non-allocated sites to contribute to the sustainability of local communities, including through supporting and providing new infrastructure.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	The policies in the Economy section of the Local Plan ( <b>EC1-EC8</b> ) will combine to help diversify and strengthen the local economy which will help to reduce poverty, deprivation and economic exclusion.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	<b>EN9: Ensuring Energy Efficient and Low Carbon Development</b> encourages the efficient management of waste.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	<b>EN7: Open Space, Sport and Recreation</b> encourages the provision of facilities that will help increase levels of active recreation. <b>IN1: Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure</b> should result in more people walking and cycling day to day.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	<b>IN1: Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure</b> should result in more people walking and cycling day to day in place of car use. <b>EN9: Ensuring Energy Efficient and Low Carbon Development</b> will help to reduce increases in greenhouse gas emissions from new development.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	<b>EN11: Minimising the Risk of Flooding</b> will direct development to areas of lower flood risk and <b>EN12: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems</b> promotes the use of SuDS in new development which will help to mitigate the potential effects of development on greenfield land in relation to reduced infiltration.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	Specific policy criteria in <b>SS4: South Melton Mowbray Sustainable Neighbourhood</b> and <b>SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood</b> seek to protect and enhance water quality through those new developments.

## Recommendations

7.75 A number of recommendations for the Local Plan are set out below, which should be taken into account as the next iteration is prepared:

- Policy SS4: South Melton Mowbray Sustainable Neighbourhood and Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood both allocate land for development that includes a small area of flood zones 2 and 3. It is recommended that it is specified in the wording of these policies that the parts of the site at higher risk of flooding will not be used for built development.

- Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood could make specific reference to the provision of new walking and cycle links as part of the proposed development. It could also make clear reference to the provision of healthcare facilities to meet the needs of new residents, rather than just community facilities in general.
- Policy EC8: Tourism supports the appropriate development of facilities for cultural, visitor and tourism uses and requires that such development does not adversely affect designated habitats or species; however the policy should refer to habitats and species in general, and not just those that are designated.
- Policy D1: Raising the standard of design requires development to include waste facilities where appropriate although it is not specified whether this includes facilities that allow for the sustainable management of waste such as storage facilities for recycling – the effects of the policy would therefore be improved if this were clearer.

## 8 Monitoring

- 8.1 The SEA Regulations require that *"the responsible authority shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of each plan or programme with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action"* and that the environmental report should provide information on *"a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring"*. Monitoring proposals should be designed to provide information that can be used to highlight specific issues and significant effects, and which could help decision-making.
- 8.2 The Planning Advisory Service guidance on SA states that it is not necessary to monitor everything. Instead, monitoring should be focused on the significant sustainability effects that may give rise to irreversible damage (with a view to identifying trends before such damage is caused) and the significant effects where there is uncertainty in the SA and where monitoring would enable preventative or mitigation measures to be taken. Because of the early stage of the Melton Local Plan and the uncertainty attached to many of the potential effects identified, monitoring measures have been proposed in this SA Report in relation to all of the SA objectives in the SA framework. As the Local Plan is progressed and the likely significant effects are identified with more certainty, it may be appropriate to narrow down the monitoring framework to focus on a smaller number of the SA objectives.
- 8.3 **Table 8.1** sets out a number of suggested indicators for monitoring the potential sustainability effects of implementing the Local Plan. This draws from the proposed monitoring framework for the Local Plan that was originally presented in the July 2014 Scoping Report, but reflects the changes that have been made to the SA framework since then. Note that the indicators proposed are included as suggestions and some have been drawn from the indicators proposed in Appendix 3 in the Emerging Options Local Plan document. Therefore, the indicators included in **Table 8.1** may change as Melton Borough Council finalises its monitoring framework.
- 8.4 The data used for monitoring in many cases will be provided by outside bodies. Information collected by other organisations (e.g. the Environment Agency) can also be used as a source of indicators. It is therefore recommended that the Council continues the dialogue with statutory environmental consultees and other stakeholders that has already been commenced, and works with them to agree the relevant sustainability effects to be monitored and to obtain information that is appropriate, up to date and reliable.



**Table 8.1: Proposed Monitoring Framework for the Melton Local Plan**

SA objectives	Proposed monitoring indicators
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affordable housing completions</li> <li>• Average house prices</li> <li>• Number of people in housing need (SHMA)</li> <li>• Annual housing completions –total houses built, types, sizes and tenures</li> <li>• Total vacant dwellings</li> <li>• Total number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches</li> <li>• Number of statutory homeless people</li> <li>• Number or proportion of local authority homes falling below Decent Homes Standards</li> </ul>
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualifications of the working age population</li> <li>• New education and/or training facilities permitted (sqm)</li> </ul>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of people who travel to work by public transport</li> <li>• Railway Station footfall</li> <li>• Bus patronage levels</li> <li>• Number of Travel Plans implemented with new development</li> <li>• Number of users of cycle paths</li> </ul>
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount of new employment land delivered</li> <li>• Amount of employment land lost to residential development</li> <li>• Number of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance</li> </ul>
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of new development taking place on brownfield land</li> <li>• Number of new proposals in 'sensitive landscape areas' (High Leicestershire, the Wolds Scarp, and the Knipton Bowl) granted permission in accordance with policy EC8</li> <li>• Number of schemes granted planning permission in Protected Open Areas and Areas of Separation</li> </ul>
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount of greenfield land lost to development</li> <li>• Change in condition of SSSIs</li> <li>• Number of Local Wildlife Sites</li> <li>• Amount of development that takes place on Local Green spaces</li> </ul>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of entries on the Heritage at Risk Register</li> </ul>
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of development taking place on previously developed land</li> <li>• Number of planning applications approved within a Minerals Consultation Area</li> <li>• Amount of development that takes place on best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>

SA objectives	Proposed monitoring indicators
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount of new and loss of community facilities (sqm)</li> <li>• Amount of additional 'town centre use' floorspace provided in Melton town centre</li> <li>• Amount of open space and sport and recreation facilities</li> </ul>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of people living in fuel poverty</li> <li>• Number of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance</li> <li>• Affordable home completions</li> </ul>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of crimes reported per 1,000 people</li> <li>• Number of injuries or deaths from accidents on the roads</li> </ul>
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of household waste recycled</li> <li>• Amount of commercial waste recycled</li> <li>• Amount of waste sent to landfill</li> </ul>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent of broadband coverage</li> <li>• Amount of employment land delivered</li> <li>• Number of junctions at or exceeding capacity</li> </ul>
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life expectancy</li> <li>• Number of new healthcare facilities provided</li> <li>• Infant mortality rates</li> <li>• Obesity rates</li> <li>• Number of people living with a disability</li> <li>• Percentage of people regularly participating in sport</li> </ul>
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of new developments incorporating low carbon technologies</li> <li>• Installed renewable energy capacity</li> <li>• Number of Air Quality Management Areas declared</li> </ul>
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of properties built in areas of flood zones 2 and 3</li> <li>• Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice</li> <li>• Number of new developments incorporating SUDS</li> </ul>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of planning permissions granted contrary to sustained objection of the Environment Agency on water quality grounds</li> </ul>

## 9 Conclusions

- 9.1 The reasonable alternative site and policy options as well as the policies and site allocations in the Emerging Options version of the Melton Local Plan have been subject to a detailed appraisal against the SA objectives. The emerging Draft Local Plan proposes a substantial amount of housing, employment and other development across Melton to meet the future needs of the Borough; the SA has identified the potential for significant negative effects on many of the environmental objectives including biodiversity, cultural heritage and the landscape. However, the Local Plan also includes a wide range of development management style policies that aim to protect and enhance the economic, social and environmental conditions of the Borough. These should go a long way towards mitigating the potential negative effects of the overall scale of development proposed, but some significant effects are likely to remain.
- 9.2 The fact that the Plan directs most new development to Melton Mowbray will have a range of benefits in terms of co-locating the majority of residential and employment development, particularly through the delivery of two new sustainable neighbourhoods. While this approach will limit opportunities to stimulate service provision in the rural areas of the Borough it should mean that there are good opportunities for people to make use of sustainable modes of transport, travelling over shorter distances, and will enable more people to access the jobs created.

### Next Steps

- 9.3 This SA Report will be available for consultation alongside the Emerging Options version of the Local Plan between January and April 2016.
- 9.4 Following this consultation the responses will be reviewed and addressed as appropriate. The findings of the SA and the outcomes of the consultation will be taken into account by the Council as it prepares the next iteration of the Local Plan, the Pre-Submission version. The SA will then be updated to reflect that version of the Local Plan and further consideration will be given to potential mitigation measures as well as the approach to monitoring the likely significant effects of the plan.

LUC  
November 2015

**Appendix 1**

Consultation comments and how they have been addressed

**Table A1.1: Scoping Report Consultation Comments and Responses**

Note that references within this table to page numbers, paragraph numbers and appendices, as well as the numbering of the objectives in the SA framework, all refer to those used in the July 2014 SA Scoping Report. As well as the statutory consultees (Natural England, English Heritage (now Historic England) and the Environment Agency), the Scoping Report was made more widely available and the comments received relating to the scope of the SA are also presented in the table below.

Consultee	Comment	Action
English Heritage (now Historic England)	1.3 Objectives: We welcome many of the objectives. With regard to objective 19 we consider that this should be amended to 'Conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment and Melton's heritage assets, and their setting' in order to better reflect legislative provisions and the NPPF.	Melton Borough Council amended the wording of this SA objective to reflect English Heritage's comment and the updated SA objective wording was used in the SA report for the Issues and Options Local Plan in 2014 (SA objective 8). Note that this SA objective has since become SA objective 7 but the wording of the objective has not been changed.
English Heritage (now Historic England)	5.35-5.37 Historic Environment: These paragraphs set out a very broad historic description of Melton's landscape. Reference should be made here to historic landscape characterisation. Links to the other heritage sections within the baseline data should also be made.	Noted. Reference to the historic landscape character of Melton is included in the baseline information, the latest version of which can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.
English Heritage (now Historic England)	5.64 Heritage: These paragraphs provide very little information on the overall historic environment in Melton. We welcome the information in relation to designated heritage assets. We do consider, however, that this section is very brief. It does not make reference to any relevant local information, for example historic landscape characterisation. Statistics for Registered Parks and Gardens are missing. We are also particularly concerned	Noted. The baseline information has been expanded to address these points, and the

Consultee	Comment	Action
	<p>that no-reference is made to non-designated heritage assets. The historic environment of Melton is more than just the sum of its designated heritage assets; non-designated assets make up an important and valued part of this and it is important they are acknowledged as their protection is required by the NPPF. Therefore they should be reflected in the SA. Details of such assets are held on the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (HER). More information is contained in our guidance note.</p>	<p>updated version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.</p>
<p>English Heritage (now Historic England)</p>	<p>Table 16 – Key Environmental Issues: While we welcome recognition of the historic environment, this refers to the 'historic built environment' this should be amended to delete the word 'built' in order to reflect that not all elements of the historic environment in Melton are 'built' (for example some scheduled monuments, non-designated assets such as ridge and furrow and historic parkland).</p>	<p>Noted. The proposed amendment has been made to this key issue and the updated version of the table is presented in <b>Chapter 3</b> of this SA report.</p>
<p>English Heritage (now Historic England)</p>	<p>Table 17 – SA Objectives: We welcome objective 8, however consider this need rewording to better reflect the NPPF and legislative requirements. Specifically we consider this should state "conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings". More information is contained in our guidance note.</p>	<p>Melton Borough Council amended the wording of SA objective 8 to reflect this comment and the updated version was used in the SA report for the Issues and Options in 2014. Note that this SA objective has since become SA objective 7 but the wording of the objective has not been changed.</p>
<p>English Heritage (now Historic England)</p>	<p>Table 18 – Key Questions and Indicators: We note the proposed questions and indicators to be applied when assessing policies. We consider that the questions are narrow in their scope and fail to include any landscape historic environment issues. No reference is made to significance or setting of heritage assets and only archaeology is mentioned specifically. No reference is made to harm or enhancement. We consider that these require amendment. More information is contained in our guidance note in appendix 2.</p> <p>In relation to indicators, again we are concerned at their scope. 'At-risk' should identify more than just listed buildings. More information is contained in our guidance note in appendix 3.</p>	<p>Noted. These comments have been superseded by the changes that have since been made to the SA framework presented in <b>Chapter 2</b> of this report which has been subject to further consultation with Historic</p>

Consultee	Comment	Action
		England.
English Heritage (now Historic England)	8.5 Mitigation: We fully support the mitigation hierarchy and its underpinning principle.	Noted, no action required.
English Heritage (now Historic England)	8.6 Site Allocations: We note and welcome that additional screening criteria are used to assess the suitability and sustainability of the sites coming forward within the plan period. We look forward to providing comment on these in due course. For heritage assets, it is imperative that a holistic methodology is used – screening which is based only on distance as a measure of impact, for example, would not be appropriate. We are happy to provide advice on criteria, as appropriate.	Noted, no action required. The approach taken to the SA of site options, including in relation to effects on the historic environment, is described in detail in this SA report and information about the screening criteria that were applied by the Council is summarised in <b>Chapter 2</b> .
English Heritage (now Historic England)	Table 28: Cultural heritage also has an important social role which should be reflected here.	There is no Table 28 in the SA Scoping Report so it is not clear what this comment refers to.
English Heritage (now Historic England)	8.11 The draft Melton Local Plan objectives: While we welcome objective 19, this should amended (see comments under 1.3, above).	See response to comment on para 1.3 above.
English Heritage (now Historic England)	Appendix A: We consider the baseline data in respect of the historic environment to be very limited. Further information on relevant plans, programmes and policies can be found in our guidance note. At a very minimum, reference to the relevant Acts are required.	Noted. The baseline information and review of plans, policies and programmes have been updated as part of the preparation of this SA report and the updated versions can be found in

Consultee	Comment	Action
		<p><b>Appendices 2 and 3</b> of this SA report. Both appendices seek to cover the full range of sustainability topics in an appropriate level of detail for the SA of a Local Plan.</p>
Natural England	<p>Natural England generally welcomes the Scoping report for the new Melton Local Plan and considers that the methodology and baseline information used to inform the scoping report appears to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) and associated guidance.</p>	<p>Noted, no action required.</p>
Natural England	<p>Sustainability Objectives: Natural England generally supports the sustainability objectives particularly 7, 9 and 16. We suggest however that landscape character is specifically mentioned either as part of objective 7 or as a separate objective, particularly as 'landscape' is a topic area listed in the SEA Directive.</p>	<p>Reference to landscape character was added to the 'key questions' associated with SA objective 7 in the SA report for the Issues and Options. The SA framework has since been revised, as described in this SA report, and there is now an SA objective specifically addressing impacts on the landscape.</p>
Natural England	<p>Baseline Information: We suggest that the baseline information could be set out in a more logical order. For instance the section on Natural Habitats should be under the Natural Environment heading and the Historic Environment section would be better with the section on Heritage.</p>	<p>Noted. The baseline information has been restructured as part of the most recent update and the updated version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.</p>



Consultee	Comment	Action
Natural England	<p>Recreation: We welcome the acknowledgement of the importance of green space within this section as we encourage access to natural and semi natural open spaces. We would suggest that you make reference to Natural England's 'standards for accessible natural greenspace' (ANGSt). These standards provide a set of benchmarks, which should be used to ensure new and existing residential development, has access to nature. More information can be found on Natural England's publication, 'Nature Nearby, Accessible Green space Guidance' (March 2010), available on our website publication reference NE265.</p> <p>We would also suggest that this section makes a stronger reference to Green Infrastructure (GI). The CABE Space Guidance 'Start with the Park' (2005) outlines the importance of planning around green spaces, with consideration being given to the context of local landscape character and contribution to the wider GI network. The provision of new GI should be considered at an early stage to ensure it is deliverable at plan stage. Another useful reference is Town and Country Planning Association publication "Planning for a healthy environment - good practice guidance for green infrastructure and biodiversity".</p>	Noted. The baseline information has been updated to address these points, and the updated version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.
Natural England	<p>Agriculture: We would suggest that this section makes greater reference to the protection of soils. Where significant development of agricultural land is unavoidable, poorer quality land should be used in preference to that of higher quality, except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations. Paragraph 112 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) should be referenced when considering the protection of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land.</p> <p>The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland to enable informed choices to be made about its future use within the planning system. It helps underpin the principles of sustainable development. Further information is provided on Natural England's website.</p> <p><a href="http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/geodiversity/soils/default.aspx">http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/geodiversity/soils/default.aspx</a></p>	Noted. The baseline information has been updated to address these points, and the updated version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.
Natural England	<p>Landscape: We welcome the section on landscape but advise that the Joint Character Areas are now known as National Character Areas (NCA). For further information please see our website:</p> <p><a href="http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications/nca/eastmidlands.aspx">http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications/nca/eastmidlands.aspx</a></p>	Noted. The baseline information has been updated to address these points, and the updated version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.
Natural England	<p>Natural Habitats: Whilst this section covers biodiversity we advise that it should also include geodiversity. We welcome the coverage of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the district however we advise that Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), Biodiversity Action Plans and Rutland Water should also be considered together with reference to the wider Green Infrastructure (GI) network.</p>	Noted. The baseline information has been updated to address these points, and the updated

Consultee	Comment	Action
	<p>Information on non-statutory sites and species records may be obtained from the local Wildlife Trust and/or the Leicestershire and Rutland Ecological Records Centre and such information should be considered when assessing sites for development.</p> <p>Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) identify the action required at a local level to deliver UK and regional targets for habitats, species, public awareness and involvement. They also identify targets for other habitats and species of importance in the more local context of their geographical area. Further information about Biodiversity in the UK is available on the JNCC website, including details relating to UK BAP priority species and habitats.</p> <p>We note that protected species have been mentioned within this section however we would suggest that you may want to refer to Natural England's standing advice on this issue which you may find helpful. It is available on our website:  <a href="http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/planningdevelopment/spatialplanning/standingadvice/default.aspx">http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/planningdevelopment/spatialplanning/standingadvice/default.aspx</a>.</p> <p>Standing Advice helps the local planning authorities to better understand the impact of particular developments on protected or BAP species should they be identified as an issue. The standing advice also sets out when, following receipt of survey information, the local planning authority may need to undertake further consultation with Natural England.</p>	<p>version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.</p>
Natural England	<p>Rutland Water, located just beyond the Borough's boundary, is designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar site and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The reservoir has created a major wetland area which combines extensive sheets of open water with a complex of wetland and lakeside habitats and supports exceptional numbers and diversity of passage and wintering birds.</p> <p>As the competent authority Melton Borough Council will need to carry out a screening assessment under the Conservation of Habitats &amp; Species Regulations 2010 (the Habitats Regulations) to assess the impact of the proposed development within the Local Plan on both Rutland Water and any other Natura 2000 sites that could potentially be affected.</p>	<p>Noted. A separate HRA screening exercise has been carried out in relation to the Local Plan by LUC on behalf of Melton Borough Council.</p>
Natural England	<p>We suggest that Green Infrastructure (GI) could be given further consideration within this section and also within the health, recreation, community facilities and climate change sections in order to emphasise the multifunctional benefits of GI. This would assist in ensuring that GI is an integral, cross-cutting theme throughout the assessment and demonstrate an ecosystems approach with regard to the provision of GI. Good quality local accessible green space, ecosystems and actions to manage them sustainably offer a range of benefits, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to local greenspace can reduce health inequalities</li> <li>• Increased and improved accessibility to greenspace can help increase physical activity</li> </ul>	<p>Noted. The baseline information has been updated to address these points, and the updated version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.</p>

Consultee	Comment	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact with greenspace can help improve health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Green space contributes to functioning ecosystem services that can have a positive influence on health. Ecosystem services can assist in adapting to the extremes of climate change, e.g. green areas have less heat-island effect than built up areas.</li> <li>• Greenspace can also help improve air quality and respiratory irritants. Function ecosystem services can also mitigate the risks associated with flooding from extreme rainfall events.</li> </ul>	
Natural England	<p>Climate Change: We suggest that the baseline information should include a section on Climate Change which makes particular reference to climate change adaptation for example flood alleviation and cooling urban heat islands by the provision of appropriate green spaces or tree planting which would form part of the wider GI network and an ecosystems approach.</p> <p>We recommend reference to the Town &amp; Country Planning Association publication Climate change adaptation by design which is available on the TCPA website.</p>	Noted. The baseline information has been updated to address these points, and the updated version can be found in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this SA report.
Natural England	<p>Ecosystem Services: Whilst we note that Ecosystem Services have been mentioned within the Plans, Policies and Programmes (Appendix A) we suggest that there should also be a section on this topic in the main body of the report. Natural England promotes the ecosystem approach as it seeks to identify the range of ways the natural environment provides benefits to society and provides a framework for looking at whole ecosystems in decision making. Given that the SA appraises environmental effects and the interactions between effects there is an opportunity to account for the natural processes within ecosystems. An ecosystems approach emphasises the need to consider the limits of finite natural resources and services and could therefore help to identify the significance of effects as well as synergistic and cumulative effects, both important aspects of SA.</p>	While the SEA Regulations and Government guidance on SA do not require the consideration of ecosystem services within the assessment, there is potentially quite a bit of overlap between what the sustainability objectives are trying to achieve and the intention to improve ecosystem services. Therefore, throughout the appraisal of Melton's Local Plan, the ecosystems services approach will be taken into account as appropriate.

Consultee	Comment	Action
Natural England	<p>Indicators: We generally welcome the indicators set out in Table 18 but we suggest the following may also be useful:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of planning applications with conditions to ensure works to manage/enhance the condition of SSSI features of interest.</li> <li>• Area of SSSIs in adverse condition as a result of development (information available from Natural England website).</li> <li>• BAP habitat - created/ managed as result of granting planning permission (monitored via planning obligations) and which meet Biodiversity Action Plan targets.</li> </ul>	Noted. These comments have been superseded by the changes that have since been made to the SA framework and subject to consultation with Natural England.
Environment Agency	We agree with the scope of the proposed assessment and the main issues identified.	Noted, no action required.
Environment Agency	On page 66 there is a section on Data Gaps, one of the gaps is Water Abstraction for the Borough. We will be able to provide you with information on Licensed Abstractions in the Borough. To request this information you can contact:- <a href="mailto:Midlandscustomerserv@environment-agency.gov.uk">Midlandscustomerserv@environment-agency.gov.uk</a>	Noted.
Environment Agency	Page 70 - Sustainability Objectives: We welcome Table 18 which has a range of objectives. We would like to see water efficiency being explicitly mentioned, a good place where this would fit appropriately could be within item 16 - adaptation to climate change and energy generation.	Noted. This comment has been superseded by the changes that have since been made to the SA framework and subject to consultation with Natural England.
Environment Agency	Page 108 – The Technical Guidance to the NPPF has been replaced by National Planning Policy Guidance, this reference either needs amending or deleting as I see that National Planning Practice Guidance is mentioned on page 116.	Noted. National Planning Policy Guidance is referenced in the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.
Environment Agency	Pages 130 and 131 – Water for Life and Livelihoods: A Strategy for River Basin Planning - This document appears on both pages.	Noted. This duplication has been removed in the updated version of the

Consultee	Comment	Action
		review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.
Environment Agency	Page 213 - Melton Borough Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Report. Given that this document is in excess of 6 years old you should consider updating it so that you have up to date evidence. You need to be confident that you have an appropriate evidence base to support your Local Plan, that will stand up to inspection at an EIP.	Noted. The SFRA has been updated recently as part of the evidence base for the Local Plan.
Environment Agency	Page 214 - There is a reference to PPS25 – this has been replaced by NPPF.	Noted. Reference to PPS25 has since been removed from the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.
Environment Agency	We draw to your attention the following policies, plans and programmes that may be of relevance (include as appropriate):	See specific comments below.
Environment Agency	Soar Abstraction Licensing Strategy - Feb 2013 This document sets out our strategy to manage the removal of water so that the needs of people and the environment are met sustainably.	Noted. Reference to the Soar Abstraction Licensing Strategy has been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.
Environment Agency	Flood and Water Management Act 2010 The Flood and Water Management Act, 2010 takes forward some of the proposals from the Future Water and Making Space for Water publications and the UK Government's response to Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the Summer 2007 floods. The Act gives the Environment Agency a strategic overview of flood risk management in England and upper tier authorities responsibility for preparing and putting in place strategies to manage flood risk from groundwater,	Noted. Reference to the Flood and Water Management Act has been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this

Consultee	Comment	Action
	surface water and ordinary watercourses in their areas.	report.
Environment Agency	<p>National Flood &amp; Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England</p> <p>The Strategy considers the level of flood risk and how it might change in the future; the risk management measures that may be used; roles &amp; responsibilities; future funding; and the need for supporting information.</p>	Noted. Reference to the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England has been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.
Environment Agency	<p>River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan</p> <p>The River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) gives an overview of flood risk from all sources (eg rivers, groundwater, surface water etc) for each river catchment now and over the next 50-100 years. The CFMP takes into account the likely impacts of climate change; the effect of how we use and manage land; and how areas could be developed to meet our present day needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.</p> <p>Melton Borough is covered by Policy option 6 – “Take action to increase the frequency of flooding to deliver benefits locally or elsewhere, which may constitute an overall flood risk reduction (for example for habitat inundation)”.</p>	Noted. Reference to the CFMP has been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.
Environment Agency	<p>Environment Agency’s Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice (GP3)</p> <p>Our GP3 documents describe how we manage and protect groundwater now and for the future. Development proposals should follow guidelines set out in Part 4. The document sets out clearly what we consider is acceptable in different locations.</p>	Noted. Reference to GP3 has been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.
Environment Agency	<p>East Midlands Regional Waste Strategy</p> <p>Whilst the policies and proposals within the Regional Waste Strategy for the East Midlands (January 2006) no longer have any statutory force under planning legislation, the evidence and analysis that supports them is still relevant to the work of Melton BC.</p>	Noted. No action required.

Consultee	Comment	Action
Environment Agency	<p>Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy</p> <p>Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP), for which Melton BC is an associate member, has a Municipal Waste Management Strategy which sets out the objectives, policies, actions and targets to be delivered by the LWP from 2010 – 2040 in terms of municipal waste management.</p>	<p>Noted. Reference to the Municipal Waste Management Strategy has been added to the updated review of plans, policies and programmes in <b>Appendix 2</b> of this report.</p>
Margaret Glancy	<p>The protection of Melton Country Park should be included in this document. It is a very special place for residents and visitors so should be protected as set out in the Biodiversity Report prepared for the Core Strategy i.e. recommended that there should be no developments on the East and North of the park boundaries to protect the wildlife etc. Indeed this subject was noted by the Planning Inspector during the Core Strategy Hearing. Flooding (land rain water run off) is a problem for the park and further development on land surrounding the park will no doubt increase this.</p> <p>There are more than three supermarkets in the town you have missed The Co-operative on Scalford Road and the planning permission granted for Lidl on Scalford Road. Please include these.□</p>	<p>Noted. Reference to Melton Country Park has been added to the updated baseline information in <b>Appendix 3</b> of this report.</p>

**Table A1.2 Consultation responses received in relation to the SA Report for the Local Plan Issues and Options**

Consultee	Comment	Action
Natural England	<p>Natural England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Sustainability Appraisal of the Melton Local Plan (Issues &amp; Options). Our comments are focused on the parts of the SA that are relevant to Natural England’s key interests which include biodiversity; geodiversity; landscape character and quality; green infrastructure; climate change; access to the countryside and other open space; the protection and enhancement of soils; and environmental land management.</p>	Noted, no action required.
Natural England	<p>Stage B1 of the assessment has tested the compatibility of the Local Plan objectives against the SA objectives and to identify both positive and negative effects. We have the following comments to make on the results presented in Table 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We think there is a positive correlation between Local Plan objective 2 and SA objectives 7 and 16. Reducing the need to travel and improvements to public transport can have benefits for the natural environment and help to mitigate the impacts of climate change by encouraging solutions which support reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.</li> <li>• Local Plan objective 14 relates to improving health and therefore we think this is compatible with SA objective 4 to encourage more walking and cycling.</li> <li>• Creating high quality development should include investment in the natural as well as the built environment. Natural England consider Green Infrastructure should be provided as an integral part of all new development, as it is fundamental to the creation of sustainable communities and essential for quality of life. Therefore we consider there is a positive correlation between Local Plan objective 15 and SA objective 7.</li> <li>• We think the Local Plan objective to reduce pollution will have benefits for the natural environment and therefore Local Plan objective 16 and SA objective 7 are compatible. Stage B2 includes an appraisal of the options included in the Melton Local</li> </ul>	Noted. An updated version of the compatibility assessment is presented in <b>Appendix 4</b> in this SA report, reflecting the minor changes that have since been made to the SA objectives. These points have been addressed in that updated compatibility assessment.



Consultee	Comment	Action
	<p>Plan (Issues and Options document) against the SA objectives. The outcomes of the SA, which provide information of the performance of the alternatives, should be used to inform the Local Plan process with recommendations being fed into the policy formation and selection of the most sustainable options being taken forward into the Preferred Options Stage.</p>	
Leicestershire Police	<p>Turning to your SA paper I am noting that you did not consult us at the earlier stage. There is paucity of content as far as SA objective 12 is concerned and we could have made suggestions e.g. on Policing demand and public perception about safety. It can't be right that security in design features more heavily here than having enough basic facilities and staff to keep a community safe especially when additional housing is proposed and bearing in mind our financial position. That is the thrust of NPPF and inspectors have been clear that Policing is fundamental to the sustainability of communities. In any case potential changes in the Building Regs part Q will ensure a lot of what is necessary for security in new housing and Police have worked very hard nationally to promote this. Again something that we could have shared if involved at the earlier stage.</p> <p>I see that SA O 12 is applied to some questions but not others. Who decides this please? More importantly we could have been informing the baseline particularly on what we have to resource to keep your existing community safe. That would have been of some use when we come to look at the impact of additional housing numbers in preferred options. What steps are you taking now to identify such a service baseline?</p>	<p>Noted. In the SA work for the Emerging Options, all options/policies have been appraised against the full suite of SA objectives including the one relating to crime and safety. Detailed information about the available police resources falls largely outside the scope of the SA although reference to this issue has been added to the updated baseline information in <b>Appendix 3</b> in this SA report.</p>
Other SA-related comments received from consultees	<p>It was highlighted that the Inspector surmised that the SA was robust and credible in its conclusions that a southern SUE was the best for the town and the borough. Sites and evidence presented by developers and land owners (particularly for larger sites) should be tested against rigorous SA (as well as the NPPF and other relevant planning policy). The evidence from the latest SA (relating to the suitability of the southern SUE for development over the northern SUE) remains materially unchanged.</p>	<p>Noted. The reasonable alternatives for the spatial strategy for the Borough, as well as the options for the location of a potential SUE at Melton Mowbray, have been subject to SA again during the preparation of this SA report, building on the SA work carried out by the Council at the Issues and Options stage.</p>

**Table A1.3 Consultation responses received in relation to the Revised SA Framework for the SA of the Local Plan**

Consultee	Comment	Action
Natural England	Natural England is content with the changes that have been made to the SA Framework, which will be used to assess the Preferred Options, and we have no further comments to make at this stage.	Noted, no action required.
Historic England	<p>We support the overall thrust of the changes in terms of simplifying the objectives and ensuring these are split out in terms of the topics they cover. We support objective 7, in relation to the historic environment and new objective 5.</p> <p>With regard to the sub-questions, we raised concern at these in our previous response to the Scoping Consultation in July 2014. We considered these to be overly narrow in scope, and fail to include any landscape issues. No reference is made to significance or setting of heritage assets and only archaeology is mentioned specifically. No reference is made to harm or enhancement. We consider therefore, that these still require some amendment.</p> <p>Our SEA/SA guidance does offer some suggestions within appendix 3. We suggest that the following may be appropriate:</p> <p>Will it foster local distinctiveness of built form?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it conserve or enhance heritage assets including, buildings, conservation areas, landscape features and architectural and archaeological assets?</li> <li>• Will it protect or contribute to the appearance of the built form?</li> <li>• Will it protect the setting of heritage assets?</li> <li>• Will it lead to the repair and re-use of a heritage asset or tackle heritage at risk?</li> </ul>	Noted. The suggested sub-questions have been added into the revised SA framework.
Environment Agency	We support the changes shown in the Revised SA Framework and find that the Headline Objectives are now much clearer, focused and straight forward. We are particularly pleased to see "stand alone" objectives 16 & 17 which address climate change & flooding and water quality and water efficiency.	Noted, no action required.

# Appendix 2

## Updated Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>			
<b>EU Directives</b>			
<p><i>SEA Directive 2001</i></p> <p>Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment</p>	<p>Provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive at the national level.</p>	<p><b>Requirements of the Directive must be met in Sustainability Appraisals</b></p> <p><i>Relates to the overall SA process</i></p>
<p><i>The Industrial Emissions Directive 2010</i></p> <p>Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control)</p>	<p>This Directive lays down rules on integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole.</p>	<p>Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objective for reducing pollution.</p> <p><i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i></p>
<p><i>Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010 on the energy performance of buildings 2010/31/EU</i></p>	<p>The Directive aims to promote the energy performance of buildings and building units. It requests that member states adopt either national or regional methodology for calculating energy performance and minimum requirements for energy performance.</p>	<p>Policies and site allocations should take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.</p>	<p>Include SA objective relating to the energy performance/efficiency of existing and proposed buildings.</p> <p><i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i></p>
<p><i>The Birds Directive 2009</i></p> <p>Directive 2009/147/EC is a codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as</p>	<p>The preservation, maintenance, and re-establishment of biotopes and habitats shall include the following measures: Creation of protected areas.</p>	<p>Allocated sites and develop policies should make sure that the upkeep of</p>	<p>Include sustainability objectives for the protection of birds.</p> <p><i>SA objective 6: biodiversity and</i></p>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
amended	Upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones. Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes. Creation of biotopes.	recognised habitats is maintained and not damaged from development.  Avoid pollution or deterioration of habitats or any other disturbances effecting birds.	<i>geodiversity</i>
<i>The Waste Framework Directive 2008</i> Directive 2008/98/EC on waste	Prevention or reduction of waste production and its harmfulness. The recovery of waste by means of recycling, re-use or reclamation. Recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without using processes that could harm the environment.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives that minimise waste production as well as promote recycling.  <i>SA objective 12: waste</i>
<i>The Air Quality Directive 2008</i> Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe	Avoid, prevent and reduce harmful effects of ambient air pollution on human health and the environment	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to maintain and enhance air quality.  <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>
<i>The Floods Directive 2007</i> Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks	Establish a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, aiming at the reduction of the adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies	Include sustainability objectives that relate to flood management and reduction of risk.  <i>SA objective 16: flood risk</i>

<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
		derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	
<p><i>The Water Framework Directive 2000</i></p> <p>Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for community action in the field of water policy</p>	Protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwaters.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	<p>Include sustainability objectives to protect and minimise the impact on water quality.</p> <p><i>SA objective 17: water quality</i></p>
<p><i>The Landfill Directive 1999</i></p> <p>Directive 99/31/EC on the landfill of waste</p>	Prevent or reduce negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	<p>Include sustainability objectives to increase recycling and reduce the amount of waste.</p> <p><i>SA objective 12: waste</i></p>
<p><i>The Drinking Water Directive 1998</i></p> <p>Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption</p>	Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	<p>Include sustainability objectives to protect and enhance water quality.</p> <p><i>SA objective 17: water quality</i></p>
<p><i>The Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive 1994</i></p>	Harmonise the packaging waste system of Member States. Reduce the environmental	Allocate sites and develop policies	Include sustainability objectives to minimise the environmental impact of

<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste	impact of packaging waste.	that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	waste and promote recycling. <i>SA objective 12: waste</i>
<i>The Habitats Directive 1992</i> Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora	Promote the maintenance of biodiversity taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. Conservation of natural habitats and maintain landscape features of importance to wildlife and fauna.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.  The Plan must be subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment in line with the Directive.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and maintain the natural environment and important landscape features.  <i>SA objective 6: biodiversity and geodiversity</i>
<i>The Nitrates Directive 1991</i> Directive 91/676/EEC on nitrates from agricultural sources.	Reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and prevent further such pollution.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to reduce water pollution.  <i>SA objective 17: water quality</i>
<i>The Urban Waste Water Directive 1991</i>	Protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water collection, treatment and discharge, and discharge from	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account	Include sustainability objectives to reduce water pollution.

<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste water treatment	certain industrial sectors.	of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	<i>SA objective 17: water quality</i>
<b>European</b>			
European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)	Economic and social cohesion across the community. Conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage. Balanced competitiveness between different tiers of government.	Allocate sites and develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to conserve natural resources and cultural heritage. <i>SA objective 8: natural resources, SA objective 9: social cohesion and SA objective 10: economic inclusion</i>
EU Seventh Environmental Action Plan (2002-2012)	The EU's objectives in implementing the programme are: (a) to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital; (b) to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy; (c) to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing; (d) to maximise the benefits of the Union's environment legislation; (e) to improve the evidence base for environment policy; (f) to secure investment for environment and climate policy and get the prices right; (g) to improve environmental integration and policy coherence;	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and enhance the natural environment and promote energy efficiency. <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>



<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
	(h) to enhance the sustainability of the Union's cities; (i) to increase the Union's effectiveness in confronting regional and global environmental challenges.		
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2002)	The convention promotes landscape protection, management and planning.	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Convention.	Include sustainability objectives to protect the archaeological heritage. <i>SA objective 5: landscape</i>
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992) <i>Revision of the 1985 Granada Convention</i>	Protection of the archaeological heritage, including any physical evidence of the human past that can be investigated archaeologically both on land and underwater.  Creation of archaeological reserves and conservation of excavated sites.	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Convention.	Include sustainability objectives to protect the archaeological heritage. <i>SA objective 7: historic environment</i>
<b>International</b>			
Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)	Commitment to building a humane, equitable and caring global society aware of the need for human dignity for all.  Renewable energy and energy efficiency. Accelerate shift towards sustainable consumption and production.	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Declaration.	Include sustainability objectives to enhance the natural environment and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency. <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>
Aarhus Convention (1998)	Established a number of rights of the public with regard to the environment. Local authorities should provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right of everyone to receive environmental information</li> <li>• The right to participate from an early stage in environmental decision making</li> <li>• The right to challenge in a court of law public decisions that have been made without respecting the two rights above or environmental law in general.</li> </ul>	Ensure that site allocations and policies take account of the Convention.	Ensure that public are involved and consulted at all relevant stages of SA production. <i>Relates to the overall SA process</i>

<b>NATIONAL</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
Localism Act (2011)	<p>The Localism Act introduces a number of measures to decentralise decision making process to the local level, creating space for Local Authorities to lead and innovate, and giving people the opportunity to take control of decisions that matter to them. The Localism Act includes a number of important packages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new act makes it easier for local people to take over the amenities they love and keep them part of local life;</li> <li>• The act makes sure that local social enterprises, volunteers and community groups with a bright idea for improving local services get a chance to change how things are done.</li> <li>• The act places significantly more influence in the hands of local people over issues that make a big difference to their lives.</li> <li>• The act provides appropriate support and recognition to communities who welcome new development.</li> <li>• The act reduces red tape, making it easier for authorities to get on with the job of working with local people to draw up a vision for their area's future.</li> <li>• The act reinforces the democratic nature of the planning system passing power from bodies not directly to the public, to democratically accountable ministers.</li> <li>• The act enables Local Authorities to make their own decisions to adapt housing provision to local needs, and make the system fairer and more effective.</li> <li>• The act gives Local Authorities more control over the funding of social housing, helping them plan for the long- term.</li> </ul> <p>In relation to planning, the Localism Act</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to reflect the principles of Localism as identified in the document. The Local Plan will need to incorporate the concept of Neighbourhood Planning, with the intention of giving neighbourhoods far more ability to determine the shape of the places in which people live.</p>	<p>To ensure the concepts of the Localism Act are embedded within the framework</p> <p><i>Relates to the overall SA process</i></p>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	enables the Government to abolish regional spatial strategies, introduce Neighbourhood Plans and Local Referendums.		
National Planning Policy Framework (2012)	Presumption in favour of sustainable development. Delivering sustainable development by:	Development plan has a statutory status as the starting point for decision making.	Sustainability appraisal 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.
	Building a strong, competitive economy.	Set out clear economic visions for that particular area.	Include a sustainability objective relating to strengthening the economy. <i>SA objective 4: employment opportunities and SA objective 13; economic growth</i>
	Ensuring vitality of town centres.	Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the vitality of town centres. <i>SA objective 9: social deprivation and economic inclusion</i>
	Promoting sustainable transport	To implement sustainable transport modes depending on nature/location of the site, to reduce the need for major transport infrastructure.	Include a sustainability objective relating to sustainable transport. <i>SA objective 3: sustainable transport</i>
	Supporting high quality communications infrastructure.	Enhance the provision of local community facilities and services by supporting the expansion of	Include a sustainability objective relating to improving communication. <i>SA objective 9: social cohesion</i>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
		electronic communications networks.	
	Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes.	Identify size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations.	Include a sustainability objective relating to housing availability and quality. <i>SA objective 1: housing</i>
	Requiring good design.	Establish a strong sense of place to live, work and visit.	Include a sustainability objective relating to good design. <i>SA objective 11: crime</i>
	Promoting healthy communities.	Promote safe and accessible environments with a high quality of life and community cohesion.	Include a sustainability objective relating to health and well-being. <i>SA objective 14: health</i>
	Protecting Green Belt Land.	To prevent the coalescence of neighbouring towns.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the coalescence of towns. <i>SA objective 5: landscape</i>
	Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding, and coastal change.	Use opportunities offered by new development to reduce causes/impacts of flooding.	Include a sustainability objective relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation. <i>SA objective 16: flood risk</i>
	Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.	Recognise the wider benefits of biodiversity.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment.

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
			<i>SA objective 6: biodiversity and geodiversity</i>
	Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	Sustain and enhance heritage assets and put them to viable uses consistent with their conservation.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the conservation of historic features. <i>SA objective 7: historic environment</i>
	Facilitating the use of sustainable materials.	Encourage prior extraction of minerals where practicable and environmentally feasible.	Include a sustainability objective relating to sustainable mineral extraction. <i>SA objective 8: natural resources</i>
Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2012)	The Governments planning policy for traveller sites which aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure local planning authorities make own assessment of need</li> <li>• Work collaboratively to meet need through identification of land setting pitch and plot targets</li> <li>• Plan for sites over a reasonable timescale</li> <li>• Promote more private traveller site provision</li> <li>• Reduce number of unauthorised developments</li> <li>• Ensure accessibility to services and facilities</li> <li>• Set criteria based policies</li> </ul>	The local plan needs policies and site allocations to support Gypsy and Travellers.	Ensure the requirements of national planning guidance are reflected in the SA Framework. <i>SA objective 1: housing and SA objective 10: social deprivation and economic inclusion</i>
Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England (2011)	The Housing Strategy sets out a package of reforms to : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get the housing market moving again</li> <li>• Lay the foundations for a more responsive, effective and stable housing market in the</li> </ul>	The local plan needs to have policies that help in the delivery of housing.	To ensure the requirements of strategy are embedded within the SA framework <i>SA objective 1: housing</i>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	<p>future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support choice and quality for tenants</li> <li>• Improve environmental standards and design quality. The new strategy addresses concerns across the housing market making it easier to secure mortgages on new home, improving fairness in social housing and ensuring homes that have been left empty for years and are lived in once again.</li> </ul> <p>There is the target to deliver up to 100,000 new homes by freeing up public sector land with Build Now, pay later deals.</p>		
UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy: securing the Future (2005)	<p>The Strategy sets out 5 principles for sustainable development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living within environmental limits;</li> <li>• Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;</li> <li>• Achieving a sustainable economy;</li> <li>• Promoting good governance ; and</li> <li>• Using sound science responsibly.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy sets four priorities for action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable consumption and production;</li> <li>• Climate change and energy;</li> <li>• Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement;</li> <li>• Sustainable communities</li> </ul> <p>The strategy commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A programme of community engagement;</li> <li>• Forums to help people live sustainable lifestyles;</li> <li>• Open and innovative ways for stakeholders to influence decision; educating and training</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan should seek to deliver sustainable communities. These are places which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents</li> <li>• People want to live and work in</li> <li>• Are sensitive to their environment</li> <li>• Contribute to a high quality of life</li> <li>• Are safe and inclusive</li> <li>• Are well planned, built and run; and</li> </ul>	<p>To ensure that the requirements of the study are embedded within the SA framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i></p>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offer equality of opportunity and good services for all</li> </ul>	
English Heritage Historic England Corporate Plan 2015 to 2018 (2015)	<p>The plan sets out its three purposes as to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secure the preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings;</li> <li>Promote the preservation and enhancement of the character and appearance of conservation areas; and</li> <li>Promote the public's enjoyment of, and advance their knowledge of, ancient monuments and historic buildings.</li> </ul>	The local plan should contain a planning framework which safeguards the historic environment.	<p>To ensure that the requirements of the study are embedded within the SA framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 7: historic environment</i></p>
National Policy Statement EN1: Overarching Energy Policy Statement (2011)	This policy document sets out government policy for the delivery of major planning applications for energy development. The document also specifies the criteria for waste management, traffic and transport , water quality and quantity, noise and vibration, open spaces and green infrastructure, the landscape , visual impact , dust flood risk, historic environment, odour, light, smoke/steam, insects, coastal change, aviation, biodiversity and geodiversity.	The new Local Plan will need to be consistent with the National Policy Statement.	<p>To ensure that the requirements of national policy are embedded within the SA framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i></p>
National Policy Statement EN2 : Fossil Fuel Electricity Generating Infrastructure (2011)	Taken with the overarching National Policy Statement for Energy, the statement provides the primary basis for decisions on major applications for nationally significant fossil fuel electricity generating facilities.	The new Local Plan will need to be consistent with the National Policy Statement.	<p>To ensure that the requirements of national policy are embedded within the SA framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i></p>
National Policy Statement EN3: Renewable Energy Infrastructure (2011)	The statement provides the primary basis for decisions on major applications for nationally significant renewable energy infrastructure; this includes biomass ad waste combustion and onshore and offshore wind.	The new Local Plan will need to be consistent with the National Policy Statement	<p>To ensure that the requirements of national policy are embedded within the SA framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and</i></p>

<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
			<i>air quality</i>
National Policy Statement EN4: National Policy Statement for Gas Supply Infrastructure and Gas Oil pipelines (2011)	Taken with the overarching national policy statement for energy, the statement provides the primary basis for decisions on major applications for gas supply infrastructure and gas and oil pipelines.	The Local Plan will need to consider and be consistent with the policies and objectives of the National Policy Statement where applicable.	To ensure that the requirements of national policy are embedded within the SA framework.  <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>
EN5: National Policy Statement for Electricity for Electricity Networks (2011)Infrastructure	This statement provides the primary basis for decisions on major applications for electricity networks infrastructure.	The Local Plan will need to consider and be consistent with the policies and objectives of the National Policy Statement where applicable.	To ensure that the requirements of national policy are embedded within the SA framework.  <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>
National Policy Statement EN6: Nuclear Power Generation (2011)	This statement provides the primary basis for decisions on major planning applications for Nuclear Power infrastructure.	The Local Plan will need to consider and be consistent with the policies and objectives of the National Policy Statement where applicable.	To ensure that the requirements of national policy are embedded within the SA framework.  <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>
Energy White Paper: Our Energy Future (2003)	There are four key aims in this document: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To put ourselves on a path to cut the United Kingdom carbon dioxide emissions- the main contributor to global warming- by some 60 % by about 2050, with real progress by 2020;</li> <li>• To maintain the reliability of energy supplies;</li> <li>• To promote competitive markets in the United Kingdom and beyond, helping to raise the rate of sustainable economic</li> </ul>	The Local Plan and its policies need to promote development that is energy efficient and increases the use and/ or availability or renewable energy.	To ensure that the requirements of the report are embedded within the SA Framework.  <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>



International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	<p>growth and to improve our productivity; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make sure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.</li> </ul>		
National Policy Statement: Waste Water (2012)	The National Policy Statement sets out Government Policy for the provision of major waste water infrastructure. It will be used by the decision makers as the primary basis for deciding development consent that fall within the definition of Nationally Significant Infrastructure projects as defined in the Planning Act 2008.	The Local Plan will need to consider and be consistent with the policies and objectives of the National Policy Statement where applicable.	To ensure that the requirements of national policy are embedded with SA framework. <i>SA objective 12: waste</i>
National Policy Statement: Hazardous Waste (2013)	Without sustainable management, hazardous waste may pose a risk to human health and the environment. We also need to manage our hazardous waste in a more sustainable way and ensure that where possible, we recycle and recover hazardous waste rather than sending it for disposal. The NPS was published by the Secretary of State and sets out the strategic need justification of government policy for the provision of such infrastructure. It will be used to guide decisions made by the planning inspectorate.	The Local Plan will need to consider and be consistent with policies and objectives of the National Policy Statement.	To ensure that the national policy is embedded within the SA framework. <i>SA objective 12: waste</i>
The Carbon Plan: Delivery our Local Carbon Future (2011)	The Carbon Plan sets out the government's plans for achieving the emissions reductions it committed to in the first four carbon budgets.  Emissions in the UK must, by law, be cut by at least 80% of 1990 by 2050. The UK was first to set its ambition in law and the Plan sets out progress to date.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to include policies that reflect the targets within the Carbon Plan.	To ensure that the requirements of the Carbon delivery plan are embedded within the Sa framework. <i>SA objective 12: energy efficiency and air quality</i>
Safeguarding our Soils- A Strategy for England (2011)	Current practices focus on protecting English soils and the important ecosystem services they provide. Research is focused on addressing evidence gaps to adapt and refine these policies	The new Melton Local Plan will need to include policies on the	The requirements of the national strategy will need to be embedded within the SA framework. <i>SA objective 8: natural resources</i>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	in order to strengthen protection and their resilience as the climate changes. A Soil Strategy for England sets out the current policy context on soils and a number of core objectives for policy and research.	safeguarding of soils.	
The Plan for Growth implementation update (2013)	<p>The plan for growth, published alongside Budget 2011, and as part of the Autumn Statement 2011, announced a programme of structured reforms to remove barriers to growth for businesses and equip the UK to compete in the global race. These reforms span a range of policies including improving UK infrastructure, cutting red tape, root and branch reform of the planning system and boosting trade and inward investment, to achieve the governments four ambitions for growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating the most competitive tax system in the G20</li> <li>• Encouraging investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy</li> <li>• Making the UK the best place in Europe to start, finance and grow a business</li> <li>• Creating a more educated workforce that is the most flexible in Europe.</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies will need to reflect the ambitions set out within the Plan for Growth 2013.	<p>The requirements with the Plan for Growth 2013 will need to be embedded within the SA Framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i></p>
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)	<p>The new, ambitious biodiversity strategy for England builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how the UK is implementing its international and EU commitments.</p> <p>It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade (including rivers and lakes) and at sea.</p>	The Local Plan will need to contain policies that protect biodiversity.	<p>The ambitions of the national strategy will need to be embedded within SA Framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 6: biodiversity and geodiversity</i></p>
Lifetime Neighbourhoods (2011)	This document is a national strategy for	The policies and	The requirements of the national

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	housing in an ageing society. It seeks to support residents to develop lifetime neighbourhoods in terms of resident empowerment, access, services and amenities, built and natural environment, social networks/well-being and housing.	site allocations will need to reflect the requirements set out within the national strategy.	strategy will need to be reflected within the SA framework. <i>SA objective 1: housing</i>
National Planning Practice Guidance (2014)	The National Planning Practice Guidance provides technical guidance on topic areas in order to support policies set out within the NPPF. It aims to allow for sustainable development as guided by the NPPF.	The new Melton Local plan will need to reflect the guidance set out within the NPPG	The principles and requirements of national policy will need to be embedded within the SA framework and appraisal <i>Relates to all SA objectives</i>
UK Bioenergy Strategy (2012)	<p>The UK Government has a responsibility to ensure that its policies only support bioenergy use in the right circumstances. This strategy is based on four principles which will act as a framework for future government policy on bioenergy.</p> <p>In summary the four principles state that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies that support bioenergy should deliver genuine carbon reductions that help meet UK carbon emissions objectives to 2050 and beyond.</li> <li>• Support for bioenergy should make a cost effective contribution to UK carbon emission objectives in the context of the overall energy goals.</li> <li>• Support for bioenergy should aim to maximise the overall benefits and minimise costs (quantifiable and non-quantifiable) across the economy.</li> <li>• At regular time intervals and when policies promote significant additional demand for bioenergy in the UK, beyond that envisaged by current use, policy makers should assess and respond to the impacts of this increased deployment on other areas, such as food security and biodiversity.</li> </ul>	The principles of the Bioenergy Strategy 2012 will need to be reflected within the new Melton Local Plan policies.	The principles of the strategy will need to be embedded within the SA framework. <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
National Planning Policy for Waste (2014)	Sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management. Replaces Planning Policy Statement 10.	The Local Plan should be in conformity with national waste planning policy.	Include a sustainability objective relating to waste generation and management. <i>SA objective 12: waste</i>
Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2008)	Sets out how the Government want the water sector to look by 2030 and an outline of the steps which need to be taken to get there.  The vision for 2030 includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology it supports, and continue to maintain high standards of drinking water quality from taps;</li> <li>• Sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water;</li> <li>• Ensure a sustainable use of water resources, and implement fair, affordable and cost-reflective water charges;</li> <li>• Cut greenhouse gas emissions; and</li> <li>• Embed continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users".</li> </ul>	Policies should aim to contribute to the vision set out in this Strategy.	Include SA objectives which seek to protect, manage and enhance the water environment. <i>SA objective 17: water quality</i>
The Climate Change Act (2008)	The Climate Change Act was passed in 2008 and established a framework to develop an economically credible emissions reduction path. It also strengthened the UK's leadership internationally by highlighting the role it would take in contributing to urgent collective action to tackle climate change under the Kyoto Protocol.  The Climate Change Act includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2050 target. The act commits the UK to reducing emissions by at least 80% in 2050</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies must reflect the objectives of The Climate Change Act, in order to contribute to reducing UK carbon emissions.	The objectives of The Climate Change Act will need to be embedded within the SA Framework. <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	<p>from 1990 levels. This target was based on advice from the CCC report: Building a Low-carbon Economy. The 80% target includes GHG emissions from the devolved administrations, which currently accounts for around 20% of the UK's total emissions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon Budgets. The Act requires the Government to set legally binding 'carbon budgets'. A carbon budget is a cap on the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the UK over a five-year period. The first four carbon budgets have been put into legislation and run up to 2027.</li> </ul>		
Heritage Protection for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century: White Paper (2007)	<p>The proposals in this White Paper reflect the importance of the heritage protection system in preserving our heritage for people to enjoy now and in the future. They are based around three core principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a unified approach to the historic environment;</li> <li>Maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and</li> <li>Supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies will need to ensure that they protect the Borough's heritage assets.	<p>The objectives set out within the Heritage Protection Review White Paper (2007) are embedded within the SA Framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective 7: historic environment</i></p>
The Air Quality Strategy for England vol. 1 (2007)	<p>The Air Quality Strategy sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues by setting out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved. It introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles, and identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives. The objectives of strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further improve air quality in the UK from today and long term.</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies will need to work towards further improving air quality in the UK.	<p>The objectives of The Air Quality Strategy for England will need to be embedded within the SA Framework.</p> <p><i>SA objective energy efficiency and air quality</i></p>

International Policies, plans and programmes			
Plan/ Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide benefits to health, quality of life and the environment.</li> </ul>		
Working with the grain of nature – A Biodiversity Strategy for England (2011))	This Strategy seeks to protect and improve the rural, urban, marine and global environment and lead on the integration of these with other policies across Government and internationally.	<p>Reversing the long-term decline in the number of farmland birds by 2020, as measured annually against underlying trends.</p> <p>Minimise loss of biodiversity when allocating sites for development.</p>	<p>Ensure that the policy objectives are reflected in the SA Framework objectives.</p> <p><i>SA objective 6: biodiversity and geodiversity</i></p>
Energy Act (2008)	<p>The Act works towards a number of policy objectives including carbon emissions reduction, security of supply, and competitive energy markets. Objectives: Electricity from Renewable Sources: changes to Renewables Obligation (RO), designed to increase renewables generation, as well as the effectiveness of the RO.</p> <p>Feed in tariffs for small scale, low carbon generators of electricity. Smart meters: the Act mandates a roll-out of smart meters to medium sized businesses over the next five years.</p> <p>Renewable heat incentives: the establishment of a financial support mechanism for those generating heat from renewable sources.</p>	<p>Policies and Site Allocations will have to ensure a positive contribution in meeting the climate change challenge by capitalising on renewable and low carbon energy opportunities and adaptation measures which reduce the threat of climate change.</p>	<p>Ensure SA objectives seek to maximise use of renewable and low carbon energy opportunities and minimising reliance on fossil fuels.</p> <p><i>SA objective energy efficiency and air quality</i></p>
Green Infrastructure and the Urban Fringe (Natural England, 2009)	Promotes the concept of multifunctionality – the integration and interaction of different activities on the same parcel of land. The Countryside In and Around Towns programme acknowledges	<p>Polices and Site Allocations to deliver new green infrastructure and</p>	<p>Ensure the concept of green infrastructure is promoted through the SA Framework</p> <p><i>SA objective 5: landscape and SA</i></p>

<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
	Green Infrastructure as a key mechanism for delivering regional and local change. The strategy promotes regional coalitions to pool resources, regional stocktakes to examine the extent, state and potential of the GI, influencing RSS and LDFs, putting forward exemplar projects as examples of good practice to learn from.	enhancement of existing assets in and around new developments to contribute to better quality, multifunctional environments.	<i>objective 8: natural resources</i>
Water for Life and Livelihoods: A Strategy for River Basin Planning (Environment Agency, 2006)	This document set out the Environment Agency's strategy to implement the European Water Framework Directive (WFD) by managing water based on river basin planning. The document aims to reduce pollution, prevent deterioration and improve the condition of aquatic ecosystems including wetlands.	Melton Local Plan policies should promote efficient use of water in new developments and good management of water resources	Consideration of water related issues within the SA Framework. <i>SA objective 17: water quality</i>
National Infrastructure Plan 2014	The Infrastructure Plan allows for long term public funding certainty for key infrastructure areas such as: roads, rail, flood defences and science. All elements highlighted in the Plan represent firm commitment by government to supply the funding levels stipulated. The Plan also highlights what steps the government will take to ensure effective delivery of its key projects	The Melton Local Plan objectives and policies should support the delivery of infrastructure to support new development.	To ensure that infrastructure delivery in embedded within the SA Framework <i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i>
Waste Management Plan for England (2013)	The Waste Management Plan follows the EU principal of waste hierarchy. This requires that prevention of waste, preparing for reuse and recycling should be given priority order in any waste legislation and policy. From this principal a key objective of The Plan is to reduce the level of waste going to landfill and to encourage recycling. The Plan also requires that larger amounts of hazardous waste should be disposed of at specially managed waste facilities.	The new Melton Local Plan policies will be required to incorporate the objectives of the national waste policy. In order to encourage the reduction of waste and the reuse of materials.	The objectives of the national waste policy will be required to be embedded within the SA framework. <i>SA objective 12: waste</i>

<b>International Policies, plans and programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/ Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Act aims to reduce the flood risk associated with extreme weather. It provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses, helps safeguard community groups from unaffordable rises in surface water drainage charges, and protects water supplies to the consumer.	The new Local Plan should protect existing and future development as well as residents in Melton from flood risk.	The overview of flood risk management in England which is provided in the Act will need to be reflected in the Framework of the SA.  <i>SA objective 16: flood risk</i>

<b>Regional Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
National Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (2011)	The Strategy promotes a wide range of measure to manage flood risk. It is to be used a as framework within which communities have a greater role in local risk management decisions. It also sets out the Environment Agency's strategic overview role in flood and coastal erosion risk management.	The Local Plan polices should ensure that flood risk in the Borough is not inadvertently increased through local development.	The SA Framework and appraisal need to reflect the aims of flood and coastal erosion risk management.  <i>SA objective 16: flood risk</i>
River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan (2010)	The Catchment Flood Management Plan gives an overview of the flood risk from all water sources in the River Trent catchment and sets out Environment Agency's preferred plan for sustainable flood risk management over the next 50 to 100 years. The Plan takes into consideration the likely impacts of climate change; the effect of how land is used and managed; and how areas might be developed to meet present day needs without comprising	The new Melton Local Plan will need to minimise flood risk in the Borough as much as is possible.	The SA Framework should reflect the attachment Flood Management Plan's overall aim of safely managing flood risk in the catchment area.  <i>SA objective 16: flood risk</i>



Regional Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.		
Groundwater protection: Principles and practice (GP3) (2013)	GP3 sets requirements for groundwater protection and aims to find a balance between the objective of sustainable growth and environmental protection. It is intended to be used by anyone interested in groundwater and those whose activities may impact on groundwater or could do so	The Melton Local Plan will be required to incorporate the aims of GP3 to protect groundwater in the Borough given its importance as a resource, to wildlife and its difficulty to clean up once polluted.	The SA Framework should reflect the aims of GP3 to ensure groundwater in the Borough is protected <i>SA objective 17: water quality</i>
Water for life and livelihoods. River Basin Management Plan Humber River Basin District (2009)	The key actions for the catchment include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with British Waterways, Leicester County Council, Angling clubs and Inlands Waterways Association to remove floating Pennywort from the River Soar.</li> <li>Improve sewage works at locations throughout the catchment to reduce the input of nutrients and improve water quality.</li> <li>Work with Severn Trent Water Ltd to reduce the number of misconnections within the connection.</li> </ul>	The Local Plan policies should support the water management plan.	The SA Framework and appraisal need to reflect the actions of the Water for Life and Livelihoods. River Basin Management Plan Humber River Basin. <i>SA objective 17: water quality</i>
Soar Abstraction Licensing Strategy (2013)	The Strategy sets out how water abstraction in the Soar area will be managed allowing for the protection and enhancement of the water environment and ensuring the sustainable use of water resources for economic and social development.	The Melton Local plan will need to ensure that the water environment in the Soar area continues to be protected.	The SA Framework and appraisal need to reflect the objectives of the Strategy to ensure that the water environment in Melton or elsewhere in the Soar area is not adversely impacted upon. <i>SA objective 17: water quality</i>

Regional Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
Low Carbon Energy Opportunities and Heat Mapping for Local Planning Areas Across the East Midlands (2011)	The report sets out an evidence base of technical potential for renewable and low carbon energy technologies within the East Midlands. It aims to assist local planning authorities across the East Midlands in developing well-founded policies and strategies that support low carbon energy deployment up to 2030. Generic guidance and specific examples of how the renewable and low carbon energy resources and opportunities identified can be used to formulate local planning policies is included in the document.	The new Melton Local Plan policies and potential site allocations for renewable energy will need to reflect the findings of the Low Carbon Opportunities and Heat Mapping for Local Planning Areas Across the East Midlands reports.	The SA objectives and SA appraisal need to reflect the objectives of the Low Carbon energy opportunities and Heat Mapping for Local Planning Areas Across the East Midlands report.  <i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i>
Severn Trent Water Resources Management Plan (2014)	The overall aims of the Plan are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce waste by driving leakage down;</li> <li>• Reduce the demand for water, by working in partnership with customers to help them become more water efficient;</li> <li>• Improve ability to deploy existing resources flexibly and efficiently;</li> <li>• Use water trading to make more efficient use of resources and improve resilience;</li> <li>• Develop new sources of water when required,</li> <li>• Use proactive catchment management measures to protect sustainable sources of drinking water supply from pollution risks.</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan must emphasise the significance of water efficiency in new development.	Water efficiency should be incorporated as part of the decision making criteria.  <i>SA objective 7: water quality</i>

**County Plans, Policies and Programmes**

Plan/Policy /Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
6Cs Congestion Management Study (2008)	<p>The 6cs Congestion Management study was led by a partnership of three city councils and three county councils from the East Midlands, collectively known as the 6C's. The 6C's were supported in the study by the Highways Agency, East Midlands Development Agency, GOEM and the Department for Transport.</p> <p>The overall aims of the study were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To investigate the extent and severity of traffic congestion over the next 10 to 20 years and the effects that it may have on the local economy and on local people; and</li> <li>• To research how, in the medium to long term future, congestion could be managed and reduced across the sub region.</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan will need to reflect the findings of the 6Cs Congestion Management Study (2008).	<p>The SA framework and appraisal will need to reflect the management of congestion within the Borough.</p> <p><i>SA objective 3: sustainable transport</i></p>
6Cs Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)	The overall objective of the plan is to promote green infrastructure allowing for benefits of sustainable water management, enhanced landscape setting, increased habitat connectivity, and direct and indirect economic and social benefits.	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations should reflect the strategic objectives of the Green Infrastructure Study (2010)	<p>The SA Framework and Appraisal should be reflective of the strategy.</p> <p><i>SA objective 5: landscape and SA objective 8: natural resources</i></p>
Leicester and Leicestershire Employment Land Update (2012)	The study updated forecasts of demand for office, industrial and warehousing development land at the district, PUA and Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) levels; data on the supply of office, industrial and warehousing development land at the district, PUA and Leicester and Leicestershire HMA levels; and made recommendations on the potential phasing of sites, allocation of sites and potential measures to bring forward development.	The findings of this report will need to be reflected in the new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations.	<p>The recommendations of this report will feed into the SA Framework and appraisal.</p> <p><i>SA objective 3: employment opportunities</i></p>
Leicester and Leicestershire HMA Growth Infrastructure Assessment (2009)	The assessment shows, at a high level, the infrastructure requirements that arise from growth; how much this infrastructure costs; its	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations	The SA Framework and appraisal will need to reflect the findings of the Assessment.

<b>County Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/Policy /Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
	funding, and implications for delivery.	will need to go to reflect the findings of this report.	<i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i>
Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Requirements Project (2011)	The Housing Requirements Study is a technical piece of work which has included the development of various projections for housing requirements taking account of demographic trends and considering how this might relate to alternative scenarios for employment growth.	The overall findings of this report will be reflected within the new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations.	The SA Framework and appraisal will need to reflect the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Requirement Study. <i>SA objective 1: housing</i>
Leicestershire and Rutland Sport Strategy 2009-13	This strategy presents a long term vision of the preferred position of sport and physical activity in the county by 2025. It sets clear priorities through to 2017.	The new Melton Local Plan policies will need to reflect the vision and findings of the Leicestershire and Rutland Sports Strategy.	The SA framework and appraisal will need to reflect the strategy. <i>SA objective 9: social cohesion and SA objective 14: health</i>
Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (2012)	The aims to update the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) undertaken for the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland authorities and published in 2007. Across the Leicester and Leicester study area (excepting Rutland and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council) there is a requirement for 113 pitches from 2012 to 2017.  The need for Melton is 8 pitches (plus 2 transit pitches and 5 plots for show people).	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations documents will need to reflect the findings of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment.	The SA framework and appraisal will need to reflect the objectives and findings of the assessment. <i>SA objective 1: housing and SA objective 10: social deprivation and economic inclusion</i>
Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland Historic Landscape Characterisation Project (2010)	This report has several objectives; these include providing a context to the project which involves an examination of the geology, topography, ecology and archaeology of the project area.	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to reflect the objectives and findings of the historic	The SA framework and the appraisal will need to reflect the objectives and findings of characterisation project. <i>SA objective 7: historic environment</i>

<b>County Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/Policy /Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
		characterisation project.	
Leicestershire Rural Framework 2011-2014	The document provides Leicestershire Rural Partnership vision for the next 20 years. By 2026 the aim is a rural Leicestershire made up of thriving, cohesive and safe communities, which have access to a choice of high quality and sustainable employment opportunities, a mix of housing and essential local services.	The new Melton Local Plan vision, objectives and policies will need to reflect the Leicestershire Rural Framework vision and objectives.	The SA framework and appraisal will need to reflect the vision and objectives of the framework. <i>SA objective 1: housing and SA objective 9: social cohesion</i>
Leicestershire Housing related support strategy 2010-2015	The aim of the document is to promote peoples independence, choice and participation in their community, and to achieve positive outcomes. This is to be achieved by the Partnership's members working with other agencies to make sure there are an adequate range, number and quality of housing and housing support services available for vulnerable adults.	The new Melton Local Plan needs to reflect the vision and objectives of the Leicestershire Housing related support strategy.	The SA Framework and appraisal needs to reflect the Leicestershire Housing related strategy 2010-2015. <i>SA objective 1: housing</i>
Leicestershire Extra Care Strategy 2010-2015	The strategy aims to give people in Leicestershire new and modernised specialist housing that is accessible and part of the community and that older people will aspire to live in.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to reflect the vision and objectives of the Leicestershire Extra Care strategy, when preparing policies and site allocations.	The SA framework and appraisal needs to reflect the Leicestershire Extra Care Strategy 2010-2015. <i>SA objective 9: social cohesion and SA objective 10: social deprivation and economic inclusion</i>
Leicester and Leicestershire Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks (2009)	Both Framework documents have been adopted to manage mineral extraction in Leicestershire in a way which meets the social and economic needs of the County and makes an appropriate contribution to the national and regional need for minerals in ways which seek to protect and enhance the character and	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations must be in accordance with the Leicester and Leicestershire	The SA framework and appraisal must reflect the vision, objectives and policies of the development framework. <i>SA objective 8: natural resources and SA objective 12: waste</i>

County Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy /Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	quality of the environment and the quality of life for existing and future generations, in accordance with the principles of sustainability.	Minerals and Waste Development Framework.	
Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Economic Plan 2014 to 2020 (2014)	<p>The Plan Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) provides the framework for investment in the county. This is to be achieved through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlocking key development sites and improving public realm and connectivity to enable the efficient transport of people and goods.</li> <li>• Investing in businesses by providing a comprehensive business support service for small and medium-sized enterprises to accelerate growth of our priority sectors.</li> <li>• Equipping local people with the relevant skills that businesses need.</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations should adopt the small principles as the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Economic Plan.	<p>The SA framework should be reflective of the aims of the SEP.</p> <p><i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i></p>
Leicestershire County Council Local Transport Plan 3 (2011)	The Strategy sets out the long term vision "Leicestershire to be 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."	The new Melton Local Plan needs to reflect the vision, objectives and policies of the Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 3.	<p>The SA Framework and Appraisal needs to reflect the vision, objectives and policies include within the Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 3.</p> <p><i>SA objective 3: sustainable transport</i></p>
Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy, Strategy Update 2011 (2012)	The Strategy sets how the Partnership (of which Melton is a member) intends to manage municipal waste up to 2020. High-level actions and initiatives have been set out in the document to meet the objective of preventing waste from arising, and if not possible ensuring it is recycled or composted. Any waste that is not recycled or composted is to be treated before disposal so that further value can be recovered and so that the impact of final disposal is minimised.	The new Local Plan should incorporate the objective of the Strategy to minimise waste and promote the process of recycling and re-use in the Borough.	<p>The SA Framework will need to reflect the waste hierarchy of preventing, re-using, recycling, recovering and disposing of waste.</p> <p><i>SA objective 12: waste</i></p>

<b>County Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/Policy /Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014)	The Core Strategy sets out the spatial objectives for Rushcliffe which are in line with environmental, economic and social indicators identified in the SEA directive.	The policies of the new Melton Local Plan can similarly address the topics highlighted in the Rushcliffe Local plan Core Strategy.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to reflect the strategic policies under the duty to cooperate  <i>Relates to all SA objectives</i>
South Kesteven District Council Core Strategy (2010)	The Core Strategy provides the spatial policy framework for development and change in the district of South Kesteven for the period to 2026. Residential development is to be focussed in the main settlement of Grantham and the overall housing requirement for the District is highlighted as 13,600.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to reflect the strategic policies under the duty to cooperate.	The Melton Plan is required under the duty to cooperate to take the policies of its neighbouring authorities into consideration.  <i>Relates to all SA objectives</i>
Rutland Core Strategy Development Plan Document (2011)	The Core Strategy sets out the long term spatial vision for Rutland and the strategic policies to deliver the vision. The housing requirement for the period 2006-2026 has been identified by the document as 3,000 which is to be predominantly focussed in Oakham. Up to 83ha of land is to be allocated for employment use during the plan period with 78ha of this land already having been supplied.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to reflect the strategic policies under the duty to cooperate.	The Melton Plan is required under the duty to cooperate to take the policies of its neighbouring authorities into consideration.  <i>Relates to all SA objectives</i>
Newark and Sherwood District Council Core Strategy (2011)	The Core Strategy sets the vision, objective and policies to deliver them over the plan period. The Strategy identifies that 740 houses will need to be delivered each year until 2026. The Strategy also identifies an inadequate supply of office space and high demand for strategic 'B8' logistic uses in the District.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to reflect the strategic policies under the duty to cooperate.	The Melton Plan is required under the duty to cooperate to take the policies of its neighbouring authorities into consideration.  <i>Relates to all SA objectives</i>

<b>County Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/Policy /Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
Leicestershire Carbon Reduction Strategy 2013-2020 (2015)	<p>The Local Government Association and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) have developed a memorandum of understanding to work closely together to support the reduction in GHG emissions. Part of this agreement includes the replacement of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change with Climate Local which requires that local authorities publish specific commitments for which they are accountable. Melton Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council have signed up to Climate Local and Melton Borough Council is currently developing a Climate Local Action Plan.</p> <p>The Carbon Reduction Target for Leicestershire is to reduce emissions by 23% between 2005 and 2020 as measured by the Department of Energy and Climate Change.</p>	The new Melton Local Plan policies will need to prevent the use of limited natural resources and promote the development of renewable energy.	<p>The prevention of natural limited resources needs to be embedded within the SA Framework and appraisal.</p> <p><i>SA objective 8: natural resources and SA objective 15: energy efficiency</i></p>

<b>Local Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
A Qualitative Assessment of the Housing Needs and Aspirations of Older People in Leicestershire (2010)	<p>This study gives a broad indication as to how much and what type of affordable housing could be provided whilst keeping development viable;</p> <p>provides recommendations relating to potentially different policy treatments of greenfield and brownfield sites of varying</p>	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to reflect the Qualitative Assessment of the Housing Needs and	<p>The SA Framework and Appraisal will need to be reflective of the Qualitative Assessment if the Housing Needs and Aspirations of Older People.</p> <p><i>SA objective 1: housing, SA objective 9: social cohesion and SA objective 10: social deprivation and economic inclusion</i></p>



Local Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	types; assesses the impact of a range of affordable housing policy options to deliver this policy option; and makes recommendation whether the impact of increased proportions and/ or reduced thresholds will reduce development viability to the point of reducing likely residential land supply on the viability of affordable housing contribution.	Aspiration of Older Peoples objectives and findings.	
Melton Mowbray Town Centre Masterplan (2008)	<p>The Town Centre Masterplan sets out the vision for Melton Mowbray town centre. The masterplan has six strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To retain and improve the Cattle Market and street markets whilst attracting a variety of complementary uses that will contribute to the vitality and viability of the Town Centre.</li> <li>• To reinforce the distinctiveness of the physical environment by creating connections between the river, the parks and the Town Centre</li> <li>• To ensure that any new development in the Town Centre reflects high quality and aspirational design that complements the existing environment</li> <li>• To develop and integrate the Town Centre attractions – retail/ markets/commercial/residential/leisure, so that they benefit both the day and evening economy ;</li> <li>• To develop and enhance the current brand image of Melton Mowbray as a 'Rural Capital of Food ; and</li> <li>• To achieve social and economic benefits through the creation of an accessible, sustainable, safe and attractive environment.</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to reflect the vision and objectives of the master plan.	<p>The SA Framework and appraisal will need to reflect the vision and objectives of the master plan.</p> <p><i>SA objective 4; employment opportunities, SA objective 7: historic environment, SA objective 11: crime and community safety and SA objective 13: economic growth</i></p>
Affordable Housing Viability Study	The study's main objectives are to:	The new Melton	The studies objectives will need to be

Local Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
(2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of property value patterns, in particular with regard to new build residential properties;</li> <li>• Give a broad indication as to how much and what type of affordable housing could be provided whilst keeping development viable;</li> <li>• Have regard to relative differences in values across the Borough and provide access.</li> </ul>	Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to be reflective of the objectives and findings of the Affordable Housing Viability Study.	reflected within the SA Framework and objectives. <i>SA objective 1: housing</i>
Revised Melton Borough Biodiversity & Geodiversity Study (2015)	The purpose of the Melton Borough Biodiversity and Geodiversity Study is to inform the new Melton Local Plan for the technical topics of biodiversity and geodiversity conservation.	The new Melton Local Plan and site allocations will need to reflect the recommendations set out within the Melton Borough Biodiversity & Geodiversity Study 2015.	The study objectives and recommendations will need to be reflected within the SA Framework and appraisal. <i>SA objective 6: biodiversity and geodiversity</i>
Melton Borough Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Report (2015)	The key objective of the Melton SFRA is to inform the Melton Local Plan with respect to flood risk issues and the location of future development in Melton Borough. The study provides an analysis of the main sources of flood risk in Melton Borough, together with a means of testing the areas of search with a view to prioritising those with the lowest associated flood risk.	To incorporate the findings of the report into the preparation of the Melton Local Plan. All potential development sites should be assessed against the most up to date SFRA.	The SA Framework and Appraisal will need to be reflective of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. <i>SA objective 16: flood risk</i>
Melton Landscape Character Assessment Update Report (2011) (update of the Melton Borough Landscape and Historic Urban Character Assessment Report 2006)	The objective of the report was to inform policies and proposals of the new Development Framework and in particular the allocation of development sites for a range of uses. Whilst the LCA covered the whole of the Borough, a more detailed assessment was carried out on	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to be reflective of the designations within	The SA Framework and Appraisal must reflect the Landscape Character Assessment update. <i>SA objective 5: landscape</i>

Local Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	eleven areas around Melton Mowbray. These areas offered the potential for new development adjoining the town as identified in the adopted Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Structure Plan (March 2005). The Structure Plan identified need to allocate about 30ha for business uses in the Melton LDF and accommodate a bypass around part of the town.	the Melton Landscape Character Assessment.	
Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Assessment 2015	The Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study informs landscape policies and design guidance for SUEs and new sites in the primary and secondary rural centres. It also carries out an assessment of open spaces and makes recommendations for the designation and protection of green space	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to be reflective of the findings of the AoS, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study.	The SA Framework and Appraisal must reflect the findings of the Assessment. <i>SA objective 5: landscape</i>
Melton Economic Development Strategy 2012-2015	The Economic Development Strategy 2012-2015 will also help to deliver the Council's overall vision and priorities identified in the Corporate Plan most notably; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support people and businesses through the economic downturn.</li> <li>• Meet the Economic needs of the Borough.</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of Melton Mowbray Town Centre.</li> <li>• Improving the well-being of vulnerable people.</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies needs to positively reflect the objectives set out in the Melton Economic Development Strategy 2012-2015.	The SA Framework and Appraisal needs to reflect the vision and objectives of the Melton Economic Development Strategy. <i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i>
Melton Community Partnership Commissioning Plan 2012-2015	MCP focuses on four specific aspects in Melton which are to be reviewed annually: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regenerating the Melton Borough and town centre. Improving the infrastructure of Melton</li> <li>• Supporting vulnerable people including</li> </ul>	The Melton Local Plan vision, objectives and policies will need to reflect those of the Melton	The SA Framework and Appraisal will need to reflect the vision and objectives of the Melton Community Partnership Commissioning Plan. <i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i>

Local Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	<p>Families with Complex Needs and Neighbourhood Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the Access to Services our customers use and experience</li> <li>• Improving Employment Skills development in Melton</li> </ul>	Community Partnership Commissioning Plan	
Melton Employment Land Study (2015)	The Study recommends that land supply in Melton is currently 32.39ha over 18 sites which have unimplemented or partially implemented planning consents. Other recommendations include a need for nine key employment areas to be safeguarded for Class B uses and the identification a need for 50.70ha of employment land to 2036.	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to reflect the recommendations of the Melton Employment Land Study 2015.	The SA Framework and Appraisal will need to reflect the Melton Employment Land Study evidence. <i>SA objective 4: employment opportunities</i>
Melton Housing Strategy (2011)	<p>The Melton Housing Strategy provides the strategic direction for the housing related services we provide for the community. Its priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting the housing needs of vulnerable people</li> <li>• Balancing the local housing market and the condition of houses</li> <li>• Improving housing services</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies will need to reflect the corporate priorities of the Melton Housing Strategy.	The SA Framework and Appraisal will need to reflect the Melton Housing Strategy requirements. To ensure that the strategic direction of housing provides the relevant services that are required. <i>SA objective 1: housing</i>
Melton Mowbray Sustainable Transport Strategy (2009)	The assessment involved the development of an outline strategy for non-car transport within the town which can be implemented with or without the proposed bypass scheme, which is at present being designed and assessed as part of other studies. The walking, cycling and public transport initiatives and schemes were aimed to reduce congestion in the town.	The new Melton Local Plan policies need to reflect the recommendations of the study and the site allocations will need to be assessed against the Melton Mowbray Sustainable Transport Study.	The SA Framework and Appraisal will need to reflect the objectives and recommendations of the Melton Mowbray Sustainable Transport Strategy. <i>SA objective 3: sustainable transport</i>

<b>Local Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>Plan/Policy/ Programme</b>	<b>Objectives and Requirements</b>	<b>How to incorporate into the Local Plan</b>	<b>Implications for the SA</b>
Economic Development Strategy (2012)	<p>The Economic Development Strategy is designed to deliver the Council's overall vision and priorities identified in the Corporate Plan most notably;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support people and businesses through the economic downturn;</li> <li>• Meet the Economic needs of the Borough;</li> <li>• Maximise the potential of Melton Mowbray Town Centre</li> <li>• Improving the well-being of vulnerable people</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies and site allocations will need to reflect the objectives and priorities within the Economic Development Strategy.	<p>The SA Framework and Appraisal will need to reflect the priorities of the Economic Development Strategy.</p> <p><i>SA objective 13: economic growth</i></p>
Open Space, Indoor Sports and Playing Pitch Strategy Assessment 2014	The study concludes that there is a shortage of children's and young person's facilities within the Borough. The current allotment provision is at capacity with a waiting list. There is generally a good distribution of natural open spaces across the Borough.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to incorporate the findings and the requirements of the Melton Open Space, Indoor Sports and Playing Pitch Strategy Assessment 2014	The SA framework and appraisal will need to incorporate the requirements of the study
Air Quality Progress Report (2011)	The air quality objectives identified nationally have not been exceeded in Melton since 2003 and the Council will continue to monitor air quality and vehicular emissions locally. The report stipulates that this will focus on the continued assessment of nitrogen dioxide using diffusion tubes in and around Melton Mowbray.	The new Melton Local Plan will need to have policies that promote the reduction of CO <sub>2</sub> levels and pollution.	<p>The impact of development on air quality will need to be embedded into the SA framework and appraisal.</p> <p><i>SA objective 15: energy efficiency and air quality</i></p>
Melton Borough Council Major Employment Sites Study (2009)	<p>The study's analysis of the local economy suggests some particular objectives which are of relevance to any future planning of employment land:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To upgrade the mix of economic activity towards higher-value, knowledge-based activities, generating higher-paid jobs;</li> <li>• To provide space for small and emerging</li> </ul>	The new Melton Local Plan policies will need to reflect the objectives of the major employment land study.	<p>The objectives will need to be reflected within the SA framework and appraisal process.</p> <p><i>SA objective 4: employment opportunities and SA objective 13: economic growth</i></p>

Local Plans, Policies and Programmes			
Plan/Policy/ Programme	Objectives and Requirements	How to incorporate into the Local Plan	Implications for the SA
	<p>firms, with the aim of fostering entrepreneurship in the Borough; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support the development of the Borough's food and drink sector particularly, by encouraging it to diversify towards higher-value activities.</li> </ul>		
Melton Borough Council Retail Study (2015)	The study seeks to identify the requirements for new commercial leisure floorspace and comparison goods and convenience goods retail; food and drink uses in the Borough.	The new Melton Local Plan objectives and policies will need to reflect any identified need for new retail uses which is identified in the study.	<p>The high level priorities of providing new retail floorspace will need to be embedded into the SA framework and appraisal.</p> <p><i>SA objective 4: employment opportunities</i></p>

**Appendix 3**  
Updated Baseline Information

Baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring the likely sustainability effects of a plan and helps to identify key sustainability issues and means of dealing with them.

Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires information to be provided on:

*(2) the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan;*

*(3) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;*

*(4) any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 2009/147/EC [the 'Birds Directive'] and 92/43/EEC [the 'Habitats Directive'].*

This section presents the relevant baseline information for Melton Borough. Data referred to have been chosen primarily for regularity and consistency of collection, in order to enable trends in the baseline situation to be established, and also subsequent monitoring of potential sustainability effects.

Under each section of the baseline, links are made with the relevant key sustainability issues for the Borough which are summarised in **Chapter 3** of this report.

## Baseline information

### Administrative context

Melton Borough Council covers an area of 48,138 hectares. The authority is an attractive rural area in the north-east part of Leicestershire at the heart of the East Midlands. Activities are centred on the single market town of Melton Mowbray which is located in the central part of the Borough towards the south. The surrounding rural area contains approximately 70 small villages. The four largest villages of Asfordby, Bottesford, Long Clawson and Waltham on the Wolds all have good or reasonable access to services such as schools and health services.

The rail network provides a direct link from Melton Mowbray to the nearby city of Leicester to the south west, with 'A' road access also provided to Nottingham to the north west.

### Key sustainability issues

- The need for local communities to have responsibility for their areas.

### Population

The resident population of Melton in 2013 was 50,800 people. Of those, 49% were male and 51% were female<sup>13</sup>. The population of the Borough is projected to grow to 52,400 by 2026<sup>14</sup>. The population density of the Borough is 1.0 persons per hectare compared with the national average of 4.1 persons per hectare, emphasising Melton's rural nature<sup>15</sup>.

In 2011 the mean age of Melton's population was 41.7 years which is slightly older than the national average of 39.3 years. The median age of residents in the Borough was 43 in 2011 compared with the national median age of 39<sup>16</sup>. The trend of a slightly older population than England as a whole is continued when considering the number of people of retirement age residing in Melton. In Melton 23.3% of the population is of retirement age (65 and over for males and ages 60 and over for females) while nationally the figure is 20.1%<sup>17</sup>.

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<sup>13</sup> ONS (2013), Melton Key Figures for People and Society: Population and Migration

<sup>14</sup> Melton Borough Council (2011), Melton Mowbray Sustainable Urban Extension Utilities Report

<sup>15</sup> ONS (2011), Melton Population Density, 2011

<sup>16</sup> ONS (2011), Melton Age Structure, 2011

<sup>17</sup> ONS (2013), Melton Resident Population Estimates by Broad Age Band



In the 2011 census 95% of Melton's population was classed as white of British descent. People of Indian descent made up the largest percentage of the population (0.5%) who are not classed as white<sup>18</sup>.

#### *Key sustainability issues*

- The average age of the population is ageing

### **Housing**

During the year 2012/2013 64 net additional dwellings were delivered in Melton. Ten (15.6%) of these dwellings were located on previously developed land. This was a reduction on the 79 (50.3%) from a total of 157 dwellings which were delivered on previously developed land during the year 2011/2012.

During the 2012/2013 reporting period only seven affordable homes were delivered in the Borough. This was significantly fewer than the previous year when 29 affordable homes were delivered and is also much lower than the identified annual requirement for 130 affordable homes. No Gypsy and Traveller sites were delivered during the same time period<sup>19</sup>. A total of two permanent pitches and space for three transit caravans were provided in Melton between 2007 and 2013 and there is an identified need for six further permanent pitches to be provided by 2011 and a further two permanent pitches by 2017<sup>20</sup>.

Housing is less affordable in Melton than in Leicestershire as a whole. The median house price in Leicestershire is £147,500 compared to £163,000 in Melton. Housing in Melton has also been identified as being less affordable in relation to earnings compared to the county level. The rural area of the Borough has particularly high concentrations of detached stock and dwellings within Melton as a whole are of a larger average size than those that are usually found within Leicestershire County. This point aside, housing in Melton, particularly in rural locations, is of high quality with many households (some of retirement age) migrating from the south of England to purchase more affordable properties.

The Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2014 identified that between 200 and 250 homes would be required to meet demand in the Borough up to 2031<sup>21</sup>. Within the Borough, capacity for 26,417 dwellings has been identified in the Melton Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. The majority of the sites which could accommodate such development are located within Melton Mowbray<sup>22</sup>.

The 2011 Census identified 21,490 households<sup>23</sup> and a total of 22,025 dwellings in the Borough. The percentage of the housing stock that is privately owned in Melton is 88.8% which is higher than the national percentage of 82.1%<sup>24</sup>. In Melton 15.1% of local authority dwellings fell below the 'Decent Home Standard' as determined by the ONS<sup>25</sup>

#### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need for housing that meets the needs of the local population.
- The need for affordable housing, due to average house prices being higher than the regional average.
- The need to ensure that there is adequate site provision for Gypsy and Travellers.

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<sup>18</sup> ONS (2011), Melton Ethnic Group, 2011

<sup>19</sup> Melton borough Council (2013), Melton Annual Monitoring Report 2013

<sup>20</sup> De Montfort University Leicester (2013), Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Gypsy and Traveller Needs Assessment Refresh

<sup>21</sup> GL Hearn and Leicester and Leicestershire Local Planning Authorities (2014), Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>22</sup> Melton Borough Council (2014), Melton Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2014

<sup>23</sup> ONS (2011), 2011 Census: Household lifestage, local authorities in England and Wales

<sup>24</sup> ONS (2011), Melton Key Figures for Housing

<sup>25</sup> ONS (2011), Melton Dwelling Stock by Tenure and Condition

## Traffic, Transport and Accessibility

Melton Borough is crossed by the A606 Nottingham to Oakham road and the A607 Leicester to Grantham road. The A52 Nottingham to Grantham road runs through the Borough at the northern edge. The M1 Motorway is about 25 minutes' drive time to the west of Melton Mowbray, the A1 Trunk road is about 30 minutes' drive time to the east, and Nottingham East Midlands Airport is about 30 minutes' drive time to the north west. Melton Mowbray station is on the Birmingham to Stansted Airport railway line. Bottesford Station is on the Nottingham to Skegness line.

About 20 buses an hour pass through Melton Mowbray town centre; just over half of these buses travel to outlying cities or towns, passing through many of the villages although there are areas of the Borough which do not have a frequent bus service. Access to bus services is an issue for many members of Melton's population.

In Melton 73% of the workforce is drawn from Leicester and other Leicestershire Local Planning Authorities. The strongest commuting flow is from Charnwood<sup>26</sup>. The 2011 census highlights that in Melton, 51.4% of all employed people aged between 16 and 74 travelled to and from work by car/van either as a driver or passenger. This is higher than the national level of 40.1%. People using public transport (including underground, tram, metro, light rail, bus, minibus, coach, bicycle or travelling by foot) accounted for only 13.2% of commuters.

The 2011 Census indicated that 84.9% of households in Melton have access to one or more cars compared to 74.2% in England, which is an increase of 1.8% on the 2001 Census figure<sup>27,28</sup>.

### *Key sustainability issues*

- Accessibility and sustainable transport links need to be improved within the rural areas of the Borough.

## Employment and economy

There are 31,200 people (63% of the population) of working age in Melton Borough and 90.4% of the working age population is economically active. Those claiming Job Seekers allowance make up 2.2% of the working age population. The average household income in the Borough is £26,458<sup>29</sup> and the average gross weekly pay for the Borough in 2013 was £423.30 which was significantly lower than the national average for full time employees (£517.00)<sup>30</sup>.

Melton Mowbray is the main service and employment centre in the Borough. The economy has traditionally focused on farming and associated products. Over the last 50 years it has developed into a growing manufacturing and service economy with an international reputation for local food product such as Stilton Cheese and Melton Mowbray Pork Pie. Melton has relatively high levels of manufacturing employment (14% in the sub region compared to 9% nationally). Food and drink manufacturing now makes up 16% of all manufacturing jobs in the sub region<sup>31</sup>.

The percentage of UK VAT and/or PAYE based enterprises based in the East Midlands region was 6.7% in 2013 which was the second lowest percentage of any regions of the UK after the North East. The number of enterprises in the East Midlands was constant at 145 from 2012 to 2013 which was a small increase from the 2011 of 141. Small (10 to 49 employees) and micro (0 to 9 employees) businesses make up 98.2% of businesses in the Borough with most employees employed full time (65.6%). This figure is similar to the percentage of people who are employed full time at the national level which is 67.7%. After manufacturing the most important job category in Melton is services which accounts of 71.8% of jobs; however this is considerably lower than the British level of 85.7%. The level of job density calculated as the ratio of total jobs to population aged 16-64 in Melton is 0.83 and is comparable to the British level of 0.80<sup>32</sup>.

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<sup>26</sup> GL Hearn and Leicester and Leicestershire Local Planning Authorities (2014), Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>27</sup> ONS (2013), Melton Car or Van Availability, 2011

<sup>28</sup> ONS (2007), Melton Cars or Vans, 2001

<sup>29</sup> Melton Borough Council (2013), Melton Annual Monitoring Report 2013

<sup>30</sup> ONS (2014), Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2014 Provisional Results

<sup>31</sup> Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (2011), Leicester and Leicestershire Economic Assessment 2011.

<sup>32</sup> Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics Accessed August 2015.

A household is said to be in fuel poverty if it needs to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel to maintain an adequate standard of warmth. This is usually defined as 21 degrees for the main living room and 18 degrees for other occupied rooms. As can be seen from **Table A3.1** below shows that the percentage of households living in fuel poverty in Melton in 2013 was slightly higher than for Leicestershire as a whole but lower than that recorded for the East Midlands region. The general decrease in the level of fuel poverty recorded at all levels is also evident from this data.

**Table 3.1: Levels of fuel poverty in Melton, Leicestershire and the East Midlands**

Area	Percentage of population in fuel poverty (2010)	Percentage of population in fuel poverty (2013)
Melton	16.6%	9.5%
Leicestershire	17.3%	8.9%
East Midlands	18.2%	10.4% <sup>33</sup>

#### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to attract higher knowledge based industries to the Borough.
- The need to increase the number of businesses locating in Melton.
- The need to ensure the continuing regeneration of Melton Town Centre.

#### **Retail and tourism**

As a sub-regional centre, the town of Melton Mowbray provides a range of comparison goods and smaller range of convenience goods and services. The town is a provider of important local services to settlements surrounding it such as banks, solicitors and estate agents. The town includes a high proportion of independent retailers (in 2010 independent units accounted for 54% of all comparison units and 70% of all convenience units in the town), which make it a distinctive place to shop. A particular strength is its range of independent food shops, which is important for its role as the Rural Capital of Food.

The town has a smaller proportion of vacant units than the recorded national average (10.2% compared to 11.62%) although the proportion of vacant floorspace in Melton is slightly higher than the national level (10.41% compared to 9.79%) - this is seen as a relatively positive indicator particularly following the recent recession. The town centre has a high proportion (46.38%) of service units when compared to the UK average of 38.5%. This is largely attributable to the number leisure services in Melton Mowbray such as restaurants, public houses, cafes and betting offices<sup>34</sup>.

Melton has a small range of retail warehousing located on the periphery of the town centre, on the corner of Park Road and Scalford Road. The town is served by three supermarkets, Tesco on Thorpe Road, Sainsbury on Nottingham Road and Morrisons, Thorpe End.

Asfordby Village centre comprises a small precinct of retail units located on Bradgate Lane, where services are mainly food and drink orientated and include two public houses, two takeaways and an Indian restaurant.

Bottesford Village centre comprises several small shops located on Queen Street, High Street and Market Street. The village centre offers a good range of local convenience shops. Services on offer are predominately food and drink-based including three public houses, a restaurant, a cafe, and two takeaways. There are also two hair salons located in the village.

Tourism and leisure is one of the most important sectors to the rural economy. Local tourist attractions range from major attractions and events such as Belvoir Castle, Twin Lakes and the East Midlands Food and Drink Festival to small tea rooms.

<sup>33</sup> DECC (2013), Fuel poverty 2010: sub-regional data

<sup>34</sup> GVA (2011), Melton Retail Study

### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to maintain levels of tourism in the Borough while preventing any detrimental impact on the local environment.

### **Education, skills and training**

It has been highlighted that there needs to be a closer relationship between local education and skills agencies and the business community. There is a higher than average number of people employed in higher managerial roles in Melton than the rest of the region or the UK and there is a higher percentage of people with a level four qualification or equivalent compared to the rest of the region. However there is also a higher number of people with no qualifications or with a qualification level one or equivalent than the rest of the region and the country, highlighting the skills gap between the local population and employment opportunities.

Housing growth will generate a demand for education provision for both primary and secondary levels. A number of the villages are served by primary schools; there are currently 14 academies across the Borough of Melton. During the period 2012/2013 94.0% of properties completed in Melton were provided within 30 minutes public transport travel time of key services which include primary schools and secondary schools.

64.5% of pupils at key stage 4 level within the Borough achieved five or more GCSEs grades A\*-C in 2012/2013 compared to the national level of 60.8%<sup>35</sup>. In Melton those with qualifications of NVQ4 level or higher (30.2%) make up less of the population than in Great Britain as a whole where the level is recorded as 36.0%<sup>36</sup>. The 2011 Census identified that 21.4% of people over the age of 16 had no formal qualifications which is similar to the national level of 22.5%.

### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to stimulate the local economy, increasing economic growth and average earnings while addressing skills shortages within the Borough.

### **Health**

The health of people in Melton is generally better than the England average. Life expectancy is higher than the national average for both males and females. The average life expectancy for males in Melton in 2009 was 80.3 compared to the average for England of 78.3, while the average life expectancy for females in Melton was 83.1 compared with the national average of 82.3<sup>37</sup>. Life expectancy varies within the Borough, however, with life expectancy being 4.3 years lower for men in the most deprived areas of Melton than in the least deprived areas.

The Borough is less deprived than just over than half of the local authorities in England, ranking 249<sup>th</sup> out of 326 local authorities in the Indices of Multiple Deprivation where a rank of one is the most deprived<sup>38</sup>; however 11.3% (1,000) of children live in poverty.

Key indicators include:

- 15.2% of year 6 children are classified as obese (compared to the national value of 18.9%).
- 18.9% of adults are classified as obese (compared to the national value of 23.0%).
- 63.5% of adults meet the recommended physical activity levels (compared to the national value of 56.0%).
- The death or serious injury rate of people in Melton was recorded as 39.6 per 100,000 people for the period 2010-2012 which is comparable to the national value of 40.5 per 100,000.
- The rate of infant mortality per 1,000 live births was 4.8 for the period 2010-2012 which is higher than the national value of 4.1.

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<sup>35</sup> Public Health England (2014), Melton Health Profile 2014.

<sup>36</sup> Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics Accessed August 2015

<sup>37</sup> ONS (2009), Melton Life Expectancy at Birth

<sup>38</sup> DCLG (2010), Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010, Local Authority District Rank of Average Rank

- The number of hospital stays caused by self-harm in Melton in 2012/2013 was recorded at 91.7 per 100,000 population which is significantly lower than the national value of 188.0
- Then number of admissions involving an alcohol-related diagnosis in the Borough was 558 per 100,000 during the 2012/2013 time period which was significantly less than the national value of 637.
- The number of smoking related deaths for the period 2010-2012 in Melton (233) was lower than the national value of 292 per 100,000 of population<sup>39</sup>.

The percentage of residents who considered themselves to be in very good health was 48.3% in the 2011 Census which is comparable to the national value of 47.6%<sup>40</sup>.

The Borough is served by, 10 GP surgeries and there are five dentists, mainly concentrated around Melton Mowbray. The hospital at Melton Mowbray is a maternity hospital as well as having one ward which provides general rehabilitation and palliative and end of life care.

### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to continue to protect and enhance human health, including a reduction in road traffic accidents.

### **Crime and Security**

Crime significantly harms communities creating a culture of fear and damaging the lives of some of our most vulnerable groups in society including young people, ethnic minorities and the elderly, often leading to social exclusion. Funding constraints facing police forces can affect their ability to address these issues. The factors that contribute towards social exclusion are also the factors that are associated in the development of crime and include poor educational attainment, unemployment, low income, poor housing, and poor access to services, family breakdown and drug and alcohol misuse. Nationally, there have been reductions in crime over recent years. Melton is ranked 266 out of 376 districts, indicating that the level of crime is in the lowest 40% of districts nationally.

Motor vehicle theft in the Borough has reduced from a count of 160 in 2001/2002 to 71 in 2010/2011. Recent trends in a reduction in crime nationally are also reflected in a reduction in the recording of violent crimes in Melton from 661 incidents in 2008/2009 to 554 in 2010/2011.

### **Culture, sport and leisure**

The Draft Melton Borough Council Open Space Assessment Report 2014 reviews the existing provision within the Borough. In total there are seven sites classed as publicly accessible parks and gardens in Melton, totalling over 96 hectares. There are no parks and gardens in the North of the Borough, specifically Bottesford and the area is not served by provision elsewhere in the Borough. Although there are other types of formal provision, such as allotments and cemeteries servicing the area, these do not meet the needs of the park provision. Much of the east of the Borough is also not served by parks provision; however this, area has a lower population density.

There are 13 sites classified as natural or semi- natural green spaces in Melton totalling almost 50 hectares. There is generally a good distribution of natural and semi natural sites across the Borough; however there are residents in Melton and Asfordby without access to provision based on a 10 minute walk. There are also no designated local nature reserves, although a number of sites do have nature reserve status.

Open spaces in the more urban areas of the Borough tend to be well linked by green corridors particularly in Melton. Its Heritage Trail takes in the town centre parks and gardens.

There are 85 sites classified as amenity green space totalling 39 hectares. These spaces offer opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas. In relation to formal play there are 47 sites with provision for children and young people totalling 6.75 hectares although there has been a decrease of three play areas since 2010. There is currently a good distribution of provision for children and young people

<sup>39</sup> Public Health England (2014), Melton District Health Profile 2014

<sup>40</sup> ONS (2011), 2011 Census: General health, local authorities in the United Kingdom

across the Borough. The majority of the provision is located in Melton Mowbray and Asfordby, both in terms of number of sites and hectares per 1,000 people. Melton Country Park, which is located within 10 minutes travel time of the centre of Melton Mowbray, is an example of one of the more important areas of open space in the Borough. The park is 136.78ha in size and has achieved Green Flag Award and Green Heritage Site status. It provides access to large areas of informal and formal recreation areas, lakes, waterways, sports facilities, play areas, picnic areas, a memorial garden, footpaths, and cycle tracks. The only other Green Flag Award Site in the Borough is Thorpe Road Cemetery which is also located in Melton Mowbray.

Other areas of green space provision within the district include 35 allotments which are all currently at capacity and 65 cemeteries and church yards covering 26.77 hectares.

Natural England has set the Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt) on the principle of improving access to, improving the naturalness and improving the connectivity of greenspaces in the country. The standard recommends that everyone should have access to natural greenspace which is:

- of at least 2ha in size and no more than 300 metres from home;
- of at least 20ha and within two kilometres of home;
- of at least 100ha and within five kilometres of home; and
- of at least 500ha and within ten kilometres of home; plus
- a minimum of one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.<sup>41</sup>

Given the potential for green spaces to offer lasting economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits it is important the provision of adequate levels of local provision are made. Providing linked networks of multi-functional green spaces through local green infrastructure may also help to encourage more sustainable transport promote economic development and also facilitate sustainable urban drainage. As such it is important that existing green infrastructure in Melton is protected, enhanced and current provision is built upon with the planning system placed to facilitate its early incorporation into emerging development proposals.

The Borough's residents have access to a number of leisure facilities and cultural activities including a leisure centre, golf course, theatre and cinema within Melton Mowbray<sup>42</sup>. Melton Borough Council's Playing Pitch Assessment Report found that 66.4% of all adult residents were satisfied with local sports provisions compared to a national rate of 69.0%<sup>43</sup>.

There is one leisure centre within the Borough at Melton Mowbray and there are two libraries at Melton Mowbray and Bottesford. Within the rural areas of the Borough, the village and parish halls make a valuable contribution to the local residents, where they host facilities for sports and leisure groups and accommodate further activities for the local population.

#### *Key sustainability issues*

- There is an identified lack of provision of open space facilities in the north and east of the Borough.

#### **Natural habitats and biodiversity**

Biodiversity is the variety of life on earth at all levels, from genes to worldwide populations of the same species; from communities of species sharing the same small area of habitat to worldwide ecosystems.

Biodiversity has many attributes:

- it is a vital, integral part of the planet's life support system;
- it is the basis for evolution and adaptation to a rapidly changing environment;
- it is a key component of a functioning environment for future generations;

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<sup>41</sup> Natural England (2010), Nature Nearby Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance

<sup>42</sup> Melton Borough Council (2014), Melton Borough Council Open Space Assessment Report 2014

<sup>43</sup> Melton Borough Council (2011), Playing Pitch Assessment Report



- it is essential to maintain clean water, fertile soil and clean air, thereby providing the basis for existence and indirect economic benefits;
- it can be managed and used for economic benefit, for instance to produce crops, medicines, building materials, fuel and tools;
- it has economic and social values e.g. in leisure and recreation or tourism, and educational, aesthetic and spiritual value, and so enriches our quality of life;
- it determines the distinctive character or 'feel' to an area, be it a chalk down land, estuary, woodland or moor; and
- people value the existence of biodiversity and want it conserved.

The main threats to both local and global biodiversity are associated with human activities causing habitat loss/damage, loss of biodiversity, loss of protected species, disturbance to and pollution of ecosystems. Many species populations are being reduced and fragmented below viable sizes. Conserving biodiversity is a global, long-term challenge and requires global, long-term solutions that start at the local level.

There are a number of places within the Borough that are very important for wildlife. They include meadows, woodlands, rivers, ponds and hedgerows. There are two National Nature Reserves in the Borough. Muston Meadows is an important wetland site with large areas of natural reed bed and neutral grassland. Cribs Meadow, on the border with Lincolnshire supports wild flowers once typical of chalk clay pastures in Leicestershire. In 2008 information from the Council indicated that there were 112 Local Wildlife Sites designated in the Borough<sup>44</sup>. There are also 15 sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) that include stretches of the River Eye and Grantham Canal, Harby Hill Wood and King Luds Entrenchment. **Table A3.2** below shows the condition of the SSSI's within the Borough<sup>45,46</sup>.

**Table A3.2 SSSI condition in Melton Borough**

SSSI	Main Habitat	Condition of SSSI
Terrace Hills Pasture	Calcareous grassland - Lowland	Unfavourable - Recovering
Holwell Mouth	Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland - Lowland	Unfavourable - recovering
Debdale Meadow, Muston	Neutral grassland - Lowland	Favourable
Frisby Marsh	Standing open water and canals	Unfavourable - Recovering
Grantham Canal	Standing open water and canals	Unfavourable - Recovering
Harby Hill Wood	Neutral grassland – Lowland; Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland -Lowland	Unfavourable - Recovering
Sproxtton Quarry	Earth heritage	Unfavourable - Recovering
Stonesby Quarry	Calcareous grassland - Lowland	Unfavourable - Recovering
Wymondham Rough	Neutral grassland - Lowland	Favourable (88%) and unfavourable – recovering (12%)
King Lud's Entrenchment and the Drift	Calcareous grassland – Lowland; Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland -Lowland	Unfavourable - Recovering
Muston Meadows	Neutral grassland - Lowland	Favourable
Briery Wood Heronry, Belvoir	Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland - Lowland	Unfavourable - Declining
River Eye	Rivers and Streams	Unfavourable - No change
Cribb's Lodge Meadows	Neutral grassland - Lowland	Favourable

<sup>44</sup> Melton Borough Council (2011), Revised Melton Borough Biodiversity and Geodiversity Study

<sup>45</sup> Natural England Condition of SSSI Units Accessed August 2015

<sup>46</sup> Ordnance Survey (2015), Defra location of SSSI sites in Melton Borough, Magic Accessed August 2015

Croxtton Park	Acid grassland – Lowland; Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland -Lowland	Unfavourable - Recovering
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### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to improve the condition of SSSIs in Borough most of which are currently in unfavourable condition.

### **Geodiversity**

The Borough has only one SSSI which has been designated for its geodiversity (Sproxtton Quarry). The Melton Borough Biodiversity and Geodiversity Study identified 12 sites with potential for designation as Local Geological Sites but concluded that most of the sites were limited in terms of their geological importance. At present no Local Geological Sites have been designated within the Borough<sup>47</sup>.

Areas of historic mining are mainly restricted to the more rural areas of the Borough with important areas of mining which are immediately adjacent to Melton Mowbray limited to the north-western, western and northern of the town (for example Holwell Works). These areas are considered to have limited potential for geological exposures due to the reduced activities at these locations. The area along the River Wreake Valley through Melton is identified as an important element of local geology. Quaternary sand and gravel river terrace deposits and Bytham Sand and Gravel Formation are found in these areas. To preserve geodiversity in the area it may be prudent to site future development away from the River Wreake valley and allow only for sympathetic of the industrial history in Holwell Works near Asfordby Hill<sup>48</sup>.

Development around Melton Mowbray has the potential to be constrained by mineral consultation zones to the east and west of the town respectively which have been identified due to the potential for sand and gravel extraction in these areas<sup>49</sup>.

### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to protect the limited amount of geodiversity which has been identified and designated within the Borough.

### **Air and Water**

There are currently no Air Quality Management Areas in Melton. The AQMA that was declared in previously in the Borough was revoked in 2002<sup>50</sup>. This is due to the relatively low population density and subsequent low concentrations of development in Melton.

Melton falls within the area which has been identified as Water Supply Zone ZLC24 by Severn Trent Water. The water is supplied from surface water treated at works in Leicestershire. In 2014 the zone had no Prescribed Concentrations or Values exceedances<sup>51</sup>. The number of abstraction licences in force for purpose for the entire Midlands area decreased slightly from 2012 to 2013 from 3,989 to 3,944. Licences for spray irrigation (2,361) made up the largest section of identified uses for which these licences were obtained<sup>52</sup>.

Melton Mowbray is served by the Lake Terrace Terminal Pumping Station and the Melton Mowbray Waste Water Treatment works and these facilities are anticipated as being able to accommodate future development in the area. Foul water which might result due to development in this area is also expected to be accommodated within the existing sewerage system. The sewage treatment works at Melton Mowbray currently serves a population equivalent of around 57,200 and is operating within its 9,273m<sup>3</sup> /day Dry Weather Flow consent. Increased potential for surface water flooding is expected to be addressed through sustainable drainage systems for development by Melton Mowbray<sup>53</sup>.

<sup>47</sup> Leicestershire County Council Regionally Important Geological Sites website, Accessed October 2015

<sup>48</sup> Amec for Melton Borough Council (2011), Revised Melton Borough Biodiversity and Geodiversity Study

<sup>49</sup> Melton Borough Council (2009), Melton Mowbray Growth Areas; Minerals and Geology: Minerals Consultation Zones

<sup>50</sup> Defra, AQMAs Declared by Melton Borough Council Accessed August 2015

<sup>51</sup> Severn Trent Water (2015), Water Quality Summary Report Zone Reference: ZLC24

<sup>52</sup> Environment Agency (2015), Number of abstraction licences in force by purpose: England and Wales (2012 and 2013)

<sup>53</sup> Melton Borough Council (2011), Melton Mowbray Sustainable Urban Extension Utilities Report



## Flooding

Melton Borough has a long history of flood events, not only from fluvial flooding. Secondary sources include runoff from hillsides, groundwater flooding, flooding from sewers and drains and blockages to artificial drainage systems. These sources comprise a significant flood risk in areas of the Borough.

- Grantham Canal: There have been instances where the capacities of the culverts under Grantham Canal have been insufficient to convey runoff from significant rainfall events, causing floodwaters to back up.
- Drainage Structures: Ditches, culverts and other drainage structures appear to be common sources of flooding in the catchment, either due to blockages or insufficient capacity which has been potentially worsened by development in the catchment. At Holmfield in Hoby, several bridges cause constrictions between Thrussington Lane and Brooksby road elevating flood levels.
- Overland Flow: surface rainfall runoff from hillsides above settlements has been problematic and common, exacerbated by the impervious clay geology of large areas of the Borough.
- The watercourses throughout the Borough pose a potential flood risk to both existing and future development, particularly near the extensive flood plains of the larger, lower gradient rivers (Eye/Wreake and Devon), which rivers naturally occupy during high flow.
- Groundwater: Egression of groundwater through fissures in the hillside at Frisby on the Wreake has been known to generate overland flow and cause inundation of property;
- Sewage: Flooding by sewage has been observed in Great Dalby and Harby.

Areas of Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3 are located in the most developed parts of the Borough at Melton Mowbray where some stretches of the River Eye benefit from flood defences<sup>54</sup>. A total of 1,328 properties across the Borough are at risk of flooding from watercourses in a 1-in-100 year flood event. In 2012/2013 the Council did not grant planning permission for any development which would be contrary to the Environment Agency guidance on flooding and water quality grounds<sup>55</sup>.

Leicestershire County Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) in the area and as such has a duty to investigate flooding incidents and assess the risks associated with the flood. The County Council has produced the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy which identifies 1,081 properties in the town of Melton Mowbray as being at risk of flooding through a 1 in 100 year flood event by surface water. The Strategy also identifies historic flooding events at five separate locations across the Borough (Appleby Magna, Bottesford, Frisby, Melton Mowbray and Somerby)<sup>56</sup>.

### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to manage flood risk.

## Landscape

Arable land accounts for about half of the area with Melton Borough. Soils are mainly heavy textured with impeded drainage and are used for growing principally autumn-sown crops such as oilseed rape and winter wheat. The majority of the rest of the land is used for grazing cattle, sheep and, close to the urban fringe, horses. Some of the grassland is old and has retained substantial 'ridge and furrow' topography.

The hills around Melton Mowbray are formed in Jurassic materials, mainly clay shales and limestones in the Lias Formations<sup>57</sup>. These outcrop locally in some valley sides but the principal soil forming material is Pleistocene chalky till (chalky boulder clay) which mantles the upper slopes of most of the area. At lower levels as in the River Eye Valley there are areas of river alluvium, and some associated loamy terrace material. Most of the land close to the town is

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<sup>54</sup> Environment Agency, Flood Mapping for Planning (Rivers and Seas) Accessed August 2015

<sup>55</sup> Melton Borough Council (2013), Melton Annual Monitoring Report 2013

<sup>56</sup> Leicestershire County Council (2014), Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

<sup>57</sup> ADAS (2006), Melton Borough Landscape and Historic Urban Character Assessment Report

underlain by clayey parent material that is slowly permeable, so that the soils are subject to winter waterlogging.

Most of the land in Melton is of grade 3 quality although there are pockets of grade 2 agricultural land throughout the Borough, mostly located to the north of Melton Mowbray<sup>58</sup>. The NPPF requires that the best and most versatile land is protected from development with consideration for its economic and other benefits. There is a requirement to make use poorer quality land over that which of a higher quality where significant development of agricultural land has been demonstrated to be necessary<sup>59</sup>.

Grade 1 to grade 3 a quality land has been identified as excellent to good quality land and as such is defined as the best and most versatile land by planning policy guidance through Annex 2 of NPPF. As such this is land which the most flexible, productive and efficient in response to the types of food and non-food crops it can sustain.

The Historic Landscape Characterisation Project undertaken by Leicestershire County Council<sup>60</sup> identifies areas of heathland and common, areas of ridge and furrow, broadleaved woodland, mixed woodland, parkland, village greens, parks and gardens, country houses, marsh and floodplain fields (most traditionally used as meadows) within Melton Borough. These areas are highly sensitivity to development such as wind energy development. Important views and associated landmarks have been identified in Melton at Belvoir Castle and Burrough Hill<sup>61</sup>.

There are four National Character Areas which cover the Borough, and these are:

- JCA 48- Trent and Belvoir Vales
- JCA74- Leicestershire and Nottingham Wolds
- JCA-75- Kesteven Uplands
- JCA-93-High Leicestershire

The landscape of Melton Borough is typically rolling hills and valleys. The most prominent features are the escarpments defining the southern edge of the Vale of Belvoir. The landscape of the Borough is rich in rural culture and closely associated with agricultural products.

Melton Mowbray is situated in the centre of the Borough and is a large well contained market town on rising ground above the Wreake Valley. The numerous small villages within the Borough retain many of their historical features and are built in the local ironstone and sandstone and most are centred on a church or prominent spire.

The landform of the Borough is generally indistinct lowland ridge and valley, although the Vale of Belvoir, its escarpment and the High Leicestershire Hills in the south are more pronounced. The ridge and valleys predominately run along a southwest to northwest axis. Gently sloped river valleys are also characteristic features of the landscape, notably the Wreake, Eye and Gaddesby. The main waterway in the Borough is the Grantham Canal<sup>62</sup>. Twenty individual Landscape Character Areas have been identified in Melton in the Melton Landscape Character Assessment Update which built upon the original 2006 study. Considering the rural nature of the Borough the main changes in the landscape and thus those reflected in the report were in the Melton Farmland Fringe Landscape Character Area and the fringe areas around Melton Mowbray<sup>63</sup>.

#### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to ensure that brownfield sites are redeveloped and the developments of greenfield sites are kept to a minimum.

#### **Historic Environment**

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<sup>58</sup> Defra (2011), Agricultural Land Classification Map East Midlands Region

<sup>59</sup> Communities and Local Government (2012), National Planning Policy Framework

<sup>60</sup> Leicestershire County Council (2010), Historic Landscape Characterisation Project

<sup>61</sup> LUC on behalf of Melton Borough Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council (2014), Melton and Rushcliffe Landscape Sensitivity Study: Wind Energy Development

<sup>62</sup> ADAS (2006), Melton Borough Landscape and Historic Urban Character Assessment Report

<sup>63</sup> ADAS (2011), Melton Landscape Character Assessment Update 2011

The UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972) defines the scope of “cultural heritage” as follows:

- Monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science.
- Groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science.
- Sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites, which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.

Preserving the cultural and historic environment benefits communities in more than one way:

- It provides an essential educational resource for the understanding of the past and its legacy.
- It contributes to the national and local economy as it promotes tourism and provides jobs.
- It provides people with a sense of belonging to a unique and special place – a sense of identity.

A wide definition of the historic environment is therefore needed and should include not only areas and buildings with statutory protection, but also areas which are locally distinctive, valued and important. The historic environment is more than a cultural or environmental asset; it is an important driver for economic regeneration, helps build social cohesion and provide a better quality of life for all.

Before neolithic times the landscape of Melton Borough was largely wooded. Gradually neolithic farmers began to clear woods and it is believed that during the Neolithic and bronze age periods significant felling occurred, so that by 1000BC much of the original woodland cover had been cleared. Between the end of the Roman period and Norman Conquest, Anglo-Saxons and Danes colonized the area and this led to a change in the pattern of settlement from of dispersed farmstead to one of villages surrounded by collective open farming systems. By Domesday, most of the village and hamlets were in existence and today, the widespread existence of ridge and furrow is an indication of just how much land was ploughed and cultivated during the medieval period.

From the late century onwards landowners enclosed land by planting hedges to form more manageable fields for sheep and cattle pasture, sometimes leading to the loss of villages.

The past 50 years has seen equally radical change with farmers switching from pastoral to arable farming and with field drained and hedgerows removed to create larger fields. In more recent years this decline in the character of the agricultural landscape has reversed and agricultural environment schemes and improved environmental knowledge has ensured a more diverse landscape. However, the fringe landscapes around town are now under increasing pressure to absorb a variety of development needs and landscape quality in these areas threatened.

Melton Borough has 702 Listed Buildings and six of these are on the Heritage at Risk Register. These are the Grade II\* Listed properties Church of St John the Baptist, Church of St Bartholomew and Church of St Peter as well as the Grade I Listed properties Church of St Peter, Church of St Mary and Church of All Saints. There are also 35 Schedules Monuments, two Registered Parks and Gardens<sup>64</sup>, and 44 Conservation Areas<sup>65</sup> with Conservation Area Appraisals within the Borough. None of these heritage features are on the Heritage at Risk Register. There is a devised heritage trail through Melton Mowbray which is a key tourist attraction.

### *Key sustainability issues*

- The need to protect and enhance the historic built environment.

### **Waste**

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<sup>64</sup> English Heritage. Heritage at Risk Register .Accessed August 2015

<sup>65</sup> Melton Borough Council (2013), Melton Annual Monitoring Report 2013

For the quarterly period July to September 2014 the total amount of household waste collected in the Borough was 5229 tonnes which is a reduction on the 5933 tonnes collected for the quarterly period July to September 2010. During the period July to September 2014, 27.71% of household waste was sent for recycling while 20.31% of household waste was composted<sup>66</sup>. The rate of recycling and composting throughout England for the comparable period of 2013/2014 was recorded as 38.6% and throughout the East Midlands for the same period was 41.5%<sup>67</sup>.

The percentage of household waste collected sent to landfill in Leicestershire County during the quarterly period July 2014 to September 2014 was 17.74%. Comparably, 19.8% of Local Authority collected waste in England was sent to landfill in the period 2013/2014. In Melton, waste collection per capita for the quarterly period July 2014 to September 2014 was 102.86kg while the rate for Leicestershire County Council was recorded as 128.18kg for the same period. This rate of collection per head in Melton has decreased from 120.59kg recorded during the quarterly period of July to September 2010.

Areas of land within Melton Mowbray have been identified as being Inspection Priority 1 to 3 (very high to moderate risk) as well as Inspection 4 (low risk) in terms of contamination. Land which has been identified as potentially being the highest risk (Inspection Priority 1 and 2) is located mainly in the eastern part of the town centre. The largest area of Inspection Priority 2 land in the town is in the industrial area to the north the A607 and several smaller areas of Inspection Priority 1 land are present to the south of this area to the east and west of Brook Street<sup>68</sup>.

#### *Key sustainability issues*

- Areas of land which have been contaminated exist within the Borough and this issue needs to be considered when development is proposed.

#### **Climate Change and Energy Efficiency**

Government targets place requirements upon the Council to act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Energy White Paper set out a target of achieving a 60% reduction in emissions by 2050. The key objectives of the Council's 2025 Environment Vision are to reduce greenhouse gases, raise the environmental standards of buildings and develop a green network. This includes reducing carbon dioxide emissions by more than 30% by 2020 from a 2005 baseline.

Almost half of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions are from energy used to generate heat. Much of the building stock in Melton is still poorly insulated and inefficient. The homes and buildings being built now must be as energy efficient as possible. Transport is a major contributor to the UK's economy demand and greenhouse gas emissions.

In Melton in 2012 overall carbon emissions of 405.0kt CO<sub>2</sub> were recorded which was an increase on the 2011 figure of 385.4 kt CO<sub>2</sub>. Industry and commercial emissions (158.3 kt CO<sub>2</sub>) and transport emissions (115.9 kt CO<sub>2</sub>) were the largest contributors to the overall emissions figure recorded for Melton. Emissions per capita increased over the same one year period from 7.6 tonnes per capita to 8.0 tonnes per capita<sup>69</sup>. This is similar to the UK value of 7.1 tonnes per capita and the England value of 7.0 tonnes per capita recorded in 2012. The increase in emissions per capita followed the trend which was identified in 374 out of the 406 Local Authorities from 2011 to 2012<sup>70</sup>.

During the year period 2012/2013 the Borough saw development which generated 278 kilowatts of energy from onshore wind installed. Monitoring of data over a five year period has shown that there is currently demand for wind energy in Melton. **Table A3.3** below provides a breakdown of renewable energy generation capacity installed by capacity (KW) and type in the Borough<sup>71</sup>.

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<sup>66</sup> WasteDataFlow (web based system for municipal waste data reporting by UK local authorities to government), accessed: August 2015

<sup>67</sup> Defra (2014), Local authority collected waste generation from April 2000 to March 2014 (England and regions) and local authority data April 2013 to March 2014

<sup>68</sup> Melton Borough Council (2009), Melton Mowbray Growth Areas; Ground Contamination

<sup>69</sup> Department of Energy and Climate Change (2014), UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005-2012

<sup>70</sup> DECC (2014), Local authority carbon dioxide emissions estimates 2012

<sup>71</sup> Melton Borough Council (2013), Melton Annual Monitoring Report 2013

**Table A3.3: Installed renewable energy capacity in Melton Borough**

Type	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13	
	Extant permissions not installed	Installed	Extant permissions not installed	Installed	Extant permissions not installed	Installed	Extant permissions not installed	Installed
Biomass	0	0	Heat*	0	0	0	0	0
Wind	23.5	49	66	8.5	14034	113	188700	278
Hydro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solar	0	0	0	0	50	2600	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>23.5</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>14084</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>188700</i>	<i>278</i>

Climate change adaption is becoming an increasingly important concern in planning for future sustainable development with many of the climatic changes forecast for the next 30–40 years 'locked in'<sup>72</sup>. Green infrastructure has an important role to play in adapting to and mitigating climate change and can help to reduce the impact of urban heat island effect, flood risk, help to improve water and air quality and allow for sustainable drainage. Appropriate integration of green infrastructure can be achieved as part of a masterplanning process with social and economic benefits associated with issues such as health and well-being and increased property values also recognised in addition to potential environmental gains already highlighted.

*Key sustainability issues*

- The need to provide for the development of renewable energy locally.

<sup>72</sup> TCPA (2007), Climate change adaption by design

# Appendix 4

Updated compatibility assessment between the SA objectives and the Local Plan strategic priorities

**Table A4.1: Compatibility of the Local Plan Strategic Priorities and the SA objectives**

Key to symbols used				
✓✓ Highly compatible	✓ Potentially compatible	0 Neutral	x Potentially incompatible	xx Highly incompatible

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives	
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	✓✓	✓✓	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	x	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Several of the strategic priorities will ensure that housing meets the needs of the current and future population. There are potential conflicts where strategic priorities seek to protect the natural and historic environment, or promote other forms of development (employment).
2. To develop a strong culture of learning,	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	✓	✓✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Several of the strategic priorities are particularly compatible with

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives	
enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.																											this objective as they seek to improve access to services including education and improvements to public transport provision will have indirect benefits.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make	0	0	✓✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	Several of the strategic priorities relate directly to improving access to public transport. The SA objective is also compatible with the strategic priorities seeking to reduce pollution, improve health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives
sustainable transport choices.																										
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community .	0	✓	0	✓	0	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	0	0	0	0	0	x	x	x	x	0	0	0	0	0	Several of the strategic priorities relate directly to improving the local economy. However, the SA objective is potentially incompatible with the strategic priorities seeking to reduce pollution and to protect and enhance the natural and historic environment.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the	x	0	0	0	✓	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓	✓	✓✓	0	0	0	0	0	The strategic priorities relating to promoting high quality design and protecting the rural character of Melton relate directly to this SA

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives
landscape.																										objective. There may be potential incompatibilities with the strategic priorities promoting housing and employment development.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	x	✓	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	0	A number of the strategic priorities relate directly to improving the quality of the natural environment, including biodiversity. There are potential incompatibilities with the strategic priorities promoting housing and employment development.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's	x	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	0	0	✓✓	✓	0	0	✓	0	0	A number of the strategic priorities relate directly to improving the quality of the

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives	
historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.																										historic environment. There are potential incompatibilities with the strategic priorities promoting housing and employment development.	
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	x	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓✓	0	✓	0	0	Strategic priorities relating to the efficient use of resources and the protection of the natural environment are compatible with this SA objective, while strategic priorities promoting housing and employment development may be incompatible.
9. To promote social inclusion and	0	0	✓	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A number of the strategic priorities directly address access to community

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives	
cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.																											services and facilities and so are highly compatible with this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The strategic priorities which seek to improve the local economy and increase employment opportunities are highly compatible with this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	0	0	0	✓✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The strategic priority which relates to improving safety and reducing crime is highly compatible with this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	The strategic priority which relates to

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives	
increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.																										encouraging the reuse and recycling of waste is highly compatible with this SA objective.	
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	The strategic priorities which seek to improve the local economy and increase employment opportunities are highly compatible with this SA objective. The priorities relating to reducing congestion and improving public transport links are also compatible.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	0	✓✓	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	The strategic priorities relating to improving access to services (including healthcare) are highly compatible with this SA objective. Priorities relating

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives	
																											to reduced car use, reduced pollution and flood risk mitigation are also compatible.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	x	0	✓✓	✓	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓	0	0	A number of the strategic priorities relate directly or indirectly to climate change mitigation. The strategic priorities relating to encouraging renewable energy generation, reducing car use and reducing pollution are highly compatible with this SA objective. There are potential incompatibilities with the priorities promoting development.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing	x	✓	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	0	0	The strategic priority relating to reducing flood risk is highly

SA objectives	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Compatibility between the Melton Local Plan strategic priorities and the SA objectives
the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.																										compatible with this SA objective. There are potential incompatibilities with the priorities promoting development.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	x	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	0	0	0	✓✓	0	✓	0	0	The strategic priorities relating to the efficient use of natural resources and reducing pollution are highly compatible with this SA objective. There are potential incompatibilities with the priorities promoting development.

## **Appendix 5**

### Assumptions Applied During the SA of the Small-Scale Residential Site Options



**Table A5.1: Revised SA Framework incorporating proposed assumptions for use in the SA of residential site options**

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
<p>To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.</p>	<p>Will it supplement the current range of residential accommodation that will contribute to the overall needs of the community?</p> <p>Will it contribute to the stock of affordable housing in places where a need has been established?</p> <p>Will it facilitate accommodation for members of the community with particular housing needs?</p>	<p>All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development. It is assumed that all housing sites will make provision for affordable housing (either on site or by way of financial contribution). Larger sites will provide opportunities for developing greater numbers of new and affordable homes, and therefore are assumed to have a significant positive effect. They may also offer opportunities for bringing forward self-build plots.</p> <p>Based on the range of sizes of the potential sites for residential development being considered by Melton Borough Council, larger sites are assumed to be those with capacity for more than 100 homes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large sites (those with capacity for more than 100 homes) will have a significant positive (++) effect.</li> <li>• Smaller sites (those with capacity for fewer than 100 homes) will have a minor positive (+) effect.</li> </ul>
<p>To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>	<p>Will it increase levels of qualification?</p> <p>Will it create high knowledge jobs?</p> <p>Will it improve access to educational facilities?</p>	<p>The effects of housing development on this objective will depend on the availability of school places to serve the growing population, which will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of the new housing development, which is unknown at this stage. The effects of developing a site are most likely to relate to access to educational facilities, rather than increasing levels of qualification and the creation of high knowledge jobs.</p> <p>Effects will also depend on the proximity of sites to existing schools, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools to accommodate new pupils.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are within 600m of at least one school may have a significant positive (++?) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are not within 600m of a school, but that are either in Melton Mowbray or within a village that has a school, may have a minor positive effect (+?).</li> <li>• Sites that are in a village that does not have a school may have a negative effect (-?).</li> </ul>
<p>To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to</p>	<p>Will it utilise and enhance existing transport infrastructure?</p> <p>Will it help to develop a</p>	<p>How well connected housing sites are to services, facilities and employment opportunities by sustainable modes of transport will affect the extent to which residents are able to make use of non car-based modes of transport day to day. It is possible that new transport links such as bus routes or cycle paths may be provided as part of large-scale housing developments but this cannot be assumed.</p>

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
<p>employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	<p>transport network that minimises the impact on the environment?</p> <p>Will it reduce journeys undertaken by car encouraging alternative modes of transport?</p>	<p>Melton Borough Council's site assessment work has assessed public transport provision at each site option. Sites that were identified as being within walking distance of public transport nodes with good services/connections have been classed as 'green'. Sites that were identified as being within walking or cycling distance of public transport nodes, but where there are limited travel services/connections, have been classified as 'amber'. Sites that were identified as not being in close proximity of any public transport nodes, meaning that there will be a reliance on cars, have been classified as 'red'.</p> <p>Therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are classed as 'green' in the Council's site assessment work are likely to have a significant positive (++) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are classed as 'amber' in the Council's site assessment work are likely to have a negligible (0) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are classed as 'red' in the Council's site assessment work are likely to have a significant negative (--) effect.</li> </ul>
<p>To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	<p>Will it help to reduce commuting out of the Borough for employment?</p> <p>Will it add to the range of businesses in the Borough?</p> <p>Will it supplement the rural economy?</p> <p>Will it contribute to the number of jobs within the Borough?</p> <p>Will it increase jobs in the sectors that are currently underrepresented in the Borough?</p> <p>Will it encourage visitors to the Borough?</p> <p>Will it encourage inward investment?</p>	<p>While the population growth associated with new residential sites could have an effect on this objective by increasing the number of economically active people in the Borough who are seeking employment, this could be either positive or negative depending on the provision of jobs, which will not be determined by the location of new housing developments.</p> <p>However, the proximity of new residential development to employment sites will affect the ability of residents to easily access jobs. How well connected sites are to public transport links will also influence how easily people are able to access job opportunities further away from the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are within 600m of an employment site or Melton Mowbray town centre and that have been classed as 'green' in the Council's site assessment work in relation to public transport provision will have a significant positive (++) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are within 600m of an employment site but that have not been classed as 'green' in the Council's site assessment work in relation to public transport provision, or sites that are further than 600m from an employment site or Melton Mowbray town centre, but which have been classed as 'green' are likely to have a minor positive effect (+).</li> <li>• Sites that are further than 600m from an employment site or Melton Mowbray town centre and that were classed as amber in the Council's site assessment work in relation to public transport provision will have a minor negative (-) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are further than 600m from an employment site or Melton Mowbray town centre and that were classed as red in the Council's site assessment work in relation to public transport provision will</li> </ul>

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	<p>Will it protect or foster the character of the local landscape?</p>	<p>have a significant negative (--) effect.</p> <p>There are no designated landscapes (National Parks or AONBs) within Melton Borough that could be affected by residential development.</p> <p>The Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study<sup>73</sup> which is being produced by Influence Environmental Ltd. on behalf of Melton Borough Council includes an assessment of the sensitivity of areas of land around settlement fringes in the Borough, as well as an assessment of the Areas of Separation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are within an area classed as being of high or moderate-high overall sensitivity to development could have a significant negative (--?) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are within an area classed as being of moderate or moderate-low overall sensitivity to development could have a minor negative (-?) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are within an area classed as being of low overall sensitivity to development could have a negligible (0?) effect.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, where a site is within an Area of Separation, a potential significant negative effect is identified although this is uncertain (--?) depending on the design of the development.</p> <p>In all cases, the potential effects on the landscape are uncertain as they will depend on the design of the development and the incorporation of mitigation measures such as screening and the use of good design. It is also noted that where a very hard settlement edge currently exists, new development may offer the potential to improve the character of the landscape at the settlement fringe.</p> <p>For sites that fall outside of the areas assessed in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study, an uncertain effect (?) has been recorded, unless the site is within an Area of Separation in which case a potential significant negative effect (--?) is identified.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	<p>Will it protect existing or facilitate new wildlife habitat?</p> <p>Will it protect or increase the amount of woodland?</p> <p>Will it protect or improve the condition of SSSIs and</p>	<p>Housing sites that are within 250m of an international, national or local designated conservation site or a known biodiversity feature such as bat roosts [REDACTED] have the potential to affect the biodiversity or geodiversity of those sites/features, e.g. through habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. Conversely, there may be opportunities to promote habitat connectivity if housing developments include green infrastructure. Therefore, while proximity to designated sites and known biodiversity features provides an indication of the potential for an adverse effect, uncertainty exists, as appropriate mitigation may avoid adverse effects and may even result in beneficial effects. In addition, the potential impacts on biodiversity present on each site, or</p>

<sup>73</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
	<p>other sites of ecological interest?</p> <p>Will it protect or improve geodiversity in the Borough?</p>	<p>undesigned habitats and species adjacent to the potential development sites cannot be determined at this strategic level of assessment. This would be determined once more specific proposals are developed and submitted as part of a planning application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are within 250m of one or more designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites or known biodiversity features may have a significant negative (--?) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are between 250m and 1km of one or more designated sites biodiversity or geodiversity sites or known biodiversity features may have a minor negative (-?) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are more than 1km from any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites or known biodiversity features could have a negligible (0?) effect.</li> </ul>
<p>To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	<p>Will it foster local distinctiveness of built form?</p> <p>Will it protect important architectural and archaeological assets?</p> <p>Will it protect or contribute to the appearance of the built form?</p>	<p>The Council has undertaken site assessment work in relation to the residential site options being considered for allocations in the Melton Local Plan and has rated each site as either red, amber or green based on the likely effects on the historic environment of developing the site in question. The ratings have been applied as follows:</p> <p>Red - Negative impact that cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>Amber - Some impact, but mitigation possible.</p> <p>Green - No negative impact or positive impact on historic assets.</p> <p>Therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are rated 'red' by the Council could have a significant negative (--?) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are rated 'amber' by the Council could have a minor negative (-?) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are rated 'green' by the Council could have a negligible (0?) effect.</li> </ul> <p>In all cases, potential effects are uncertain as the potential for effects on cultural heritage assets will depend on the exact scale, design and layout of the new development and opportunities which may exist to enhance the setting of heritage features (e.g. where sympathetic development replaces a derelict brownfield site which is currently having an adverse effect).</p>
<p>To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil</p>	<p>Will it make use of previously developed land?</p> <p>Will it minimise the loss of good agricultural land?</p> <p>Will it safeguard mineral</p>	<p>All housing development will result in the increased consumption of minerals for construction but this will not be influenced by the location of residential sites. The location of development sites can influence the efficient use of minerals by their proximity to Minerals Consultation Areas as development in those areas may sterilise mineral resources and restrict the availability of resources in the district. Therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are within 250m of a Minerals Consultation Area are likely to have a minor negative (-)</li> </ul>

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
quality.	deposits?	<p>effect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites that are not within 250m of a Minerals Consultation Area would have a negligible (0) effect.</li> </ul> <p>The location of residential development can also influence the efficient use of land, as sites on high quality agricultural land would result in that land being lost to other uses. Development on brownfield land also represents more efficient use of land in comparison to the development of greenfield sites. Therefore, in addition (which may lead to mixed effects with the above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites that are mainly or entirely on greenfield land which is classed as being of Grade 1 or Grade 2 agricultural quality would have a significant negative (--) effect.</li> <li>Sites that are mainly or entirely on greenfield land which is classed as being of Grade 3 agricultural quality could have a significant negative effect although this is uncertain (--?) depending on whether it is Grade 3a or Grade 3b which is not known.</li> <li>Sites that are mainly or entirely on greenfield land that is classed as Grade 4, Grade 5 or urban land would have a minor negative (-) effect.</li> <li>Sites that are mainly (but not entirely) on brownfield land could have a minor positive (+?) effect although this is uncertain depending on the quality of land in the rest of the site.</li> <li>Sites that are entirely on brownfield land would have a significant positive (++) effect.</li> </ul>
To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	<p>Will it improve access to cultural and recreational facilities?</p> <p>Will it enhance the provision of recreational and cultural facilities?</p> <p>Will it promote the participation in recreational and cultural activities?</p>	<p>The location of housing sites will not directly affect the number or range of services in a particular location (although a large scale housing development could potentially stimulate the provision of new services); however the location of housing sites could affect this objective by influencing people's ability to access existing services and facilities, including recreational and cultural facilities .</p> <p>In the 2015 Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report, Melton Borough Council classified settlements within the Borough depending on the level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities in that area. This information can therefore be used as the reference point for assessing the likely levels of access to services from a site, depending on what category of settlement it lies within.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites that are within Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre are likely to have a significant positive (++) effect.</li> <li>Sites that are within a Secondary Rural Service Centre are likely to have a minor positive (+) effect.</li> <li>Sites that are within a Rural Supporter settlement are likely to have a negligible (0) effect.</li> <li>Sites that are within a Rural Settlement are likely to have a minor negative (-) effect.</li> </ul>

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
<p>To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.</p>	<p>Will it enhance the provision of educational facilities?</p> <p>Will it promote participation in educational facilities?</p> <p>Will it contribute to the number and range of jobs within the Borough?</p> <p>Will it contribute to the stock of affordable housing in places where a need has been established?</p>	<p>The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. How well connected sites are to education facilities is assessed separately under SA objective 2 above. Access to jobs is also assessed separately under SA objective 4, and housing provision is assessed under SA objective 1. Therefore, the score for this SA objective is based on the scores identified for SA objectives 1, 2 and 4 above and may be mixed where both positive and negative effects have been identified for those objectives.</p>
<p>To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.</p>	<p>Will it contribute to the reduction in crime levels?</p> <p>Will it reduce people's fear of crime?</p> <p>Will it reduce road traffic accidents?</p> <p>Will it improve the safety of pedestrians or cyclists?</p>	<p>The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible (0).</p>
<p>To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.</p>	<p>Will it reduce household waste?</p> <p>Will it increase waste recovery and recycling?</p> <p>Will it assist in maximising the use of recycled and secondary materials?</p>	<p>All new housing development will inevitably involve an increase in waste generation, but may also offer good opportunities for incorporating sustainable waste management practices, regardless of the location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be influenced by the location of residential site options, as the whole Borough is covered by kerbside recycling collections.</p> <p>Where housing development is proposed on brownfield land there may be opportunities for re-using existing buildings and materials although this is uncertain depending on the previous use of the site.</p> <p>Sites on brownfield land may have a minor positive (+?) effect.</p> <p>Sites on greenfield land would have a minor negative (-) effect.</p>

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
<p>To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.</p>	<p>Will it provide the type of land and buildings of a type required by businesses?</p> <p>Will it improve the diversity of jobs available?</p> <p>Will it reduce traffic congestion in the Borough?</p>	<p>The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Issues associated with likely car use (and therefore the contribution of sites to traffic congestion in the Borough) are also addressed under SA objective 3. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible (0) effect on this SA objective.</p>
<p>To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.</p>	<p>Will it improve access to health facilities?</p> <p>Will it encourage a healthy life style e.g. a healthy diet and encourage physical activity?</p> <p>Will it improve human health?</p> <p>Will it increase, or enhance the opportunities for sporting recreational physical activity?</p>	<p>Housing sites that are within walking distance (600m) of healthcare facilities (i.e. GP surgeries or hospitals), open spaces and footpaths and cycle routes will ensure that residents have good access to healthcare facilities and may encourage them to make more journeys on foot or by bicycle and to be active outdoors in open space, thus promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyles.</p> <p>If a housing site is within (or adjacent to) an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) there could be an impact on health, particularly if vehicle movements associated with the new development (including potentially HGVs) compound existing air quality problems. However, there are currently no AQMAs declared in Melton Borough.</p> <p>Sites that are within 600m of a healthcare facility, an area of open space or sports facility and at least one PRoW/cycle path will have a significant positive (++) effect.</p> <p>Sites that are within Melton Mowbray or a village that has a GP practice, but that are not within 600m of the facility, and that are within 600m of an area of open space, sports facility or PRoW/cycle path will have a minor positive (+) effect.</p> <p>Sites that are within a village where there is no GP practice but that are within 600m of an area of open space, sports facility or PRoW/cycle path will have a negligible (0) effect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites in Melton Mowbray that are more than 600m from either a healthcare facility, an area of open space, sports facility or PRoW/cycle paths, and sites that are within a village where there is no GP practice, and that are not within 600m of an area of open space, sports facility or PRoW/cycle path will have a minor negative (-) effect.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, which may result in mixed effects overall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites that include any of the following: an area of open space, sports facility or PRoW/cycle paths are likely to have a significant negative effect, although this effect would be uncertain (--?), as it cannot be known whether the recreation asset would be lost due to the development.</li> </ul>

Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
<p>To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	<p>Will it reduce levels of air pollution?</p> <p>Will it improve energy efficiency?</p> <p>Will it promote renewable forms of energy?</p>	<p>While new housing development will inevitably lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions (both through emissions from properties and the increased vehicle traffic associated with population growth), the location of individual housing sites will not have an effect on levels of domestic energy consumption and the potential for renewable energy use. These factors would be influenced more by the specific design and construction methods used, and whether renewable energy infrastructure is to be incorporated in the housing development, which will not be known until planning applications come forward.</p> <p>However, the proximity of the housing site options to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities (many of which are likely to be located in Melton Mowbray and other key centres), as well as proximity to public transport links, could affect levels of car use and the associated greenhouse gas emissions and levels of air pollution.</p> <p>In the 2015 Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report, Melton Borough Council classified settlements within the Borough depending on the level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities in that area. This information can therefore be used as a proxy for assessing the likely levels of car use by residents at a site as well as journey lengths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are within Melton Mowbray are likely to have a significant positive (++) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are within a Primary or Secondary Rural Service Centre are likely to have a minor positive (+) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are within a Rural Supporter settlement are likely to have a negligible (0) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are within a Rural Settlement are likely to have a minor negative (-) effect.</li> </ul>
<p>To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	<p>Will development be in an area at risk of flooding?</p> <p>Will it require mitigation to facilitate development?</p> <p>Will it increase the risk of flooding?</p> <p>Will the development tackle existing flooding issues?</p>	<p>The development of new housing on greenfield land would increase the area of impermeable surfaces and could therefore increase overall flood risk, particularly where the sites are within high risk flood zones. National Planning Practice Guidance identifies residential properties as a 'more vulnerable use', which is suitable in areas of flood zone 1 and 2 but would require an exception test in flood zone 3a, and is unsuitable in flood zone 3b. However, none of the site options being considered for allocation in the Local Plan are in flood zone 3 as that was used as one of the filtering criteria for identifying sites that are 'reasonable' options.</p> <p>While new development in any location may offer good opportunities to incorporate SuDS, and therefore have a positive effect on reducing flood risk, this would depend on the design of the proposed development and not on the location of the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are entirely or mainly in an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year) are likely to have</li> </ul>



Headline SA objectives	Sub-questions	SA Assumptions
		<p>a significant negative (--) effect.</p> <p>Outside of high flood risk areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites that are either entirely or mainly on greenfield land are likely to have a minor negative (-) effect.</li> <li>• Sites that are entirely or mainly on brownfield land are likely to have a negligible (0) effect.</li> </ul>
<p>To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.</p>	<p>Will it reduce levels of water pollution?</p> <p>Will it encourage efficient water consumption?</p>	<p>While it is recognised that residential development in any location may result in an increase in the consumption of water, the specific location of housing developments would not have a direct effect on levels of water consumption. This issue would instead be influenced by factors such as the behaviour of residents and how well water efficiency measures are incorporated into the development.</p> <p>The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Source Protection Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain (?).</p>

**Appendix 6**

Detailed SA matrices for the reasonable small-scale site options

## Selected site options (included in policy C1)

### MBC/104/13: Fields South of Bypass and North of Regency Road, Asfordby

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 99 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 80m of Captain's Close Primary School which is to the south west. Therefore, a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet	+	The site is not located within close proximity of any existing employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. However, in the Council's site assessment work the site has been rated 'green' in terms of its access to public transport. As such, given that this site provides good access to the main service centres in the area where employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport, a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
the needs of the community.		
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>74</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on greenfield land which may mean that adverse effects are more likely (subject to mitigation) but is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is located within 325m of a known bat roost (brown long-eared bat) which is to the south by Loughborough Road. [REDACTED] As such the relative proximity of the site to these features may result in disturbance or damage, for example as a result of habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain and will depend on the detailed development proposals for the site and the potential for mitigation such as the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment through the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain, however, given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is partially located within a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area (the eastern part of the site falls outside of the area of land covered by this designation). The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also on greenfield and is located on Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	++	The site is within the northern edge of Asfordby which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>75</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>74</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>75</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015). Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to both housing (objective 1) and employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing and access to employment opportunities that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not provide potential opportunities to re-use the existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Amenity greenspaces are located within 60m of the site to the south at Princess Ann Square and at Charnwood Avenue also to the south within 130m. A large park and children's playground are both located to the south east of the site within 220m and 260m respectively by Main Street. The site is also located within 170m of Asfordby Surgery which is to the south by Regency Road. A bridleway and footpath run along the eastern edge of the site and this may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site also contains a footpath which connects Bypass Road to Regency Road and development at this site may result in a partial loss of or disruption to this route. As such an overall mixed effect (significant positive/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also	+	The site is to the south of Bypass Road within the northern edge of Asfordby which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with relatively good access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may enable more people travel by sustainable modes of

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		transport and therefore reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	Only a very small part of the site is located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 9: social inclusion, 10: social inclusion and 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/106/13: Land East of Station Lane and South of Klondyke Way, Asfordby**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 15 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 475m of Captain's Close Primary School which is to the north. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. However, in the Council's site assessment work the site has been rated 'green' in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site provides good access to the main service centres in the area where employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south western edge of Asfordby and has been identified as being within the LCZ 3: Asfordby South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>76</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development because of the floodplain landscape as well as the historic landscape patterns which have been identified in the sensitivity work. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	There are no designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites within 1km of this site; however; the site is located within 125m of a bat roost (Pipistrelle) which is to the north west by Debdale Place. As such the proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b><u>Further assessment of emerging site</u></b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	The site is located within a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 2 Agricultural Land to the west and Grade 3 Agricultural Land to the east (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. Considering that a large area of Grade 2 Agricultural Land would be lost if this area was to be development an overall significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

<sup>76</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is on edge of Asfordby which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>77</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to both housing (objective 1) and access employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing and access to employment opportunities that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. A cemetery is located within 110m of the site to the north at Chadwell Close. An amenity greenspace and a children's playground are both located by Hoby Road to the north west of the site within 230m. A footpath is located within 160m of the site to the north by Station Road and this may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is not located within walking

<sup>77</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
		distance of a healthcare centre (600m) however Asfordby Surgery is located within the same village as the site on Regency Road and as such access to this facility is considered to be reasonable. Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is on edge of Asfordby which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
	-	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The updated Strategic Flood Risk Assessment work that has been carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being 2% within flood zone 2; therefore a potential minor negative effect is identified.</b>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 9: social inclusion and 10: poverty and deprivation. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.		

**MBC/113/13: Land off Stanton Road, Stanton Road, Asfordby Hill**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 43 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 245m of Asfordby Hill Primary School which is to the north east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The site is located within 395m of an employment site to the west of Welby Road and has also been rated 'green' following the Council's site assessment work in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site and also provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the south eastern edge of Asfordby Hill and has been identified as being within the LCZ 2: Asfordby Hill South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>78</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development. In this area the riverine landscape forms an area sensitive to development but this is offset by more eroded valley side landscape pattern with the valley crests displaying settlement edge influences. As such a minor negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is located within 510m of a Local Wildlife Site which is designated due to the presence of calcareous grassland to the north. As such the relative proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b><u>Further assessment of emerging site</u></b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located within 220m of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area which has been identified to the south. The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also on greenfield which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.

<sup>78</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is on south eastern edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>79</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with moderate access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to both education (objective 2) and access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. An amenity greenspace and a children's playground are both located by Melton Road to the north of the site within 190m. Football pitches are provided within 230m of the site to the north on Melton Road. A footpath is located within 220m of the site to the north also by Melton Road and this may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is not located within

<sup>79</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
		walking distance of a healthcare centre (600m) and the village of Ashfordby Hill also does not contain any healthcare facilities. Overall a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is on eastern edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment and 10: poverty and deprivation. A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 8: land use. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/073/13: Land to the west of Houghton Close and south of the A6006, Asfordby Hill**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 15 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 325m of Asfordby Hill Primary School which is to the east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The site is located within 210m of an employment site to the north of Melton Road and to the west of Welby Road and has also been rated 'green' following the Council's site assessment work in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site and also provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south western edge of Asfordby Hill and has been identified as being within the LCZ 2: Asfordby Hill South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>80</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development. In this area the riverine landscape forms an area sensitive to development but this is offset by more eroded valley side landscape pattern with the valley crests displaying settlement edge influences. The site is not with an Area of Separation. Overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is located within 355m of a Local Wildlife Site which is designated due to the presence of calcareous grassland to the north east. As such the relative proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b><u>Further assessment of emerging site</u></b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located within 95m of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area which has been identified to the west. The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located mostly on greenfield (a small part of the site to the south has previously been developed) which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.

<sup>80</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is on western edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>81</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with moderate access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to both education (objective 2) and access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on mostly greenfield land (a small part of the site to the south east appears to have been previously developed) and therefore would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Football pitches are provided within 140m of the site to the east on Melton Road. An amenity greenspace and a children's playground are both located at the junction of Welby Land and Melton Road to the west of the site within 305m. A footpath is located within 240m of the site to the east by Melton Road and this may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is

<sup>81</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
		not located within walking distance of a healthcare centre (600m) and the village of Ashfordby Hill also does not contain any healthcare facilities. Overall a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is on western edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment and 10: poverty and deprivation. A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 8: land use. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/112/13: Land off Houghton Close, Glebe Road, Asfordby Hill**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 45 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 260m of Asfordby Hill Primary School which is to the north east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The site is located within 290m of an employment site to the north of Melton Road and to the west of Welby Road and has also been rated 'green' following the Council's site assessment work in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site and also provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the southern edge of Asfordby Hill and has been identified as being within the LCZ 2: Asfordby Hill South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>82</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development. In this area the riverine landscape forms an area sensitive to development but this is offset by more eroded valley side landscape pattern with the valley crests displaying settlement edge influences. A minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective given the area's medium sensitivity to residential development. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is located within 425m of a Local Wildlife Site which is designated due to the presence of calcareous grassland to the north east. As such the relative proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b><u>Further assessment of emerging site</u></b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located within 190m of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area which has been identified to the west. The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.

<sup>82</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is on south western edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>83</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with moderate access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to both education (objective 2) and access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Football pitches are provided within 125m of the site to the north on Melton Road. An amenity greenspace and a children's playground are both located at Melton Road to the north east of the site within 270m. A footpath is located within 170m of the site to the north east by Melton Road and this may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is not located within

<sup>83</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
		walking distance of a healthcare centre (600m) and the village of Ashfordby Hill also does not contain any healthcare facilities. Overall a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is on south western edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment and 10: poverty and deprivation. A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 8: land use. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/111/13: West Side, Asfordby Hill**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 22 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 135m of Asfordby Hill Primary School which is to the south east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The site is located within 95m of an employment site to the west and has also been rated 'green' following the Council's site assessment work in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site and also provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the north western edge of Asfordby Hill and has been identified as being within the LCZ 1: Asfordby Hill North / Holwell Works in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>84</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to low sensitivity to residential development. The landscape sensitivity of this area is increased by the sense of detachment from the nearby settlement however the interrupted pattern and partly enclosed visual character reduces sensitivity. A minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective given the area's medium to low sensitivity to residential development. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located within 50m of a Local Wildlife Site which is designated due to the presence of calcareous grassland to the north. As such the close proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is located within 385m of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area which has been identified to the west. The site is located far enough away from this Mineral Consultation Area that it should not influence the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation. The site is also located on Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. As such a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and	+	The site is on northern edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>85</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with moderate access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>84</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>85</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
access to community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to both education (objective 2) and access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. An amenity greenspace is located between Welby Road and West Side to the east of the site within 40m. Football pitches are provided to the south west of the site within 140m of the site at Melton Road. A footpath is located to the south side of the site and this connects to Melton Road. This route may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is not located within walking distance of a healthcare centre (600m) and the village of Ashfordby Hill also does not contain any healthcare facilities. Overall a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also	+	The site is on northern edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment and 10: poverty and deprivation. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/004/15: Land off Crompton Road/Main Street, Asfordby Hill**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 16 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 45m of Asfordby Hill Primary School which is to the north. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The site is located within 270m of an employment site to the north west and has also been rated 'green' following the Council's site assessment work in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site and also provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>86</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on greenfield land which may mean that adverse effects are more likely (subject to mitigation) but is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is located within 290m of a Local Wildlife Site which is designated due to the presence of calcareous grassland to the north. As such the relative proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+?/0	The site is located within 435m of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area which has been identified to the west. The site is located far enough away from this Mineral Consultation Area that it should not influence the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The site is located on brownfield land to the east (where a car park has been developed) and greenfield land to the west. As such locating housing in this area would make use of mostly brownfield land meaning land of a high agricultural value is unlikely to be lost to another use and a minor positive effect is also expected on this SA objective. This positive effect is uncertain given that an amount of greenfield land may also be developed also. As such overall a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain minor positive) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community	+	The site is within Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>87</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with moderate access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>86</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>87</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to both education (objective 2) and access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	The site is located on greenfield land to the west while a car park has been developed to the east. As the site would make use of a large area of previously developed brownfield land a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective. The positive effect is recorded as uncertain given that the exact nature of the materials currently onsite are unknown.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. An amenity greenspace is located to the east of the site within 35m. Football pitches are provided to the north west of the site within 135m of the site at Melton Road. A footpath is located to the north east of the site within 50m at Melton Road and this route may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is not located within walking distance of a healthcare centre (600m) and the village of Ashfordby Hill also does not contain any healthcare facilities. Additionally the site contains a children's playground and this use may be lost if development was to proceed at this location. Overall a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also	+	The site is within Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment and 10: poverty and deprivation. There were no potential significant negative effects identified in relation to any of the SA objectives.		

**MBC/057/13: Land at Rectory Farm, Bottesford**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively large and has been identified as being able to accommodate 259 new dwellings; therefore a significant positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 540m of Bottesford Church of England Primary School which is to the south. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The site is located within 210m of an existing employment site to the south west and has also been rated 'green' following the Council's site assessment work in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site and also provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the north western edge of Bottesford and has been identified as being within the LCZ 1: Bottesford Central in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>88</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development given its small scale character and the presence of intact historic landscape elements. A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is located within 155m of an identified bat roost to the south. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	-?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of moderate ecological value; therefore a potential minor negative effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community	++	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>89</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>88</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>89</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2), access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities as well as the high level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on mostly greenfield land (a small part of the site to the south has previously been developed) and therefore development at this location be less likely to involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 140m of allotments on Pinfold Lane and within 70m of an amenity greenspace on Chapel Street. Footpaths are located to the south of the site by River Close and Pinfold Lane and these routes may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is located within 150m of Bottesford Surgery which is to the south on Walford Close. The site contains a footpath however and this use may be partially lost if residential development was to proceed at this location. Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and	+	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
improving air quality in the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
	--	<b><u>Further assessment of emerging site</u></b> <b>The updated Strategic Flood Risk Assessment work that has been carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being 19% within flood zone 3b; therefore a potential significant negative effect is identified.</b>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 1: housing, 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation and 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/181/15: Land off Normanton Lane, Bottesford**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 15 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of a school however the village (Bottesford) in which the site is located has two schools; Bottesford Church of England Primary School and Belvoir High School. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of an employment site; the closest of such sites is located within 765m to the south west by Orton Lane. The site does provide good access to the public transport system (based on the Council's site assessment work which gave it a 'green' score) which may provide access to employment opportunities further afield. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the north western edge of Bottesford and has been identified as being within the LCZ 1: Bottesford Central in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>90</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development given its small scale character and the presence of intact historic landscape elements. A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is located within 335m of an identified bat roost at St Mary's Church to the south east. As such the relative proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+?/-	The site is located on land which has been designated as a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is expected. The site is located on mostly brownfield land and as such a minor positive effect is also expected on this SA objective given that development at this location would not result in a loss of a large area of high quality agricultural land. The positive effect is recorded as uncertain as the site contains a small amount of greenfield land to the west. As such an overall mixed effect (uncertain minor positive/minor negative) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and	++	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>91</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>90</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>91</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
access to community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a minor positive score in relation to education (objective 2), access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and housing (objective 1). Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the relative proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	The site is located on mostly brownfield land which appears to be used a car park and a waste or recycling site. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective given that development of this site will involve the re-use of previously developed land and potentially materials that already at this location. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the exact nature of the materials currently onsite is unknown.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 370m of the cemetery that is located by St. Mary the Virgin Church. Amenity greenspace is located within 350m of the site by Church View. The site is located within 450m of Bottesford Surgery which is to the south on Walford Close. The site is located within 175m of a footpath which may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and	+	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
improving air quality in the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly brownfield land with a car park having been developed to support the recycling centre provided on Normanton Lane and as such development at this location should not contribute to an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 3: transport, 9: social inclusion and 14: health. A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 5: landscape. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/080/13: Lings View Farm, Middle Street, Croxton Kerrial**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 33 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 140m of Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School to the south west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>92</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on greenfield land which may mean that adverse effects are more likely (subject to mitigation) but is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is within 200m of a bat roost which has been identified at St John the Baptist's Church to the north west. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means a potential limited impact on historic assets as a result of development at this location has been identified. The site work has identified that it may be possible to mitigate any potential adverse effect. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 2 Agricultural Land and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. An overall significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	+	The site is within Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>93</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with a relatively good level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities; however this level of access is reduced in comparison to that which is provided at Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Service Centres in the Borough. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

<sup>92</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>93</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Cricket pitches are located to the west of the site within 55m by Middle Street. To the north of the site within 220m a cemetery is located by the church on Church Lane. A footpath is located at the north of the site within 165m and this runs from Church Lane to the north east; this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 220m of Croxton Kerrial Surgery which is to the south west on Main Street. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and	+	The site is within Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
improving air quality in the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/079/13: Land west of Saltby Road & east of Highfields Farm, Croxton Kerrial**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 33 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 195m of Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School to the north west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south eastern edge of Croxton Kerrial and has been identified as being within the LCZ 3: Croxton Kerrial Southwest in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>94</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to small scale, intimate fieldscapes. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. However, this negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. It is also noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study includes some design guidance for the landscape character zone that this site lies within, which includes a statement that any development coming forward in the landscape character zone would be best contained to the southern extension of the village, within the small scale field pattern adjacent to the existing edge – this is where this site is located. The design guidance also states that the existing southern settlement edge has a loose form that is relatively prominent in views from the southern village approach due to the gently rising landform, and that any development coming forward on this edge should have regard for this existing edge character and should be appropriately designed to sit within the landform without dominating views. This should be taken into account in any development proposals, and may help to mitigate impacts on the landscape. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is located within 390m of Croxton Kerrial Roadside Verge Nature Reserve which has been designated as a Local Wildlife Site to the south east. As such the relative proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b><u>Further assessment of emerging site</u></b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton’s historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated ‘amber’ in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council’s site assessment work. This classification means a potential limited impact on historic assets as a result of development at this location has been identified. The site work has identified that it may be possible to mitigate any potential adverse effect. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is

<sup>94</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
		Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is within Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>95</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with a relatively good level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities; however this level of access is reduced in comparison to that which is provided at Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Service Centres in the Borough. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Cricket pitches are located to the north of the site within 235m by Middle Street. Further to the north of the site within

<sup>95</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
healthy lifestyles and prolong life.		490m a cemetery is located by the church on Church Lane. A footpath is located at the north west of the site within 45m and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 195m of Croxton Kerrial Surgery which is to the west on Main Street. The site also contains part of a footpath however and development at this location may result in a loss of this use. Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located within the south eastern edge of Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/095/13: Land to the east of Saltby Road and south of A607, Croxton Kerrial**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 13 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 295m of Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School to the west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the eastern edge of Croxton Kerrial and has been identified as being within the LCZ 2: Croxton Kerrial Southeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>96</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development due to its lower elevation and the relative simplicity of the landscape character displayed. As such a minor negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is located within 385m of a bat roost which has been identified at St John the Baptist's Church to the north west. The site is also located within 390m of Croxton Kerrial Churchyard which has been identified as a potential Local Wildlife Site. As such the relative proximity of the site to this feature and designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means a potential limited impact on historic assets as a result of development at this location has been identified. The site work has identified that it may be possible to mitigate any potential adverse effect. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is within Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>97</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with a relatively good level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities; however this level of access is reduced in comparison to that which is provided at Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Service Centres in the Borough. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive

<sup>96</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>97</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
secure economic inclusion.		score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on mostly greenfield land (a small portion of the site to the north west has previously been developed) and therefore development at this location would be less likely to involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Cricket pitches are located to the north west of the site within 235m by Middle Street. Further to the north west of the site within 400m a cemetery is located by the church on Church Lane. A footpath is located at the south west of the site within 155m and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 345m of Croxton Kerrial Surgery which is to the west on Main Street. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located on Saltby Road within the south eastern edge of Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.		a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health. A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 8: land use. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/092/13: Farm (Church Farm) to the west of Middle Road, Croxton Kerrial**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 40 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 240m of Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School to the south. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>98</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on brownfield land which may mean that adverse effects are less likely compared to new development on greenfield land, and the site is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located within 50m of a bat roost which has been identified at St John the Baptist's Church to the east. The site is also located within 80m of Croxton Kerrial Churchyard which has been identified as a potential Local Wildlife Site. As such the close proximity of the site to this potential designation and feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	--?	The site has been rated 'red' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means a potential impact on historic assets as a result of development at this location which cannot be mitigated has been identified. As such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+?/-	The site is located on land which has been designated as a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation. The site is located mostly on brownfield land (only a small part of the site to the north has not previously been developed). Given that the development of this site would not result in a significant loss of agricultural land a minor but uncertain positive effect is also expected on this SA objective. As such an overall mixed effect (uncertain minor positive/ minor negative) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	+	The site is within Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>99</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with a relatively good level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities; however this level of access is reduced in comparison to that which is provided at Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Service Centres in the Borough. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

<sup>98</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>99</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	The site is identified as being located on brownfield land given that a farm and its associated buildings are currently present at this location. Development on this brownfield site will result in the reuse of previously developed land and may involve the reuse of existing buildings and materials already onsite; therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective. The positive effect is recorded as uncertain given that the exact details of the materials currently onsite are unknown.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Cricket pitches are located to the south of the site within 165m by Middle Street. To the east of the site within 50m a cemetery is located by the church on Church Lane. A footpath is located at the west of the site which connects to Chapel Lane and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 325m of Croxton Kerrial Surgery which is to the south on Main Street. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and	+	The site is located at the intersection of Middle Street and Chapel Lane within the western edge of Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
improving air quality in the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on brownfield land (a farm and its associated buildings are currently developed on this site) however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 7: historic environment. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/191/15: Land off Great Lane, Frisby on the Wreake**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 40 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 380m of Frisby of England Primary School to the west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the south eastern edge of Frisby on the Wreake and has been identified as being within the LCZ 3: Frisby South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>100</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development due to medium scale landscape which is contained by the rising topography to the south towards Leicester Road. As such a minor negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is located within relatively close proximity of a number of bat roosts which have been identified in the village of Frisby on the Wreake to the west. Bat roosts have been identified at Mill Lane, St Thomas a Becket's Church and Main Street which are located between 275m and 440m of the site. As such the relative proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is within Frisby on the Wreake which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>101</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with a relatively good level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities; however this level of access is reduced in comparison to that which is provided at Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Service Centres in the Borough. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty,	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job

<sup>100</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>101</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.		opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on mostly greenfield land and therefore development at this location would be less likely to involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Cricket pitches are located to the west of the site within 350m by Main Street. To the north of the site within 220m allotments are located by Mill Lane. A footpath is located to the north of the site within 155m which runs to Mill Lane and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located in a village that contains a GP practice. Overall a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located on Great Lane within the eastern edge of Frisby on the Wreake which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.		a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 8: land use. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/026/15: Field south of Coronation Avenue, West of Melton Road, Long Clawson**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 75 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is not located within 600m of a school. The site is however located within Long Clawson and one school (Long Clawson Church of England Primary School) is located within this settlement. As such given that a school is located within the settlement but that it is not located within reasonable walking distance (600m) of the site a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is located within 590m of an employment site which has been designated to the north east by Hickling Lane. The site has however been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is located within close proximity of an employment site but that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south western edge of Long Clawson and has been identified as being within the LCZ2: Long Clawson South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>102</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to complex landscape pattern which has an intimate scale. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. However, this negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. In addition, it is noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study states in the assessment of overall sensitivity of the landscape character zone which this site lies within that the settlement edge in this area is prominent. Therefore, sympathetic new development may offer opportunities to improve this. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site contains an area which has been identified as being breeding ground for great crested newts. The site is also located within 250m of a Candidate Local Wildlife Site to the west. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature and designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the+ siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is also located on Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown if the land has been classified as Grade 3a or 3b quality at this stage) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. As such a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion	++	The site is within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>103</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is

<sup>102</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>103</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.		therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1), to education (objective 2), and to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the relatively close proximity of the site to education facilities, relatively good access to employment opportunities and the level of housing which might be accommodated at this location.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on mostly greenfield land (a small part of the site to the east along Melton Road has previously been developed) and therefore development at this location would be less likely to involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Allotments are located to the south east of the site within 90m on Melton Road. A cemetery is located on Sand Pit Lane within 470m of the site to the east. A footpath is located at the north western corner of the site towards Coronation Avenue and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of Long Clawson Medical Practice however the site is considered to have reasonable access to this facility given that they are both located within Long Clawson. Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce	+	The site is located on Melton Road towards the south western edge of Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> A potential significant positive effect was identified for this site in relation to SA objective 9: social inclusion. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/168/15: Land off Sandpit Lane, Long Clawson**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 50 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 330m of Long Clawson Church of England Primary School to the north east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is located within 290m of an employment site which has been designated to the north west on Church Lane. The site has however been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is located within close proximity of an employment site but that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the southern edge of Long Clawson and has been identified as being within the LCZ2: Long Clawson South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>104</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to complex landscape pattern which has an intimate scale. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	This site contains an area which has been identified as being breeding ground for great crested newts. The site is also located within 80m of a bat roost which has been identified to the north on W End and within 135m of an additional bat roost which has been identified to the north on Church Lane. As such the close proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is also located on Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown if the land has been classified as Grade 3a or 3b quality at this stage) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. As such a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community	++	The site is within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>105</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>104</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>105</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to access to education (objective 2), and minor positive score in relation to the level of housing potentially supplied at this location (objective 1) and access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective particularly in relation to the good level of access the site provides to education opportunities but also considering the potential level of housing the site may accommodate and also the good level of access to employment opportunities this site provides.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would be unlikely to involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. A cemetery is located adjacent to the site to the south east and an amenity greenspace is located within 40m of the site to the south east on the other side of Sandpit Lane. Further amenity greenspace and a children's playground are located within 190m of the site to the east on Back Lane. Access to an additional cemetery is located to the north of the site within 150m. The nearest footpath is located within 40m of the site to the south where it crosses Sandpit Lane and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 470m of the healthcare centre in Long Clawson. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas	+	The site is located on Sand Pit Lane towards the southern edge of Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation and 14: health. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objective 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/150/15: Birleys Garage, Waltham Lane, Long Clawson**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 40 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 540m of Long Clawson Church of England Primary School to the west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of an employment site and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>106</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on brownfield land which may mean that adverse effects are less likely in comparison to development on greenfield sites, and the site is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	This site contains an area which has been identified as being breeding ground for great crested newts. The site is also located within 210m of a bat roost which has been identified to the north east on Hose Lane. As such the close proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	-?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of moderate ecological value; therefore a potential minor negative effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+?/0	The site is not located in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on mostly brownfield land (only the southern part of the site remains undeveloped) meaning land of a high agricultural value is unlikely to be lost to another use. As such a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain minor positive) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	++	The site is within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>107</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>106</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>107</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	The site is identified as being located on mostly brownfield land. Development of this brownfield site will mostly result in the reuse of previously developed land and may involve the reuse of existing buildings and materials already onsite; therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective. The positive effect is recorded as uncertain given that the exact details of the materials currently onsite are unknown.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 115m of two allotments to the west and to the north on East End and Hose Lane respectively. Access to a children's playground is located to the east of the site within 370m on The Sands. A footpath runs along the northern edge of the site to connect to Water Lane to the east and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 375m of the healthcare centre in Long Clawson which is on The Sands to the west. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and	+	The site is located on Waltham Lane towards the south eastern edge of Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
improving air quality in the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	Most of the site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly brownfield land and as such development at this location will not result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
	-	<b><u>Further assessment of emerging site</u></b> <b>The updated Strategic Flood Risk Assessment work that has been carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being 2% within flood zone 2 and 3% in flood zone 3b; therefore a potential minor negative effect is identified.</b>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health. A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 6: biodiversity and geodiversity. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/169/15: Canal Farm, Long Clawson**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 38 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 470m of Long Clawson Church of England Primary School to the south west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of an employment site and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the emerging Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>108</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on brownfield land which may mean that adverse effects are less likely in comparison to development on greenfield sites, and the site is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site contains an area which has been identified as being breeding ground for great crested newts. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+?/0	The site is not located in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on mostly brownfield land (only the northern part of the site remains undeveloped) meaning land of a high agricultural value is unlikely to be lost to another use. As such a mixed effect (uncertain minor positive/negligible) is likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>109</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>108</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>109</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	The site is identified as being located on mostly brownfield land (only the northern part of the site remains undeveloped). Development of this brownfield site will mostly result in the reuse of previously developed land and may involve the reuse of existing buildings and materials already onsite; therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective. The positive effect is recorded as uncertain given that the exact details of the materials currently onsite are unknown.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 25m of an allotment to the east on Hose Lane and within 135m of another allotment to the south on East End. Access to a children's playground is located to the south east of the site within 270m on The Sands. A cricket pitch is located within 595m of the site to the west by Barkers Field. A number of footpaths are located towards the north west corner of the site and these routes may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site boundaries also include a footpath however and development at this location may result in the loss of this access route and therefore an uncertain significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The site is located within 285m of the healthcare centre in Long Clawson which is on The Sands to the south west. Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/ uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also	+	The site is located at the intersection of Paget's Lane and Hose Lane towards the north eastern edge of Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly brownfield land and as such development at this location will not result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 6: biodiversity and geodiversity. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/144/15: Corner of Broughton Lane and Hickling Lane, Long Clawson**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 28 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is not located in close proximity to any schools however the settlement the site is located within, Long Clawson, does provide access to Long Clawson Church of England Primary School on School Lane. As such given that a school is located within the settlement but that it is not located within reasonable walking distance (600m) of the site a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is located within 250m of an employment site to the north east by Hickling Lane. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site but provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the western edge of Long Clawson and has been identified as being within the LCZ2: Long Clawson South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>110</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to complex landscape pattern which has an intimate scale. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site contains an area which has been identified as being breeding ground for great crested newts. The site is also located within 470m of a candidate Local Wildlife Site which has been identified due to the presence of rough grassland to the south west. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature and potential designations may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/-	The site is not located in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 4 agricultural quality. As such given that allowing for residential development at this location would not adversely impact upon mineral extraction at this location but may result in the loss of greenfield land an overall mixed effect (negligible/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community	++	The site is within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>111</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>110</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>111</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1), to education (objective 2), and to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the relatively close proximity of the site to education facilities, relatively good access to employment opportunities and the level of housing which might be accommodated at this location.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 150m of two allotments on Hickling Lane. Another allotment is located to the south of the site within 375m and this is also located on Hickling Lane. The cemetery located to the north east at St. Remigius Church is within 445m of the site. A footpath is located within 115m of the site to the north by Hickling Lane and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of Long Clawson Medical Practice however the site is considered to have reasonable access to this facility given that they are both located within Long Clawson. Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also	+	The site is located at the intersection of Broughton Lane and Hickling Lane towards the western edge of Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.

**Summary of SA findings:** A potential significant positive effect was identified for this site in relation to SA objective 9: social inclusion. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape and 6: biodiversity and geodiversity. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.

**MBC/028/13: Land off Back Lane, Long Clawson**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 22 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 50m of Long Clawson Church of England Primary School to the north. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is located within 230m of an employment site to the north west by Church Lane. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site but provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the southern edge of Long Clawson and has been identified as being within the LCZ2: Long Clawson South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>112</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to complex landscape pattern which has an intimate scale. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. However, this negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. It is noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study sets out some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects on the landscape, including that any development should be small scale and well integrated, and should achieve a gradation of density to the outer edges, and that, given the interface with the wider agricultural landscape, lit settlement edges should be avoided as far as possible. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site contains an area which has been identified as being breeding ground for great crested newts. [REDACTED] As such the close proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 3 in terms of agricultural quality (at this stage it is unknown if the land is of Grade 3a or 3b quality). As such given that allowing for residential development at this location would not adversely impact upon mineral extraction at this location but may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion	++	The site is within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>113</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is

<sup>112</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>113</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.		therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to both access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the relative proximity of the site to employment opportunities as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 90m of an amenity greenspace and children's playground on Back Lane to the south. Two additional children's playgrounds are located within 240m of the site to the north east on The Sands. Cricket pitches are located to the north west of the site within 210m by Barkers Field. Two footpaths are adjacent to the site to the south and these connect to Mill lane and Sandpit Lane respectively and may encourage new residents to make use of more active forms of transport. One of these footpaths is within the boundaries of the site also however and a partial loss of this use is therefore possible as a result of this development meaning an uncertain significant negative effect is expected. The site is located 160m of Long Clawson Medical Practice which is to the north east on The Sands. Overall a

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
		mixed effect (significant positive/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation and 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/027/15: Land north of East End, (Brunts Farm, The Pinale), Long Clawson**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 15 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 210m of Long Clawson Church of England Primary School to the south west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is located within 360m of an employment site to the west by Church Lane. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site but provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>114</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on greenfield land which may mean that adverse effects are more likely (subject to mitigation), but the site is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site contains an area which has been identified as being breeding ground for great crested newts. A number of bat roosts have been identified within 250m of the site to the south west on Church Lane and The Sands respectively. As such the close proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 3 in terms of agricultural quality (at this stage it is unknown if the land is of Grade 3a or 3b quality). As such given that allowing for residential development at this location would not adversely impact upon mineral extraction at this location but may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is within Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>115</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to both access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in

<sup>114</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>115</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
inclusion.		particular as well as the relative proximity of the site to employment opportunities as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 35m and 125m of two children's playground to the south which are both located on The Sands. A cricket pitch is located within 325m of the site to the west by Barkers Field. A footpath runs to the north of the site within 65m and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 75m of the healthcare centre in Long Clawson which is on The Sands to the south. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located by The Sands towards the northern edge of Long Clawson which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk	--	A drainage ditch runs through the site from north to south and much of the area has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). As such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
within the Borough and elsewhere.		
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation and 14: health. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity, 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 16: climate change. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/164/15: Land East of Melton Road, Waltham on the Wolds**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 50 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 210m of Waltham on the Wolds Church of England Primary School to the north west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the southern western edge of Waltham on the Wolds and has been identified as being within the LCZ5: Waltham on the Wolds South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>116</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to the largely intact landscape character, the presence of rare historic landscape elements and the relative intricacy of landscape scale and pattern. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is within 410m of a bat roost which has been identified to the north by High Street. As such the relative proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 2 Agricultural Land and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. An overall significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and	++	The site is within Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>117</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>116</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>117</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
access to community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 250m of St Mary Magdalene Church on High Street which provides access to an allotment and a cemetery. An amenity greenspace can be accessed within 420m to the north by Melton Road. A children's playground is located within 420m of the site to the north west on Goadby Road. Two footpaths run from the western edge of the site across Melton Road and these routes may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. Two footpaths run within the boundaries of the site and given that development at this location may result in the loss of these uses an uncertain significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Waltham on the Wolds does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located by Melton Road towards the southern edge of Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/055/13: Land adjacent of Bescaby Lane, Waltham on the Wolds**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 50 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 535m of Waltham on the Wolds Church of England Primary School to the south west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the north eastern edge of Waltham on the Wolds and has been identified as being within the LCZ 2: Waltham on the Wolds Northeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>118</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development due to the simple landscape pattern and its eroded nature as well as the presence of 'edge' influences in the area. As such a minor negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is adjacent to Bescaby Lane Grassland Local Wildlife Site. Additionally the site is located within 135m of Stonesby Quarry SSSI which is to the north east. As such the close proximity of the site to these designations may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	-?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of moderate ecological value; therefore a potential minor negative effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community	++	The site is within Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>119</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>118</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>119</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 110m of an allotment on High Street to the south. The site is also located within 305m of St Mary Magdalene Church to the west on High Street which provides access to an allotment and a cemetery. An amenity greenspace can be accessed within 380m to the west by Melton Road. The site is located within 65m of a footpath which links to Bescaby Lane to the south and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Waltham on the Wolds does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas	+	The site is located by Bescaby Lane towards the north eastern edge of Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/192/15: Land at Manor Farm, rear of High Street, Waltham on the Wolds**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively large and has been identified as being able to accommodate 168 new dwellings; therefore a significant positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 185m of Waltham on the Wolds Church of England Primary School to the south west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the southern edge of Waltham on the Wolds and has been identified as being within the LCZ 4: Waltham on the Wolds Southeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>120</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development due to the simple landscape pattern, landscape scale and presence of 'edge' influences in the area. As such a minor negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is within 60m of an area which has been identified as breeding location for great crested newts to the north east. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as mostly Grade 2 Agricultural Land (some of the site to the north east has been identified as being on Grade 3 agricultural quality land) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective overall.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community	++	The site is within Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>121</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>120</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>121</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities as well as the high level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 55m of St Mary Magdalene Church on High Street which provides access to an allotment and a cemetery to the north west. Another allotment is located to the north of the site within 30m by High Street. An amenity greenspace can be accessed within 290m to the north west by Melton Road. A children's playground is located within 415m of the site to the north west on Goadby Road. Three footpaths run from the western and southern edges of the site respectively and these routes may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. Two footpaths run within the boundaries of the site and given that development at this location may result in the loss of these uses an uncertain significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Waltham on the Wolds does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located within Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 1: housing, 2: education, 9: social inclusion and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/054/13: Land at 48 High Street, Waltham on the Wolds**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 16 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 390m of Waltham on the Wolds Church of England Primary School to the west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>122</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on greenfield land which may mean that adverse effects are more likely (subject to mitigation), but the site is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is within 130m of an area which has been identified as breeding location for great crested newts to the east. A bat roost has also been identified in close proximity to the site on High Street within 240m to the north west. As such the close proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is within Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>123</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty,	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job

<sup>122</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>123</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.		opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 80m of an allotment on High Street to the east. The site is also located within 145m of St Mary Magdalene Church to the west on High Street which provides access to an allotment and a cemetery. An amenity greenspace can be accessed within 325m to the north west by Melton Road. A footpath runs along the southern edge of the site towards High Street in the east and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Waltham on the Wolds does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in	+	The site is located within Waltham on the Wolds which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 9: social inclusion and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/070/13: Land known as Brickyard Lane, Wymondham**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
<p>1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.</p>	+	<p>All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 74 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.</p>
<p>2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 145m of St Peter’s Church of England Primary School to the south west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	0	<p>The site has been identified through the Council’s site assessment work as being ‘amber’ meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	-	<p>The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated ‘amber’ in terms of its public transport provision following the Council’s site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the northern edge of Wynondham and has been identified as being within LCZ 1: Wymondham West in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>124</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to the small scale landscape pattern, settlement edge integration and cultural pattern. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. However, this negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. It is noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study sets out some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects on the landscape, including that any development should be of an appropriate scale, contained by existing landform and features, and should respect the linear character of the settlement contained in the valley setting. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is within 170m and 205m of bat roosts to the south east on Main Street and to the east on Butt Lane respectively. As such the close proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. As such given that allowing for residential development at this location is not expected to adversely impact upon mineral extraction but that it may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	+	The site is within Wymondham which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>125</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with relatively good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities. The level of access to these facilities is expected to be less than those that would be provided within Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre and therefore a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>124</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>125</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 60m of an amenity greenspace on Main Street to the south. An allotment is located within 310m of the site to the south east also on Main Street. The site is located within 335m of the cemetery on Nurses Lane which is to the south east. The nearest footpath is located to the south of the site within 80m and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Wymondham does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also	+	The site is located by Main Street on the northern edge of Wymondham which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is only partially located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/056/13: Glebe Road, Wymondham**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively large and has been identified as being able to accommodate 113 new dwellings; therefore a significant positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 65m of St Peter's Church of England Primary School to the north. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south eastern edge of Wymondham and has been identified as being within LCZ 1: Wymondham West in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>126</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to the small scale landscape pattern, settlement edge integration and cultural pattern. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. However, this negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. It is noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study sets out some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects on the landscape, including that any development should be of an appropriate scale, contained by existing landform and features, and should respect the linear character of the settlement contained in the valley setting. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is within 370m and 480m of bat roosts to the east on Main Street and on Nurses Lane respectively. As such the close proximity of the site to these features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 3 in terms of agricultural quality (it is unknown at this stage if this land is Grade 3a or 3b quality). As such given that allowing for residential development at this location is not expected to adversely impact upon mineral extraction but that it may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is within Wymondham which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>127</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with relatively good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities. The level of access to these facilities is expected to be less than those that would be provided within Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre and therefore a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>126</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>127</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities as well as the high level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 235m of an amenity greenspace on Main Street to the north east. An allotment is located within 550m of the site to the east also on Main Street. The site is located within 500m of the cemetery on Nurses Lane which is also to east. The site is bordered by footpaths at its north western corner by Glebe Road and north eastern corner by Rookery Lane and these routes may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Wymondham does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in	+	The site is located between Glebe Road and Rookery Lane on the western edge of Wymondham which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 1: housing, 2: education and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/048/13: Land off Burrough Road**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 35 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 260m of Somerby Primary School to the east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>128</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on greenfield land which may mean that adverse effects are more likely (subject to mitigation), but the site is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located within 85m a bat roost that has been identified on High Street to the east. The site is also located within 275m of a Local Wildlife Site which has been designated to the west where mesotrophic grasslands are present. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature and designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	0?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of lower ecological value; therefore a potential negligible effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--	The site is not located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 2 in terms of agricultural quality. As such given that allowing for residential development at this location is not expected to adversely impact upon mineral extraction but that it may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	+	The site is within Somerby which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>129</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with relatively good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities. The level of access to these facilities is expected to be less than those that would be provided within Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre and therefore a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>128</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>129</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 150m of an amenity greenspace and children's playground which are located by Burrough Road to the south east. An allotment is located to the east of the site within 130m by The Field. The site is located within 445m of the cemetery at All Saints Somerby Church which is to the south east. The nearest amenity greenspace is located within 470m of the site to the east on High Street. A footpath is located at the north eastern edge of the site and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport given that it links to Burrough Road and High Street to the south east. The site is not located within walk distance (600m) of a healthcare centre but given that Somerby provides access to healthcare centre on Oakham Road it is considered that access from the site to this provision will be reasonable. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce	+	The site is located on Burrough Road towards the western boundary of Somerby which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/146/14: Football field, Oakham Road**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 33 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 525m of Somerby Primary School to the north west on High Street. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the south eastern edge of Somerby and has been identified as being within LCZ 4: Somerby South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>130</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development due to open character of the landscape which is combined with an eroded cultural pattern. As such a minor negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site contains land which has been identified as being an important area for breeding great crested newts. A bat roost has also been identified within 240m of the site to the north west at High Street. As such the close proximity of the site to these identified features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
	-?	<b>Further assessment of emerging site</b> <b>The Biodiversity Study that has been carried out for Melton Borough Council has assessed this site as being of moderate ecological value; therefore a potential minor negative effect is identified. This is uncertain depending on the design of development and the incorporation of mitigation.</b>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 3 (it is unclear at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b agricultural quality) in terms of agricultural quality. As such given that allowing for residential development at this location is not expected to adversely impact upon mineral extraction but that it may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and	+	The site is within Somerby which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>131</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with relatively good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities. The level of access to these facilities is expected to be less than those that would be provided within Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre and therefore a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>130</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>131</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
access to community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 175m of Town End Cemetery on Pickwell Road to the north west. The nearest amenity greenspace is located within 445m of the site to the north west also on Pickwell Road. A semi-natural greenspace is located within 290m of the site to the north west by High Street. A cemetery is provided at All Saints Church which is within 345m of the site to the north west. A footpath is accessible to the north of the site within 115m and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport given that it links to Pickwell Road and Oakham Road to the north west and west respectively. The site is located within 35m of Somerby Surgery which is to the north on Oakham Road. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy	+	The site is located on Oakham Road towards the eastern boundary of Somerby which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

## Rejected site options (not included in policy C1)

### MBC/108/13: Paddocks west of Saxelby Road and north of Loughborough Road, Asfordby

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 45 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 65m of Captain's Close Primary School which is to the south. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality	+	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. However, in the Council's site assessment work the site has been rated 'green' in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site provides good access to the main service centres in the area where employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.		
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>132</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on greenfield land which may mean that adverse effects are more likely (subject to mitigation) but is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is located within 235m of a bat roost (Pipistrelle) which is to the south by Loughborough Road. As such the proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located within a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also on greenfield and is located on Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is on edge of Asfordby which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>133</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>132</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>133</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to both housing (objective 1) and employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing and access to employment opportunities that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. A cemetery is located within 85m of the site to the south west at Loughborough Road. An allotment is also located on Loughborough Road within 200m of the site to the south west. Also on Loughborough Road within 190m of the site to the south is an amenity greenspace. The site is located within 570m of Asfordby Surgery which is to the south east by Regency Road. A footpath is located within 290m of the site to the north by Saxelby Road and this may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site also contains a bridleway and development at this site may result in a partial loss of this route. As such an overall mixed effect (minor positive/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in	+	The site is on edge of Asfordby which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	Only a very small part of the site is located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation and 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/149b/14: Land to the east of Welby Road (4ha), Asfordby Hill**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 74 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 155m of Asfordby Hill Primary School which is to the west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The site is located within 195m of an employment site on Welby Road and has also been rated 'green' following the Council's site assessment work in terms of its access to public transport. As such given that this site is in close proximity to an employment site and also provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the eastern edge of Asfordby Hill and has been identified as being within the LCZ 3: Asfordby Hill Northeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>134</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development due to the medium scale of the landscape and the variable landscape intactness and condition. As such a minor negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located within 180m of a Local Wildlife Site which is designated due to the presence of calcareous grassland to the north west. As such the proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	The site is located within 180m of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area which has been identified to the south east. The proximity of the site to this area may influence the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 2 Agricultural Land and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. Considering that a large area of Grade 2 Agricultural Land would be lost if this area was to be development an overall significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is on eastern edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>135</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with moderate access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>134</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>135</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to both education (objective 2) and access employment opportunities (objective 4) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The nearest amenity greenspace to the site is located on Welby Road to the west within 100m. Further amenity greenspace and a children's playground are both located by Melton Road to the south west of the site within 205m. A bowling green is located within 340m of the site to the north west by Welby Road. A footpath is located within 140m of the site to the west and this may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is not located within walking distance of a healthcare centre (600m) and the village of Ashfordby Hill also does not contain any healthcare facilities. Overall a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in	+	The site is on eastern edge of Asfordby Hill which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
the Borough.		
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment and 10: poverty and deprivation. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.		

9.5

#### MBC/012/13: Land East of Belvoir Road, Bottesford

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively large and has been identified as being able to accommodate 319 new dwellings; therefore a significant positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 250m and 275m of Belvoir High School and Bottesford Church of England Primary School respectively. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure,	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.		development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The closest employment site to this residential site is on Barkestone Lane within 890m to the south west however this is not considered to be within walking distance (600m). The site does provide nearby access to public transport nodes which have good services however, having been rated 'green' in the Council's site assessment work. As such given that this site is not located in close proximity to an employment site but does provides good access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south eastern edge of Bottesford and has been identified as being within the LCZ 3: Bottesford Southeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>136</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has high sensitivity to residential development given its intimate/small scale character and largely intact landscape patterns. The site is also partially located within the Area of Separation which is located to the south east of Bottesford between Bottesford and Easthorpe. A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study includes some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects, including that development should seek to achieve a gradation of development density to the outer edges, linked with new green space provision. Lit development edges should be avoided to assist with conservation of dark night skies/avoidance of sky glow and perception of further urbanising influences.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located within 100m of two potential Local Wildlife Sites which have been identified due to the presence of mature ash trees to the north. A further potential Local Wildlife Site has been identified to the south east within 125m on the other side of the A52. As such the close proximity of the site to these potential designations may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.

<sup>136</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>137</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and housing (objective 1). A minor positive score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities and the high level of housing that the site may provide in particular with consideration also for the level of access the site provides to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location be less likely to involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected

<sup>137</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
recycling of waste materials.		on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare centre which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 75m of a children's playground to the north and within 95m of an amenity greenspace to the north west. Cricket pitches are located to the west of the site by Belvoir Road. A footpath which links Barkestone Lane and Silverwood Road is located within 160m of the site to the west and this route may encourage journeys on foot or by bicycle. The site is located within 410m of Bottesford Surgery which is to the north west on Walford Close. The site contains a footpath however and this use may be partially lost if residential development was to proceed at this location. Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	Only a very small part of the site is located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 1: housing, 2: education, 3: transport, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation and 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified		

<b>SA Objectives</b>	<b>SA Score</b>	<b>Justification</b>
		in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land and minerals. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.

**MBC/011/13: Land off Grantham Road, Bottesford**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 43 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of a school however the village (Bottesford) in which the site is located has two schools; Bottesford Church of England Primary School and Belvoir High School. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. However the site has been rated 'green' in terms of its access to public transport in the Council's site assessment work. As such given that this site provides good access to the main service centres in the area where employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-?	The site is located towards the eastern edge of Bottesford and has been identified as being within the LCZ 2: Bottesford Northeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>138</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium sensitivity to residential development given contained visual character with a small scale intact landscape pattern to the south. A minor negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is located within 435m of an identified bat roost on Rutland Lane to the west. As such the relative proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>139</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and	+	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a minor positive score in relation to education (objective 2), access to employment

<sup>138</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>139</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
secure economic inclusion.		opportunities (objective 4) and housing (objective 1). Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the relative proximity of the site to education facilities and employment opportunities as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 290m of the Easthorpe Road Allotments to the west. Amenity greenspace is located within 445m of the site by Rutland Way to the west. The site is also adjacent to a footpath which runs to the north of Grantham Road; this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within Bottesford which contains a GP surgery on Walford Close and although the site is not located within walking distance (600m) of this facility given that it is located within the same village reasonable access is expected to be provided. Overall a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate	-	Only a very small part of the site is located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.		flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 3: transport and 9: social inclusion. A potential significant negative effect was identified in relation to SA objective 8: land use. This issue will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/010/15: Land Adjacent 8 Easthorpe Road, Bottesford**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 16 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 580m of Bottesford Church of England Primary School to the south west. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. However the site has been rated 'green' in terms of its access to public transport in the Council's site assessment work. As such given that this site provides good access to the main service centres in the area where employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and	--?	The site is located on greenfield land and the area it covers has not been assessed for settlement fringe sensitivity in the

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
enhance the quality and character of the landscape.		Area of Separation Study commissioned by the Council. The site falls within the Area of Separation which has been identified to prevent coalescence between the hamlet of Easthorpe and Bottesford to the north west. As such development at this location will contribute to this coalescence and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is uncertain depending on the design of the development.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is located within 50m of an identified bat roost on Rutland Lane to the north. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>140</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to both access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the relative proximity of the site to employment opportunities as well as the level of housing that

<sup>140</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
		the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Amenity greenspace is located within 100m of the site by Rutland Lane to the north. Two children's playgrounds, amenity greenspace and an allotment are located on the other side of Grantham Road to the north within 190m. A footpath is located at the south western corner of the site and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 470m of Bottesford Surgery which is to the west on Walford Close. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
elsewhere.		
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 3: transport, 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation and 14: health. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/076/13: Land Adjacent 17 Easthorpe Road, Bottesford**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 40 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 775m of Bottesford Church of England Primary School to the south west, however this is not considered to be within walking distance of the site (600m). The site is located within a village (Bottesford) which does have two schools however; Bottesford Church of England Primary School and Belvoir High School. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the	+	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. However the site has been rated 'green' in terms of its access to public transport in the Council's site assessment work. As such given that this site provides good access to the main service centres in the area where employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
community.		
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the eastern edge of Bottesford and has been identified as being within the LCZ 3: Bottesford Southeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>141</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has high sensitivity to residential development given its intimate/small scale character and largely intact landscape patterns. The site is also partially located within the Area of Separation which is located to the south east of Bottesford between Bottesford and Easthorpe and development at this location maybe contribute to coalescence of these two settlements. A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study includes some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects, including that development should seek to achieve a gradation of development density to the outer edges, linked with new green space provision. Lit development edges should be avoided to assist with the conservation of dark night skies/avoidance of sky glow and perception of further urbanising influences.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located within 40m of a potential Local Wildlife Site which has been identified to the west on Easthorpe Road. As such the close proximity of the site to this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	--?	The site has been rated 'red' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means a potential impact on historic assets as a result of development at this location which cannot be mitigated has been identified. As such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and	++	The site is within Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>142</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities and a significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>141</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>142</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
access to community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to both access to employment opportunities (objective 4) and housing (objective 1). Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the relative proximity of the site to employment opportunities as well as the level of housing that the site may provide.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Allotments are located to the north of the site within 25m. Amenity greenspace is located within 105m of the site by Rutland Lane to the north west. Two children's playgrounds, amenity greenspace and an allotment are located on the other side of Grantham Road also the north west within 250m. A footpath is located to the south west of the site within 160m and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of a GP however a healthcare facility is provided within the village at Bottesford Surgery which is on Walford Close. The site contains a footpath which runs from Manor Road in the north west and development at this location may result in a loss of this use. Overall a mixed effect (minor positive/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is on Easthorpe Road towards the eastern edge of Bottesford which has been identified as a Primary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	Only a small part of the site is located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 3: transport, 9: social inclusion and 10: poverty and deprivation. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity, 7: historic environment and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/096/13: Land south of Main Street (A607) and west of The Nook, Croxton Kerrial**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 38 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 125m of Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School to the north east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its access to public transport following the Council's site assessment work meaning that the services provided within walking distance of this location are limited. As such given that the site is not located within close proximity of any employment sites and that the public transport nodes located within walking distance of the site provide a limited service overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south western edge of Croxton Kerrial and has been identified as being within the LCZ 3: Croxton Kerrial Southwest in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>143</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has medium to high sensitivity to residential development due to small scale, intimate fieldscapes. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located on land which contains a potential Local Wildlife Site due to the presence of a mature ash trees. As such given that this potential designation is within the boundaries of the site and considering that development may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means a potential limited impact on historic assets as a result of development at this location has been identified. The site work has identified that it may be possible to mitigate any potential adverse effect. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	The site is located on land which is within the boundaries of a limestone Mineral Consultation Area. The siting of housing at this location may impact upon the efficient use of minerals through restriction or even sterilisation; therefore a minor negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of resources. The site is also located on greenfield land which has been identified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land (it is unknown at this stage if the land is of Grade 3a or Grade 3b quality) and development at this location would result in this high quality agricultural land being lost to another use. This could result in an overall significant negative effect, although this is uncertain depending on whether the land is Grade 3a or 3b.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is within Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>144</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with a relatively good level of access to services, public transport and employment opportunities; however this level of access is reduced in comparison to that which is provided at Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Service Centres in the Borough. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to

<sup>143</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>144</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
secure economic inclusion.		employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on mostly greenfield land (a small portion of the site to the north east is used to accommodate parking from the doctor's surgery located on the other side of The Nook) and therefore development at this location would be less likely to involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and a healthcare facility which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. Cricket pitches are located to the north east of the site within 245m by Middle Street. Further to the north east of the site within 490m a cemetery is located by the church on Church Lane. A footpath is located at the north of the site within 25m by Main Street and a byway is located to the east of the site within 5m; these routes may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is located within 35m of Croxton Kerrial Surgery which is to the east on Main Street. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located at the intersection of Main Street and The Nook within the western edge of Croxton Kerrial which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the	-	Most of the site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on mostly greenfield land

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.		however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 14: health. Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use. These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/068/13: Land off Rookery Lane, Wymondham**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 20 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 150m of St Peter's Church of England Primary School to the north east. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the southern edge of Wymondham and has been identified as being within LCZ 3: Wymondham South in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>145</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has high sensitivity to residential development due to the mostly strong sense of detachment from the existing settlement edge and the persisting historic landscape pattern which is evident close to the current settlement boundary. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. However, this negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. It is noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study sets out some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects on the landscape, including that any development brought forward should be small scale, respond to the historic settlement form and important landscape features that contain the existing built edge within the valley landscape, and be well integrated. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is not located within close proximity of any designated biodiversity or geodiversity sites; however the site is within 245m of a bat roost to the east on Main Street. As such the close proximity of the site to this feature may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 3 in terms of agricultural quality (it is unknown at this stage if this land is Grade 3a or 3b quality). As such given that allowing for residential development at this location is not expected to adversely impact upon mineral extraction but that it may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is within Wymondham which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>146</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with relatively good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities. The level of access to these facilities is expected to be less than those that would be provided within Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre and therefore a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

<sup>145</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>146</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 135m of an amenity greenspace on Main Street to the north east. An allotment is located within 420m of the site to the north east also on Main Street. The site is located within 355m of the cemetery on Nurses Lane which is also to east. The site is bordered by footpaths at its north western corner which leads to Rookery Lane and north eastern corner by Bursnells Lane and these routes may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site however contains a footpath within its boundary and this use may be lost if development proceeds at this location; as such an uncertain significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Wymondham does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also	+	The site is located between Rookery Lane and Polka Way within Wymondham which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-	The site is not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/141/13: Land South of Tofts Hill**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively small and has been identified as being able to accommodate 30 new dwellings; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 145m of Stathern Primary School to the west. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'amber' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers limited travel services/connections. As such locating residential development at this site is expected to have a reduced impact upon reducing journeys undertaken by car through the encouragement of journeys by alternative modes of transport. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	The site is not located within walking distance (600m) of any employment sites or Melton Mowbray town centre. The site has also been rated 'amber' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning the services available are limited. As such given that this site is not in close proximity to an employment site and also provides limited access to the main service centres in the area where further employment opportunities are likely to be located via public transport a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	The site is located towards the south eastern edge of Stathern and has been identified as being within LCZ 3: Stathern Southeast in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>147</sup> commissioned by the Council. This area has high sensitivity to residential development due to the complexity of the landscape pattern which is intimate and tranquil. As such a significant negative effect is recorded for this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that the design of any development proposed for the site is unknown at present. The site is not located within an Area of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	The site is located within 30m of a Local Wildlife Site at Tofts Hill which is to the east and has been designated due to the presence of mature ash trees. Two bat roosts have been designated to the west of the site within 55m at St Guthlacs Church. As such the close proximity of the site to this designation and the identified features may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The site has been rated 'amber' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that limited impact on historic assets may occur as a result of development but mitigation is possible at this location. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0/--?	The site is not located within or in close proximity to a Mineral Consultation Area. The site is located on greenfield land which has been identified as being of Grade 3 in terms of agricultural quality (it is unknown at this stage if this land is Grade 3a or 3b quality). As such given that allowing for residential development at this location is not expected to adversely impact upon mineral extraction but that it may result in the loss of high quality greenfield agricultural land a mixed effect (negligible/uncertain significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The site is within Stathern which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>148</sup> . As such locating housing at this site is likely to provide residents with relatively good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities. The level of access to these facilities is expected to be less than those that would be provided within Melton Mowbray or a Primary Rural Service Centre and therefore a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to

<sup>147</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

<sup>148</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
inclusion.		employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	The site is located on greenfield land and therefore development at this location would not involve the re-use of existing buildings and materials which may be present on brownfield sites. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces and public rights of way which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located adjacent to a cemetery on Tofts Hill to the north and another cemetery is located at St Guthlac's Churchyard to the west within 25m. An amenity greenspace is located within 125m of the site to the south east by Church Lane. The site is located within 165m of the amenity greenspace and children's playground which is located on Water Lane. The nearest footpath to the site is accessible within 60m to the south where it runs towards Mill Hill and this route may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport. The site is not located within close proximity of a healthcare centre and Stathern does not contain a healthcare centre. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The site is located on Tofts Hill towards the eastern boundary of Stathern which has been identified as a Secondary Rural Service Centre in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with ease of access to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes. Therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate	-	The site is mostly not located within an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.		(taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on greenfield land however and as such development at this location will result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 2: education and 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). Potential significant negative effects were identified in relation to SA objectives 5: landscape, 6: biodiversity and geodiversity and 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall). These issues will need to be considered further in terms of mitigation and/or enhancement, which may be achieved through Local Plan policies.</p>		

**MBC/153/15: Land at Snow Hill (Jeld Wen)**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	All of the potential residential sites are expected to have positive effects on this objective, due to the nature of the proposed development and it is assumed that housing developments will include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing. This site is relatively large and has been identified as being able to accommodate 241 new dwellings; therefore a significant positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	<p>The availability of school and college places to serve the growing population will depend in part on whether new places are provided as part of new housing developments, which is unknown at this stage. Effects will also depend on how accessible existing schools and colleges are from residential site options, although there are uncertainties as the effects will depend on there being capacity at those schools and colleges to accommodate new pupils.</p> <p>The site is located within 80m of Brownlow Primary School to the east on Limes Avenue. As such given the close proximity of the site to the school a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on capacity.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The site has been identified through the Council's site assessment work as being 'green' meaning it is within walking distance of a public transport service which offers good connections to main service centres. As such locating residential development at this site may help to reduce journeys undertaken by car by encouraging the use of alternative modes of transport. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++/-?	The site is located within 220m of the main shopping area of Melton Mowbray which is located towards Thorpe End to the south. The site has also been rated 'green' in terms of its public transport provision following the Council's site assessment work meaning services are located within walking distance of the site and these are likely to provide good access to other nearby employment sites. As such given that this site is located within close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre where existing employment opportunities are likely to be and that public transport services provided at this location are frequent and may provide access to further employment opportunities a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective. However the site is currently in employment use and this use would be lost if the site was redeveloped for housing therefore a minor negative effect is also identified although this is uncertain depending on if the existing use would be relocated.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	This site is not located within the area that has been assessed for landscape sensitivity in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study <sup>149</sup> and therefore its likely effect on this SA objective is uncertain. It is noted that the site is located on brownfield land which may mean that adverse effects are less likely in comparison to where development takes place on greenfield land, and the site is not located within an Area Of Separation.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	The site is located within relatively close proximity of a number of bat roosts; these have been identified within 270m to the north east on Ferneley Crescent , within 280m to the east on Copley Close, and within 380m to the north east on Firwood Road. Melton Country Park is located within 380m of the site to the north and this has been identified as a candidate Local Wildlife Site. Also to the north of the site within 445m an area which is of importance for great crested newts' breeding has been identified. The site is located within 600m of a Local Wildlife Site which has been designated at Mars Petcare, River Eye. As such the relative proximity of the site to the identified features and this designation may result in habitat damage/loss, fragmentation, disturbance to species, air pollution, increased recreation pressure etc. and a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may allow for increased habitat connectivity through the onsite provision of green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	The site has been rated 'green' in terms of its potential for impact on the historic environment following the Council's site assessment work. This classification means that no negative impact or positive impact on historic assets has been identified through the siting of residential development at this location and as such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is recorded as uncertain given that the design of the development is unknown.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	++/0	The site is not located within or in close proximity of a Mineral Consultation Area (the closest of these designations is located to the east within 255m). The site is located on brownfield land and as such allowing for residential development at this location would not result in a loss of high quality agricultural land (or adversely impact upon mineral extraction). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/negligible) is expected on this SA objective given that development at this location would not negatively impact upon mineral extraction in the Borough through restriction or sterilisation and would make use of brownfield land.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The site is located within Melton Mowbray which is the main settlement in the Borough. As such locating housing here is likely to provide residents with relatively good access to services, public transport and employment opportunities. The level of access to these facilities is expected to be greater at this location than that which would be provided at the smaller rural service centres in the Borough and therefore a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

<sup>149</sup> Influence (September 2015) Melton Borough Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study: Final Report.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++/-	The effects of residential site options on this SA objective will depend on their proximity to education facilities and job opportunities. The site was given a significant positive score in relation to education (objective 2) and a minor positive score in relation to housing (objective 1). However a minor negative score was given in relation to access to employment opportunities (objective 4). Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective given the close proximity of the site to education facilities in particular as well as the level of housing that the site may provide but also considering the limitations of the site in terms of the access to employment opportunities
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The effects of new housing developments on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within housing developments which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of housing sites (rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for each site). The location of residential developments will also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of development sites. Therefore, the effects of all of the potential residential sites on this SA objective will be negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	The site is located on brownfield land and therefore development at this location would involve the re-use of previously developed land. Development at this location may also result in the re-use of materials and buildings which are already at this location. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective. This positive effect is uncertain given that it is unknown what materials are currently onsite.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The location of housing sites will not influence the number, location or type of employment opportunities available in Borough. While the proximity of housing sites to employment sites, town centres (where employment opportunities are often focussed) and public transport nodes can affect people's ability to access jobs, particularly for those without use of a car, these issues are assessed separately under SA objectives 3 and 4 above. Therefore, all of the residential site options will have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	The site is located in close proximity to a number of open spaces, public rights of way and healthcare centres which may encourage new residents to make use of these facilities as part of a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The site is located within 75m of a children's playground which is to the north. Melton Country Park football pitches are also to the north of the site within 140m. The nearest allotments are Doctors Lane Allotments in Melton Country Park and these are located 335m to the north of the site. A large cemetery is located to the east of site by Thorpe Road within 320m. The nearest amenity greenspace to the site is provided to the south west by Chapel Street. A footpath and the Jubilee Way route are accessible along the northern edge of the site and these routes may encourage residents to partake of more activity modes of transport given that it provided access through Melton Country Park to the north. The site however contains a footpath within its boundaries to the south and as such an uncertain significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective given that development of this site may result in a loss of this use. The site is located within 180m of Latham House Medical Practice which is to the south west on Sage Cross Street. The site is also located within 190m of Melton Mowbray hospital to the south east which is on Thorpe Road. As such an overall mixed effect (significant positive/uncertain minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy	++	The site is located within close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre which is the Main Urban Area in the Borough as

SA Objectives	SA Score	Justification
efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		identified by the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report <sup>150</sup> . As such locating housing on this site is likely to provide new residents with the highest level of access possible to existing services, facilities and employment opportunities as well as public transport nodes within the Borough. Therefore a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective given that new residential development at this location may encourage travel by alternative forms of transport and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through private car journeys.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	Although it recognised that Scalford Brook runs along the eastern and south eastern edge of the site, most of the site is not located in an area that has been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The site is located on brownfield land (the site is currently used as employment land) and as such development at this location will not result in an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces in the Borough. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Water Quality Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site options being subject to SA. Therefore, the score for all site options is currently uncertain.
<p><b>Summary of SA findings:</b> Potential significant positive effects were identified for this site in relation to SA objectives 1: housing, 2: education, 3: transport, 4: employment (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall), 8: land use (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall), 9: social inclusion, 10: poverty and deprivation (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall), 14: health (although this score is part of a mixed effect overall) and 15: energy efficiency. There were no potential significant effects identified for this site in relation to the SA objectives.</p>		

<sup>150</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

**Appendix 7**

Detailed SA Matrices for the Large-Scale Site Options

## Melton East (Direction of Growth)

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>The development of this area could provide for around 1,000 new homes. While this figure is lower than for some of the other large-scale development site options in Melton, it will still go some way towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>151</sup>.</p> <p>Although the scale of development that could come forward at this SUE is smaller than at some of the other options, it is of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>152</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>Overall, a significant positive effect is likely in relation to this objective.</p>
<p>To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>	<p>++/--?</p>	<p>This site would be developed as a direction of growth, directly adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's existing schools, particularly at secondary level. Therefore, opportunities to access existing schools in the town via sustainable modes of transport are likely to be good. The nearest existing school to the site is Brownlow Primary School in Melton Mowbray, approximately 420m to the west, so within reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m). Sherard Primary School is also just within 600m to the south west of the direction of growth, and Birch Wood School (Melton Area Special School) is within 600m to the south.</p> <p>However, focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing schools such as these ones becoming overloaded, particularly as the direction of growth is less able to incorporate the provision of services such as a primary school in comparison to other large-scale growth options in the Borough.</p> <p>A mixed (potential significant positive and significant negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether new school places can eventually be delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
<p>To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>This site would be developed as a direction of growth, immediately adjacent to the eastern edge of Melton Mowbray, which means that opportunities to walk, cycle and use public transport are likely to be good. As well as there being a fast and frequent bus service into the town centre, connections can be made to locations further afield from Melton Mowbray station which is within approximately 880m to the west of the site. There are existing public transport routes that run through the potential development area including the 55/56 bus service along the B676 between Grantham and Buckminster. The journey time to Melton town</p>

<sup>151</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>152</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
can make sustainable transport choices.		<p>centre is less than 15 minutes.</p> <p>Unlike some of the other large-scale site options, this site is unlikely to contribute to the implementation of a Melton Mowbray by-pass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential effects of a bypass in terms of facilitating convenient car use, which may mean that modal shift is more difficult to achieve, would also not occur.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to existing employment opportunities in Melton Mowbray should mean that residents at the direction of growth are able to access employment opportunities there without using a car, and with a short journey that can be undertaken on foot or by bicycle.</p> <p>Overall, a significant positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+/-	<p>The development of this direction of growth is not expected to incorporate employment development; therefore it would not increase the number of jobs available in the Borough. However, the proximity of the direction of growth to Melton Mowbray would mean that residents would have good access to the job opportunities that are concentrated there, and could use the railway station which is within 1km to the west to access jobs further afield. This will be particularly beneficial for people without a car. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.</p>
To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	<p>The rural character of Melton Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. Although this direction of growth is adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray, the landscape character zone (LCZ) to the east of the town which this site lies partly within has been classified as being of medium to high sensitivity by virtue of the intactness of much of the valley landscape and the historic landscape character<sup>153</sup>. However, there are areas within the LCZ that are less sensitive as a result of intrusions such as the industrialised western edge and the railway line which borders the southern edge of the direction of growth.</p> <p>In addition, the northern part of the direction of growth would extend within the Area of Separation between Melton Mowbray and Thorpe Arnold and so could contribute to the coalescence of those settlements. The development would also comprise large-scale development on greenfield land and would significantly alter the form of the eastern edge of Melton Mowbray and the wider setting of the town.</p> <p>As such, a significant negative effect on this SA objective is likely, although this is uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential to mitigate these effects to some extent.</p>

<sup>153</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	-?	<p>The area in which this site is located is less constrained than some parts of Melton Borough in relation to designated biodiversity and geodiversity features; however there may be undesignated habitats and species of value in the area. There are no designated sites such as SSSIs or Local Wildlife Sites within the potential direction of growth; however there are Local Wildlife Sites within close proximity including Corfe Wet Grassland to the north, Mars Petcare, River Eye to the south Hall Farm, Brentingby to the east. In addition, a number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have been identified within this area, to the east and north west of the direction of growth.</p> <p>The development of this large area of mainly greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity. However, it is noted that the site is less able to provide substantial green infrastructure in comparison to some of the alternative options.</p> <p>Therefore, an overall minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	-?	<p>There are no designated heritage features within this potential direction of growth, although there are a large number of listed buildings within 1km to the west, in Melton Mowbray and even closer in Thorpe Arnold to the north. Therefore, the development of this land for large scale development on greenfield land could have an impact on the wider setting of these heritage features.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect is therefore identified although this is uncertain and will depend on factors such as the design of the development.</p>
<p>To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>	--	<p>This area comprises greenfield land and an area in the south of the direction of growth is classified as being of Grade 2 agricultural quality.</p> <p>The direction of growth is also almost entirely within a Mineral Consultation Area for sand and gravel and development could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. Opportunities for prior extraction should be explored if this development is taken forward.</p> <p>A significant negative effect is therefore likely overall.</p>
<p>To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.</p>	+ +/-?	<p>This area would be developed as a direction of growth, immediately adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's services and facilities. Therefore, opportunities to access existing services in the town on foot would be good and there is also access to a fast and frequent bus service into the town. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services and facilities becoming overloaded, particularly as there is uncertainty about the extent to which new services and facilities would be provided as part of the development.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>However, development here would also stimulate the existing services in Melton Mowbray and contribute to their ongoing viability.</p> <p>In comparison to other large-scale development site options, there is less potential for the area to be developed as a self-contained development incorporating services and facilities.</p> <p>As such a mixed (potential significant positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain, depending on the extent to which new services and facilities are eventually able to be developed within this site.</p>
To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+/-	<p>The direction of growth to the east of Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in the town; however the scale of the development would mean that new provision is unlikely to be made, increasing the risks of schools becoming overloaded and leading to social exclusion. However, the direction of growth would still contribute to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>
To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale as would be the case at this site, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable	-	<p>The development at this direction of growth is not expected to incorporate employment provision; therefore it would not increase the available employment land or improve the diversity of jobs available in Melton.</p> <p>The direction for growth east of Melton Mowbray would not offer the opportunity to deliver a bypass at the</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
economic growth.		<p>town, which some of the other large-scale development site options would. Therefore, potential opportunities to reduce congestion (which can negatively impact upon economic growth in the Borough) would be lost.</p> <p>As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-?	<p>This area would be developed as a direction of growth, directly adjacent to the urban area of Melton Mowbray where there are existing healthcare facilities such as Latham House Medical Practice and Melton Mowbray Hospital. Therefore, opportunities to access existing healthcare facilities in the town via sustainable modes of transport are likely to be good. The short distance of this site from Melton Mowbray town centre means that opportunities to walk and cycle day to day are likely to be good, which can contribute to people living healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>However, focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services such as GPs becoming overloaded, particularly as the direction of growth is less able to incorporate the provision of services such as this in comparison to other large-scale growth options in the Borough. It is also noted that the proximity of the railway line, immediately adjacent to the south of the direction of growth, could result in amenity affects for residents in that area.</p> <p>A mixed (potential significant positive and minor negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether additional healthcare such as new GP places are eventually delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic in the Borough. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>This site would be developed as a direction of growth, adjacent to the eastern edge of Melton Mowbray. It is well connected to the town via a fast and frequent bus service and there will be good opportunities to walk and cycle day to day. Sustainable transport links are also provided to destinations further afield via the station which is within 1km to the west of the site. Therefore, people are likely to have good access to jobs, services and facilities without needing to rely on cars, despite the direction of growth being less able to incorporate services and facilities within the site itself compared to other large-scale development options in the Borough.</p> <p>Unlike some of the other large-scale site options, this site is unlikely to contribute to the implementation of a Melton Mowbray by-pass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential effects of a bypass in terms of facilitating convenient car use, which may mean that</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		modal shift is more difficult to achieve, would also not occur.  Overall a significant positive effect on this objective is likely.
To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	--?	This site is highly constrained in relation to flood risk. Most of the site lies within Flood Zone 3, including areas of 3b, and a large area is also at high risk from surface water flooding. The site is on greenfield land, therefore development would result in the loss of permeable surfaces in a high flood risk area.  As such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is to some extent uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SUDS and that development may be sited outside of the area in Flood Zone 3; however it is recognised that this would significantly restrict the area of the site that is available for development.
To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.  There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.

### Melton West (Direction of Growth)

SA Objectives	SA score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	The Direction of growth west of Melton Mowbray could potentially accommodate 3,000 new homes and so could make a substantial contribution to the requirement for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum in Melton Borough up to 2036 <sup>154</sup> . The large scale of the development should mean that the provision of 40% affordable homes will be viable, and therefore the development would also contribute to the delivery of the 1,775 affordable homes required in the Borough between 2011 and 2036. Therefore, a significant positive effect is identified.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and	++/--?	This site would be developed as a direction of growth, directly adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's existing schools, particularly at secondary level. Therefore, opportunities to access existing schools in the town via sustainable modes of transport are

<sup>154</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

SA Objectives	SA score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>		<p>likely to be good. The nearest existing school to the direction of growth is Longfield Academy Secondary School which is adjacent to the eastern edge of the site. The Grove Primary School is also within walking distance (taken to be 600m) from the eastern edge of the potential development area.</p> <p>Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing schools such as these ones becoming overloaded. However, the scale of the potential development means that the provision of a new school or new school places may be incorporated into the development proposals although this is not yet known.</p> <p>A mixed (potential significant positive and significant negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether new school places can eventually be delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>This area would be developed as a direction of growth, immediately adjacent to the eastern edge of Melton Mowbray, which means that opportunities to walk, cycle and use public transport are likely to be good. As well as there being a fast and frequent bus service into the town centre, connections can be made to locations further afield from Melton Mowbray station which is within approximately 800m to the east of the site. The area is already served by bus links including the 128 service which runs hourly along the A607 between Melton Mowbray and Leicester and the 5A (20 minute), 8 and 23 (hourly) services which run along the A6006. The journey time to Melton town centre is less than 15 minutes.</p> <p>The development of this direction of growth is strategically important in the delivery of a Melton Mowbray bypass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential bypass could also facilitate convenient car use, which may mean that modal shift is more difficult to achieve.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to existing employment opportunities in Melton Mowbray, and the fact that employment development would be incorporated into the proposals, should mean that residents at the direction of growth are able to access employment opportunities there without using a car, and with a short journey that can be undertaken on foot or by bicycle.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect on this objective is likely.</p>
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>The development of this direction of growth is expected to incorporate employment development in a commercially attractive location that is well-related to existing employment. The site is also well-related to existing employment sites at Ashfordby and Holwell Works. Therefore, a positive effect is likely in relation to increasing the number of available jobs in the Borough which will support the increase in population through large-scale residential development. It will also provide good access to jobs for residents, particularly as the development is close to Melton Mowbray and the job opportunities that are concentrated there. A significant</p>

SA Objectives	SA score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
needs of the community.		positive effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	<p>The rural character of Melton Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. This direction of growth is adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray; however one of the two landscape character zones that it lies within has been classed as of medium sensitivity to development (the other is classed as medium-low sensitivity), due to the medium landscape scale and variable landscape intactness and condition. Therefore, while this area is less sensitive than the other sides of Melton Mowbray, it would still involve large-scale development on greenfield land in a moderately sensitive area and would significantly alter the built form of Melton Mowbray and the appearance of the wider landscape.</p> <p>As such, a potential significant negative effect on this SA objective is likely, although this is uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential to mitigate these effects to some extent.</p>
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	<p>There are two Local Wildlife Sites within this potential direction of growth: Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings and Bull Field. Ashfordby Hill Local Wildlife Site is also within fairly close proximity to the west and there are known great crested newt sites within the potential development area. The biodiversity study carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council identified this site as being mainly of lower ecological value, but with areas of moderate value in the south.</p> <p>The development of this large area of mainly greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity. Therefore, an overall significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	--?	<p>There are three listed buildings within this potential direction of growth: the Church of St Mary, Barn at Riverside View and Riverside Cottage/Farmhouse. There are also two Scheduled Monuments within very close proximity of the potential development area to the north and south – Sysonby Grange and Medieval Settlement Remains. There is a high concentration of listed buildings within the centre of Melton Mowbray which is within 1km to the east.</p> <p>Therefore, the development of this land for large scale development could have a significant negative effect on the setting of these heritage features. However, there is some uncertainty attached as effects will depend on the design of the development which is not yet known.</p>
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and	--	This potential development area is on greenfield land and there are areas in the south of the direction of growth which are classified as being of Grade 2 agricultural quality. Much of the rest of the site is Grade 3a or 3b land.



SA Objectives	SA score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
enhancing soil quality.		<p>The southern part of the direction of growth is also within a Mineral Consultation Area for sand and gravel and development could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. If this area is eventually allocated, opportunities for prior extraction should be explored.</p> <p>A significant negative effect is therefore likely overall.</p>
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++?	<p>This area would be developed as a direction of growth, immediately adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's services and facilities. Therefore, opportunities to access existing services in the town on foot would be good and there is also access to a fast and frequent bus service into the town. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services and facilities becoming overloaded; however the scale of the potential development means that it is likely that new services and facilities would be provided as part of the development. Development here would also stimulate the existing services in Melton Mowbray and contribute to their ongoing viability.</p> <p>As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain, depending on the extent to which new services and facilities are eventually able to be developed within this site.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	<p>The direction of growth to the west of Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in the town and the scale of the development could mean that new provision is made, reducing the risks of schools becoming overloaded and leading to social exclusion. The direction of growth would also contribute to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale as would be the case at this site, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling</p>



SA Objectives	SA score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
<p>13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>The development of this direction of growth would be expected to incorporate employment development in a commercially attractive location that is well-related to existing employment. Therefore, a positive effect is likely in relation to increasing the available land and buildings for businesses and should therefore help to increase the diversity of available jobs.</p> <p>The development of this direction of growth is strategically important in the delivery of a Melton Mowbray by-pass. This should help to reduce congestion in the town centre are lost, which can otherwise negatively impact on economic growth.</p> <p>A significant positive effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.</p>
<p>14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.</p>	<p>++/-?</p>	<p>This site would be developed as a direction of growth, directly adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there are existing healthcare facilities such as Latham House Medical Practice and Melton Mowbray Hospital. Therefore, opportunities to access existing healthcare facilities in the town via sustainable modes of transport are likely to be good. The distance of this site from Melton Mowbray means that opportunities to walk and cycle day to day are likely to be good, which can contribute to residents leading healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services such as GPs becoming overloaded; however the scale of this development means that facilities such as additional GP places are likely to be incorporated into the growth proposed.</p> <p>There is an existing A road (the A6006) running through the centre of the site which could mean that residents in that area are affected by noise and amenity issues.</p> <p>A mixed (significant positive and potential minor negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether additional healthcare such as new GP places are eventually delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
<p>15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic in the Borough. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p>

SA Objectives	SA score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>This site would be developed as a direction of growth, immediately adjacent to the eastern edge of Melton Mowbray, which means that opportunities to walk, cycle and use public transport are likely to be good. As well as there being a fast and frequent bus service into the town centre, connections can be made to locations further afield from Melton Mowbray station which is within approximately 800m to the east of the site.</p> <p>The development of this direction of growth is strategically important in the delivery of a Melton Mowbray bypass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential bypass could also facilitate convenient car use, which may mean that modal shift is more difficult to achieve.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to existing employment opportunities in Melton Mowbray, and the fact that employment development would be incorporated into the proposals, should mean that residents at the direction of growth are able to access employment opportunities there without using a car, and with a short journey that can be undertaken on foot or by bicycle.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect on this objective is likely.</p>
<p>16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The southern part of this direction of growth is highly constrained in relation to flood risk, being mostly covered by flood zone 3. However, the central and northern parts of the site are largely outside of high flood risk areas although there are small areas that are at high risk from surface water flooding. The site is on greenfield land; therefore development would result in the loss of a large area of permeable surfaces, some of which is in a high flood risk area.</p> <p>As such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is to some extent uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SUDS and that development may be sited outside of the area in Flood Zone 3; however it is recognised that this would significantly restrict the area of the site that is available for development.</p>
<p>17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

## Melton North (Sustainable Urban Extension)

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.</p>	++	<p>The area within the boundaries of the SUE has capacity to accommodate a large number of new homes (approximately 5,350). The development of the SUE would therefore make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>155</sup>. The development is expected to be of a sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development and as such would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036. It is also assumed that a development of this size would incorporate a range of housing types to meet the needs of various types of households.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>	++	<p>This site would be developed as an SUE and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray. As such, development at this location should provide good access to the concentration of existing schools in Melton Mowbray. The existing schools of St Mary's Melton Mowbray Church of England Primary School on Brampton Road and John Ferneley High School on Scalford Road would be located within walking distance of the SUE meaning pupils would have a good level of access to these facilities, potentially via sustainable transport.</p> <p>However, development of this size would require new school places to be incorporated, in order to avoid existing schools such as those becoming overloaded. The large size of the development proposed would mean that a level of self-containment in relation to services and facilities could be achieved, and it is expected that a new primary school would be provided as part of the development. This would reduce the potential for any adverse effects on education provision in the Borough which might result from a concentrated large increase in population and the pressure for school places which would be associated with this.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport</p>	++/-	<p>Given the proximity of the potential SUE to Melton Mowbray to the south, new residents could make use of the existing public transport links such as the bus stops currently located on Nottingham Road, Scalford Road, Wymondham Way and Kipling Drive which provide access to the town centre. The potential SUE area has public transport routes that run through it including the hourly 19 service between Oakham and Nottingham, the 24 service between Melton Mowbray and Bottesford, the 25 service between Melton Mowbray and Stathern and the 15 service which offers a 30 minute frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre. Journey times to Melton Mowbray town centre are less than 15 minutes. The scale of the</p>

<sup>155</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
choices.		<p>development and its proximity to Melton Mowbray could potentially allow for the provision of new public transport solutions, further reducing a reliance on car use.</p> <p>The location of the housing in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure, the potential for infrastructure development which might ease congestion in the town centre and public transport provision in the area a significant positive is likely. However, this effect is expected in combination with an uncertain minor negative effect due to the potential for increased car use if the development were to bring forward a bypass to the north of Melton Mowbray – while this would help to ease congestion, it could facilitate ongoing car use.</p>
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	<p>The development of Melton North SUE would be in close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre. As such it would provide new residents with good access via sustainable transport to jobs there, and would also be well-located in relation to other employment sites (including industrial estates such as Asfordby Business Park to the west). In addition, the large scale of the development at this SUE means that it could potentially include some employment land in a commercially attractive location. This would provide additional employment opportunities for residents and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.</p>
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--/+?	<p>The rural character of the Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. Although it would not result in settlement coalescence and would not encroach upon any of the Areas of Separation in the Borough, the development of this SUE would involve development on a large area greenfield land which would significantly affect the form and setting of Melton Mowbray by significantly extending the edge of Melton Mowbray to the north.</p> <p>The landscape sensitivity of this area to the north of the town has been identified as being medium to high due to its tranquil undeveloped rural character as well as its variable topography<sup>156</sup>. Therefore, a potential significant negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective. However, the existing 'hard' development edge north of Melton Mowbray could be improved by appropriately designed new development in this area, which would have a minor positive effect, resulting in potentially mixed effects overall. The effects are currently uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential for mitigate of these effects.</p>
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	<p>The potential SUE site is located on land which contains the Melton Country Park and Scalford Brook Local Wildlife Sites to the west. A number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have also been identified within this area; to the south west towards the A606, to the north by Scalford Road and also within Melton Country Park. The loss of a large area of greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be</p>

<sup>156</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity. It is also noted that the biodiversity study carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council identified this site as being mainly of lower ecological value, but with areas of moderate value in the south and west and a small area of high value in the north. Therefore, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain given that the development, particularly considering that it is of such a large scale, may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	--?	The potential SUE area contains a Scheduled Monument (Sysonby Grange) which is located on St Bartholomew's Way to the west. Syonsby Lodge, a Grade II Listed Building, is also located within the proposed SUE area to the east of the A606. Development at this location could potentially have negative impacts on the setting of these designated historic assets. A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that there is potential to mitigate this adverse effect on character through design solutions and sympathetic design.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	<p>The area covered by the potential SUE comprises greenfield land which is mainly Grade 3 Agricultural Quality, some of which is 3a. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of high quality agricultural land.</p> <p>Part of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area (MCA) is also within the SUE towards the south east by the Melton Spinney Road. The development could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction. As such, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++?	<p>This SUE would be immediately adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's services and facilities. Therefore, opportunities to access existing services in the town on foot would be good. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services and facilities becoming overloaded; however the scale of the potential development means that it is likely that new services and facilities would be provided as part of the development. Development here would also stimulate the existing services in Melton Mowbray and contribute to their ongoing viability.</p> <p>As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain, depending on the extent to which new services and facilities are eventually able to be developed within this site.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	<p>The SUE to the north Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Melton Mowbray and the large scale of the development would mean that new provision is likely to be made, reducing the risks of facilities becoming overloaded and leaving to social exclusion. The large size of the SUE would also mean that there is likely to be a significant contribution to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	The potential SUE could incorporate the delivery of a bypass to help reduce congestion in Melton Mowbray Town centre, which can otherwise have an adverse impact on the local economy. The SUE is also of sufficient size to incorporate employment land and so would help to provide the land and buildings required by businesses and may also increase the diversity of jobs available in the Borough. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+?	The SUE would be large enough (5,350 homes) to be relatively self-contained and the development is likely to incorporate new healthcare facilities such as a GP surgery. Existing healthcare facilities are also provided within nearby Melton Mowbray and the SUE would be located within 1.9km of Melton Mowbray hospital on the A607 to the south east. The SUE area also contains Melton Country Park to the west and this area of open space could potentially encourage healthier more active lifestyles amongst new residents. New development would also present opportunities for further open space to be incorporated with the provision of new dwellings. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective. The positive effect is uncertain given that it is unknown if additional open space would be provided as part of the SUE and if the existing open space at Melton Country Park would also be protected from development and amenity retained.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++/-	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>Given the proximity of the potential SUE to Melton Mowbray to the south, new residents could make use of the existing public transport links such as the bus stops currently located on Nottingham Road, Scalford Road, Wymondham Way and Kipling Drive which provide access to the town centre. The scale of the development and its proximity to Melton Mowbray could potentially allow for the provision of new public transport solutions, further reducing a reliance on car use.</p> <p>The location of the housing in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure, the potential for infrastructure development which might ease congestion in the town centre and public transport provision in the area a significant positive is likely. However, this effect is expected in combination with an uncertain minor negative effect due to the potential for increased car use if the development were to bring forward a bypass to the north of Melton Mowbray – while this would help to</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		ease congestion, it could facilitate ongoing car use and the associated emissions.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-?	<p>The main potential source of flooding in the SUE area is Salford Brook which to the west. This area has been identified as being within Flood Zone 3a, 3b and 2 in parts. The overall area which is at high risk of flooding is relatively small when compared to the total area within the boundaries of the potential SUE, however, and it is expected that development could be accommodated in areas not affected by risk of flooding.</p> <p>The development would, however, involve the development of a large area of greenfield land which would substantially increase the area of impermeable surfaces in Melton. This reduction of greenfield land would reduce areas where infiltration could occur, increasing risk of flooding from surface water. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SuDS and that development may be sited further from the areas which have been identified as being at high risk of flooding.</p>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

### Melton South incorporating Melton South East (Sustainable Urban Extension)

Note that the Melton South and South East SUEs are also appraised separately as stand-alone options – this SA matrix relates to the two areas combined.

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	The area within the SUE has the capacity to accommodate a substantial number of new homes, with significantly fewer (between 1,000 and 2,000) likely to be required. Therefore, the site would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036 <sup>157</sup> . The development would be of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development <sup>158</sup> . Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.

<sup>157</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>158</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options



SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++	This site would be developed as an SUE and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north and west. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the concentration of existing schools in Melton Mowbray. The existing schools of Birch Wood Melton Area Special School by Burton Road, Shepard County Primary School on Grange Drive and Swallow Dale Primary School on Dalby Road would be located within walking distance of the proposed SUE meaning pupils would have a good level of access to these facilities, potentially via sustainable transport. However, it is recognised that a development of this size would require new school places to be incorporated, in order to avoid existing schools such as those becoming overloaded. The large size of the development proposed would mean that a level of 'self-containment' of services and facilities could be achieved, and it is expected that a new primary school would be provided as part of the development. This would reduce the potential for any adverse effects on education provision in the Borough which might result from a concentrated large increase in population and the pressure for school places which would be associated with this. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+ +/ -?	<p>Given the very close proximity of this potential SUE to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north and west, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links that run through the potential development area - the number 19, 40 and 113 bus services run along the A606 between Oakham and Melton (Monday to Saturday). The journey time to Melton town centre is less than 15 minutes. The 100 and 128 services run between Melton Mowbray and Leicester (Monday to Saturday) and the 5A service runs adjacent to the northern boundary of the site offering a 20 minute frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre.</p> <p>The large scale of the development and its proximity to Melton Mowbray could potentially allow for the provision of new public transport links, further reducing a reliance on private car use. Most journey lengths should be short as there is a good concentration of jobs, services and facilities in Melton Mowbray. The location of the SUE in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure, the potential for infrastructure development which might ease congestion in the town centre and public transport provision in the area a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>However, this is combined with a potential minor negative effect also, as the development of this SUE could facilitate the delivery of a bypass at Melton Mowbray as well as other improvements to the road network. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift.</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	++	<p>This potential SUE is within close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre. As such it would provide new residents with good access (by public transport) to job opportunities in the town and at other employment sites (including industrial estates such as Leicester Road Industrial Estate to the north west). The scale of the development proposed at this SUE could potentially allow for some employment development to be included. This area would potentially be a commercially attractive location given its links to the town centre as well as proximity to current employment sites. This would provide additional employment opportunities for residents and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.</p>
<p>5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	--/+?	<p>The rural character of the Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. This SUE proposal would involve the development of a large area greenfield land to the south and south east of Melton Mowbray.</p> <p>The eastern side of the SUE would fill most of an Area of Separation which has been identified between Melton Mowbray and Burton Lazars. As such, the development of this area would contribute to the coalescence of these two settlements.</p> <p>The landscape sensitivity of the area to the south and south east of Melton Mowbray, which most of this potential SUE lies within, is classed as being of medium-high sensitivity to development<sup>159</sup>. This is due to the intricate small scale landscape and cultural pattern and open visual character and the degree of intervisibility which is increasingly present towards the east. A potential significant negative effect on the landscape is therefore identified as a result of large-scale development here. However, it is noted that the site lies within a valley which may reduce the negative impacts. In addition, the existing 'hard' development edge south of Melton Mowbray could be improved by appropriately designed new development in this area, which would have a minor positive effect, resulting in potentially mixed effects overall. The effects are currently uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential for mitigate of these effects.</p>
<p>6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	--?	<p>The potential SUE site is almost directly adjacent to Leicester Road Grassland Local Wildlife Site and within 200m of Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings Local Wildlife Site, although there are no Local Wildlife Sites within the boundaries of the site option. A number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have also been identified within this area; to the west along a tributary of the River Wreake, towards the central area of the SUE by Sandy Lane and to the east towards Burton Lazars by the A606. The biodiversity study carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council identified this site as being mainly of lower ecological value, but with areas of moderate value in the west and south east.</p> <p>The loss of a large area of greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the</p>

<sup>159</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>As such, a potential significant negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development, particularly considering that it is of such a large scale, may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p>
<p>7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The SUE area is almost directly adjacent to a Scheduled Monument to the south east by Melton Road on the approach to Burton Lazars. This designation includes St Mary and St Lazarus Hospital. The closest Listed Building to the potential SUE is Chestnut Farmhouse which is a Grade II Listed Building within Burton Lazars to the south east.</p> <p>Development at this location could potentially have negative impacts on the setting of these designated historic assets given their close proximity to the SUE. A significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that there is potential to mitigate this adverse effect on character through design solutions and sympathetic design.</p>
<p>8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>The area covered by the potential SUE comprises greenfield land which is mainly Grade 3b Agricultural Quality, although there are areas of Grade 3b Agricultural Land within the site. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of high quality agricultural land.</p> <p>Part of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Areas (MCAs) is also within the SUE towards its north western edge by Kirkby Lane and the A607 and the eastern edge of the site is adjacent to another sand and gravel MCA. The close proximity of these MCAs may result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction.</p> <p>Overall, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>This SUE would be large enough to be relatively self-contained and the development would be expected to incorporate new services and facilities to support the population growth. This would be to the benefit of internal cohesion of the new development area given that residents would not have to travel to access important services. The development would also be within close proximity of the existing services and facilities that are concentrated in Melton Mowbray and would therefore provide support for their ongoing viability. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>The SUE to the south and south east of Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Melton Mowbray and the large scale of the development would mean that new provision is likely to be made, reducing the risks of facilities becoming overloaded and leaving to social exclusion. The large size of the SUE would also mean that there is likely to be a good contribution to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	<p>The potential SUE is located to the south of Melton Mowbray is in an area which has been identified as potentially suitable for a bypass which would link the A606 in the west and A607 in the east. As such development of the SUE at this location could provide the land needed to facilitate this route thus reducing congestion in Melton Town centre, which can otherwise have a negative effect on the local economy.</p> <p>The SUE is also of sufficient size to include some employment land so would increase the available land and buildings available for businesses and potentially the diversity of available jobs. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.</p>
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	<p>This site would be developed as an SUE and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north and west. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the existing healthcare facilities in Melton Mowbray. The SUE would be located within 800m of Melton Mowbray hospital on the A607 to the north west and there are also GPs within the town that would be easily accessible, meaning residents would have a good level of access to these facilities, potentially via sustainable transport. However, it is recognised that a development of this size would require new healthcare facilities to be provided, in order to avoid existing facilities becoming overloaded. The large size of the development proposed would mean that a level of 'self-containment' of services and facilities could be achieved, and it is expected that new healthcare facilities would be provided as part of the development. This would reduce the potential for any adverse effects which might result from a concentrated large increase in population and the pressure on existing facilities which would be associated with this.</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>The SUE is located within close proximity of a number of open spaces: Top Park is located to the south within 360m by Lime Street and Mars Sportsground is located to the north west of the site within 180m by Saxby Road. New development would also present opportunities for further open space to be incorporated within the SUE, particularly considering the large size. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>Given the very close proximity of this potential SUE to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north and west, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links such as the bus stops currently located on the A606 in the east, Dalby Road centrally and the A607 and Heather Crescent in the west which provide access to the town centre.</p> <p>The large scale of the development and its proximity to Melton Mowbray could potentially allow for the provision of new public transport links, further reducing a reliance on private car use. Most journey lengths should be short as there is a good concentration of jobs, services and facilities in Melton Mowbray. The location of the SUE in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure, the potential for infrastructure development which might ease congestion in the town centre and public transport provision in the area a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>However, this is combined with a potential minor negative effect also, as the development of this SUE could facilitate the delivery of a bypass at Melton Mowbray. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles.</p>
<p>16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>The main potential source of flooding in the SUE area is a tributary of the River Wreake in the north west. This area of the site has been identified as being partly within Flood Zones 2 and 3. The River Eye also has a presents a flood risk to the north east; however any areas which are within Flood Zone 2 and 3 are beyond the boundaries of the potential SUE site. A such, the overall area within the site which is at high risk of flooding is relatively small when compared to the total developable area and it is expected that development could be accommodated in areas not affected by risk of flooding.</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		The development would, however, involve the development of a large area of greenfield land which would substantially increase the area of impermeable surfaces in Melton and reduce infiltration, potentially increasing flood risk. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SuDS and that development may be sited away from the areas which have been identified as being at high risk of flooding.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

### Melton South SUE (Sustainable Urban Extension)

Note that this matrix relates to the Melton South SUE alone, i.e. not incorporating Melton South East. Separate SA matrices have been completed for Melton South incorporating Melton South East and Melton South East alone.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	<p>The area within the SUE could accommodate a substantial number of new homes, with significantly fewer (between 1,000 and 2,000) likely to be required. Therefore, the site would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>160</sup>. The development would be of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>161</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective.</p>
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and	++	This site would be developed as an SUE and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the concentration of

<sup>160</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>161</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>		<p>existing schools in Melton Mowbray. Swallow Dale Primary School and Longfield Academy would be located within walking distance of the SUE meaning pupils would have a good level of access to these facilities, potentially via sustainable transport. However, it is recognised that a development of this size would require new school places to be incorporated, in order to avoid existing schools such as those becoming overloaded. The large size of the development proposed would mean that a level of 'self-containment' of services and facilities could be achieved, and it is expected that a new primary school would be provided as part of the development. This would reduce the potential for any adverse effects on education provision in the Borough which might result from a concentrated large increase in population and the pressure for school places which would be associated with this. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	<p>++/-?</p>	<p>Given the very close proximity of this potential SUE to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links that run through the potential development area - the number 19, 40 and 113 bus services run along the A606 between Oakham and Melton (Monday to Saturday). The journey time to Melton town centre is less than 15 minutes. The 100 and 128 services run between Melton Mowbray and Leicester (Monday to Saturday) and the 5A service runs adjacent to the northern boundary of the site offering a 20 minute frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre.</p> <p>The large scale of the development and its proximity to Melton Mowbray could potentially allow for the provision of new public transport links, further reducing a reliance on private car use. Most journey lengths should be short as there is a good concentration of jobs, services and facilities in Melton Mowbray. The location of the SUE in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure, the potential for infrastructure development which might ease congestion in the town centre and public transport provision in the area a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>However, this is combined with a potential minor negative effect also, as the development of this SUE could facilitate the delivery of a bypass at Melton Mowbray as well as other improvements to the road network. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift.</p>
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>This potential SUE is within close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre. As such it would provide new residents with good access (by public transport) to job opportunities in the town and at other employment sites (including industrial estates such as Leicester Road Industrial Estate to the north west). The scale of the development proposed at this SUE could potentially allow for some employment development to be included. This area would potentially be a commercially attractive location given its links to the town centre as well as proximity to current employment sites. This would provide additional employment opportunities</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
needs of the community.		for residents and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--/+?	<p>The rural character of the Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. This SUE proposal would involve the development of a large area greenfield land to the south of Melton Mowbray.</p> <p>The eastern side of the SUE would cover nearly half of the Area of Separation which has been identified between Melton Mowbray and Burton Lazars. As such, the development of this area would contribute to the coalescence of these two settlements.</p> <p>The landscape sensitivity of the area to the south of Melton Mowbray, which most of this potential SUE lies within, is classed as being of medium-high sensitivity to development<sup>162</sup>. This is due to the intricate small scale landscape and cultural pattern and open visual character and the degree of intervisibility which is increasingly present towards the east. A potential significant negative effect on the landscape is therefore identified as a result of large-scale development here. However, it is noted that the site lies within a valley which may reduce the negative impacts. In addition, the existing 'hard' development edge south of Melton Mowbray could be improved by appropriately designed new development in this area, which would have a minor positive effect, resulting in potentially mixed effects overall. The effects are currently uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential for mitigate of these effects.</p>
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	<p>The potential SUE site is almost directly adjacent to Leicester Road Grassland Local Wildlife Site and within 200m of Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings Local Wildlife Site, although there are no Local Wildlife Sites within the boundaries of the site option. A number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have also been identified within this area; to the west along a tributary of the River Wreake and towards the central area of the SUE by Sandy Lane. The biodiversity study carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council identified this site as being mainly of lower ecological value, but with areas of moderate value in the west and south east.</p> <p>The loss of a large area of greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>As such, a potential significant negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development, particularly considering that it is of such a large scale, may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p>

<sup>162</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	--?	<p>The SUE area is almost directly adjacent to a Scheduled Monument to the south east by Melton Road on the approach to Burton Lazars. This designation includes St Mary and St Lazarus Hospital. The closest Listed Building to the potential SUE is Chestnut Farmhouse which is a Grade II Listed Building within Burton Lazars to the south east.</p> <p>Development at this location could potentially have negative impacts on the setting of these designated historic assets given their close proximity to the SUE. A significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that there is potential to mitigate this adverse effect on character through design solutions and sympathetic design.</p>
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	<p>The area covered by the potential SUE comprises greenfield land which is mainly Grade 3b Agricultural Quality, although there are areas of Grade 3a Agricultural Land in the site. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of high quality agricultural land.</p> <p>Part of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Areas (MCAs) is also within the SUE towards its north western edge by Kirkby Lane. The close proximity of this MCA may result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction.</p> <p>Overall, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	<p>This SUE would be large enough to be relatively self-contained and the development would be expected to incorporate new services and facilities to support the population growth. This would be to the benefit of internal cohesion of the new development area given that residents would not have to travel to access important services. The development would also be within close proximity of the existing services and facilities that are concentrated in Melton Mowbray and would therefore provide support for their ongoing viability. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	<p>The SUE to the south of Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Melton Mowbray and the large scale of the development would mean that new provision is likely to be made, reducing the risks of facilities becoming overloaded and leaving to social exclusion. The large size of the SUE would also mean that there is likely to be a good contribution to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	<p>The potential SUE is located to the south of Melton Mowbray is in an area which has been identified as potentially suitable for a bypass which would link the A606 in the west and A607 in the east. As such development of the SUE at this location could provide the land needed to facilitate this route thus reducing congestion in Melton Town centre, which can otherwise have a negative effect on the local economy.</p> <p>The SUE is also of sufficient size to include some employment land so would increase the available land and buildings available for businesses and potentially the diversity of available jobs. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.</p>
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	<p>This site would be developed as an SUE and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the existing healthcare facilities in Melton Mowbray. The SUE would be located within 800m of Melton Mowbray hospital on the A607 to the north west and there are also GPs within the town that would be easily accessible, meaning residents would have a good level of access to these facilities, potentially via sustainable transport. However, it is recognised that a development of this size would require new healthcare facilities to be provided, in order to avoid existing facilities becoming overloaded. The large size of the development proposed would mean that a level of 'self-containment' of services and facilities could be achieved, and it is expected that new healthcare facilities would be provided as part of the development. This would reduce the potential for any adverse effects which might result from a concentrated large increase in population and the pressure on existing facilities which would be associated with this.</p> <p>The SUE is located within close proximity of a number of open spaces: Top Park is located to the south within 360m by Lime Street and Mars Sportsground is located to the north west of the site within 180m by Saxby Road. New development would also present opportunities for further open space to be incorporated within the SUE, particularly considering the large size. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>Given the very close proximity of this potential SUE to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links.</p> <p>The large scale of the development and its proximity to Melton Mowbray could potentially allow for the provision of new public transport links, further reducing a reliance on private car use. Most journey lengths should be short as there is a good concentration of jobs, services and facilities in Melton Mowbray. The location of the SUE in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure, the potential for infrastructure development which might ease congestion in the town centre and public transport provision in the area a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>However, this is combined with a potential minor negative effect also, as the development of this SUE could facilitate the delivery of a bypass at Melton Mowbray. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles.</p>
<p>16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>The main potential source of flooding in the SUE area is a tributary of the River Wreake in the north west. This area of the site has been identified as being partly within Flood Zones 2 and 3. As such, the overall area within the site which is at high risk of flooding is relatively small when compared to the total developable area and it is expected that development could be accommodated in areas not affected by risk of flooding.</p> <p>The development would, however, involve the development of a large area of greenfield land which would substantially increase the area of impermeable surfaces in Melton and reduce infiltration, potentially increasing flood risk. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SuDS and that development may be sited away from the areas which have been identified as being at high risk of flooding.</p>
<p>17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
efficient use of water resources.		<p>new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

### Melton South East SUE

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	<p>The area within the SUE could accommodate a around 1,700 new homes. Therefore, the site would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>163</sup>. The development would be of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>164</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective.</p>
To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++/-?	<p>This site would be developed as an SUE and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north west. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the concentration of existing schools in Melton Mowbray. The existing schools of Birch Wood Melton Area Special School by Burton Road and Shepard County Primary School on Grange Drive would be located within walking distance of the proposed SUE meaning pupils would have a good level of access to these facilities, potentially via sustainable transport. However, it is recognised that a development of this size would require new school places to be incorporated, in order to avoid existing schools such as those becoming overloaded. This SUE would be less able to deliver a level of 'self-containment' of services and facilities in comparison to other options and is unlikely to include a new primary school. Therefore, there is a risk of existing schools becoming overloaded unless they have capacity to accommodate the additional demand from this SUE. Overall, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is identified in relation to education, although this is uncertain depending on what capacity there is at the schools nearby to accommodate additional pupils.</p>
To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve	++	<p>Given the very close proximity of this potential SUE to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north west, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of</p>

<sup>163</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>164</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>		<p>transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links that run through the potential development area - the number 19, 40 and 113 bus services run along the A606 between Oakham and Melton (Monday to Saturday). The journey time to Melton town centre is less than 15 minutes. The 5A service runs close to the western boundary of the site offering a 20 minute frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to Melton Mowbray could reduce reliance on private car use. Most journey lengths should be short as there is a good concentration of jobs, services and facilities in Melton Mowbray. The location of the SUE in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west.</p> <p>Unlike some of the other large-scale site options, this site is unlikely to contribute to the implementation of a Melton Mowbray by-pass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential effects of a bypass in terms of facilitating convenient car use, which may mean that modal shift is more difficult to achieve, would also not occur.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	+	<p>This potential SUE is within close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre. As such it would provide new residents with good access (by public transport) to job opportunities in the town.</p> <p>However, compared to other SUE options, this site is less able to make a significant contribution to employment land because of its scale. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective overall.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	--?	<p>The rural character of the Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. This SUE proposal would involve the development of a large area greenfield land to the south east of Melton Mowbray.</p> <p>The southern part of the SUE would extend within an Area of Separation which has been identified between Melton Mowbray and Burton Lazars. As such, the development of this area would contribute to the coalescence of these two settlements.</p> <p>The landscape sensitivity of the area to the south east of Melton Mowbray, which this potential SUE lies within, is classed as being of medium-high sensitivity to development<sup>165</sup>. This is due to the due primarily to</p>

<sup>165</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>the open visual character and the degree of intervisibility, the character of which would be vulnerable to change in light of residential development and the impacts on the Area of Separation.</p> <p>A potential significant negative effect on the landscape is therefore identified as a result of large-scale development here. However, this is currently uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential for mitigate of these effects. It is noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study sets out some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects on the landscape, including that any development should seek to achieve a gradation of development density to the outer edges, linked with new green space provision. This should also be tied in with reduced building storey height (maximum of two storeys to the edge) to reduce perception of built mass, and a simple, muted materials palette including timber, painted render and local brick. Green and brown/turf roofs may also be appropriate to the most prominent locations to help visually integrate townscape and landscape. Lit development edges should be avoided to assist with conservation of dark night skies/avoidance of sky glow and perception of further urbanising influences.</p>
To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-?	<p>There are no designated biodiversity sites within the boundaries of the site option. A number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have also been identified nearby; however not within the site itself. The biodiversity study carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council identified this site as being of lower ecological value.</p> <p>The loss of a large area of greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>As such, a potential minor negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development, particularly considering that it is of such a large scale, may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p>
To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	<p>The potential SUE does not include any designated heritage features. The nearest are listed buildings in Burton Lazars although these are within fairly close proximity of the south eastern boundary of the SUE and their setting may therefore be affected. However, it is noted that they are surrounded by existing development and adjacent to the A606.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that there is potential to mitigate this adverse effect on character through design solutions and sympathetic design.</p>
To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and	--	The area covered by the potential SUE comprises greenfield land which is mainly Grade 3b Agricultural Quality, although there are areas of Grade 3a Agricultural Land. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of high quality agricultural land.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
enhancing soil quality.		<p>The northern part of the SUE would extend within of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area (MCA) which may result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction.</p> <p>Overall, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+ +/-?	<p>This SUE would be adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's services and facilities. Therefore, opportunities to access existing services in the town on foot would be good and there is also access to a fast and frequent bus service into the town. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services and facilities becoming overloaded, particularly as there is uncertainty about the extent to which new services and facilities would be provided as part of the development. However, development here would also stimulate the existing services in Melton Mowbray and contribute to their ongoing viability.</p> <p>In comparison to other large-scale development site options, there is less potential for the area to be developed as a self-contained development incorporating services and facilities.</p> <p>As such a mixed (potential significant positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain, depending on the extent to which new services and facilities are eventually able to be developed within this site.</p>
To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+/-	<p>The SUE to the south east of Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in the town; however the scale of the development would mean that new provision is unlikely to be made, increasing the risks of schools becoming overloaded and leading to social exclusion. However, the direction of growth would still contribute to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>
To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
materials.		<p>growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	-	<p>The development of this SUE would not be able to make a significant contribution towards employment land compared to other site options; therefore it would not have the same effects in terms of increasing the available employment land and improving the diversity of jobs available in Melton.</p> <p>The SUE south east of Melton Mowbray would not offer the opportunity to deliver a bypass at the town, which some of the other large-scale development site options would. Therefore, potential opportunities to reduce congestion (which can negatively impact upon economic growth in the Borough) would be lost.</p> <p>As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+ + / -	<p>This site would be developed as an SUE and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north west. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the existing healthcare facilities in Melton Mowbray including Melton Mowbray Hospital and GP surgeries. However, it is recognised that a development of this size would require new healthcare facilities to be provided in order to avoid existing facilities such as those becoming overloaded. This SUE would be less able to deliver a level of 'self-containment' of services and facilities in comparison to other options and is unlikely to include a new health centre. Therefore, there is a risk of existing facilities becoming overloaded unless they have capacity to accommodate the additional demand from this SUE.</p> <p>Compared to other options, this SUE would be less able to provide substantial green infrastructure which can help encourage people to be more active, although there are existing open areas in close proximity. The northern part of the site would be adjacent to the railway line, which could result in noise and amenity impacts on residents in that area.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is identified in relation to health, although this is uncertain depending on what provision is eventually made in relation to green infrastructure and healthcare facilities for the growing population.</p>
To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the	+ +	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
Borough.		<p>renewable energy generation.</p> <p>Given the very close proximity of this potential SUE to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north west, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links that run through the potential development area - the number 19, 40 and 113 bus services run along the A606 between Oakham and Melton (Monday to Saturday). The journey time to Melton town centre is less than 15 minutes. The 5A service runs close to the western boundary of the site offering a 20 minute frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to Melton Mowbray could reduce reliance on private car use. Most journey lengths should be short as there is a good concentration of jobs, services and facilities in Melton Mowbray. The location of the SUE in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west.</p> <p>Unlike some of the other large-scale site options, this site is unlikely to contribute to the implementation of a Melton Mowbray by-pass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential effects of a bypass in terms of facilitating convenient car use, which may mean that modal shift is more difficult to achieve, would also not occur.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-?	<p>This SUE is outside of high flood risk areas, although a tiny area in the north lies within flood zone 2. However, as this area is directly adjacent to the railway line and on the very edge of the SUE site it may not be built on. There are only very small areas within the site that are at high risk of surface water flooding.</p> <p>The development would, however, involve the development of a large area of greenfield land which would substantially increase the area of impermeable surfaces in Melton and reduce infiltration, potentially increasing flood risk. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SuDS and that development could be sited away from the very small areas which have been identified as being at high risk of flooding.</p>
To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.

### Thorpe Arnold SUE

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	<p>The development of this area could provide for around 600 new homes. While this figure is lower than for some of the other large-scale development site options in Melton, it will still go some way towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>166</sup>.</p> <p>Although the scale of development that could come forward at this SUE is smaller than at some of the other options, it is of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>167</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>Overall, a significant positive effect is likely in relation to this objective.</p>
To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++/--?	<p>This potential SUE is directly adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's existing schools, particularly at secondary level. Therefore, opportunities to access existing schools in the town via sustainable modes of transport are likely to be good. The nearest existing school to the site is Brownlow Primary School in Melton Mowbray, approximately 500m to the south west, so within reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m).</p> <p>However, focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing schools such as these ones becoming overloaded, particularly as the SUE is less able to incorporate the provision of services such as a primary school in comparison to other large-scale growth options in the</p>

<sup>166</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>167</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>Borough.</p> <p>A mixed (potential significant positive and significant negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether new school places can eventually be delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
<p>To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>This SUE would be immediately adjacent to the north eastern edge of Melton Mowbray, which means that opportunities to walk, cycle and use public transport are likely to be good, although the distance to the town centre from the north east of the site is approximately 2.5km. As well as there being a fast and frequent bus service into the town centre, connections can be made to locations further afield from Melton Mowbray railway station which is within approximately 1.8km to the west of the site.</p> <p>There are existing public transport routes that run through the potential development area including the number 8 hourly bus service which runs along the A607 between Grantham and Loughborough (stopping at Melton Mowbray). The journey time to Melton town centre is only around five minutes. The number 18 bus service runs close to the western boundary of the site offering a further hourly frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to existing employment opportunities in Melton Mowbray should mean that residents at the direction of growth are able to access employment opportunities there without using a car, and with a short journey that can be undertaken on foot or by bicycle.</p> <p>Overall, a significant positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
<p>To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	<p>+/-</p>	<p>The development of this SUE would not offer the same opportunities as some of the alternative options in terms of providing employment land and it is not in as attractive a commercial location as some of the other site options. However, the proximity of the SUE to Melton Mowbray would mean that residents would have good access to the job opportunities that are concentrated there, and could use the railway station which is within 1.8km to the west to access jobs further afield. This will be particularly beneficial for people without a car. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The rural character of Melton Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. Although this SUE is adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray, rather than being a stand-alone site in the open countryside, it would result in the loss of the Area of Separation between Melton Mowbray and Thorpe Arnold and therefore result in the coalescence of the two settlements. The development would also comprise large-scale development on greenfield land and would significantly alter the form of the north eastern edge of Melton Mowbray and the wider setting of the town.</p> <p>The landscape character zone (LCZ) to the north east of the town which this site lies partly within has been</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>classified as being of medium to high sensitivity by virtue of the southern area's function in providing separation between Melton Mowbray and Thorpe Arnold, its small scale and sense of intactness within the tributary valley which runs between the two areas of settlement<sup>168</sup>.</p> <p>As such, a significant negative effect on this SA objective is likely, although this is uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential to mitigate these effects to some extent.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>There are no designated sites such as SSSIs or Local Wildlife Sites within the potential SUE; however there are Local Wildlife Sites within close proximity including Corfe Wet Grassland which is immediately adjacent to the western boundary of the site. In addition, a number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have been identified within this area, to the west of the SUE. [REDACTED]</p> <p>The development of this large area of mainly greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>Therefore, an overall minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the development may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>There is one listed building (Home Farmhouse) within this SUE and another five are within very close proximity of the site to the east in Thorpe Arnold. Therefore, the development of this land for large scale development on greenfield land could have an impact on the setting of these heritage features.</p> <p>A potential significant negative effect is therefore identified although this is uncertain and will depend on factors such as the design of the development.</p>
<p>To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>This area comprises greenfield land and more than half of the site is classified as being of Grade 2 agricultural land quality. Almost all of the rest of the site is Grade 3 agricultural land although it is not known if this is Grade 3a or Grade 3b.</p> <p>The SUE is also almost entirely within a Mineral Consultation Area for sand and gravel and development could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. Opportunities for prior extraction should be explored if this development is taken forward.</p> <p>A significant negative effect is therefore likely overall.</p>

<sup>168</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++/-?	<p>This potential SUE is immediately adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's services and facilities. Therefore, opportunities to access existing services in the town on foot would be good and there is also access to a fast and frequent bus service into the town. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services and facilities becoming overloaded, particularly as there is uncertainty about the extent to which new services and facilities would be able to be provided as part of the development due to its scale. However, development here would also stimulate the existing services in Melton Mowbray and contribute to their ongoing viability.</p> <p>In comparison to other large-scale development site options, there is less potential for the area to be developed as a self-contained development incorporating services and facilities.</p> <p>As such a mixed (potential significant positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain, depending on the extent to which new services and facilities are eventually able to be developed within this site.</p>
To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+/-	<p>The Thorpe Arnold SUE to the north east of Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in the town; however the scale of the development would mean that new provision is unlikely to be made, increasing the risks of schools becoming overloaded and leading to social exclusion. However, the direction of growth would still contribute to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>
To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale as would be the case at this site, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+/-?	<p>The development at this direction of growth is not expected to offer good opportunities to incorporate employment provision in comparison to other site options; therefore it would probably not increase the available employment land or improve the diversity of jobs available in Melton.</p> <p>The location of the SUE close to Melton Mowbray may mean that opportunities to reduce car use and therefore reduce congestion, which can be detrimental to the local economy, are good. However, it is not known whether the site would offer opportunities to help deliver a bypass at Melton Mowbray.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is currently uncertain.</p>
To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+ +/-?	<p>This SUE would be directly adjacent to the urban area of Melton Mowbray where there are existing healthcare facilities such as Latham House Medical Practice and Melton Mowbray Hospital. Therefore, opportunities to access existing healthcare facilities in the town via sustainable modes of transport are likely to be good. The short distance of this site from Melton Mowbray means that opportunities to walk and cycle day to day are likely to be good, which can contribute to people living healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>However, focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services such as GPs becoming overloaded, particularly as the direction of growth is less able to incorporate the provision of services such as this in comparison to other large-scale growth options in the Borough. It is also noted that the A road running through the centre of the site could result in amenity affects and air pollution for residents in that area.</p> <p>A mixed (potential significant positive and minor negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether additional healthcare such as new GP places are eventually delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic in the Borough. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>This SUE would be immediately adjacent to the north eastern edge of Melton Mowbray, which means that opportunities to walk, cycle and use public transport are likely to be good, although the distance to the town centre from the north east of the site is approximately 2.5km. As well as there being a fast and frequent bus service into the town centre, connections can be made to locations further afield from Melton Mowbray</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>railway station which is within approximately 1.8km to the west of the site.</p> <p>There are existing public transport routes that run through the potential development area including the number 8 hourly bus service which runs along the A607 between Grantham and Loughborough (stopping at Melton Mowbray). The journey time to Melton town centre is only around five minutes. The number 18 bus service runs close to the western boundary of the site offering a further hourly frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to existing employment opportunities in Melton Mowbray should mean that residents at the direction of growth are able to access employment opportunities there without using a car, and with a short journey that can be undertaken on foot or by bicycle.</p> <p>Overall, a significant positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	--?	<p>The western part of this site is affected by flood zone 2 and 3 and the site is on greenfield land, therefore development here would result in the loss of permeable surfaces in a high flood risk area.</p> <p>As such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is to some extent uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SUDS and that development may be sited outside of the area in Flood Zone 3.</p>
To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

### Welby SUE

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To ensure that the housing stock	++	The potential new settlement at Six Hills could accommodate approximately 1,250 new homes. Therefore,



SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.		<p>the site would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>169</sup>. The development would be of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>170</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective.</p>
To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+/-?	<p>This potential SUE site is located within fairly close proximity of Melton Mowbray but is not adjacent to the existing edge of the town.</p> <p>As such, the development would be located within fairly close proximity of the existing education facilities in Melton Mowbray although the nearest school (St Marys Church of England Primary) is not within reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m), being approximately 700m away in the north of Melton Mowbray and is not accessible via public transport.</p> <p>There is uncertainty about whether a new school would be able to be delivered as part of this development – if this is the case this would support the population growth and avoid the risk of schools nearby becoming overloaded, although if a school or additional school places is not provided, this may occur.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is identified in relation to education, although this is uncertain depending on what capacity there is at the schools in Melton Mowbray to accommodate additional pupils and on whether a new school could be provided as part of the development of this site.</p>
To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+/-?	<p>This potential SUE site is located within fairly close proximity of Melton Mowbray but is not adjacent to the existing edge of the town. The Welby SUE is not directly served by existing public transport links although the 19 and 24 bus services run north of the site along Nottingham Road. The majority of the SUE is within 3km of main services and facilities in Melton Mowbray town centre and therefore accessible by cycling but not on foot. Therefore, levels of car use may be high although this will depend on the extent to which new public transport links may be incorporated into the development.</p> <p>The development of this SUE could help to deliver a small part of the bypass at Melton Mowbray. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift.</p> <p>Overall a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is currently uncertain depending on the extent to which sustainable transport links are integrated into the development.</p>

<sup>169</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>170</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options



SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	+/-	<p>The development of this potential SUE would mean that residents have reasonable good access to the job opportunities in Melton Mowbray although opportunities for people without a car to access those jobs may be limited unless appropriate public transport links are integrated into the new development. While the site is close to the existing employment site at Asfordby, this site has less potential for new employment provision in comparison to some of the alternative options.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore identified in relation to this SA objective.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	--?	<p>The rural character of the Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. Development at this site would not affect any Areas of Separation in the Borough so would not contribute to settlement coalescence. However, this SUE would involve the development of a large area greenfield land which is separate to the urban area of Melton Mowbray. The development would be of a disproportionate scale to the size of Welby and would therefore significantly alter the character and setting of the hamlet.</p> <p>Therefore, a potential significant negative effect on this SA objective is identified although this is uncertain as the sensitivity of this area has not been assessed in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study and because effects will be determined to some extent by the design of the site.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	-?	<p>The potential SUE site is within very close proximity of Asfordby Hill candidate Local Wildlife Site to the south, and Welby Mine Site and Stream candidate Local Wildlife Site to the west. [REDACTED] there are no designated biodiversity features within the site boundary.</p> <p>The loss of the large area of greenfield land to the north west of Melton Mowbray may also have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain until the detailed development proposals for the site are known.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	--?	<p>There are three Listed Buildings within this site (Welby Grange, Grange Cottage and a stone outbuilding adjacent to the Grange) and a fourth adjacent to the southern boundary of the site (Church of St Bartholomew). Sysonby Grange Scheduled Monument is approximately 175m to the east of the edge of the potential SUE site.</p> <p>Large-scale development at this location could therefore potentially have a significant negative effect on the setting of these designated heritage assets although this is uncertain as there may be the potential to</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		mitigate effects through appropriate design.
To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	<p>The area that would be covered by the potential SUE comprises mostly greenfield land, which is mainly Grade 2 Agricultural Quality Land. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of a large amount of high quality agricultural land and a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>The potential SUE site is not within close proximity of any Mineral Consultation Areas; therefore development here is not expected to result in the sterilisation of minerals.</p>
To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+/-?	<p>The potential SUE would be within fairly close proximity of the services and facilities at Melton Mowbray although there is some separation between the site and the town and public transport services are currently very limited. The likely effects of the site will therefore depend largely on whether new services, as well as improved public transport links to Melton Mowbray, would be provided as part of the development which is not yet known.</p> <p>Large-scale population growth could result in existing services becoming overloaded if new provision is not made, although development near to Melton Mowbray could also support existing services there and ensure their ongoing viability.</p> <p>Therefore, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is likely although this is currently uncertain.</p>
To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+/-?	<p>The SUE at Welby would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Melton Mowbray although it is not yet known whether new provision is likely to be made as part of this development, which would determine whether there is a risk of facilities becoming overloaded and leaving to social exclusion. The scale of the SUE means that it would contribute to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is currently uncertain.</p>
To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
To minimise waste and increase	0	All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation.

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
the reuse and recycling of waste materials.		<p>However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is on mainly greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	-?	<p>This site is less able than some of the alternative options to deliver employment land, so may not help to provide employment land or buildings for business or to encourage inward investment and increase the diversity of jobs available locally.</p> <p>The fact that public transport provision in the area is currently very limited means that levels of car use are likely to be high, unless public transport provision is made as part of the development. Although the distance to Melton Mowbray town centre is within 3km from most of the site, so people may be able to cycle, the town isn't accessible on foot. Therefore, the development may have negative effects on congestion which can be detrimental to the local economy.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified although this is uncertain.</p>
To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+/-?	<p>This potential SUE site is located within fairly close proximity of Melton Mowbray but is not adjacent to the existing edge of the town.</p> <p>As such, the development would be located within fairly close proximity of the existing healthcare facilities in Melton Mowbray although the town is not within reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m). People could cycle into the town which would help increase levels of activity as well as providing access to GPs there; however this wouldn't be possible for all people and if public transport links or new healthcare facilities are not provided, there may be negative effects on health. There is uncertainty about whether new provision would be made – if this is the case this would support the population growth and avoid the risk of GPs nearby becoming overloaded, although if provision is not made, this may occur.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is identified in relation to health, although this is uncertain depending on what new provision is made as part of the development of this site.</p>
To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the	+/-?	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p>

SA Objectives	Short term	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
Borough.		<p>This potential SUE site is located within fairly close proximity of Melton Mowbray but is not adjacent to the existing edge of the town. The Welby SUE is not directly served by existing public transport links although the 19 and 24 bus services run north of the site along Nottingham Road. The majority of the SUE is within 3km of main services and facilities in Melton Mowbray town centre and therefore accessible by cycling but not on foot. Therefore, levels of car use may be high although this will depend on the extent to which new public transport links may be incorporated into the development.</p> <p>The development of this SUE could help to deliver a small part of the bypass at Melton Mowbray. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift.</p> <p>Overall a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is currently uncertain depending on the extent to which sustainable transport links are integrated into the development.</p>
To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	--?	<p>This potential SUE is located mainly on greenfield land; therefore the development of the site would reduce the area of permeable surfaces which allow for infiltration, thus increasing overall flood risk.</p> <p>An area of flood zone 3 runs through the centre of the site, and there is also high risk of surface water flooding in the centre of the site. While it may be possible to avoid developing in that area, a potential significant negative effect on this objective is identified. However, this is uncertain given that new development presents the opportunity to mitigate flood risk through the incorporation of SuDS.</p>
To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

## Belvoir Road, Bottesford (Sustainable Urban Extension)

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>The development of this site has the capacity to provide for 430 new homes. While this figure is lower than for some of the other large-scale development site options in Melton, it will still go some way towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>171</sup>.</p> <p>Although the scale of development that could come forward at this SUE is smaller than at some of the other options, it is of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>172</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>Overall, a significant positive effect is likely in relation to this objective.</p>
<p>To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>	<p>+?/-</p>	<p>This potential SUE site is located adjacent to the existing edge of Bottesford to the south. As such, the development would be located within close proximity of the existing education facilities in Bottesford. The SUE would be within walking distance (taken to be 600m) of Bottesford Church of England Primary School and Belvoir High School, both to the west. It should therefore be possible for residents to access these schools without relying on car use.</p> <p>However, the relatively small scale of this potential SUE in comparison to other options means that the SUE would be less able to act as a self-contained settlement and it may not be possible to incorporate a new primary school to support the population growth. New residents would therefore depend on the existing schools in Bottesford, which may result in these facilities becoming overloaded.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is identified in relation to education, although this is uncertain depending on what capacity there is at the schools in Bottesford to accommodate additional pupils.</p>

<sup>171</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>172</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	+/-	<p>This potential SUE is immediately adjacent to Bottesford and so residents would be able to access the services, facilities and jobs located there relatively easily via sustainable modes of transport including walking and cycling. However, the range of services, facilities and jobs available in Bottesford is more limited in comparison to Melton Mowbray and therefore longer journeys are likely to be required to access higher order services there and at Grantham, approximately 8km to the east. While there is a bus service to Melton Mowbray which operates hourly between Monday and Saturday (the 24 service), this takes 45 minutes.</p> <p>Further public transport links are available within Bottesford at Bottesford railway station which is located approximately 720m to the north of the SUE and provides direct services to Nottingham and Grantham, which operate hourly at peak times.</p> <p>Overall a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	+/-	<p>The development of this potential SUE would mean that residents have good access to the job opportunities in Bottesford and the nearby employment sites including the industrial estate located at the junction of Longhedge Lane and Orston Lane to the west and the large employment site to the north of Bottesford by Rectory Lane. However, it is noted that the number and range of jobs at Bottesford would be more limited than at Melton Mowbray therefore many people are still likely to travel over longer distances to Melton Mowbray and Grantham which is 8km to the east. The SUE would be closer to Grantham than Melton Mowbray, therefore is likely to result in high levels of out commuting from Melton Borough.</p> <p>The limited scale of the potential SUE development in comparison to other large-scale site options means that the SUE would be least able to contribute to the provision of new employment land.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore identified in relation to this SA objective.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	--?	<p>The rural character of the Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. This SUE would involve the development of a large area greenfield land to the south of Bottesford along the A52 from Belvoir Road to the west to Castle View Road to the east. This development would significantly extend the edge of Bottesford to the south, altering the appearance of the urban form and the setting of Bottesford. The landscape sensitivity of this area to the south of Bottesford has been classified as high due to its intimate/small scale and its intact landscape pattern, and the area is of particular importance to setting of Easthorpe<sup>173</sup>.</p> <p>The SUE would extend within the Area of Separation to the east of Bottesford, and so could contribute to the coalescence of Bottesford and the hamlet of Easthorpe.</p>

<sup>173</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>An overall significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential to mitigate negative effects at least to some extent. It is noted that the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study sets out some design guidance which may help to mitigate effects on the landscape, including that development should seek to achieve a gradation of development density to the outer edges, linked with new green space provision. Lit development edges should be avoided to assist with conservation of dark night skies/avoidance of sky glow and perception of further urbanising influences.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The potential SUE site does not include any designated biodiversity sites; however it is within fairly close proximity of a number of potential Local Wildlife Sites and a site containing a number of mature horse chestnut trees to the north. Castle View Road Pond potential Local Wildlife Site is located within 210m to the south east of the site and Six Fields potential Local Wildlife Site is located within 350 of the site to the west. The loss of the large area of greenfield land to the south of Bottesford may also have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain until the detailed development proposals for the site are known.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The closest Listed Building to the potential SUE site is 15 Castle View Road which is a Grade II Listed Building located adjacent to the north of the site. The SUE would also extend within part of Easthorpe Conservation Area which covers much of the northern end of Castle View Road as well as some of Manor Road. Bottesford Conservation Area, which encompasses the central High Street and old Market Place, is located within 250m of the SUE to the north west. The potential SUE is also within 180m of the shifted medieval village earthworks and moat which has been designated as a Scheduled Monument to the north of Manor Road on the approach to Easthorpe.</p> <p>Development at this location could therefore potentially have a significant negative effect on the setting of these designated heritage assets although this is uncertain as there may be the potential to mitigate effects through appropriate design.</p>
<p>To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The area that would be covered by the potential SUE comprises mostly greenfield land, all of which is Grade 3 Agricultural Quality although it is not known if it is Grade 3a or 3b. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of a large amount of high quality agricultural land.</p> <p>The potential SUE site is also entirely within a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area which covers Bottesford and Easthorpe as well as a large area to the north of Bottesford beyond Normanton and towards Staunton in the Vale. Development here could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction.</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		Overall, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on whether the land within the site is Grade 3a or 3b.
To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	-	<p>The potential SUE would be relatively small in scale compared to the other options proposed (430 new homes would be developed) and as such is not considered to be large enough to act as a self-contained settlement. The scale of development at the SUE would not be large enough to support the provision of new services and facilities as part of the development; therefore residents would rely on existing services nearby. Although Bottesford is a Primary Rural Service Centre which has some essential services and facilities (e.g. Belvoir High School and Bottesford Church of England Primary School and Bottesford Surgery), the range of available services is more limited than at Melton Mowbray and people are therefore likely to need to travel to Melton Mowbray or Grantham to access higher order services. There is also a risk of the services at Bottesford becoming overloaded as a result of increased demand from the development of the SUE.</p> <p>Overall, a minor negative effect is likely.</p>
To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+/-	<p>The SUE to the south of Bottesford would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Bottesford; however the scale of the development would mean that new provision is unlikely to be made, increasing the risks of facilities becoming overloaded and leaving to social exclusion. However, even though the SUE would be relatively small, it would still contribute to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	-	<p>The limited scale of the potential SUE development in comparison to other large-scale site options means that the SUE would be least able to contribute to the provision of new employment land or buildings and therefore it will not make a contribution to the diversity of jobs available in the Borough.</p> <p>As the SUE would be adjacent to Bottesford there would be relatively good opportunities to use sustainable modes of transport locally which could help to reduce congestion (which can otherwise have negative effects on the local economy). However, the distance of the development at Bottesford from the main centres of Melton Mowbray and Grantham (outside of the Borough) could mean that levels of car use from the site are relatively high, despite the availability of public transport links.</p> <p>A minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.</p>
To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+/-	<p>Existing healthcare facilities are provided within Bottesford at Bottesford Surgery on Walford Close which is located within walking distance of the SUE to the north west. The SUE is also located in close proximity of a number of open spaces within Bottesford which may help to encourage increased levels of activity amongst new residents. These include a children's play area, an amenity greenspace, a football pitch and a bowling green, all of which are located to the east of Belvoir Road within 120m of the potential SUE. The proximity of the SUE to Bottesford may mean that there are reasonable opportunities for people to walk and cycle to access the jobs and essential services that are located there, and new open spaces may be able to be provided within the SUE.</p> <p>However, the reduced scale of the development that could come forward at this SUE in comparison to other locations would also result in residential development which would be less self-contained. New healthcare facilities are not expected to be provided and residents would rely on the existing facilities in Bottesford which could therefore be at more risk of becoming overloaded.</p> <p>Overall a mixed effect (minor positive and minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.</p>
To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+/-	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>This potential SUE is immediately adjacent to Bottesford and so residents would be able to access the services, facilities and jobs located there relatively easily via sustainable modes of transport including walking and cycling. However, the range of services, facilities and jobs available in Bottesford is more limited in</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>comparison to Melton Mowbray and therefore longer journeys are likely to be required to access higher order services there and at Grantham, approximately 8km to the east. While there is a bus service to Melton Mowbray which operates hourly between Monday and Saturday (the 24 service), this takes 45 minutes and levels of car use are therefore likely to be relatively high.</p> <p>Further public transport links are available within Bottesford at Bottesford railway station which is located approximately 720m to the north of the SUE and provides direct services to Nottingham and Grantham, which operate hourly at peak times.</p> <p>Overall a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	-?	<p>This potential SUE is located mainly on greenfield land with only a small area to the south east of the SUE along Castle View Road being previously developed. As such the development of this greenfield land would reduce the area of permeable surfaces which allow for infiltration, thus increasing overall flood risk.</p> <p>Areas of the site to the north and south by the River Devon and Winter Beck respectively as well as along Castle view Road to the east are partially within Flood Zones 2 and 3. However, these areas comprise a small proportion of the overall area of the SUE and it is likely that development could be located in the areas outside of the flood zones.</p> <p>As such, a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain given that new development presents the opportunity to mitigate flood risk through the incorporation of SuDS and depending on whether the parts of the site in flood zones 2 and 3 are eventually developed.</p>
<p>To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.</p>	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

## Normanton Airfield (new settlement)

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.</p>	<p>++?</p>	<p>The development of this site would provide for around 1,800 new homes which would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>174</sup>. The development would be of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>175</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective although there is some uncertainty as parts of the site are occupied by existing employment uses at Roseland Business Park, which could reduce potential housing capacity.</p>
<p>2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>The nearest existing schools to this potential development site are at Bottesford where there are two schools: Bottesford Church of England Primary School on Barkestone Lane and Belvoir High School on Belvoir Lane. Both of these schools are located approximately 2.5km from the Normanton Airfield site option and so could not be reached on foot. The remoteness of the site at Normanton Airfield would mean a new school would have to be provided onsite to support the residential development in order to avoid unsustainable dependency on car journeys, given the lack of public transport options in the area. However, the extent to which school provision would be incorporated is uncertain, particularly given the uncertainties about the amount of homes that could be accommodated at the site. There is also uncertainty about capacity at the schools in Bottesford to accommodate additional pupils. Overall, a potential but uncertain minor negative effect is therefore identified.</p>
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The Normanton Airfield site is located to the north of the village of Normanton on a former Royal Air Force station. Given that Normanton is classed as a Rural Settlement and considering its small size it is unsurprising that the village lacks public transport provision. As such, new residents would be required to travel to Bottesford train station which is located within 1.4km away in order to access public transport to destinations further afield.</p> <p>There are limited services, facilities and job opportunities in the area which is some distance from Melton Mowbray and the range available in the northern area of the Borough is limited (although there is some existing employment provision at Roseland Business Park). People are likely to travel over longer distances to Melton Mowbray and Grantham (outside of the Borough) day to day, so are likely to undertake longer journeys and rely on car use.</p>

<sup>174</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>175</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on whether new sustainable transport links could be incorporated into the new development.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+/--	<p>Development in the far north of the Borough, away from Melton Mowbray, may result in increased levels of out-commuting from the Borough as residents would be in closer proximity to job opportunities in Grantham to the east.</p> <p>The scale of the development at Normanton Airfield means that employment provision could be incorporated, and the site is close to existing employment land at Roseland Business Park which is adjacent to the site to the north east. The proximity of the site to this existing employment land could promote mixed-use development and provide new residents with good access to jobs within close proximity.</p> <p>The site would be detached from the more developed areas of the Borough, however - the closest Primary Rural Service Centre is Bottesford approximately 1.5km to the south, and given the lack of public transport provision in this area, employment sites which are not located close by would only be accessible by unsustainable private car journeys. Overall a mixed effect (minor positive/significant negative) is expected on this SA objective.</p>
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	<p>Some of this site has previously been developed, which would reduce the potential landscape impacts of development at Normanton Airfield. It is not within an Area of Separation so would not lead to settlement coalescence. However, the area surrounding the airfield is rural and undeveloped in character, becoming less so towards the Roseland Business Park to the north west. The large-scale development of this site, which is not adjacent to an existing urban area, would therefore have a significant effect on the landscape.</p> <p>Therefore, a potential significant negative effect on this SA objective is identified although this is uncertain as the sensitivity of this area has not been assessed in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study and because effects will be determined to some extent by the design of the site.</p>
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	--?	<p>This site contains a potential Local Wildlife Site (Bottesford, Airfield Road Verge) which is located along Normanton lane to the west. Another candidate Local Wildlife Site is also on Normanton Lane just beyond the boundary of the site to the south west. [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] Development of this site would also result in loss of a large amount of greenfield land which may be of habitat value. As such, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is uncertain given that the development proposed may allow for the inclusion of green infrastructure which may promote habitat connectivity in the area.</p>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their	--?	This potential development site contains a small part of Normanton Conservation Area to the south west which extends along the built up area of the village but includes tracts of open countryside to the rear of the buildings on either side of Main Street. The settlement within the Conservation Area is characterised by

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
settings.		small clusters of dwellings separated by open countryside and spaces. Normanton Hall, Normanton House and Three Shires Farmhouse have all been designated as Grade II Listed Buildings on Main Street and are located within a 270m of the site to the south west. As such, a potential significant negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective. The negative effect is uncertain given that the design of the site is not known.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	<p>This site comprises a mix of brownfield land and greenfield land. However, all of the greenfield land within the site boundary has been classified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of a sizeable amount of high quality agricultural land particularly to the south of the site and to the west of Main Street. However, it is not known if this is Grade 3a or 3b.</p> <p>A small part of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area (MCA) is also within the SUE towards its western edge. The close proximity of this MCA may result in the sterilisation of minerals at this location although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction.</p> <p>Overall, a significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on whether the land within the site is Grade 3a or 3b.</p>
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	--?	<p>This large scale site option is located to the north Normanton which is classified as a Rural Settlement in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report. As such, residents at the new settlement would be able to access few services at Normanton. Bottesford, which is approximately 1.5km to the south west, is a Rural Service centre and as such could serve peoples' basic day to day needs in terms of services and facilities. There is uncertainty about the extent to which new services and facilities might be provided as part of the development, as the number of homes that would be developed is uncertain. However, the development would be located in one of the most remote parts of the Borough in relation to Melton Mowbray where most services and facilities are located, and is also 8km from Grantham outside of the Borough where services are also concentrated. Access to services is further restricted by the relatively poor public transport provision in this area.</p> <p>A potential significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on whether services are able to be incorporated into the development.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	-?	<p>The potential new development at Normanton Airfield would be some distance from the existing schools and employment opportunities at Bottesford which could risk social exclusion. It is currently uncertain whether it may be possible to make new provision, reducing the risks of facilities becoming overloaded and leaving to social exclusion. However, the large size of the development would mean that there is likely to be a good contribution to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on the extent to which services are incorporated into the new development, enabling it to be</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		relatively self-contained.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale as would be the case at this site, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include any new development.</p> <p>As this site is mainly on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. However, there is some brownfield land within the site and so there may be some limited opportunities to minimise waste generation by re-using materials from those buildings. Therefore, a potential but uncertain minor positive effect is identified.</p>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+/-	<p>The transport infrastructure in the area surrounding Normanton Airfield is relatively poor with on main route (Normanton Lane/Main Street) running from north to south through the site and east to west routes more limited still. Although Bottesford train station provides regular access to Nottingham within 30 minutes it is located approximately 1.4km to the south of the site and public transport is not provided at Normanton itself. Therefore, development in this relatively isolated location is likely to contribute to car use and congestion in the Borough, which can have a negative effect on the economy.</p> <p>The site is located adjacent to the Roseland Business Park to the north east and this may enable mixed use development to come forward. Overall, a mixed effect (minor positive and minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.</p>
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	-?	<p>The nearest existing healthcare facilities to this potential development site are at Bottesford (Bottesford Surgery on Walford Close). This is approximately 2.5km from the Normanton Airfield site option and so could not be reached on foot. The remoteness of the site at Normanton Airfield would mean that near healthcare facilities would have to be provided onsite to support the residential development in order to avoid unsustainable dependency on car journeys, given the lack of public transport options in the area. However, the extent to which healthcare provision would be incorporated is uncertain, particularly given the</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>uncertainties about the amount of homes that could be accommodated at the site. There is also uncertainty about capacity at the surgery in Bottesford to accommodate additional patients. Existing access to the local public rights of way network is available only via one footpath at the south of the site. Additionally the site is not located in close proximity to any existing open space provision; the closest of such areas is located in Bottesford to the south.</p> <p>Opportunities to walk and cycle day to day are likely to be limited, due to the remoteness of the site from urban areas, and overall, a potential but uncertain minor negative effect is therefore identified.</p>
<p>15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>The Normanton Airfield site is located to the north of the village of Normanton on a former Royal Air Force station. Given that Normanton is classed as a Rural Settlement and considering its small size it is unsurprising that the village lacks public transport provision. As such, new residents would be required to travel to Bottesford train station which is located within 1.4km away in order to access public transport to destinations further afield.</p> <p>There are limited services, facilities and job opportunities in the area which is some distance from Melton Mowbray and the range available in the northern area of the Borough is limited (although there is some existing employment provision at Roseland Business Park). People are likely to travel over longer distances to Melton Mowbray and Grantham (outside of the Borough) day to day, so are likely to undertake longer journeys and rely on car use, thereby increasing greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>A significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective, although this is uncertain depending on whether new sustainable transport links could be incorporated into the new development.</p>
<p>16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>The development of a new settlement by Normanton Airfield would not result in development within Flood Zones 2 or 3. However, the site does contain small areas of land which have been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). The largest of these areas is located to the east of Main Street along the remnants of the disused runway within the airfield.</p> <p>Although part of the site is previously developed, development at the airfield would involve the loss of sizeable areas of greenfield land which would reduce the area of permeable surfaces and reduce infiltration, potentially increasing flood risk. Overall a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective given that</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		the development would result in a large area of greenfield land but would mostly be located outside areas which at high risk of flooding. The effect is uncertain given that SuDS maybe incorporated as part of the new development.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

### Dalby Airfield (New Settlement)

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++?	<p>The development of a new settlement at Dalby Airfield could deliver around 1,150 new homes and so would make a substantial contribution to the requirement for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum in Melton Borough up to 2036<sup>176</sup>. The large scale of the development would allow for the provision of 40% affordable housing without affecting viability, and therefore the development would also be expected to contribute to the delivery of the 1,775 affordable homes required in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>However, there is some uncertainty with regards to the number of homes that may be provided at the site as this will depend on whether the parts of the site that are currently occupied by employment uses will be redeveloped for housing or not. Therefore, a potential but uncertain significant positive effect is identified.</p>
To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	-?	<p>This site would be developed as a new settlement, which would be detached from the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's existing schools, particularly at secondary level. The distance between the site and Melton Mowbray town centre is over 2km; therefore opportunities to access existing schools in the town via sustainable modes of transport may be limited. The nearest existing school to the site is Swallowdale Primary School in Melton Mowbray, approximately 1km to the north, so is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m). Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing schools (such as Swallowdale Primary School) becoming overloaded, particularly as there is limited potential for the provision of a new school as part of the</p>

<sup>176</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>development of this site.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether new school places can eventually be delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
<p>To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	<p>+/--?</p>	<p>This site would be developed as a new settlement and is detached from the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray, which could mean that levels of car use are likely to be high. The distance between the centre of the site and the centre of Melton Mowbray is over 2km; therefore people would not be able to access the town centre on foot. However, it may be possible to incorporate sustainable transport links such as a cycle path into the town, or new bus links, and it is noted that there would be access to a fast and frequent existing bus service into Melton Mowbray from this site. The existing public transport routes that run adjacent to the site include the 100 bus service which runs from Melton Mowbray to Leicester hourly. Journey times to Melton Mowbray town centre are approximately 10 minutes.</p> <p>Unlike some of the other large-scale site options, this site is unlikely to contribute to the implementation of a Melton Mowbray by-pass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential effects of a bypass in terms of facilitating convenient car use, which may mean that modal shift is more difficult to achieve, would also not occur.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to existing employment opportunities at the Old Dalby Airfield Industrial Park could mean that residents at the new settlement are able to access employment opportunities there without using a car, and with a short journey that can be undertaken on foot or by bicycle. However, this is uncertain depending on whether those employment uses are retained or if the Industrial Park is redeveloped for housing as part of the delivery of the site.</p> <p>Overall a mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect on this objective is likely, although effects are currently uncertain depending on the extent to which sustainable transport links are eventually incorporated into the new development and depending on whether the development that is delivered is mixed use, incorporating both employment and housing development.</p>
<p>To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	<p>--/+?</p>	<p>The effects of this site option on the local economy will depend largely on whether the existing employment uses within the site are retained or not. If the employment uses are redeveloped for housing there would be a negative effect on this objective as a result of the loss of employment land and the potential loss of the associated jobs (although this is uncertain depending on whether the uses can be relocated). However, if the employment uses at the site are retained, residents would be easily able to access to jobs there and the site would continue to contribute to the available employment land in Melton Borough.</p> <p>The site is disconnected from Melton Mowbray with the town centre being over 2km from this site. Therefore, residents here would be relatively distant from the jobs that are focussed there.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>Overall a mixed (significant negative and minor positive) effect on this objective is identified, although effects are currently uncertain depending on whether the existing employment uses at the site are retained.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The rural character of Melton Borough has the potential to be adversely impacted upon by any form and scale of development. Although the development of this site would not result in any form of settlement coalescence and would not encroach upon any of the Areas of Separation in the Borough, it would involve the development of a large area of mainly greenfield land to the south of Melton Mowbray on the old Dalby Airfield site. This development would comprise a new area of built development in the open countryside and would be detached from any existing urban form.</p> <p>The landscape of this area to the south of the Melton Mowbray where the site is located has been classified as being of medium to high sensitivity as a result of the mostly intricate, small scale landscape and cultural pattern<sup>177</sup>. However, it is recognised that the area has a lower sensitivity in visual terms due to the containment afforded by surrounding ridges (including the locally prominent one on which Burton Lazars is sited) and the folded valley landform which defines the southern hinterland of Melton Mowbray. If the site is developed, a soft landscape edge should be created by the development in order to mitigate its impacts – the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study recommends ‘a porous edge with reduced density, ridge and furrow conserved as green infrastructure wherever possible, and sensitively sited and designed infrastructure’.</p> <p>Overall, a potential significant negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective. However, the negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of any development and considering that there may be potential to mitigate these effects.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>The area in which this site is located is less constrained than some parts of Melton Borough in relation to designated biodiversity and geodiversity features; however there may be undesignated habitats and species of value in the area. There are no designated sites such as SSSIs or Local Wildlife Sites within or close to the site boundary; however a number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have been identified within this area, to the west and east of the site, as close as 30m from the site boundary.</p> <p>The development of this large area of mainly greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>Therefore, an overall minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded</p>

<sup>177</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity & Local Green Space Study

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		as uncertain given that the development may include the provision of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.
To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0?	<p>This site is relatively unconstrained in relation to designated heritage assets, the closest being a listed building (Eye Kettleby Hall) approximately 720m to the west. There are also a number of other listed buildings within Great Dalby, approximately 1.2km to the south.</p> <p>As the site is relatively isolated and is separate from Melton Mowbray or any other existing built up area, the potential for impacts on individual heritage assets is limited and a negligible effect is identified.</p>
To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	<p>The area covered by the potential development site comprises mainly greenfield land which has been classified as being of Grade 3 agricultural quality. The development of this site would therefore result in the loss of a large amount of high quality agricultural land although it is not known if this is Grade 3a or Grade 3b land.</p> <p>The nearest Mineral Consultation Area is for sand and gravel and is located well outside of the development area, approximately 800m to the north west. Therefore, the development of this site is not expected to result in the sterilisation of minerals resources.</p> <p>A potential significant negative effect is likely overall in relation to the loss of agricultural land; however this is uncertain depending on whether the site is within Grade 3a or 3b agricultural land, which is not known.</p>
To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+ +/-?	<p>This site would be developed as a new settlement, which would be detached from the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's services and facilities. Therefore, opportunities to access existing services in the town on foot would not be possible, although it is noted that there is access to a fast and frequent bus service into the town. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services and facilities becoming overloaded, particularly as there is uncertainty about the extent to which new services and facilities would be provided as part of the development.</p> <p>However, the size of this potential new settlement - there would be potential to accommodate around 1,150 new houses at this location - means that there is potential for the settlement to be relatively self-contained. The population growth likely to result from the development of the site would mean that new services and facilities such as a school, healthcare facilities, shops and other services could potentially be provided as part of the new settlement. This would benefit the cohesion of the new development area, which would comprise a stand-alone new community, separate from the urban area of Melton Mowbray.</p> <p>As such a mixed (potential significant positive and minor negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain, depending on the extent to which new services and facilities are eventually developed within this site.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	<p>The potential new settlement at Dalby Airfield would be some distance from the existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Melton Mowbray which could risk social exclusion. However, the scale of the development means that it may be possible to make new provision, reducing the risks of facilities becoming overloaded and leaving to social exclusion. The large size of the SUE would also mean that there is likely to be a good contribution to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on the extent to which services are incorporated into the new development, enabling it to be relatively self-contained.</p>
To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.</p>
To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale as would be the case at this site, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include any new development.</p> <p>As this site is mainly on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. However, depending on whether the existing employment uses within the central part of the site are retained, there may be some limited opportunities to minimise waste generation by re-using materials from those buildings. Therefore, a potential but uncertain minor positive effect is identified.</p>
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+/--?	<p>The economic effects of developing this site for a new settlement will depend largely on whether the existing employment uses within the site are retained or not. If these buildings are redeveloped for housing there would be a significant negative effect on this objective as a result of the loss of employment land (although this is uncertain depending on whether the uses can be relocated). However, if the employment uses at the site are retained, residents would be easily able to access to jobs there and the site would continue to contribute to the available employment land in Melton Borough.</p> <p>Unlike some of the other large-scale site options, this site is unlikely to contribute to the implementation of a</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>Melton Mowbray by-pass. This may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre, which can affect economic growth, are lost.</p> <p>Overall a potential mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect on this objective is likely, although effects are currently uncertain depending on whether the existing employment uses at the site are retained.</p>
<p>To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>This site would be developed as a new settlement, which would be detached from the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there are existing healthcare facilities including Latham House Medical Practice which is approximately 2.5km to the north of Dalby Airfield, in central Melton Mowbray, as well as Melton Hospital. Therefore, opportunities to access existing healthcare facilities in the town via sustainable modes of transport may be limited. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing healthcare facilities (such as Latham House Medical Practice) becoming overloaded, particularly as there is uncertainty about the extent to which new services and facilities (such as GP places) would be provided as part of the development. However, the scale of the development means that this may be possible.</p> <p>The distance of this site from Melton Mowbray means that opportunities to walk and cycle day to day are likely to be limited, which can otherwise contribute to healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is uncertain depending on whether new healthcare facilities are eventually delivered as part of the development of the site.</p>
<p>To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	<p>+/--?</p>	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic in the Borough. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>This site would be developed as a new settlement which could be large enough to incorporate services and facilities which would reduce the need to travel further afield, although the smaller size in comparison to some of the other large-scale development site options means that there is uncertainty about the extent to which services and facilities would be incorporated on site.</p> <p>The site is separate from Melton Mowbray and so opportunities to walk and cycle into the town centre to access jobs, services and facilities there are likely to be limited. However, there is access to a fast and frequent bus link and it may be possible to incorporate new sustainable transport links into the development, such as cycle paths.</p> <p>Unlike some of the other large-scale site options, this site is unlikely to contribute to the implementation of a</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>Melton Mowbray by-pass. While this may mean that opportunities to improve congestion in the town centre are lost, the potential effects of a bypass in terms of facilitating convenient car use, which may mean that modal shift is more difficult to achieve, would also not occur.</p> <p>The proximity of the site to existing employment opportunities at the Old Dalby Airfield Industrial Park could mean that residents at the new settlement are able to access employment opportunities there without using a car, and with a short journey that can be undertaken on foot or by bicycle. However, this is uncertain depending on whether those employment uses are retained or if the Industrial Park is redeveloped for housing as part of the delivery of the site.</p> <p>Overall a mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect on this objective is likely, although effects are currently uncertain depending on the extent to which sustainable transport links are eventually incorporated into the new development and depending on whether the development that is delivered is mixed use, incorporating both employment and housing development.</p>
<p>To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>A small area of this site in the west is affected by Flood Zone 3, although none of the site is considered to be at high risk from surface water flooding. The area which is within Flood Zone 3 is very small when compared to the total area of the site and it is likely that development could be avoided in that area, which could instead be used for open space.</p> <p>The development would, however, involve the development of a large area of greenfield land which would reduce the amount of permeable land in Melton. This would reduce levels of infiltration and increase runoff. As such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that new development may present the opportunity to incorporate SUDS and that development may be sited outside of the area in Flood Zone 3.</p>
<p>To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

## Six Hills (new settlement)

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	<p>The potential new settlement at Six Hills could accommodate approximately 2,300 new homes. Therefore, the site would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>178</sup>. The development would be of sufficient scale to provide for 40% affordable housing without affecting the viability of the development<sup>179</sup>. Therefore, it would help to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in the Borough between 2011 and 2036.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective.</p>
To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	--	<p>The site is located to the east of Six Hills which is classified as a Rural Settlement in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report<sup>180</sup>. As such, no essential services or facilities are provided at this location. The new settlement would not be located within close proximity of any higher order centres; the closest being Asfordby (a Primary Rural Service Centre) which is located approximately 4.5km to the south east. The closest existing school is Old Dalby Church of England Primary School which is located in Old Dalby on Longcliff Hill approximately 2.7km from the site. As such, the site is considered to provide a poor level of access to educational facilities and this issue is compounded considering that public transport services are not accessible in the area. Residential development at this location would have to be supported by the wholesale provision of services and facilities such as schools and there is uncertainty about the deliverability and viability of this. A significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	--	<p>There is no direct access to public transport from this site. The nearest bus stop in the Borough is located at Old Dalby on Main Road which is within 2.2km of the site and services from here are poor – there is a two hourly service (Monday to Saturday) to Melton Mowbray town centre and takes approximately 30 minutes. The nearest train station to the site is located in Melton Mowbray which is approximately 9.3km from the site to the south east. As such, levels of car use are likely to be high. The remoteness of the site from the concentration of services and facilities at Melton Mowbray and the larger villages means that walking and cycling day to day is likely to be unviable. A significant negative effect on sustainable transport and accessibility is therefore likely.</p>
To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high	+/--	<p>The new settlement at Six Hills would be adjacent to a small area of existing employment land to the south west by the junction of the A46 and the B676. As such, new residents would have good access to the limited number of employment opportunities which are provided here. However, further existing employment</p>

<sup>178</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>179</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015) Local Plan: Assessing Large Scale Development Site Options

<sup>180</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015), Rural Settlement in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>		<p>opportunities are not located in close proximity to the site given that the nearest Primary Rural Service Centre to the site in the Borough is 4.6km to the south east at Asfordby.</p> <p>The site is large enough (150ha) to accommodate employment land within its boundaries and the location of the site alongside the A46 means that it is in a strategically advantageous position. Therefore, the development could increase the number of jobs available in the Borough although they would be located away from the main population centre at Melton Mowbray. The lack of public transport within the Six Hills area would be to the detriment of new residents wishing to access employment opportunities in other areas and may also prevent people from elsewhere accessing employment opportunities provided at the site.</p> <p>The site is as close to Loughborough as Melton Mowbray; therefore people are likely to commute out of the Borough to work.</p> <p>Overall, a mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	--?	<p>The development of a new settlement at Six Hills would result in the loss of a large area of greenfield land. Although much of the land is within the existing Six Hills Golf Course, the area is mostly free from development and as such the character is defined by its rural nature. The area does not contain any Areas of Separation that would be affected by development.</p> <p>Therefore, a potential significant negative effect on this SA objective is identified although this is uncertain as the sensitivity of this area has not been assessed in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study and because effects will be determined to some extent by the design of the site.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	-?	<p>The majority of this site is currently greenfield land and as such the development of this area may result in habitat loss. The site is located within 70m of the Twenty Acre Piece SSSI which is on the western side of the A46 to the south west of the site. Areas which have been identified as important for great crested newts in the Borough are located within 45m of the site on the northern side of the A6006. The nearest Local Wildlife Site to the potential Six Hills new settlement is Shoby Scholes Grassland which is within 900m to the south east. Given that the site is in close proximity to but does not contain any areas which have been designated due to their importance in terms of biodiversity a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. This effect is recorded as uncertain considering that new development may allow for green infrastructure provision which may in turn promote habitat connectivity in the Borough.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	0?	<p>The potential new settlement area at Six Hills does not contain any designated heritage assets such as listed buildings or Conservation Areas. The nearest are the Grade II* Listed Building Church of All Saints and its cross and the churchyard wall which is a Grade II Listed Building which are located in Ragdale which is within 1.6km of the site to the south east. As such, a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective although this is to some extent uncertain until detailed proposals for the site come forward.</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>	--?	<p>The area covered by the potential new settlement is entirely greenfield land. All of this land has been classified as Grade 3 Agricultural Land. Therefore, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain given that it is unknown if this land is of Grade 3a or 3b quality.</p> <p>The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of a sizeable amount of high quality agricultural land. The closest Minerals Consultation Area (MCA) is located within 630m of the site to the west and is for gypsum. Therefore, sterilisation is not expected to result from the development of this site.</p>
<p>To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.</p>	--?	<p>The site is located to the east of Six Hills which is classified as a Rural Settlement in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities report<sup>181</sup>. As such, no essential services or facilities are provided at this location. The new settlement would not be located within close proximity of any higher order centres; the closest being Asfordby (a Primary Rural Service Centre) which is located approximately 4.5km to the south east.</p> <p>The development of this site could result in the loss of the existing Six Hills Golf Course.</p> <p>There are uncertainties with regards to the deliverability and viability of providing the required services as part of a development at this site. A significant negative is therefore expected on this SA objective although there is some uncertainty with regards to whether Six Hills golf course may be maintained as part of the new development and whether new services are eventually able to be incorporated as part of the proposed development.</p>
<p>To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.</p>	-?	<p>The potential new development at Six Hills would be some distance from the existing schools and employment opportunities which could risk social exclusion, particular as it is uncertain whether it may be possible to make new provision, leading to social exclusion. However, the size of the development would mean that there is likely to be a good contribution to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>A potential minor negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on the extent to which services are eventually able to be incorporated into the new development, enabling it to be relatively self-contained.</p>
<p>To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.</p>	0	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. However, such issues will not be influenced by the location of development; rather they will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known.</p> <p>The allocation of this site for development would also not have a direct effect on the safety of cyclists and</p>

<sup>181</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015), Rural Settlement in the Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		pedestrians, with this issue again being determined more by the design and layout of site. Therefore, the effects on this SA objective are negligible.
To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale as would be the case at this site, will result in an increase in waste generation. However, the increase in waste generation within Melton Borough will be determined by the overall level of growth proposed, rather than its location.</p> <p>Levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development.</p> <p>As this site is mainly on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+/-	<p>The development of a new settlement at Six Hills is likely to result in high levels of car use which would contribute to congestion in the Borough which can be detrimental to the local economy.</p> <p>However, the site is of a scale to be able to make a contribution towards employment land and buildings in the Borough in a strategically advantageous location by the A46, thereby potentially improving the diversity of jobs available.</p> <p>As such a mixed effect (minor positive and minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.</p>
To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	--?	<p>The development of a new settlement at Six Hills would result in the provision of a high number of new homes at a location which is not supported by an existing Rural Service Centre. As such no healthcare facilities are currently in close proximity to the site. Asfordby provides access to the nearest healthcare centre which is located by regency Road within 5.3km to the south east. The site is currently on land which provides active recreational use in the form of a golf course and development at this location may result in the loss of this use. The site is also not in close proximity of any other existing areas open space or sports facilities. The proximity of the site to the A46 could result in noise and amenity effects for residents.</p> <p>As such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is uncertain as the new development may present opportunities to incorporate new areas of open space and Six Hills Golf Course may be preserved as part of the development.</p>
To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	--	<p>The likely effects of new large-scale development sites on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality will depend largely on the extent to which it is likely to generate additional vehicle traffic in the Borough. While large-scale new development will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will not be influenced by the location of the new housing. All large-scale site options could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation.</p> <p>There is no direct access to public transport from this site. The nearest bus stop in the Borough is located at</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>Old Dalby on Main Road which is within 2.2km of the site. The nearest train station to the site is located in Melton Mowbray which is approximately 9.3km from the site to the south east. As such, levels of car use and the associated greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants are likely to be high. The remoteness of the site from the concentration of services and facilities at Melton Mowbray and the larger villages means that walking and cycling day to day is likely to be unviable. A significant negative effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
<p>To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	-?	<p>The large scale development site proposed at Six Hills is not located within Flood Zone 2 or Flood Zone 3. The site does contain small areas of land which have been classified as being at high risk of surface water flooding (taken to be a risk of flooding that is greater than 1 in 30 each year). These areas are located to the west, centrally and also to the east along tributaries of Kingston Brook. However, they comprise a very small proportion of the total site area and it may be possible to direct built development away from those parts of the site.</p> <p>The development of this area would, however, result in the loss of a large area of greenfield land which would reduce infiltration and increase runoff. As such, a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective. This negative effect is uncertain given that new development may incorporate SuDS and depending on the location of development within the site in relation to the areas at high risk of surface water flooding.</p>
<p>To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.</p>	?	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend more on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The effects of the development on water quality would depend largely on whether the sewage treatment works serving the area has the capacity to accommodate the increase in demand from the additional homes at this site, which is not yet known. The likely effect on this SA objective is therefore uncertain and will be revisited during later stages of the SA when additional information is available.</p>

# Appendix 8

## Reasons for Selecting and Rejecting Site Options

Site code/name	Included in Emerging Options Plan?	Reason for selecting or rejecting the site
<b>Large Scale Sites</b>		
Melton East	No	The Melton East – Direction of Growth is only able to meet a limited number of the strategic priorities of the emerging Local Plan. A large part of the site is located within flood zone 3 reducing the potential site capacity. The site is therefore less able to make a significant contribution to housing, affordable housing and employment requirements when compared to alternatives. Despite being in a strategically advantageous position in relation to existing services, facilities and employment in Melton Mowbray the site has not been promoted through the SHLAA and there are resultant uncertainties in the deliverability of this land as an option.
Melton West	No	The Melton West SUE – Direction of Growth has not been promoted through the SHLAA and there are resultant uncertainties in the deliverability of this land as an option. The site contains multiple constraints, in particular, flooding and landscape constraints.
Melton North	Yes	The Melton north SUE is able to meet many of the strategic priorities of the emerging Local Plan. The site is of sufficient scale to make a significant contribution to outstanding housing, affordable housing and employment requirements. The option is in a strategically advantageous position that is closely related to existing services and facilities in Melton Mowbray and has access to existing employment opportunities and public transport alternatives. There are potential transport improvements resulting from the sites strategic location and ability to contribute to a Melton Mowbray by-pass, which could reduce air pollution and traffic congestion in the town centre. Whilst the Melton North SUE has the potential to accommodate some 5,350 new houses, the level of required growth is expected to be between 1,000 and 2,000 houses <sup>182</sup> . This would provide the critical mass to support necessary infrastructure (such as delivery of a primary School) and the site is capable of delivering a large number of houses during the plan period.
Melton South, incorporating Melton South East	No	The Melton south option alone is an emerging option (see reasons below). Melton south east alone is not selected as an emerging option (see reasons below). A combined site was not selected as an emerging option because of reasons identified in the Melton south east assessment. In addition, the emerging options are able to meet the residual requirements for growth.
Melton South, not incorporating Melton South East	Yes	The Melton South SUE is able to meet many of the strategic priorities of the emerging Local Plan. The site is of sufficient scale to make a significant contribution to outstanding housing, affordable housing and employment requirements. The option is in a strategically advantageous position that is closely related to existing services and facilities in Melton Mowbray and has access to nearby employment opportunities and public transport alternatives. There are significant transport advantages because of the site's strategic location and ability to contribute to a Melton Mowbray by-pass which could reduce air pollution and traffic congestion in the town centre. Whilst the Melton South SUE has the potential to accommodate some 4,400 new houses, the level of required growth is expected to be between 1,000 to 2,000 houses <sup>183</sup> . This would provide the critical mass to support necessary infrastructure (such as delivery of a primary School) and the site is capable of delivering a large number of houses during the plan period.
Melton South East	No	The Melton South-East large scale development site is only able to meet a limited number of the strategic priorities of the emerging Local Plan. The site is less able to make a significant contribution to housing, affordable housing and employment requirements when compared to other SUE alternatives close to Melton Mowbray. A large proportion of the site could have a detrimental impact on the strategic gap between Melton Mowbray and Burton Lazars. Despite being in a strategically advantageous position in relation to existing services, facilities and employment the site is not selected as an emerging Large Scale Development Site option.
Thorpe Arnold	No	The Thorpe Arnold large scale development site is only able to meet a limited number of the strategic priorities of the emerging Local Plan. The site would only make a modest contribution to housing, affordable housing and employment requirements in the context of overall requirements. There are potential adverse impacts on environmental concerns including bio-diversity, heritage assets, and the strategically important separation between Melton Mowbray and Thorpe Arnold.

<sup>182</sup> Potential capacities will be informed by more detailed analysis of deliverability and viability.

<sup>183</sup> Potential capacities will be informed by more detailed analysis of deliverability and viability.

Site code/name	Included in Emerging Options Plan?	Reason for selecting or rejecting the site
Welby	No	The Welby large scale development site is detached from the main town of Melton Mowbray and has limited direct access to a choice of transport modes. The proposed site is only able to meet a limited number of the strategic priorities of the emerging Local Plan. There are potentially significant adverse impacts on the character of Welby which is a small remote Hamlet.
Belvoir Road, Bottesford	No	The Bottesford SUE is only able to meet a limited number of the strategic priorities of the emerging Local Plan. The site is too small to make a significant contribution to housing, affordable housing and employment requirements. There are potential adverse impacts on environmental concerns including heritage assets, flooding and a strategically important Area of Separation. The site is largely remote from higher order services and facilities. Whilst Bottesford is a settlement that is able to accommodate some growth, the scale of the proposed site does not lend itself well as an option for a Sustainable Urban Extension.
Normanton Airfield	No	The Normanton Airfield large scale development site is remote from the main urban areas and Rural Service Centres. There is no locally available public transport service adjacent to the site and there is limited potential for walking and cycling to access local services and facilities – thereby increasing reliance on private cars. The proposed large scale development site could help meet the Local Plan strategic priorities of providing new housing and affordable housing but there is uncertainty over the scale of available land and the ability to deliver services and facilities on site. In summary, there are strong reasons not to pursue a 'new settlement' at Normanton airfield. Whilst the scale of the proposal is large, because of its remoteness, all new services and facilities would need to be provided on site without resulting in an unsustainable dependency on lengthy private car journeys to other centres. There is considerable uncertainty about the ability of the Normanton Airfield large scale development site to create such a mix of uses.
Dalby Airfield	No	The Dalby large scale development site is largely remote from the main urban area. Whilst there is a public transport service that runs adjacent to the site, it is unlikely that walking and cycling would be commonplace in accessing local services and facilities in Melton Mowbray town centre. The proposed large scale development site could be able to meet the Local Plan strategic priorities of providing a sizeable amount of new housing and affordable housing but there is uncertainty over the scale of available land and the ability to deliver services and facilities on site. There are also potentially adverse impacts in terms of flooding. Alternative options close to Melton Mowbray offer greater potential to meet the strategic priorities of the plan.
Six Hills	No	The proposed Six Hills New Settlement is remote from the main urban areas and service centres. There is no locally available public transport service adjacent to the site. Walking and cycling is currently not an option to access local services and facilities. Whilst the scale of the proposal is large, the site is isolated and remote from higher order centres. In order to provide a sustainable settlement, all new services and facilities would need to be provided 'on site' to avoid an unsustainable dependency on lengthy private car journeys to other centres. There is considerable uncertainty about the ability of the Six Hills new settlement to create such a mix of uses.
<b>Small Scale Sites</b>		
MBC/104/13	Yes	The site is able to deliver a large amount of new housing development. The site is close to main services and facilities in Asfordby and Melton Mowbray with good access to transport choice. Asfordby is well served by services and facilities including primary school, shops and medical services. The site is well related to the settlement and contained within the Asfordby by-pass.
MBC/108/13	No	Site is narrow and may not be able to accommodate a sufficient number of dwellings in a manner that is sympathetic to the character and form of the settlement. It is not suitable as an allocation but this does not exclude the potential for a smaller scheme to be pursued through a Neighbourhood Plan or planning application.
MBC/106/13	Yes	The site is close to main services and facilities in Asfordby and Melton Mowbray with good access to transport choice. Asfordby is well served by services and facilities including primary school, shops and medical service. The site has some physical or environmental constraints identified (including bio-diversity & flooding). However, the site is well related to the settlement and unlikely to adversely affect its character.
MBC/149b/14	No	Site is detached from the main body of Asfordby Hill and beyond the defensible boundaries offered by major roads. This is inconsistent with the pattern of development to the detriment of the character of the area.
MBC/113/13	Yes	The site is able to contribute to delivery of new housing development. The site is close to Melton Mowbray which contains main services and

Site code/name	Included in Emerging Options Plan?	Reason for selecting or rejecting the site
		facilities. Asfordby also contains important services and facilities. There are no physical or environmental constraints identified (including heritage / bio-diversity / flooding). The site is connected to Asfordby Hill which is a small satellite settlement and further development here is unlikely to have an adverse impact on the character of the settlement and the countryside.
MBC/073/13	Yes	The site is close to Melton Mowbray which contains main services and facilities. Asfordby also contains important services and facilities (although Asfordby Hill is detached from the main village). There is good transport choice. There are no physical or environmental constraints identified (including heritage / biodiversity / flooding). The site is connected to Asfordby Hill which is a small satellite settlement, the scale of the proposed site is modest and broadly reflects the current pattern of development and therefore is unlikely to adversely affect the character of the settlement and the countryside.
MBC/112/13	Yes	The site is able to contribute to delivery of new housing development. The site is close to Melton Mowbray which contains main services and facilities. Asfordby also contains important services and facilities (although Asfordby Hill is detached from the main village). There is good transport choice. There are no physical or environmental constraints identified (including heritage / biodiversity / flooding), although the site contains some best and most versatile land. The site is connected to Asfordby Hill which is a small satellite settlement and further development here is unlikely to have an adverse impact on the character of the settlement and the countryside.
MBC/111/13	Yes	The site is close to Melton Mowbray which contains main services and facilities. Asfordby also contains important services and facilities (although Asfordby Hill is detached from the main village). There is good transport choice although there are bio-diversity / flooding constraints which would need to be addressed. The site is connected to Asfordby Hill which is a small satellite settlement; the scale of the proposed site is modest and is related to the current settlement and unlikely to be of significant detriment to the current pattern of development.
MBC/004/15	Yes	The site is close to Melton Mowbray which contains main services and facilities. Asfordby also contains important services and facilities (although Asfordby Hill is detached from the main village). There is good transport choice. There are no physical or environmental constraints identified (including heritage / biodiversity / flooding). Asfordby Hill is a small satellite settlement; the scale of the proposed site is modest and reflects the current pattern of development.
MBC/057/13	Yes	The site is able to deliver a large amount of new housing development although without on-site infrastructure. The site is close to main services and facilities in Bottesford which is well-served by services and facilities and has good access to transport choice. There are some flooding constraints identified and a very small part of the site is Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land and a very small part landfill. However, the site is well-contained within the defensible boundary of the rail line and is unlikely to have an adverse impact on the character of the settlement.
MBC/012/13	No	A large part of the site is the subject of a planning application and will be assessed as part of the determination of the planning application.
MBC/181/15	Yes	The site is close to main services and facilities in Bottesford which is well-served by services and facilities and has good access to transport choice. There are some environmental constraints including part of the site being best and most versatile agricultural land but is adjacent to another emerging option (MBC/057).
MBC/011/13	No	Part of the site is within flood zone 3 and the remaining net capacity (8 units) is too small to be included as an allocation. This does not exclude the potential for a smaller scheme to be pursued through a Neighbourhood Plan or planning application.
MBC/010/15	No	The site is within a current Area of separation and could have significant adverse impacts on landscape. There is also potential for adverse impacts on heritage assets.
MBC/076/13	No	The proposed development could potentially have a significant adverse impact on heritage assets and large parts of the site have the potential to flood.
MBC/080/13	Yes	The site is able to deliver a moderate amount of new housing development. The settlement is remote from main services and facilities other than the limited services & facilities and employment available within Croxton Kerrial but there is some access to transport choice with a 6 day bus service operating from the village. There are few environmental constraints on the site although the site falls within a Conservation Area and is in a mineral consultation area. The proposed site is on land that forms a protected open area which will have some relationship to the character of the village, however through careful planning its development could result in the improvement of this space.
MBC/079/13	Yes	The site is able to deliver a moderate amount of new housing development. The settlement is remote from main services and facilities other than the limited services and facilities available within Croxton Kerrial although there is some access to transport choice with a 6 day bus service operating from the village. There are no physical constraints on the site although the site is on land that is adjacent to a

Site code/name	Included in Emerging Options Plan?	Reason for selecting or rejecting the site
		Conservation Area and listed building. The development of the site could extend the built form of the village out into open countryside, but its development could result in the better incorporation of the existing development on the northern edge of the village.
MBC/095/13	Yes	The settlement is remote from main services and facilities other than the limited services and facilities available within Croxton Kerrial but there is some access to transport choice with a 6 day bus service operating from the village. There are few physical constraints although the site is adjacent to a Conservation Area.
MBC/096/13	No	The site is not well related to the settlement of Croxton Kerrial and could have potentially adverse impacts on landscape, bio-diversity and resources.
MBC/092/13	Yes	The site is able to deliver a moderate amount of new housing development. The settlement is remote from main services and facilities other than the limited services and facilities available within Croxton Kerrial although there is some access to transport choice with a 6 day bus service operating from the village. It is recognised that there are some physical constraints as the land is partly on best and most versatile agricultural land and the site is within an area that possesses a very strong character and high quality setting and would require sensitive design.
MBC/191/15	Yes	Frisby has a limited amount of services and facilities but has good access to transport choice into Melton Mowbray. There are few environmental constraints although part of the site is Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land. The site is likely to have some impact on the character of this part of the settlement which is characterised by linear development. Frisby on the Wreake is a secondary rural settlement with some 'sustainability' merits where allocations are proposed.
MBC/026/15	Yes	The site is able to deliver a large amount of new housing development. The site is close to some main services and facilities in Long Clawson which is well-served in terms of employment, retail, education and health services and has good access to transport choice. There are no identified insurmountable environmental constraints although a small part of the site contains a SSSI. The site is likely to have some impact on the character of this part of the settlement which is characterised by linear development fronting Melton Road, although the site would be contained by development to the north on Coronation Avenue and therefore has potential to be developed without significantly undermining the character of the settlement.
MBC/168/15	Yes	The site is able to deliver a large amount of new housing development without new on-site infrastructure. The site is close to some main services and facilities in Long Clawson which is well-served in terms of employment, retail, education and health services and has good access to transport choice. There are some environmental constraints - the site is adjacent to a SSSI and the Long Clawson Conservation Area. The site is likely to have some impact on the character of this part of the settlement which is mostly characterised by linear development fronting West End although the site would be contained by development to the east on Sand Pit Lane and therefore has potential to be developed without significantly undermining the character of the settlement.
MBC/150/15	Yes	The site is able to deliver a modest amount of new housing development without on-site infrastructure. The site is within walking distance of some of the main services and facilities in Long Clawson (which has retail, education and health services). Long Clawson has good transport choice with access to a 6 day bus service. The site is close to the main residential area of the village and is on land which is partly occupied by agricultural buildings. The proposal broadly reflects the existing pattern of development but is likely to have some impact on the character of this part of the settlement by extending development along Waltham Lane which has a 'rural' feel. Any development would require sensitive design.
MBC/169/15	Yes	The site is able to deliver a modest amount of new housing development without on-site infrastructure. The site is within walking distance of some of the main services and facilities in Long Clawson (which has retail, education and health services). Long Clawson has good transport choice with access to a 6 day bus service. The site is close to the main residential area of the village and is on land which is partly occupied by agricultural buildings. There are some environmental constraints including potential impacts on bio-diversity and proximity to the nearby Long Clawson Conservation Area. The proposal broadly reflects the existing pattern of development but requires sensitive design in order to limit adverse impacts on the character of this part of the settlement by extending development along Hose Lane which has a 'rural' feel and is defined by strong hedge lined lanes.
MBC/144/15	Yes	The site is able to deliver a modest amount of new housing development without on-site infrastructure. The site is within walking distance of some of the main services and facilities in Long Clawson (which has retail, education and health services). The site is close to a main employment area at Long Clawson dairy. Long Clawson has good transport choice with access to a 6 day bus service. The site is close to the main residential area of the village. There are some environmental constraints including potential impacts on bio-diversity. The proposal



Site code/name	Included in Emerging Options Plan?	Reason for selecting or rejecting the site
		broadly reflects the existing pattern of development but is likely to have some impact on the character of this part of the settlement by extending development along Hickling Lane and Broughton Lane; therefore it requires sensitive design in order to limit adverse impacts on the character of this part of the settlement.
MBC/028/13	Yes	The site is able to deliver a modest amount of new housing development without on-site infrastructure. The site is within walking distance of some of the main services and facilities in Long Clawson (which has retail, education and health services). The site is close to a main employment area at Long Clawson dairy. Long Clawson has good transport choice with access to a 6 day bus service. The site is close to the main residential area of the village. There are some environmental constraints that would need to be addressed including potential impacts on bio-diversity and proximity to the Long Clawson Conservation Area. The proposal broadly reflects the existing pattern of development but is likely to have some impact on the character of this part of the settlement although the recently constructed Village Hall provides some containment of the site; therefore it requires sensitive design in order to limit adverse impacts on the character of this part of the settlement.
MBC/027/15	Yes	The site is only able to deliver a small amount of new housing development without new on-site infrastructure. The site is close to some main services and facilities in Long Clawson which is well-served in terms of employment, retail, education and health services and has good access to transport choice. There are no identified insurmountable environmental constraints. The site is not highly prominent when viewed from main roads within Long Clawson, although it can be seen from other public areas. Development is likely to have some impact on the character of this part of the settlement and would require sensitive development to prevent any adverse impacts on the character of the settlement.
MBC/164/15	Yes	Offers an opportunity for medium scale development. Site is located on main route of village and in keeping with settlement character.
MBC/055/13	Yes	Offers an opportunity for medium scale development, but part of the site is detached and separate from the village and its facilities. Some concern regarding access. However, part of the site (adjacent to the settlement) could be well contained and relate to the character of the village.
MBC/192/15	Yes	Offers opportunity for large scale development but is potentially out of scale with the current village. However, it is located adjacent to an existing Primary service centre. Development would need to be sensitively designed so as not to result in harm in surrounding open countryside.
MBC/054/13	Yes	Small site - offer could be limited in respect of housing choice or affordable housing provision, but perhaps more in keeping with settlement character although there is some concern regarding relationship to conservation area and historic settlement character and so development would require sensitive design in order to fit with the character of the area.
MBC/070/13	Yes	This site would represent a medium sized development site, opposite the current village and its existing built form. The development of part of the site would extend development beyond a defensible boundary and into the open countryside extending the 'built form' beyond current boundaries which could have a negative impact on the surrounding area. However, part of the site is adjacent the existing settlement.
MBC/056/13	Yes	The site represents a large scale development site that adjoins the settlement edge. Its development would extend the current built form into the open countryside leading to possible negative impacts upon the rural character of the settlement; however a smaller portion of the site could be developed where the impacts could be managed / mitigated.
MBC/068/13	No	The site could potentially have significant adverse impacts on landscape character. This is reinforced by the findings of the Melton Landscape character assessment.
MBC/141/13	No	The site is not well related to the settlement of Stathern and could have potentially adverse impacts on landscape and bio-diversity.
MBC/048/13	Yes	Medium sized development site, located on the north-western edge of the village. Some relationship to the settlement, but would extend the built form in a linear development pattern. Adjoining conversation area and Agricultural land grade 3A so needs careful consideration. The site adjoins the settlement and sensitive design could help to deliver a scheme that protects the character of the area.
MBC/146/14	Yes	Medium development site located on the south-eastern edge of the settlement, would represent squaring off of the current developed form and could be utilised to improve the developed edge of this end of the settlement, potential for gateway gains. However developing the site would result in the loss of a recreation space, although replacement provision could be accommodated within the wider development of the site.
MBC/153/15	No	The site has been excluded as it is currently operates as a main employer and its inclusion could have significant adverse impacts on employment opportunities in Melton Mowbray.

# Appendix 9

## Supplementary SA matrices for the Policy Options

## Spatial strategy options

### Q6: What level of Growth (homes and jobs) should Melton Borough provide for?

**Option 1:** Demographic based (195 dwellings per annum) - Solely meets the household projections without taking into account other factors identified in the NPPG with a proportionate increase in jobs.

**Option 2:** Mid-range (220 dwellings per annum) - Goes some way towards considering other factors but would not fully address all factors with a proportionate increase in jobs.

**Option 3:** Supporting economic growth (245 dwellings per annum) - Makes the full upward adjustment identified in the SHMA addressing the necessary factors to meet the full housing need of the Borough with a proportionate increase in jobs.

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	++?	++	<p>All three options would involve providing enough homes to meet the objectively assessed housing need for Melton Borough, which was identified in the 2014 Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)<sup>184</sup> as being between 195-245 homes per year. Therefore, at least a minor positive effect is likely for all three options. It is assumed that the housing to be provided would include an appropriate proportion of affordable housing and housing that is suitable for older people.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> The level of housing growth resulting from this option would be at the lower level of the range set out in the SHMA, meeting the projected need through natural growth only. Therefore, a minor rather than significant positive effect is identified over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> The level of housing growth resulting from this option would be around the middle of the range set out in the SHMA, meeting the projected need through natural growth and going some way towards considering other factors. Therefore, a potential significant positive effect is identified over the medium and long-term, although this is uncertain depending on how the level of housing provision eventually compares with the level of demand resulting from economic growth.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> The level of housing growth resulting from this option would be at the upper end of the range set out in the SHMA, meeting the projected need through natural growth as well as addressing the necessary factors to meet the full housing need of the Borough. Therefore, a significant positive effect is identified. This would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p>
To develop a	-	+	++	<b>Option 1:</b> The level of housing growth proposed under this option is not high enough to support

<sup>184</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment: Leicester and Leicestershire Local Planning Authorities.

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>				<p>enhanced economic growth in the Borough, only to meet the need created through natural growth. Therefore, this approach could have a minor negative effect on the creation of high knowledge jobs in Melton as it may hinder economic growth and the resulting job creation in all sectors. This effect is more likely to be experienced over the medium and longer- term, while effects in the short term would be negligible.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> This option involves taking forward a housing figure for Melton Borough which is around the middle of the range for Melton’s objectively assessed housing need, with a proportionate increase in jobs. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is high enough to meet the projected need through natural growth and would also go some way towards additional growth. Therefore, this approach could have a minor positive effect on the creation of high knowledge jobs in Melton as it may encourage economic growth and the resulting job creation in all sectors. This effect is more likely to be experienced over the medium and longer- term, while effects in the short term would be negligible.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> This option involves taking forward a housing figure for Melton Borough which is at the higher end of the range for the objectively assessed housing need, with a proportionate increase in jobs. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is high enough to support economic growth in the Borough, as well as meeting the need created through natural growth. Therefore, this approach could have a positive effect on the creation of high knowledge jobs in Melton as it may stimulate economic growth and the resulting job creation in all sectors. This effect is likely to be significant over the medium and longer- term and minor positive in the short term.</p> <p>None of the options are expected to have a direct effect on access to educational facilities – while higher levels of housing growth may increase pressure on infrastructure (including schools) as a result of population growth, it is assumed that such infrastructure would be provided at an appropriate level to support housing development under all of the options. Effects on access to education will also depend on the location of sites that are allocated for housing development, which have been appraised separately in relation to their proximity to schools and colleges.</p>
<p>To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport,</p>	0	+?	+?	<p>The effects of the options for growth on sustainable transport use will depend on the location of residential sites that are allocated (i.e. how well connected they are to the public transport network), which have been appraised separately. The extent to which people are able to make sustainable transport choices day to day will also depend on the relative proximity of the homes and jobs that are provided through the Local Plan, which is also appraised separately.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Taking forward a lower housing figure compared to Options 2 and 3 could mean that there is less of an increase in demand for, and therefore viability of, public transport services, although this will depend on the distribution of housing throughout the Borough. Even under this lower growth</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>				<p>option, there is still a significant amount of additional housing and jobs proposed over the plan period which could help to support public transport services, but it is considered that the likely effects of this option on sustainable transport would be negligible over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Taking forward a higher housing figure than the minimum required for the Borough could mean that there are some benefits in terms of increasing in demand for, and therefore viability of, public transport services, although such effects will not be as likely as under Option 3 and will depend on the distribution of housing throughout the Borough. The likely effects of this option on sustainable transport are potentially minor positive overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Taking forward a higher housing figure compared to Options 1 and 2 could mean that there is more of an increase in demand for, and therefore viability of, public transport services, although this is uncertain as it will depend to some extent on the distribution of housing throughout the Borough. The likely effects of this option on sustainable transport are potentially minor positive overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	--	+	++	<p><b>Option 1:</b> The level of housing growth proposed under this option is not high enough to support economic growth in the Borough, only to meet the need created through natural growth. This approach could therefore have a negative effect on improving the range of businesses and the number and quality of available jobs in the Borough, and supporting economic growth. It may also mean that opportunities to reduce levels of out-commuting from the Borough are lost. Taking forward this option, which only provides for housing to meet the need arising from natural population growth, could also mean that the proportion of older people in the Borough continues to increase by the end of the plan period. This will mean that a higher percentage of the Borough's population will be over the age of 65 and no longer working, and may therefore contribute less to the local economy. A likely negative effect is therefore identified for this option, being minor over the short and medium term and increasing to significant negative in the long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> This option involves taking forward a housing figure for Melton which is higher than the minimum required for the Borough, with a proportional increase in jobs. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is high enough to meet the projected need through natural growth and also go some way towards meeting additional growth. This approach could therefore have a positive effect on improving the range of businesses and the number and quality of available jobs in the Borough, and supporting economic growth. It may also mean that some progress can be made towards reducing levels of out-commuting. A likely minor positive effect is likely for this option over the short, medium term, and long-term.</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p><b>Option 3:</b> This option involves taking forward a housing figure for Melton Borough which is at the higher end of the objectively assessed housing need, with a proportional increase in jobs. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is high enough to support economic growth in the Borough, as well as meeting the need created through natural growth. This approach could therefore have a significant positive effect on improving the range of businesses and the number and quality of available jobs in the Borough, and supporting economic growth. It is particularly likely to mean that levels of out-commuting from the Borough can be reduced. A likely significant positive effect is therefore identified for this option over the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The effects of the options on the landscape in and around Melton Borough will depend largely on the location of residential sites that are allocated (i.e. whether they are within or near to areas of high landscape sensitivity), which have been appraised separately.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> While the large-scale development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all of the options could result in impacts on the landscape, taking forward a lower level of growth under this option may mean that development is less likely to impact on the landscape as it may be easier to steer development to the most appropriate sites in relation to areas of particular landscape sensitivity. However, much of Melton Borough is of moderate or high landscape sensitivity, including around Melton Mowbray. A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development. It is also recognised that high quality new development may have a positive effect and contribute to enhancing the quality of the landscape, although this will depend on its design and cannot be assumed.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While the large-scale development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all of the options could result in impacts on the landscape, taking forward a higher level of growth under this option than the minimum that is required may mean that development is more likely to impact on the landscape in comparison to Option 1, as it may be more difficult to steer development to the most appropriate sites in relation to areas of particular landscape sensitivity, although negative effects may be less likely to occur than under Option 3 where the level of growth would be even higher. A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development. It is also recognised that high quality new development may have a positive effect and contribute to enhancing the quality of the landscape, although this will depend on design and cannot be assumed.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> While the large-scale development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>under all of the options could result in impacts on the landscape, taking forward a higher level of growth under this option may mean that development is particularly likely to impact on the landscape as it may be more difficult to steer development to the most appropriate sites in relation to areas of particular landscape sensitivity. A potential significant negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development. It is also recognised that high quality new development may have a positive effect and contribute to enhancing the quality of the landscape, although this will depend on design and cannot be assumed.</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The effects of the options on biodiversity and geodiversity will depend largely on the location of residential sites that are allocated (i.e. whether they are within close proximity of designated biodiversity sites where habitats and species may be disturbed), which have been appraised separately.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> While the large-scale development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all of the three options for growth could result in impacts on sensitive habitats and species, taking forward a lower level of growth under this option compared to Option 3 may mean that development is less likely to impact on biodiversity and geodiversity. It may be easier to steer development to the most appropriate sites in terms of reducing impacts on sensitive habitats and species – although there are no European designated biodiversity sites in the Borough there are a number of SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites which are distributed across the whole of the Borough although there is a particularly high concentration in the north. The Local Plan is also being subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) throughout its preparation which should help to ensure that potential impacts on European sites outside of the Borough from the development of 195 homes per year and a proportional increase in jobs are identified and mitigated, if this option is taken forward. A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development and its proximity to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity features, as well as its design. It is also recognised that mitigation may be able to be incorporated into housing developments, for example through green infrastructure provision, but again this cannot be assumed at this point.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While the large-scale development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all of the three options for growth could result in impacts on sensitive habitats and species, taking forward a higher level of growth under this option than the minimum required may mean that development is more likely to impact on biodiversity and geodiversity as it may be more difficult to ensure that development is steered to the most appropriate sites in terms of reducing impacts on sensitive habitats and species such as the Local Wildlife Sites and SSSIs that are distributed fairly</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>evenly throughout the Borough. The Local Plan is also being subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) throughout its preparation which should help to ensure that impacts on European sites from the development of 220 homes per year and a proportional increase in jobs are identified and mitigated, if this option is taken forward. A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development and its proximity to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity features, as well as its design. It is also recognised that mitigation may be able to be incorporated into housing developments, for example through green infrastructure provision, but again this cannot be assumed at this stage.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> While the large-scale development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all of the three options for growth could result in impacts on sensitive habitats and species, taking forward a higher level of growth under this option may mean that development is particularly likely to impact on biodiversity and geodiversity. It may be more difficult to steer development to the most appropriate sites in terms of reducing impacts on sensitive habitats and species such as the SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites that are distributed fairly evenly throughout the Borough. The Local Plan is also being subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) throughout its preparation which should help to ensure that impacts on European sites from the development of 245 homes per year and a proportional increase in jobs are identified and mitigated, if this option is taken forward.</p> <p>A potential significant negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development and its proximity to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity features, as well as its design. It is also recognised that mitigation may be able to be incorporated into housing developments, for example through green infrastructure provision, but again this cannot be assumed at this point.</p>
To conserve and enhance Melton’s historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	-?	--?	<p>There are over 700 listed buildings distributed fairly evenly throughout the Borough as well as 35 Scheduled Monuments and two Registered Parks and Gardens – Belvoir Castle in the north east and Stapleford Hall in the south east. Development near to these features could therefore have particular effects. The effects of the options on the historic environment will depend largely on the location of residential sites that are allocated (i.e. whether they are within close proximity of heritage features), which have been appraised separately. It is also recognised that mitigation may be able to be incorporated into developments through appropriate design. In addition, well designed and appropriately located development could result in improvements to the setting of heritage features and opportunities to sympathetically restore derelict or ‘at risk’ features, as well as improvements to the appearance of the wider built form of the Borough.</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p><b>Option 1:</b> While the large-scale housing development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all three of the options for growth could result in impacts on heritage assets, taking forward a lower level of housing growth under this option compared to Options 2 and 3 may mean that development is less likely to affect features such as listed buildings and conservation areas as it may be easier to steer development to the most appropriate sites in terms of reducing impacts on the historic environment. It is noted that lower levels of development may also result in slightly lower levels of developer contributions, which could otherwise have been used for measures that would protect and enhance the historic environment; however this cannot be assumed. A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development and its proximity to sensitive heritage features.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While the large-scale housing development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all three of the options for growth could result in impacts on heritage assets, taking forward a higher level of housing growth under this option than the minimum required may mean that development is more likely to affect features such as listed buildings and conservation areas as it may be more difficult to ensure that development is steered to the most appropriate sites in terms of reducing impacts on the historic environment. It is noted that levels of development may also influence levels of developer contributions, which could be used for measures that would protect and enhance the historic environment; however this cannot be assumed. A potential minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development and its proximity to sensitive heritage features.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> While the large-scale housing development proposed for Melton Borough over the plan period under all three of the options for growth could result in impacts on heritage assets, taking forward a higher level of housing growth under this option may mean that development is particularly likely to affect features such as listed buildings and conservation areas as it may be more difficult to steer development to the most appropriate sites in terms of reducing impacts on the historic environment. It is noted that higher levels of development may also result in slightly higher levels of developer contributions, which could be used for measures that would protect and enhance the historic environment; however this cannot be assumed. A potential significant negative effect on this SA objective is therefore identified for the short, medium and long- term, although this is uncertain as effects will depend largely on the location of development and its proximity to sensitive heritage features.</p>
To use land and	-?	-?	--?	<b>Option 1:</b> This option involves taking forward a lower housing figure than proposed under Options 2

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>				<p>and 3, which could minimise the loss of high quality agricultural land to development as it may be easier to steer development away from those areas (Melton Borough contains large areas of Grade 3 agricultural land as well as more limited areas of Grade 2 land which are mainly located in the central areas of the Borough). However, the scale of development means that impacts are still likely. If a lower housing figure is taken forward it may also be easier to direct development to previously developed land in place of greenfield sites, and to avoid development in and around Minerals Consultation Areas, which could otherwise result in the sterilisation of minerals resources (there are Minerals Consultation Areas south west and eastern parts of the Borough). The consumption of minerals for construction would also be lower under this option compared to Options 2 and 3. Therefore, there may be minor negative effects from this option over the short, medium and long-term although this is uncertain as effects will depend to a great extent on the location of development which is not yet known.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> This option involves taking forward a higher housing figure than proposed under Option 1, i.e. more than the minimum development required, which could mean that good quality agricultural land is more likely to be lost to development (Melton Borough contains large areas of Grade 3 land and some more limited areas of Grade 2 land, mainly in the central areas of the Borough). However, such effects would be less significant than under Option 3 which proposes an even higher level of growth. Taking forward a higher housing figure than the minimum required may also mean that it is more difficult to direct development to previously developed land in place of greenfield sites, and to avoid development in and around Minerals Consultation Areas, which could result in the sterilisation of minerals resources (there are Minerals Consultation Areas south west and eastern parts of the Borough). The consumption of minerals for construction would also be higher under this option compared to Option 1 but lower than under Option 3. Therefore, there may be minor negative effects from this option over the short, medium and long- term although this is uncertain as effects will depend to a great extent on the location of development which is not yet known.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> This option involves taking forward a higher housing figure than proposed under the two alternative options, which could mean that there is an increase in the loss of good quality agricultural land to development (Melton Borough contains large areas of Grade 3 land and more limited areas of Grade 2 land, mainly in the central areas of the Borough). If a higher housing figure is taken forward it may also be more difficult to direct development to previously developed land in place of greenfield sites, and to avoid development in and around Minerals Consultation Areas, which could result in the sterilisation of minerals resources (there are Minerals Consultation Areas south west and eastern parts of the Borough). The consumption of minerals for construction would also be higher under this option compared to Options 1 and 2. Therefore, there may be significant negative effects from this option over the short, medium and long- term although this is uncertain as effects will depend to a great extent on the location of development which is not yet known.</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.</p>	0	0	0	<p>The options would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. Effects on access to recreational and cultural facilities will depend largely on the location of residential sites that are allocated (i.e. their proximity to such facilities), which have been appraised separately.</p> <p>While levels of housing development may affect the extent to which increased pressure on community facilities results from population growth, it is assumed that infrastructure (including recreational and cultural facilities) would be provided at an appropriate level to support housing development under all of the options. Therefore, a negligible effect is likely over the short, medium and long term for all three options.</p>
<p>To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.</p>	--	+	++	<p><b>Option 1:</b> This option involves taking forward a housing figure for Melton Borough which is at the lower end of the objectively assessed housing need. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is not high enough to support economic growth in the Borough, only to meet the need created through natural growth. Therefore, there could be a negative effect on the overall health of Melton's economy and levels of poverty and deprivation amongst local people. Taking forward this option, which only provides for natural population growth, is also likely to mean that the proportion of older people in the Borough continues to increase by the end of the plan period, so it will be particularly important to ensure that an appropriate range of services, facilities and housing are available to avoid increased social exclusion. A likely minor negative effect is therefore identified for this option over the short and medium term, increasing to significant negative in the long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> This option involves taking forward a housing figure for Melton Borough which is around the middle of the range for Melton's objectively assessed housing need. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is high enough to meet the projected need through natural growth and also go some way towards considering other factors. Therefore, there could be a minor positive effect on the overall health of Melton's economy and reducing levels of poverty and deprivation amongst local people. It is also less likely to result in an increase in the proportion of the population that is over the age of 65 compared to Option 1 and so there may be less risk of social exclusion amongst older people towards the end of the plan period. A likely minor positive effect is therefore identified for this option over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> This option involves taking forward a housing figure for Melton Borough which is at the higher end of the objectively assessed housing need. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is high enough to support economic growth in the Borough, as well as meeting the need created through natural growth. Therefore, there is likely to be a positive effect on the overall health of Melton's economy and levels of poverty and deprivation amongst local people. The option is also likely to result in a lower proportion of the population being aged over 65 by the end of the plan</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>period compared to Options 1 and 2, which should mean that more people in the Borough are contributing to the local economy. A likely minor positive effect is therefore identified for this option over the short and medium term, increasing to significant positive in the long-term.</p>
<p>To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.</p>	0	0	0	<p>The options are not likely to have a direct effect on crime and community safety. Effects on crime levels and perceptions of personal safety will depend on wider factors, including the design of development sites (e.g. the incorporation of lighting). Incidences of road traffic accidents and levels of pedestrian/cyclist safety will also depend on other factors such as the design and layout of development and the behaviour of individuals. Therefore, negligible effects are likely over the short, medium and long-term for all options.</p>
<p>To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.</p>	+?	-?	-?	<p>The effects of this option on waste generation will depend to some extent on the location of residential sites that are allocated (i.e. whether they are on brownfield sites which may offer opportunities for the re-use of existing buildings and materials), which have been appraised separately.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> A lower housing figure, as proposed under this option, may mean that it is easier to steer development to brownfield sites. While the total amount of household waste generated would be lower under this option compared to the options that propose higher levels of housing development, per capita waste generation would not be affected. This, and levels of recycling, would instead be influenced by consumer behaviour and the incorporation of sustainable waste management systems within new developments. Overall, a potential minor positive effect is likely for this option over the short, medium and long- term in comparison to Options 2 and 3, although this is uncertain depending on the location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> A higher housing figure than the minimum required, as proposed under this option, may mean that it is more difficult to steer development to brownfield sites (although this would be less significant than under Option 3 which proposes an even higher level of growth). While the total amount of household waste generated would be higher under this option compared to Option 1 and lower than under Option 3, per capita waste generation would not be affected. This, and levels of recycling, would instead be influenced by consumer behaviour and the incorporation of sustainable waste management systems within new developments. Overall, a potential minor negative effect is likely for this option over the short, medium and long- term although this is uncertain depending on the location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> A higher housing figure, as proposed under this option, may mean that it is more difficult</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				to steer development to brownfield sites. While the total amount of household waste generated would be higher under this option compared to the options that propose lower levels of housing development, per capita waste generation would not be affected. This, and levels of recycling, would instead be influenced by consumer behaviour and the incorporation of sustainable waste management systems within new developments. Overall, a potential minor negative effect is likely for this option over the short, medium and long- term although this is uncertain depending on the location of development.
To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	--	++	++	<p><b>Option 1:</b> This option involves delivering the minimum level of housing growth required to meet the objectively assessed housing need in Melton Borough. The level of housing growth proposed under this option is not high enough to support economic growth in the Borough, only to meet the need created through natural growth. This could have a negative effect on economic growth as a result of the Borough’s labour force being weaker. This would have resulting negative effects on the diversity of jobs available and it may result in a lack of employment development to support further economic growth. Therefore, a minor negative effect is likely over the short and medium term and this could increase to a significant negative effect over the long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> This option involves delivering more than the minimum level of housing growth required to meet the need arising from natural population growth, and going some way towards considering other factors. This could have a minor positive effect on economic growth as a result of the Borough’s labour force being stronger, with resulting positive effects on the diversity of jobs available. It may also go some way towards stimulating employment development to support further economic growth. Therefore, a minor positive effect is likely over the short and medium term and this could increase to a significant positive effect over the long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> This option involves delivering a higher level of housing growth than the minimum required, in order to meet the need arising from natural population growth and also supporting economic growth. Therefore, a significant positive effect is likely in relation to enabling economic growth as a result of the Borough’s labour force being stronger. This would have resulting positive effects on the diversity of jobs available and it may result in additional employment development to support further economic growth. Therefore, a significant positive effect is likely over the short, medium and long term.</p>
To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and	0	0	0	The options are not expected to have a direct effect on access to healthcare facilities. While the lower level of housing growth proposed under Option 1 in comparison to Options 2 and 3 may help to avoid increased pressure on infrastructure resulting from population growth, it is assumed that infrastructure (including healthcare facilities) would be provided at an appropriate level to support

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
prolong life.				<p>housing development under all of the options for the level of growth. Effects on access to healthcare facilities will also depend on the location of sites that are allocated for housing development, which have been appraised separately in relation to their proximity to GPs and hospitals.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> It is possible that a lower level of housing development may mean that opportunities to stimulate the provision of improved facilities such as sports and leisure facilities (which can encourage higher levels of physical activity) are lost; however it is also less likely that existing facilities would become overloaded. Therefore, a negligible effect on this objective is likely overall.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> It is possible that housing development may stimulate the provision of improved facilities such as sports and leisure facilities (which can encourage higher levels of physical activity) and therefore the level of growth could influence this issue; however levels of growth would also affect the extent to which existing facilities may become overloaded. Therefore, a negligible effect is likely overall, over the short, medium and long- term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> It is possible that a higher level of housing development may mean that opportunities to stimulate the provision of improved leisure and sports facilities (which can encourage higher levels of physical activity) are more likely to be achieved; however it is also more likely that existing facilities would become overloaded if additional provision is not made. Therefore, a negligible effect is likely overall, over the short, medium and long- term.</p>
To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	0	0	<p>The effects of this option on energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions will depend largely on the design of developments and the onsite practices used, rather than the overall scale of development. Levels of renewable energy generation and use in particular will depend on design and onsite practices. The effects of the options in relation to emissions from transport are addressed under SA objective 3 above.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> While the large-scale development resulting from any of the options for the level of residential growth in Melton would lead to an increase in overall CO2 emissions, the increase may be lower under this option where growth would be more limited. However, as effects are largely dependent on other factors, a negligible effect is most likely overall over the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While the large-scale development resulting from any of the options for the level of growth in Melton would lead to an increase in overall CO2 emissions, the increase may be lower under this option compared to Option 3, but higher than under Option 1. However, as effects are largely dependent on other factors, a negligible effect is likely overall over the short, medium and long-</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> While the large-scale development resulting from any of the options for the level of residential growth in Melton would lead to an increase in overall CO2 emissions, the increase may be particularly high under this option where growth levels would be higher. However, as effects are largely dependent on other factors, a negligible effect is likely overall over the short, medium and long- term.</p>
<p>To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	?	?	?	<p>The effects of the options on flood risk will depend largely on the location of residential sites that are allocated, in particular whether they are within higher risk flood zones – there are areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the Borough, in particular around the River Eye which runs east-west through the Borough and passes through Melton Mowbray. The proximity of residential site options to areas of high flood risk has been appraised separately.</p> <p>While the large-scale housing development that would result from any of the options for the level of growth in Melton is very likely to result in the loss of at least some impermeable surfaces as a result of development on greenfield land, it may be possible to mitigate impacts, for example by incorporating SuDS into the development.</p> <p>Higher levels of housing development (e.g. Options 2 and 3) may mean that it is more difficult to direct development to brownfield land and pressure on greenfield sites may increase, thereby increasing the loss of impermeable surfaces. However, the design and location of development will be the primary determinants of effects, rather than the overall scale of growth in the Borough. Therefore, the effects of all three options are uncertain depending on the above factors.</p>
<p>To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.</p>	0	0	0	<p>The effects of the options on water quality in Melton will depend largely on the location of residential sites that are allocated (i.e. whether they are in locations where there is capacity in the sewage treatment system to accommodate the development), which have been appraised separately.</p> <p>While it will be necessary to ensure that sensitive watercourses, source protection zones and aquifers are not adversely affected by new development, the overall scale of housing growth cannot be used to assume the likelihood of affects. Therefore a negligible effect on this objective is expected over the short, medium and long-term for all three options.</p> <p>Effects on the efficient consumption of water (i.e. per capita levels of water consumption) will depend on factors such as peoples’ behaviour and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into new developments, rather than the overall scale of development.</p>



Q7: How should Melton Borough Grow?

**Option 1:** Melton Mowbray focus: development focused on Melton Mowbray with small scale development in rural settlements.

**Option 2:** Reduced Melton Borough focus: majority of development still in Melton Mowbray but with increased development in rural villages.

**Option 3:** Dispersed development: increased development in settlements across the Borough with further reduction in development in Melton Mowbray.

**Option 4:** The majority of development concentrated in one location as discussed in question 9. Note that the two potential sites for a new village identified in the Issues and Options document (Great Dalby and Normanton airfields) have also been subject to SA individually as large-scale site options. This appraisal therefore focuses on the principles of a new village, taking into account those potential locations where relevant.

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>+/-</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>The effects of the distribution of development within the Borough on ensuring that the housing stock meets the needs of local people will be mainly determined by the amount and type of housing that is developed and the proportion that is affordable and designed to meet the needs of particular groups such as older people, rather than the spatial distribution. The disparity between incomes and house prices is highest in the rural areas of the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing most housing development in Melton Mowbray may reduce the opportunities to deliver affordable housing there. However, it is also noted that development focussed mainly in Melton Mowbray is likely to be larger in scale and therefore the delivery of affordable housing within the development may be more viable than where there is more smaller scale development in rural areas. A potential mixed (significant positive and minor negative effect) on this SA objective is therefore likely, over the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing most housing development in Melton Mowbray (although less than under Option 1) may reduce the opportunities to deliver affordable housing there. However, it is also noted that development focussed mainly in Melton Mowbray is likely to be larger in scale and therefore the delivery of affordable housing within the development may be more viable than where there is more smaller scale development in rural areas. A potential mixed (significant positive and minor negative effect) on this SA objective is therefore likely, over the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Focussing most housing development in Melton Mowbray may offer good opportunities to deliver affordable housing there. However, it is also noted that development focussed mainly in rural areas is likely to be smaller in scale and therefore the delivery of affordable housing within the development may be less viable than where there is larger scale development focused at Melton Mowbray. A potential mixed (minor</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>positive and minor negative effect) on this SA objective is therefore likely, over the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Concentrating majority of housing development in one location as a new village could reduce opportunities to deliver affordable housing in the rural areas. However, larger-scale development at a new village may mean that it is more viable to incorporate affordable housing provision. The significant infrastructure requirements associated with a new development (particularly taking into account the relatively remote locations of the Six Hills, Great Dalby and Normanton Airfield sites) could draw funding away from other areas, including the delivery of affordable housing. A mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely, over the short, medium and long-term.</p>
<p>2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>-?</p>	<p>+/-</p>	<p>The distribution of growth within Melton Borough will not have a direct effect on the creation of high knowledge jobs and levels of qualifications. Likely effects on this objective will therefore be determined by levels of access to schools.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Levels of access to education may be better where development is mainly focussed in Melton Mowbray as the majority of the Borough's schools (particularly at secondary level) are focussed there and journey times may be shorter, with easier access via sustainable modes of transport. However, continuing to focus most development at Melton Mowbray may mean that potential opportunities to improve access to services, including education facilities, in rural areas are lost. If population growth is centred at Melton Mowbray there will be less of an increase in support for rural schools. Overall, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is therefore likely.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Access to education may be better where development is mainly focussed in Melton Mowbray as the majority of the Borough's schools (particularly at secondary level) are focussed there and journey times may be shorter, with easier access via sustainable modes of transport. While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. Therefore, a minor positive effect is likely over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Access to education may be poorer where development is distributed throughout the Borough rather than being mainly focussed in Melton Mowbray as the majority of the Borough's schools (particularly at secondary level) are focussed there and</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>journey times may be longer, with less good access via sustainable modes of transport. Therefore, a potential minor negative effect is identified over the short, medium and long term although this is uncertain depending on where in the Borough development is distributed, in relation to the location of schools.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> This option could affect levels of access to education. Focussing most new development in one location (likely to be a new village at either Great Dalby or Normanton Airfields or at Six Hills) would mean that access to the concentration of existing schools (particularly at secondary level) in Melton Mowbray would be less good, particularly if the new development is at Normanton Airfield or Six Hills which are further from the centre of Melton Mowbray. In addition, opportunities to provide additional support for existing rural schools would be lost. However, focussing development in a single new village would be likely to provide the critical mass of growth required to stimulate the delivery of a new school or schools as part of the development. Co-locating residential development with such new infrastructure could mean that access is convenient, even for people without access to a car. Therefore, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is likely over the medium and long term.</p>
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	++	++	-?	+/-?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray is likely to have a significant positive effect on enabling people to use sustainable transport. Journeys to work and to access services and facilities are likely to be shorter and therefore more easily undertaken on foot or by bicycle, and public transport services in the Melton Mowbray area are better than in the more rural parts of the Borough. A significant positive effect is likely over the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray is likely to have a significant positive effect on enabling people to use sustainable transport. Journeys to work and to access services and facilities are likely to be shorter and therefore more easily undertaken on foot or by bicycle, and public transport services in the Melton Mowbray area are better than in the more rural parts of the Borough. While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. A minor positive effect is likely in the short term, increasing to significant positive in the medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing development throughout the Borough, rather than focussing it in Melton Mowbray, is likely to have a negative effect on enabling people to use sustainable transport. Journeys to work and to access services and facilities are likely to be longer and undertaken by car, and public transport services in rural areas are less good than in</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>the Melton Mowbray area. While new development may stimulate the provision of new transport links, if development is spread out rather than being focussed in one location, there is unlikely to be the critical mass in one place required to deliver new services. A potential minor negative effect is therefore likely over the short, medium and long-term although this is uncertain depending on where in the Borough development is distributed.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> The effects of this option on sustainable transport will depend largely on the form that the new settlement would take, in particular the extent to which it would incorporate employment provision, services and facilities and therefore operate as a relatively self-contained settlement. While the potential sites at Normanton Airfield and Six Hills are located some distance outside of Melton Mowbray where the majority of existing jobs, services and facilities are located, the third site option at Great Dalby Airfield is closer to Melton Mowbray and it may be easier to incorporate sustainable transport links such as footpaths and cycle paths as well as new bus routes into the town centre. However, it is still some distance from Melton Mowbray town centre. The principle of a new settlement is likely to result in an increase in car movements in the Borough, particularly if it is located away from Melton Mowbray. An overall mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is likely over the short, medium and long term although this is to some extent uncertain depending on the location of the new settlement and what it includes in terms of employment, services and facilities.</p>
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	0	0	0	0	<p>The distribution of development within Melton Borough will not have a direct effect on this objective. Effects will be determined by the quantum of development rather than its distribution.</p>
<p>5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the</p>	+/--?	+/--?	-?	+/--?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> Minimising the extent of development in rural areas may help to preserve the character of villages and the quality of rural landscapes. However, while directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer good opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites at the town, it may also result in the loss of greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray if the development takes the form of a large-scale urban extension</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
landscape.					<p>(most of the Borough's growth would not be able to be accommodated at Melton Mowbray through infill alone). Landscape sensitivity around Melton Mowbray is generally moderate or high. Therefore, a mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect is identified for this SA objective over the short, medium and long-term, although this is uncertain depending on the specific location of development at Melton Mowbray and elsewhere in relation to the areas of highest landscape sensitivity. Effects will also depend on the design of the development and the incorporation of mitigation measures.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Minimising the extent of development in rural areas may help to preserve the character of villages and the quality of rural landscapes. While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. Although directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer good opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites at the town, it may also result in the loss of greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray if the development takes the form of a large-scale urban extension (most of the Borough's growth would not be able to be accommodated at Melton Mowbray through infill alone). As noted above, landscape sensitivity around Melton Mowbray is generally moderate or high. Therefore, a mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect is identified for this SA objective over the short, medium and long-term, although this is uncertain depending on the specific location of development at Melton Mowbray.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing development in rural areas may have an adverse impact on the character of villages and the quality of rural landscapes, depending on its location. However, it is assumed that new development would be of high quality design. Therefore, a potential minor negative effect on this objective is identified although this is uncertain until specific development proposals come forward and the location in relation to areas of high landscape sensitivity is known.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Focussing the majority of the development in a new settlement in a single location is likely to have a significant negative effect on the landscape (the SA of the site options at Six Hills, Normanton Airfield and Dalby Airfield all identified potential significant negative effects on this SA objective), although this is largely dependent on the design and layout of the new village. However, it is also possible that this approach would help to preserve the character of villages and the quality of rural landscapes in other locations. Therefore, a mixed (significant negative and minor positive) effect is identified for this SA objective over the short, medium and long-term, although this is uncertain depending on the design and layout of the new settlement.</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	+/--?	+/--?	+/-?	+/--?	<p>The effects of development on this SA objective will depend more on the specific location of the development in relation to areas of biodiversity and geodiversity value with respect to sites of known biodiversity value, rather than its overall distribution within the Borough. The effects on ecological networks, including supporting and connecting habitats, and non-designated sites and species, are difficult to predict at the strategic level.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> While directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer good opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites within the town, thereby avoiding habitat loss on greenfield sites, it may also result in large-scale development on greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray if the development takes the form of a large-scale urban extension (most of the Borough's growth would not be able to be accommodated at Melton Mowbray through infill alone). It is also noted that brownfield sites within the town may harbour valuable biodiversity. While directing most growth to Melton Mowbray would steer the majority of development away from the SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites located elsewhere in the Borough, there are a number of Local Wildlife Site around the town, including the large Melton Country Park Local Wildlife Site to the north and Bull Field and Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings in the west. Therefore, it will be important for development sites at Melton Mowbray to be considered carefully in relation to the potential impacts on these features (the large-scale development site options around the town have been subject to SA separately). New development may also offer good opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements wherever it is located, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure. Therefore, the overall effects of this option are mixed (minor positive and significant negative) and are currently uncertain, depending on the design and specific location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer good opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites within the town, thereby avoiding habitat loss on greenfield sites, it may also result in large-scale development on greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray if the development takes the form of a large-scale urban extension (most of the Borough's growth would not be able to be accommodated at Melton Mowbray through infill alone). It is also noted that brownfield sites within the town may harbour valuable biodiversity. Although the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. While directing most growth to Melton Mowbray would steer the majority of development away from the SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites located elsewhere in the Borough, there are a number of Local Wildlife Site around the town, including the large Melton Country Park Local Wildlife Site to the north</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>and Bull Field and Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings in the west. Therefore, it will be important for development sites at Melton Mowbray to be considered carefully in relation to the potential impacts on these features (the large-scale development site options around the town have been subject to SA separately). New development may also offer good opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements wherever it is located, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure. Therefore, the overall effects of this option are mixed (minor positive and significant negative) and are currently uncertain, depending on the design and specific location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough’s development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray may make it easier to avoid habitat loss through development on greenfield land, in comparison to when development is focussed mainly in one location. Despite this, it is noted that brownfield sites within the town may harbour valuable biodiversity. The effects of development that is distributed around the Borough will depend largely on the proximity of development to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity features. There are SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites distributed fairly evenly within the Borough, although there are slightly more in the north; therefore effects on these features may be more likely if development is steered to that area. New development may also offer good opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements wherever it is located, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure. Therefore, the overall effects of this option are mixed (minor positive and minor negative) and are currently uncertain, depending on the design and specific location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> The effects of development on this SA objective will depend largely on the location of the development in relation to areas of biodiversity and geodiversity value. However, the SA of the Six Hills, Normanton Airfield and Dalby Airfield site options for a new settlement all identified potential negative effects on this SA objective, which at Normanton Airfield could be significant as the site contains a potential Local Wildlife Site (Bottesford, Airfield Road Verge). At Dalby Airfield and Six Hills, potential minor negative effects were identified as, while there are no designated sites such as SSSIs or Local Wildlife Sites within or close to the site boundaries, a number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts are nearby. In any location, the principle of developing a new village will inevitably result in the loss of large areas of greenfield land, which could potentially be of habitat value even if it is not part of or near to a designated site. Despite this, new development may also offer good opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements wherever it is located, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure. Therefore, the overall effects of this option are mixed (potentially minor positive and significant negative) and are</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					currently uncertain, depending on the design of the new village, in particular the incorporation of open space and other green infrastructure.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	--?	--?	-?	--?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray could help to preserve the historic character of the rural villages. However, the effects of development will depend mainly on the specific location, rather than the broad distribution, in particularly the proximity of development to sensitive heritage features. There is a cluster of listed buildings in the centre of Melton Mowbray which could be affected by nearby development, although it is likely that most of the growth would be delivered through an urban extension on the edge of the town as only a limited amount could be delivered through infill development within the town. While there are fewer heritage features outside of the town centre, there are a number of scattered listed buildings as well as two Scheduled Monuments – Sysonby Grange and Medieval Settlement Remains – to the north west and south west of Melton Mowbray respectively, which may be affected by nearby development, particularly if it is large in scale. Therefore, an overall significant negative effect is identified for the short, medium and long term although this is uncertain depending on the design of development and its specific location, particularly the location of the development that comes forward outside of Melton Mowbray. It is also recognised that high quality new development may offer the opportunity to enhance the setting of nearby heritage features.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray could help to preserve the historic character of the rural villages. However, the effects of development will depend mainly on the specific location, rather than the broad distribution, in particularly the proximity of development to sensitive heritage features. There is a cluster of listed buildings in the centre of Melton Mowbray which could be affected by nearby development, although it is likely that most of the growth would be delivered through an urban extension on the edge of the town as only a limited amount could be delivered through infill development within the town. While there are fewer heritage features outside of the town centre, there are a number of scattered listed buildings as well as two Scheduled Monuments – Sysonby Grange and Medieval Settlement Remains – to the north west and south west of Melton Mowbray respectively, which may be affected by nearby development, particularly if it is large in scale. Therefore, an overall significant negative effect is identified for the short, medium and long term although this is uncertain depending on the design of development and its specific location, particularly the location of the development that comes forward outside of Melton Mowbray. It is also recognised that high quality new</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>development may offer the opportunity to enhance the setting of nearby heritage features.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough’s development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray could have an adverse impact on the historic character of the rural villages. However, the effects of development will depend mainly on the specific location, rather than the broad distribution, in particularly the proximity of development to sensitive heritage features. Listed buildings and other heritage features are distributed fairly evenly throughout the Borough; therefore development in any part of Melton could potentially result in impacts on those features. Therefore, an overall minor negative effect is identified for the short, medium and long term although this is uncertain depending on the design of development and its specific location. It is also recognised that high quality new development may offer the opportunity to enhance the setting of nearby heritage features.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Focussing most development in one location in a new village could help to preserve the historic character of the existing rural villages. However, the effects of development will depend mainly on the location of the new village, rather than the overall distribution of development, in particularly the proximity of development to sensitive heritage features. While the Dalby Airfield and Six Hills new settlement site options are not close to any designated heritage features, the Normanton Airfield site could have a significant negative effect on this objective as the site contains a small part of Normanton Conservation Area and there are a number of listed buildings within close proximity. Therefore, a potential significant negative effect is identified for the short, medium and long term although this is uncertain depending on the site that is selected and factors such as the design of the new development. It is also recognised that high quality new development may offer the opportunity to enhance the setting of nearby heritage features.</p>
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--?	--?	-?	--?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> While directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer some opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites within the town, thereby avoiding development on greenfield land, it is also likely to result in large-scale development on greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray in the form of a large-scale urban extension as most of the Borough’s growth would not be able to be accommodated at Melton Mowbray through infill alone. Most of the land around Melton Mowbray is Grade 3 agricultural land (it is not known if this is Grade 3a or 3b) although there are also areas of Grade 2 land, particularly to the north west, north east and south east of the town. Large-scale development in those areas could therefore have particularly negative effects. Two of</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>the Minerals Consultation Areas in the Borough are adjacent to Melton Mowbray, to the east and west of the town. Development in those locations could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. Overall, a significant negative effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long term, although this is uncertain depending on the eventual location of development at Melton Mowbray and elsewhere, in relation to the areas of highest quality agricultural land and Minerals Consultation Zones.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Although directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer some opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites within the town, thereby avoiding development on greenfield land, it is also likely to result in large-scale development on greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray in the form of a large-scale urban extension as most of the Borough's growth would not be able to be accommodated at Melton Mowbray through infill alone. As described above, most of the land around Melton Mowbray is Grade 3 agricultural land (it is not known if this is Grade 3a or 3b) although there are also areas of Grade 2 land, particularly to the north west, north east and south east of the town. Large-scale development in those areas could therefore have particularly negative effects. Two of the Minerals Consultation Areas in the Borough are adjacent to Melton Mowbray, to the east and west of the town. Development in those locations could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. Overall, a significant negative effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long term, although this is uncertain depending on the eventual location of development at Melton Mowbray and elsewhere, in relation to the areas of highest quality agricultural land and Minerals Consultation Zones.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough's development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray may make it easier to avoid development on greenfield land, in comparison to when development is focussed mainly in one location. However, the effects of this option are largely uncertain and will depend on the location of the distributed development in relation to the areas of high quality agricultural land in the Borough (Melton Borough contains large areas of Grade 3 agricultural land as well as more limited areas of Grade 2 land which are mainly located in the central areas of the Borough). Effects will also depend on the proximity of development to Minerals Consultation Areas, where development could result in the sterilisation of minerals resources (there are Minerals Consultation Areas south west and eastern parts of the Borough). Overall, there may be a minor negative effect on this objective although this is currently uncertain until the distribution of the development is known.</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p><b>Option 4:</b> Focussing most development in one location in a new village would result in large-scale development on greenfield land, regardless of its location. However, effects on this objective would be particularly negative if the site selected were to be within an area of high quality agricultural land (Melton Borough contains large areas of Grade 3 agricultural land as well as more limited areas of Grade 2 land which are mainly located in the central areas of the Borough). Both of the potential sites at Great Dalby and Normanton Airfields are within Grade 3 agricultural land, although it is not known if this is Grade 3a or 3b. Effects will also depend on the proximity of the development to the Borough’s Minerals Consultation Areas (MCAs), where development could result in the sterilisation of minerals resources (there are Minerals Consultation Areas south west and eastern parts of the Borough). While Dalby Airfield is not within close proximity of a MCA, a small part of a sand and gravel MCA lies within the Normanton Airfield site option towards its western edge. The close proximity of this MCA may result in the sterilisation of minerals at this location although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction. Overall, a significant negative effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long term, although this is uncertain depending on the eventual location of the new development and whether it is on Grade 3a or 3b agricultural land.</p>
<p>9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.</p>	<p>++/-?</p>	<p>++/-?</p>	<p>--/+?</p>	<p>--/+?</p>	<p><b>Option 1:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the services and facilities that are mainly located there, particularly benefitting people without access to a car. Focussing the population growth at the town could also stimulate the provision of new services and facilities there. A significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long-term. However, directing most development to Melton Mowbray would also compound access-related issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in those areas are lost. Village vitality may also be detrimentally affected as more activity is concentrated in Melton Mowbray. Therefore, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is likely overall.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the services and facilities that are mainly located there, particularly benefitting people without access to a car. Focussing the population growth at the town could also stimulate the provision of new services and facilities there. A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short term, increasing to significant positive over the medium and long-term. While the proportion of</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>development at Melton Mowbray would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. However, directing most development to Melton Mowbray would also compound access-related issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in those areas are lost. Village vitality may also be detrimentally affected as more activity is concentrated in Melton Mowbray. Therefore, a mixed effect is likely overall although this is uncertain depending on the exact distribution of development.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough's development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray, would mean that fewer people would be easily able to access the services and facilities that are mainly located there, particularly people without access to a car. Distributing development widely throughout the Borough would also mean that it would be less likely to provide the critical mass required to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in any one location. A significant negative effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long-term. However, distributing development around the Borough would also mean that there may be positive effects on the vitality of villages as a result of new development outside of Melton Mowbray. Therefore, a mixed (significant negative and minor positive) effect is likely overall although this is uncertain depending on the exact distribution of development.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Locating most development at a new settlement would mean that people are less easily able to access the existing services and facilities that are mainly located at Melton Mowbray, particularly if the new settlement is at Normanton Airfield which is located far from the town to the north. In addition, directing most development to a new village would also compound existing access-related issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in those areas are lost. The vitality of existing villages may also be detrimentally affected as more activity is concentrated in a new village. However, concentrating the development mainly in a single new settlement could mean that services and facilities would be provided as part of the new village. A mixed (significant negative and minor positive) effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long-term and is uncertain depending on what services and facilities are provided within the new village.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation	--/+	--/+	-	--	<b>Option 1:</b> Focussing most new development at Melton Mowbray is likely to mean that there is reduced support for rural services and facilities and reduced village vitality which

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
and secure economic inclusion.					<p>would increase social deprivation and exclusion in rural areas. A negative effect is therefore likely – minor in the short term and increasing to significant in the medium and long-term. However, there may also be a minor positive effect as focussing development at Melton Mowbray would improve social inclusion for the concentration of people living in and around the town.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing most new development at Melton Mowbray is likely to mean that there is reduced support for rural services and facilities and reduced village vitality which would increase social deprivation and exclusion in rural areas. A negative effect is therefore likely – minor in the short and medium term and increasing to significant in the long-term. However, there may also be a minor positive effect as focussing development at Melton Mowbray would improve social inclusion for the concentration of people living in and around the town.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough’s development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray, is likely to mean that there is increased support for rural services and facilities and reduced village vitality which would reduce social deprivation and exclusion in rural areas. A minor negative effect is therefore likely in the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Focussing most new development at a new village is likely to mean that there is reduced support for rural services and facilities and reduced vitality at existing villages which would increase social deprivation and exclusion in rural areas. A negative effect is therefore likely – minor in the short term and increasing to significant in the medium and long-term.</p>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	0	0	0	The distribution of development in Melton Borough would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. Instead, effects would be determined by factors such as the design of development, e.g. the incorporation of lighting, which can improve perception of safety at night.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0?	0?	?	+/-?	The effects of growth on waste generation will depend to some extent on the location of sites that are allocated for development (i.e. whether they are on brownfield land which may offer opportunities for the re-use of existing buildings and materials). The total amount of household waste generated would be unaffected by the distribution of development within the Borough, and per capita waste generation would not be affected. This, and levels of recycling, would instead be influenced by consumer behaviour and the incorporation of sustainable waste management systems within new developments.

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray is likely to result in the development of an urban extension on greenfield land as it would not be possible to accommodate most of the Borough’s development through only infill development within the town. Therefore, opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials are unlikely to exist and a negligible effect is most likely for this option over the short, medium and long- term although this is uncertain depending on the exact location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray is likely to result in the development of an urban extension on greenfield land as it would not be possible to accommodate most of the Borough’s development through only infill development within the town. While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough’s growth under this option and significant development on greenfield land is still considered likely. Therefore, opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials are unlikely to exist and a negligible effect is most likely for this option over the short, medium and long- term although this is uncertain depending on the exact location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough’s development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray could mean that more development can be accommodated on brownfield sites in comparison to when large-scale development is focussed mainly in one location. Overall, effects on this objective are therefore uncertain depending on the exact location of development around the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Focussing most development at a new settlement would result in large-scale development, which could be on greenfield land where opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials are not likely to exist. The Six Hills site option is on greenfield land. However, the Normanton and Dalby Airfield site options both include some brownfield land; therefore there may be a minor positive effect if either of those site options is taken forward and there are opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials. Overall, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is likely for this option over the short, medium and long- term although this is uncertain depending on which site is eventually developed.</p>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to	+	+	-	-	<p>This SA objective will be mainly affected by the overall quantum of growth rather than its distribution with the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray may help to reduce traffic</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
enable economic growth.					<p>congestion as more people can walk, cycle and use public transport. This may have a minor indirect positive effect on creating conditions to enable economic growth.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray may help to reduce traffic congestion as more people can walk, cycle and use public transport. This may have a minor indirect positive effect on creating conditions to enable economic growth. While the proportion of development at Melton Mowbray would be slightly lower under this option than under Option 1, a positive effect is still likely.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough’s development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray, may result in increased traffic congestion as fewer people would be able to walk, cycle and use public transport for day-to-day journeys. This may have a minor indirect negative effect on creating conditions to enable economic growth.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Focussing most development in a new settlement away from Melton Mowbray may increase traffic congestion as fewer people can walk, cycle and use public transport. This is particularly likely if the Normanton Airfield site is taken forward as it is located far from Melton Mowbray. This may have a minor indirect negative effect on creating conditions to enable economic growth.</p>
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-		-	-/+?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be shorter. This is likely to help increase levels of physical activity day to day. Access to healthcare facilities would also be better, as most of the GPs and other medical facilities in the Borough are located in the town. A significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long-term. However, directing most development to Melton Mowbray would also compound access issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new facilities (including healthcare facilities) in those areas are lost. Therefore, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is likely overall.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be shorter. This is likely to help increase levels of physical activity day to day. Access to healthcare facilities would also be better, as most of the GPs and other medical facilities in the Borough are located in the town. While the</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short term, increasing to significant positive over the medium and long-term. However, directing most development to Melton Mowbray would also compound access issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new facilities (including healthcare facilities) in those areas are lost. Therefore, a mixed effect is likely overall.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough's development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray, would mean that fewer people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be longer. This would mean that opportunities to help increase levels of physical activity day to day would be lost. Access to healthcare facilities would also be poorer, as most of the GPs and other medical facilities in the Borough are located in the town. A minor negative effect on this objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Locating most development at a new settlement is likely to mean that fewer people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located at Melton Mowbray on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be longer. This means that opportunities to help increase levels of physical activity day to day would be lost. Access to healthcare facilities may also be poor, as most of the GPs and other medical facilities in the Borough are located in Melton Mowbray (although it is possible that new facilities would be provided within the new village). This approach would also compound access issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new facilities (including healthcare facilities) in those areas are lost. Therefore, a mixed (minor negative and minor positive) effect is likely overall although this is currently uncertain depending on the location of the new village and whether new healthcare facilities would be provided as part of the development.</p>
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the	++	++	-?	+/-?	<p>Development in any location would result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, and the extent to which development is energy efficient and may incorporate renewable energy generation and use would not be determined by its broad location. Instead, such effects would be determined by design and people's behaviour.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there via sustainable transport e.g. on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be shorter. There are</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
Borough.					<p>also better public transport links in and around the town compared with the more rural areas of the Borough where levels of car use would be likely to be much higher. This would have a significant positive effect on levels of emissions and air quality, over the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there via sustainable transport e.g. on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be shorter. There are also better public transport links in and around the town compared with the more rural areas of the Borough where levels of car use would be likely to be much higher. While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough's growth under this option. This would have a minor positive effect on levels of emissions and air quality in the short term, increasing to significant positive in the medium and long-term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough's development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray, would mean that people would be less easily able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there via sustainable transport e.g. on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be longer. There are also less good public transport links in and around the town compared with the more rural areas of the Borough where levels of car use would be likely to be much higher, and the critical mass of development required to stimulate the provision of new services is unlikely to be achieved in any one location. Therefore this option is likely to have a minor negative effect on levels of emissions and air quality, over the short, medium and long-term, although effects are uncertain until the location of the distributed development is known.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Locating most development in a new settlement would mean that people living there are less easily able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located in Melton Mowbray via sustainable transport e.g. on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be longer. This is particularly likely to be the case if the Normanton Airfield or Six Hills sites were to be taken forward as they are located some distance to the north of Melton Mowbray. The third site option at Great Dalby Airfield is much closer to Melton Mowbray and it may be possible to incorporate sustainable transport links such as footpaths and cycle paths as well as new bus routes into the town centre. However, the effects of this option on levels of greenhouse gas emissions from transport will depend largely on the form that the new settlement would take, in particular the extent to which it would incorporate employment provision, services and facilities and therefore operate as a relatively self-contained settlement. Despite this, the principle of a new</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					settlement is likely to result in an increase in car movements in the Borough, particularly if it is located away from Melton Mowbray. An overall mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect is likely over the short, medium and long term although this is to some extent uncertain depending on the location and nature of the new settlement.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-?	-?	?	-?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray is likely to result in the loss of permeable greenfield land as it would not be possible to deliver that amount of development through infill alone and it is assumed that development would be delivered through an urban extension. There are fairly extensive areas of flood zones 2 and 3 in Melton Mowbray, around the River Eye which runs through the town from east-west. Therefore, focussing most development at the town may mean that it is more difficult to steer development away from high flood risk areas, and a potential minor negative effect is identified. However, this is uncertain depending on the exact location of development, and it is noted that it may be possible to incorporate mitigation such as SuDS into new development.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray is likely to result in the loss of permeable greenfield land as it would not be possible to deliver that amount of development through infill alone and it is assumed that development would be delivered through an urban extension. While the extent of development on greenfield land may not be as great as under Option 1, Melton Mowbray would still be the focus of most of the Borough’s growth under this option so large-scale development on greenfield land is still likely to result. There are fairly extensive areas of flood zones 2 and 3 in Melton Mowbray, around the River Eye which runs through the town from east-west. Therefore, focussing most development at the town may mean that it is more difficult to steer development away from high flood risk areas, and a potential minor negative effect is identified. However, this is uncertain depending on the exact location of development, and it is noted that it may be possible to incorporate mitigation such as SuDS into new development.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough’s development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray, may mean that more development can be accommodated on brownfield sites (thereby reducing the loss of permeable land) in comparison to when large-scale development is focussed mainly in one location. However, the effects of this option would depend largely on the specific locations of the dispersed development in relation to areas of high flood risk. As there are fairly extensive areas of flood zones 2 and 3 in Melton Mowbray, around the River Eye which runs through the town from east-</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>west, distributing development more widely may make it easier to avoid those areas. It is also noted that it may be possible to incorporate mitigation such as SuDS into new development. However, the effects of this option are uncertain depending on the exact location of development.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Focussing most development at a single new village is likely to result in the loss of large areas of permeable greenfield land which may increase runoff rates and reduce infiltration although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation such as green infrastructure and SuDS. The two potential locations for the new village that are identified in the Issues and Options consultation document (Normanton and Great Dalby Airfields) are both located outside of the high flood risk areas of the Borough; therefore focussing development in either location may steer it away from areas of higher flood risk. Overall, a potential minor negative effect is therefore identified and this is currently uncertain depending on the eventual location and design of the development.</p>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	?	?	?	<p>The effects of development on the efficient use of water resources will depend on the design of the development and behaviour of people, rather than the overall spatial distribution of development within the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing most of the Borough’s development at Melton Mowbray may place particularly increased pressure on the sewage treatment works serving the town. Information about existing capacity at the sewage treatment works is not currently available; however it is assumed that any upgrades to the capacity that may be required would be delivered as part of the development proposals. There is a Source Protection Zone in Melton Mowbray, although this is in the centre of the town, away from the greenfield land around the edge of the town where large-scale development would need to be focussed. The likely effect on this objective is therefore uncertain.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While the proportion of development at the town would be lower than under Option 1, it would still be the focus of most of the Borough’s growth under this option. Focussing most of the Borough’s development at Melton Mowbray may place particularly increased pressure on the sewage treatment works serving the town, although not to quite the same extent as under Option 1. Information about existing capacity at the sewage treatment works is not currently available; however it is assumed that any upgrades to the capacity that may be required would be delivered as part of the development proposals. There is a Source Protection Zone in Melton Mowbray, although this is in the centre of the town, away from the greenfield land around the edge of the</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
					<p>town where large-scale development would need to be focussed. The likely effect on this objective is therefore uncertain..</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing the Borough’s development more widely, rather than focussing it at Melton Mowbray, would help to avoid particularly increased pressure on the sewage treatment works in any one location. Information about existing capacity at the sewage treatment works is not currently available; however it is assumed that any upgrades to the capacity that may be required would be delivered as part of the development proposals. There is a Source Protection Zone in Melton Mowbray and directing most of the Borough’s development to areas outside of the town may therefore reduce the chances of negative effect on water quality. The likely effect on this objective is therefore uncertain and will depend on the location of development within the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 4:</b> Concentrating new development mainly in one location may result in a significant increase in pressure on the sewage treatment works serving that area. Information about existing capacity at the sewage treatment works is not currently available; however it is assumed that any upgrades to the capacity that may be required would be delivered as part of the development proposals. There is a Source Protection Zone in Melton Mowbray, and focussing development in a new village elsewhere in the Borough would therefore draw development away from that area. The likely effect on this objective is therefore uncertain and will depend on the location of the new development and the incorporation of supporting infrastructure.</p>

**Q8: How do you think that development in the Borough should be provided?**

*Option 1: Concentrated in a single large development on the edge of town*

*Option 2: Provided through a few larger developments*

*Option 3: Development completely dispersed around the town*

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the	++	++	+	<p>It is assumed that the distribution of development around Melton Mowbray will not affect the amount of housing provided in the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> If development is concentrated in a single large development, more affordable housing is</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
present and future residents of the Borough.				<p>likely to be provided to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in Melton Borough between 2011 and 2036<sup>185</sup>. This is because the funding available would be focussed in one location and it may be more viable as part of a larger-scale development. A significant positive effect is therefore expected over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> If development is brought forward in a small number of large developments, more affordable housing is likely to be provided to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in Melton Borough between 2011 and 2036<sup>186</sup>. This is because the funding available would be focussed in fewer locations and it may be more viable as part of a larger-scale development. A significant positive effect is therefore expected over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> If development is dispersed around the town, it may be slightly more difficult to deliver affordable housing to meet the identified need for 1,775 affordable homes in Melton Borough between 2011 and 2036<sup>187</sup>. This is because the funding available would be dispersed and it may be less viable to deliver affordable housing within smaller-scale developments. However, Option 3 could still deliver affordable housing. A minor positive effect is therefore expected over the short, medium and long term.</p>
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++/-	++/-	+/-	<p>The distribution of development at Melton Mowbray will not have a direct effect on levels of qualifications or the creation of high knowledge jobs. However, it will influence the achievement of this objective by affecting how easily people are able to access education facilities. Regardless of the distribution around the town, development that is focussed at Melton Mowbray is likely to mean that access to existing schools is relatively good as the majority of the existing schools and colleges are focussed in that part of the Borough. Access to secondary education is particularly good at Melton Mowbray compared to other parts of the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing development in a single large development on the edge of Melton Mowbray could result in particular increases in pressure on existing schools nearby, potentially resulting in those facilities becoming overloaded. However, it may also be easier to provide new education facilities, such as a new primary school, within the development if funding for such services and infrastructure is concentrated in a single location and the development is of a size to provide the critical mass required for a new school. Therefore, mixed effects (significant positive and minor negative) are likely for this SA objective over the short, medium and long term.</p>

<sup>185</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>186</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

<sup>187</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing development in a small number of large developments could result in increases in pressure on existing schools nearby, potentially resulting in those facilities becoming overloaded. However, it may also be easier to provide new education facilities, such as a new primary school, within the developments if funding for such services and infrastructure is concentrated in a few locations. Therefore, mixed effects (significant positive and minor negative) are likely for this SA objective over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Dispersing development at Melton Mowbray around the town is less likely to mean that there are significant increases in pressure on individual existing schools, which could have otherwise resulted in those facilities becoming overloaded. However, it may also be more difficult to deliver new education facilities, such as a new primary school, as part of the new development as funding for such services and infrastructure would not be concentrated in a single location. Therefore, mixed effects (minor positive and minor negative) are likely for this SA objective over the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	++	+	-?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> If development at Melton Mowbray is focussed in a single large development on the edge of the town it may be easier to plan for and fund the provision of new public transport infrastructure, such as new bus links to connect the development to Melton town centre and elsewhere. This approach would mean that potential funding sources for this type of infrastructure are focussed in one location, which may make its provision more viable. It may also be easier for residents of the new development to undertake day to day journeys on foot or by bicycle, if the jobs, services and facilities that they require are available onsite – this is more likely to be the case in a single large development. A significant positive effect on this SA objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> If development at Melton Mowbray is focussed in a few larger developments it may be easier to plan for and fund the provision of new public transport infrastructure such as new bus links to connect the developments to Melton town centre. This approach would mean that potential funding sources for this type of infrastructure are focussed in a small number of locations, although the funding would be more dispersed than under Option 1. It may also be easier for residents of the new developments to undertake day to day journeys on foot or by bicycle, if more of the jobs, services and facilities that they require are available onsite – this is more likely to be the case where there are a few larger developments although less likely than under Option 1. A minor positive effect on this SA objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> If development at Melton Mowbray is dispersed around the town it may be more difficult to plan for and fund the provision of new public transport infrastructure such as new bus links to connect the developments to Melton Mowbray town centre. Effects are therefore likely to depend a</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>lot on the proximity of the development sites that come forward to existing public transport links, which is not yet known. Depending on the location of the dispersed development sites, it may also be more difficult for residents of the new development to undertake day to day journeys on foot or by bicycle, if the jobs, services and facilities that they require are located further afield rather than being available onsite within a larger self-contained development. A potential but uncertain minor negative effect on this SA objective is therefore likely over the short, medium and long term, with effects depending largely on the location of the development sites.</p>
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	0	0	0	<p>The distribution of development around Melton Mowbray will not have a direct effect on this SA objective. While new development is likely to stimulate the Borough's economy by encouraging inward investment, this effect will be determined by the quantum of development rather than its location and so will be the same for all of the options for the distribution of development around Melton Mowbray. A negligible effect is therefore expected over the short, medium and long term for all options.</p>
<p>5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	--?	--?	-?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> The effects of this option on the landscape will depend largely on the location of the single large development (large-scale development site options, including those around Melton Mowbray, have been appraised separately, including in relation to their effects on the landscape). However, all of the large-scale site options have been identified as having potentially significant negative effects. The Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study has examined the sensitivity of the landscape around Melton Mowbray and in most areas it was found to be of medium-high overall sensitivity to development although the landscape character zones on the western edge of the town were slightly less sensitive, being classed as medium or medium-low sensitivity. Therefore, while effects on this objective will depend to some extent on the location of the large-scale development, it may be difficult to bring forward a single large-scale development in any location around the edge of Melton Mowbray without having negative effects on the quality and character of the landscape. It would be more difficult to integrate large-scale development into the landscape and to incorporate mitigation, in comparison to smaller development sites. If development were to come forward to the north east or south east of the town, the Areas of Separation that are located in those areas may be affected, which could potentially lead to settlement coalescence due to the likely scale of the development. Therefore a potential significant negative effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the location and design of the site eventually selected. It is</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>also noted that focussing development in one location would help to avoid effects on the landscape elsewhere. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> The effects of this option on the landscape will depend largely on the location of the few larger developments). However, it is assumed that the small number of larger developments would come forward on the edge of the town, and the large-scale site options around Melton Mowbray which have been appraised separately have all been identified as having potential significant negative effects. The Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study has examined the sensitivity of the landscape around Melton Mowbray - in most areas it was found to be of medium-high overall sensitivity to development although the landscape character zones on the western edge of the town were slightly less sensitive, being classed as medium or medium-low sensitivity. Therefore, while effects on this objective will depend to some extent on the location of the few larger-scale developments, it may be difficult to bring forward large-scale developments in any location around the edge of Melton Mowbray without having negative effects on the quality and character of the landscape. It would be more difficult to integrate larger-scale development into the landscape and to incorporate mitigation, in comparison to smaller development sites. If development were to come forward to the north east or south east of the town, the Areas of Separation that are located in those areas may be affected, which could potentially lead to settlement coalescence due to the likely scale of the development. Therefore a potential significant negative effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the location and design of the sites eventually selected. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> The effects of this option on the landscape will depend largely on the location of the dispersed development sites and their proximity to the areas of highest landscape sensitivity. Dispersed development may be slightly more easily integrated into the landscape due to its smaller size, in comparison to a single larger development site (Option 1) or a small number of fairly large developments (Option 2). The Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study has examined the sensitivity of the landscape around Melton Mowbray and in most areas it was found to be of medium-high overall sensitivity to development although the landscape character zones on the western edge of the town were slightly less sensitive, being classed as medium or medium-low sensitivity. Therefore, development on the edge of the town may be particularly likely to have adverse impacts on the landscape – under this option, some development may be more easily integrated into the existing built up area due to the smaller size of sites, in comparison to Options 1 and 2 which are likely to require sites on the edge of town due to their larger size. However, there may be cumulative effects from the development sites. Therefore, while effects on this objective will depend to some extent on the location of the dispersed development, a minor negative effect may occur. It is also noted that this approach would mean that a higher number of landscape character areas could be affected, as opposed to focussing development in one</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	--?	--?	-?	<p>or just a few areas. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> The effects of this option on biodiversity and geodiversity will depend largely on the location of the single large development (large-scale development site options, including those around Melton Mowbray, have been appraised separately, including in relation to their effects on biodiversity and geodiversity and all were found to have either minor or significant negative effects on biodiversity). While there are designated biodiversity sites and known biodiversity features on all sides of Melton Mowbray, these are particularly concentrated on the western and northern sides of the town. The west is particularly constrained in relation to Local Wildlife Sites which may be affected by development. However, the principle of bringing forward a single large development is likely to result in the loss of large areas of greenfield land which may be valuable habitat, and the scale of disruption that could affect habitats and species in a single location would be larger scale. Therefore, a potential significant negative effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the location of the site eventually selected and its proximity to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term. It is also noted that it may be possible to mitigate effects and to incorporate biodiversity enhancements into the new development, for example by incorporating green infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> The effects of this option on biodiversity and geodiversity will depend largely on the location of the few larger developments. While there are designated biodiversity sites and known biodiversity features on all sides of Melton Mowbray, these are particularly concentrated on the western and northern sides of the town. The west is particularly constrained in relation to Local Wildlife Sites which may be affected by development. However, the principle of bringing forward a small number of larger developments is likely to result in the combined loss of large areas of greenfield land which may be valuable habitat, and the scale of disruption that could affect habitats and species in just a few locations would be large. However, the disruption would be less concentrated than under Option 1. Therefore, a potential minor significant effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the location of the sites eventually selected and their proximity to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term. It is also noted that it may be possible to mitigate effects and to incorporate biodiversity enhancements into the new developments, for example by incorporating green infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> The effects of this option on biodiversity and geodiversity will depend largely on the locations of the dispersed development in relation to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity sites in and around Melton. While there are designated biodiversity sites and known biodiversity features both in and around Melton Mowbray, these are particularly concentrated on the edges of the town and the existing built up areas are less constrained in relation to sensitive habitats and species.</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>Under this option, the developments coming forward would be smaller in scale so are less likely to come forward on the edge of the town only. Even though the location of the dispersed development is not yet known, in principle dispersed development is less likely to result in the loss of large areas of greenfield land which may be valuable habitat although there may be cumulative effects. It may also be slightly easier to accommodate at least some of the development on brownfield sites (although these can still harbour valuable biodiversity). Therefore, a potential minor negative effect is identified overall although this is uncertain depending on the location of the sites eventually selected and their proximity to sensitive biodiversity and geodiversity. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term. It is also noted that it may be possible to mitigate effects and to incorporate biodiversity enhancements into the new development, for example by incorporating green infrastructure.</p>
<p>7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	+/--?	+/--?	-?	<p><b>Option 1:</b> The effects of this option on the historic environment will depend largely on the location of the single large development (large-scale development site options, including those around Melton Mowbray, have been appraised separately, including in relation to their effects on cultural heritage and most were found to have either minor or significant negative effects on cultural heritage). The edges of Melton Mowbray are relatively unconstrained by designated heritage features, which are mainly concentrated in the centre of the town. Therefore, a large-scale development on the edge of the town may steer development away from the more sensitive town centre where there are a number of listed buildings. However, there are still heritage features on the edges of the town that could be adversely affected by development including two Scheduled Monuments (Sysonby Grange and a Medieval Settlement) on the north western and south eastern edges of the town respectively. Bringing forward a single large-scale development would mean that any such effects would be concentrated in one location and the scale of impacts on any given heritage asset may be particularly large. However, effects will depend mainly on the specific location and design of the development and it may be possible to incorporate mitigation, or to even enhance the setting of nearby heritage features through high quality design. Therefore, an overall mixed (minor positive and potential significant negative) effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the site eventually selected and the design and layout of the development. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> The effects of this option on the historic environment will depend largely on the location of the few large developments in relation to areas that are sensitive in terms of cultural heritage. The edges of Melton Mowbray are relatively unconstrained by designated heritage features, which are mainly concentrated in the centre of the town. Therefore, larger-scale developments, which are likely to come forward on the edge of the town, may steer development away from the more sensitive town centre where there are a number of listed buildings. However, there are still heritage features on the edges of the town that could be adversely affected by development including two Scheduled</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>Monuments (Sysonby Grange and a Medieval Settlement) on the north western and south eastern edges of the town respectively. Bringing forward a small number of larger-scale developments would mean that any such effects would be concentrated in a small number of locations and the scale of impacts on any given heritage asset may be particularly large (although this effect would be less pronounced than under Option 1). However, effects will depend mainly on the specific location and design of the developments and it may be possible to incorporate mitigation, or to even enhance the setting of nearby heritage features through high quality design. Therefore, an overall mixed (minor positive and potential significant negative) effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the sites eventually selected and the design and layout of the developments. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> The effects of this option on the historic environment will depend largely on the locations of the dispersed development in relation to areas that are sensitive in terms of cultural heritage. The centre of Melton Mowbray is more constrained by designated heritage features than the edges of the town. Therefore, dispersed development, which is more likely to come forward at least in part within the existing urban area, rather than on the edge of town, is more likely to affect those features. However, it would also mean that any such effects on heritage assets would be less concentrated than under Options 1 and 2 and the scale of impacts on any given heritage asset may be much smaller. However, effects will depend mainly on the specific location and design of the dispersed developments and it may be possible to incorporate mitigation, or to even enhance the setting of nearby heritage features through high quality design. Therefore, an overall minor negative effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the sites eventually selected and the design and layout of the developments. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>	--?	--?	-?	<p>Development around Melton Mowbray is likely to result in the same total level of land take, regardless of whether a single large site is developed or a higher number of smaller developments are brought forward. Therefore, effects on this objective will depend largely on the location of the single large-scale development in relation to areas of higher quality agricultural land and the Minerals Consultation Areas around Melton Mowbray (large-scale development site options, including those around Melton Mowbray, have been appraised separately, including in relation to their effects on the efficient use of land and minerals).</p> <p>Agricultural land quality around Melton Mowbray is generally high - to the north west, north east and south east of the town there are areas of Grade 2 land and elsewhere the land is mainly Grade 3 (it is now known if it is Grade 3a or 3b). Land quality is lowest directly to the east and west of the town centre, where it is classed as Grade 4. There are also two Minerals Consultation Areas on the eastern and western edges of the town centre.</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p><b>Option 1:</b> The principle of bringing forward a single large-scale development in any location around the edge of the town is likely to result in the loss of a large area of high quality agricultural land, although if the development could be located in an area of lower quality land this could help to steer development away from areas of higher land quality elsewhere. However, there are two Minerals Consultation Areas on the eastern and western sides of Melton Mowbray (which are the areas of lower quality agricultural land); therefore large-scale development in those areas could result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. This shows that it would be difficult to bring forward large-scale development in any location around the edge of Melton Mowbray without having negative effects in relation to either the efficient use of land or mineral resources. Therefore, a potential significant negative effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the site eventually selected. It is also noted that it may be possible to avoid negative effects on mineral resources through prior extraction. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> The principle of bringing forward a small number of larger-scale development in any location (such development is likely to be around the edge of the town) is likely to result in the loss of a large area of high quality agricultural land, although if the developments could be located in an area of lower quality land this could help to steer development away from areas of higher land quality elsewhere. However, there are two Minerals Consultation Areas on the eastern and western sides of Melton Mowbray (which are the areas of lower quality agricultural land); therefore large-scale development in those areas could result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. This shows that it would be difficult to bring forward a small number of larger-scale developments in any location around Melton Mowbray without having negative effects in relation to either the efficient use of land or mineral resources. Therefore, a potential significant negative effect is identified although this is uncertain depending on the sites eventually selected. It is also noted that it may be possible to avoid negative effects on mineral resources through prior extraction. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> The principle of bringing forward dispersed development, rather than one or a small number of larger sites, may be less likely to have a negative effect on the loss of high quality agricultural land and the sterilisation of minerals as it may be more easily accommodated on brownfield land or within the existing urban area (at least to some extent) in comparison to a smaller number of larger developments. However, there is still likely to be some loss of agricultural land, due to the extent of high quality land within the Borough. A potential minor negative effect is therefore identified although this is uncertain depending on the eventual location of the dispersed development. This effect would be the same over the short, medium and long term.</p>
9. To promote social	++/-	++/-?	+/-	<b>Option 1:</b> Bringing forward development at Melton Mowbray in a single large-scale development

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.				<p>would make it easier to co-ordinate the provision of services and facilities within the new development, as the investment would be focussed in one location. Co-locating residential development with new services and facilities would help to ensure that people are easily able to access those facilities, including those without a car. However, the risk of existing nearby services and facilities becoming overloaded is also likely to be increased as there would be a higher level of population growth focussed in one area. While the new community created at a single large development site is likely to operate as a thriving self-contained community in its own right, it may also be largely separate from the rest of Melton Mowbray, although residents nearby may also be able to make use of the new services and facilities there. Overall a mixed effect (significant positive and minor negative) is therefore likely.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Bringing forward development at Melton Mowbray in a small number of larger-scale developments would make it easier to co-ordinate the provision of services and facilities within the new development, as the investment would be focussed in fewer locations. Co-locating residential development with new services and facilities would help to ensure that people are easily able to access those facilities, including those without a car. However, the risk of existing nearby services and facilities becoming overloaded is also likely to be increased as there would be a higher level of population growth focussed in a small number of areas. While the new communities created at a small number of fairly large development sites are likely to operate relatively self-contained communities, they may also be largely separate from the rest of Melton Mowbray, although residents nearby may also be able to make use of the new services and facilities there. Overall a mixed effect (significant positive and minor negative) is therefore likely.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Bringing forward development at Melton Mowbray in a dispersed pattern would make it more difficult to co-ordinate the provision of services and facilities within the new development, as the investment would be dispersed between multiple locations. This may mean that services and facilities are less easily accessible, depending on the location of the dispersed development in relation to existing services and facilities. However, the risk of existing nearby services and facilities becoming overloaded is also likely to be reduced in comparison to Options 1 and 2 as the population growth would be dispersed in different areas. Overall a mixed effect (minor positive and minor negative) is therefore likely.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic	+	+?	-	<p><b>Option 1:</b> Bringing forward a single large-scale development on the edge of Melton Mowbray is likely to help stimulate the provision of new services and facilities by focussing investment in one location and allowing a co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs of the new residents. This would help to reduce the deprivation and exclusion that can otherwise occur as a result of poor levels of access. The development should also result in the creation of a balanced and integrated new community, with</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
inclusion.				<p>services and facilities provided alongside housing to meet the needs of the growing population. A minor positive effect is therefore likely overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> The development of a small number of larger sites at Melton Mowbray may help to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities by focussing investment in fewer locations and allowing a reasonably co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs of the new residents. This would help to reduce the deprivation and exclusion that can otherwise occur as a result of poor levels of access. The developments may also result in the creation of rounded new communities, with services and facilities provided alongside housing to meet the needs of the growing population. However, these potential positive effects are less likely to occur than than under Option 1 which would involve only one large-scale development site. A potential but uncertain minor positive effect is therefore identified overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing development in numerous locations at Melton Mowbray is less likely to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in comparison to Options 1 and 2 as investment and population growth would be distributed between numerous locations and there would not be a co-ordinated approach to meeting the needs of the new residents. This could mean that there is more likely to be instances of the deprivation and exclusion that can occur as a result of poor levels of access. A minor negative effect is therefore likely overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	0	0	<p>This option for the distribution of development at Melton Mowbray will not have a direct effect on community safety, crime and the fear of crime.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> While a single large development may result in more people walking and cycling day to day, as sustainable transport infrastructure is more likely to be able to be integrated into a large-scale development, the safety of such road users would be influenced by the design and layout of the development and the behaviour of individuals. Therefore, a negligible effect is likely over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> While a few larger developments may result in more people walking and cycling day to day, as sustainable transport infrastructure is more likely to be able to be integrated into a large-scale development, the safety of such road users would be influenced by the design and layout of the development and the behaviour of individuals. Therefore, a negligible effect is likely over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> While widely distributed development may affect the number of people walking and cycling day to day, the safety of such road users would in any case be influenced by the design and layout of</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				the development and the behaviour of individuals. Therefore, a negligible effect is likely over the short, medium and long term.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	0	+?	<p>New large-scale development will inevitably result in an increase in overall waste generation within Melton Borough, although household and commercial waste generation would not be influenced by the distribution of growth at Melton. Per capita waste generation would instead be influenced by factors such as people’s behaviour and the incorporation of sustainable waste management systems in the new development.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Bringing forward a single large-scale development site would mean that all of Melton Mowbray’s development takes place on what is likely to be a greenfield site. This would mean that the opportunities that may otherwise exist to reuse buildings and materials on brownfield sites would not exist. A negligible effect is therefore likely overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Bringing forward a small number of larger-scale development sites would mean that all of Melton Mowbray’s development takes place on what is likely to be a small number of greenfield sites. This would mean that the opportunities that may otherwise exist to reuse buildings and materials on brownfield sites would not exist. A negligible effect is therefore likely overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing development widely around the town could mean that there are more opportunities to make use of brownfield sites in comparison to Options 1 and 2, and it may therefore be possible to reuse existing buildings and materials. A potential but uncertain minor positive effect is therefore identified, over the short, medium and long term.</p>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	+	-	<p>The way in which development at Melton Mowbray is distributed will not have a direct effect on the provision of land and buildings for economic development, which will be determined by the overall quantum of development that takes place in the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing development at Melton Mowbray within a single large site may help to reduce traffic congestion in the Borough by enabling more people to walk and cycle day to day as jobs, services and facilities are more likely to be able to be provided within a larger, more self-contained settlement. This is particularly likely to be beneficial in Melton Mowbray where there are existing congestion issues, with a number of junctions already known to be over capacity. A minor positive effect is therefore likely overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing development at Melton Mowbray within a small number of larger sites may help</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>to reduce traffic congestion in the Borough by enabling more people to walk and cycle day to day as jobs, services and facilities are more likely to be able to be provided within larger, more self-contained developments. This is particularly likely to be beneficial in Melton Mowbray where there are existing congestion issues, with a number of junctions already known to be over capacity. However, the effects would be less likely in comparison to Option 1 where all of Melton Mowbray's growth would be focussed in a single development. A minor positive effect is therefore likely overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing development around the town may be more likely to result in an increase in traffic congestion as people may be less able to walk and cycle day to day as jobs, services and facilities are less likely to be provided in comparison to a self-contained larger development (Options 1 and 2). A minor negative effect is therefore likely overall, over the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>-/+</p>	<p>Regardless of the distribution of growth around the town, development that is focussed at Melton Mowbray is likely to mean that access to existing healthcare facilities is relatively good as the majority of the existing GP surgeries, and the only hospital, are focussed in that part of the Borough.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing development in a single large development on the edge of Melton Mowbray could result in particular increases in pressure on existing health services nearby, potentially resulting in those facilities becoming overloaded. However, it may also be easier to provide new facilities such as a health centre within the development if funding for such services and infrastructure is concentrated in a single location and the development is of a size to provide the critical mass required. It may also be easier for residents of the new development to undertake day to day journeys on foot or by bicycle, thereby increasing levels of physical activity, if more of the jobs, services and facilities that they require are available onsite – this is more likely to be the case in a single large development. Therefore, mixed effects (significant positive and minor negative) are likely for this SA objective over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing development in a small number of larger developments, which are likely to be on the edge of Melton Mowbray, could result in increases in pressure on existing health services nearby, potentially resulting in those facilities becoming overloaded. However, it may also be easier to provide new facilities such as a health centre within the developments if funding for such services and infrastructure is concentrated in a small number of locations and the developments are of a size to provide the critical mass required. It may also be easier for residents of the new developments to undertake day to day journeys on foot or by bicycle, thereby increasing levels of physical activity, if more of the jobs, services and facilities that they require are available onsite – this is more likely to be the case where development comes forward in a small number of larger developments. Therefore,</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>mixed effects (significant positive and minor negative) are likely for this SA objective over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Distributing development widely around Melton Mowbray is less likely to result in increases in pressure on existing healthcare facilities in comparison to Options 1 and 2, which could lead to those facilities becoming overloaded. At the same time, it may also be more difficult to provide new facilities, such as a new health centre, as part of the developments if funding for such services and infrastructure is dispersed rather than being concentrated in a single location. It may also be more difficult for residents of the new developments to undertake day to day journeys on foot or by bicycle, thereby increasing levels of physical activity, if the jobs, services and facilities that they require are not available onsite – this is less likely to be the case where development is dispersed. Therefore, mixed effects (minor negative and minor positive) are likely for this SA objective over the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	++	++	-/+	<p>Large-scale development, regardless of its distribution, will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings and vehicle traffic.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> The extent to which renewable energy may be incorporated into new development cannot be known at this stage, although it is noted that a single large-scale development may offer good opportunities for incorporating measures such as district heating networks. Bringing forward a single large-scale development site at Melton Mowbray could also help to reduce levels of car use amongst residents and employees at the site which would have indirect benefits for reducing traffic-related emissions and maintaining and improving local air quality, as a larger site is likely to be more self-contained, with jobs, services and facilities located alongside homes. Therefore, a potential significant positive effect on this objective is likely, over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> The extent to which renewable energy may be incorporated into new development cannot be known at this stage, although it is noted that a small number of larger-scale developments may offer good opportunities for incorporating measures such as district heating networks (although less than under Option 1, where all of Melton Mowbray’s development would be concentrated in a single, particularly large, site). Bringing forward a small number of fairly large-scale development sites at Melton Mowbray could also help to reduce levels of car use amongst residents and employees at the sites which would have indirect benefits for reducing traffic-related emissions and maintaining and improving local air quality, as larger sites likely to be more self-contained, with jobs, services and facilities located alongside homes. Therefore, a potential significant positive effect on this objective is likely, over the short, medium and long term.</p>



SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p><b>Option 3:</b> The extent to which renewable energy may be incorporated into new development cannot be known at this stage, although it is noted that a single large-scale development may offer good opportunities for incorporating measures such as district heating networks. Distributing development around Melton Mowbray could mean that opportunities to reduce levels of car use amongst residents and employees are lost as a larger site (under Options 1 or 2) would be more likely to be self-contained, with jobs, services and facilities located alongside homes, in comparison to more widely distributed development. This could have indirect negative effects in terms of traffic-related emissions and local air quality. However, it may also be possible to locate more of the development in more central areas of the town where walking and cycling will be easier. Therefore, a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect on this objective is likely, over the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	--?	--?	+/-?	<p>While most of the periphery of Melton Mowbray is outside of flood zones 2 and 3, areas on the eastern and western edges of the town (around the River Eye) are within flood zone 3. There are also areas of higher flood risk around the Scalford Brook on the north eastern edge of the town.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> If development at Melton Mowbray comes forward in a single large development, the effects on flood risk will depend largely on the location of the site selected in relation to areas of high flood risk (large-scale development site options, including those around Melton Mowbray, have been appraised separately, including in relation to their effects on flood risk). Regardless of the location of the large-scale development, this approach would result in the loss of a large area of greenfield land, concentrated in one location. The loss of permeable surfaces may result in reduced infiltration and increased runoff, which may increase flood risk in that area and elsewhere. However, it may be possible to incorporate mitigation measures such as SuDS and the incorporation of green infrastructure would also help to retain permeable surfaces within the site. It is also recognised that locating all of Melton Mowbray's development within one site, if it is outside of the areas of higher flood risk, would avoid development coming forward elsewhere in potentially higher risk areas. Therefore, while effects depend largely on the location and design of the development, this option could have a significant negative effect over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> If development at Melton Mowbray comes forward in a small number of fairly large developments, the effects on flood risk will depend largely on the location of the development sites in relation to areas of high flood risk. Regardless of the location of the large-scale development, this approach would result in the combined loss of a large area of greenfield land, concentrated in a small number of locations. The loss of permeable surfaces may result in reduced infiltration and increased runoff, which may increase flood risk in those areas and elsewhere. However, it may be possible to incorporate mitigation measures such as SuDS and the incorporation of green infrastructure would also help to retain permeable surfaces within the site. It is also recognised that locating Melton</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>Mowbray's development within a small number of sites, if they are outside of the areas of higher flood risk, would avoid development coming forward elsewhere in potentially higher risk areas. Therefore, while effects depend largely on the location and design of the developments, this option could have a significant negative effect over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> If development at Melton Mowbray is distributed around the town, the effects on flood risk will depend largely on the location of the sites selected in relation to areas of high flood risk. While most of the periphery of Melton Mowbray is outside of flood zones 2 and 3, areas on the eastern and western edges of the town (around the River Eye) are within flood zone 3. There are also areas of higher flood risk around the Scalford Brook on the north eastern edge of the town. In principle this option may be less likely than Options 1 and 2 to involve the development of a large area of greenfield land, which would result in the loss of permeable surfaces and could therefore increase flood risk, as development may be able to be accommodated to some extent on smaller brownfield sites within the existing built up area. However, dispersed development means that there is more chance of at least some of the development coming forward in high flood risk areas. Therefore, the likely effects of this option overall are mixed (minor positive and minor negative) and are uncertain depending on the location and design of the developments.</p>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	?	?	<p>The overall quantum of development is likely to result in an increase in demand for water consumption; however this effect would result from the overall scale of development rather than its spatial distribution within and around the town. Levels of water consumption within new development would also depend on factors such as people's behaviour and the incorporation of water efficiency measures, which would not be affected by whether the development takes place in a single site or within a number of smaller developments.</p> <p>Effects on water quality will depend to some extent on the capacity of local sewage treatment works to accommodate the development, which is not yet known.</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b> Focussing all of the growth at the town in one site on the edge of Melton Mowbray would help to steer development away from the SPZ in Melton Mowbray. If growth at Melton Mowbray comes forward in a single large-scale development site it may be easier to plan comprehensively for the development, with funding concentrated in one location. This could make the delivery of infrastructure (including any required improvements to sewage treatment works) easier. However, effects are largely uncertain until detailed proposals for the development, as well as information about capacity at STWs and any upgrades required, is known.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b> Focussing growth at the town in a small number of sites, which are likely to be located on</p>

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
				<p>the edge of Melton Mowbray, would help to steer development away from the SPZ. If growth at Melton Mowbray comes forward in a small number of fairly large-scale development sites it may be easier to plan comprehensively for the development, with funding concentrated in only a few locations. This could make the delivery of infrastructure (including any required improvements to sewage treatment works) easier. However, effects are largely uncertain until detailed proposals for the developments, as well as information about capacity at STWs and any upgrades required, is known.</p> <p><b>Option 3:</b> Dispersed development may be more likely to come forward at least to some extent within the existing built up area and therefore in closer proximity to the SPZ. If growth at Melton Mowbray comes forward in a dispersed pattern, it may also be more difficult than under Options 1 and 2 to plan comprehensively for the development, with funding dispersed instead of being concentrated in one or only a few locations. This could make the delivery of infrastructure (including any required improvements to sewage treatment works) more difficult. However, there is also less potential for STWs in a single location to become overloaded as a result of new development. Overall, effects are largely uncertain until detailed proposals for the developments, as well as information about capacity at STWs and any upgrades required, is known.</p>

**Q9: Do you think that a large proportion of development in the Borough should be concentrated in a single, large, new settlement?**

*Option 1: Yes*

This option has been subject to SA under Question 7 (Option 4) above.

*Option 2: No*

Options 1-3 under Question 7 above would equate to the 'no' option.

**Q12: What do you think is the best approach to defining the roles of settlements in the form of a settlement hierarchy?**

**Option 1:** Establish settlement roles and a hierarchy based on the size of communities and the level of services and facilities provided within them, resulting in development being directed towards the large communities with services and restricting development in smaller communities with limited or no services.

**Option 2:** Establish settlement roles and a hierarchy based on factors which in addition to individual roles recognise the relationships between communities e.g. hubs and satellites.

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+?	+/-?	Both of these options would involve delivering new housing to meet local needs. Under Option 1 it may be more likely that housing is developed within larger sites where affordable housing delivery is more viable, as the housing would be directed towards larger settlements. In contrast, under Option 2 there may be more housing in small villages (as long as they are located close to larger service centres), where housing sites may be smaller and affordable housing delivery less viable. Therefore, a potential minor positive effect is identified for Option 1 and a potential mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect for Option 2. Both are uncertain, however, and will depend on the specific location of the housing that eventually comes forward.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++?	+	Under Option 1 there is likely to be a significant positive effect on access to schools as new housing is likely to be delivered within towns and villages that include schools (it is assumed that schools would be among the services and facilities to be assessed as part of developing the settlement hierarchy).  Option 2 would also involve locating new housing in areas where schools are accessible; however they may be in a nearby town or village rather than within the same settlement as the housing and therefore journeys may be longer in comparison to Option 1. A minor positive effect is therefore likely under that option. In both cases the positive effects are uncertain and will depend on capacity at schools to accommodate new pupils.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve	++	-	Under Option 1 there is likely to be a significant positive effect on sustainable transport as new housing is likely to be delivered within towns and villages that include a good range of services

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.			<p>and facilities within close proximity. This should mean that day to day journeys are shorter and more easily able to be undertaken on foot or by bicycle. It is also likely that housing would be directed to larger settlements where public transport links are likely to be better.</p> <p>Option 2 would involve locating new housing in areas where services and facilities are accessible, but they may be in a nearby town or village rather than within the same settlement as the housing and therefore journeys may be longer in comparison to Option 1 and levels of car use higher. It is also likely that some housing would be directed to smaller settlements where public transport links are likely to be poor. A potential minor negative effect is therefore likely under that option.</p>
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	0	Neither of the options for defining settlement roles would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	?	?	The likely effects of both options on this SA objective are uncertain and will depend on the design and location of the development that eventually comes forward. While more development may come forward in smaller settlements under Option 2, which could mean that impacts on the landscape are more likely as it may be more difficult to screen new development, this will depend on the character and sensitivity of the landscape in that area and cannot be assumed.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	?	?	The likely effects of both options on this SA objective are uncertain and will depend on the design and location of the development that eventually comes forward.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	?	?	The likely effects of both options on this SA objective are uncertain and will depend on the design and location of the development that eventually comes forward.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	?	?	The likely effects of both options on this SA objective are uncertain and will depend on the design and location of the development that eventually comes forward.

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	+?	<p>Under Option 1 there is likely to be a significant positive effect on access to services and facilities as new housing would be steered to the towns and villages that provide the best levels of access – the settlement hierarchy would be determined on the basis of an assessment of services and facilities at each town/village.</p> <p>Option 2 would also involve locating new housing in areas where services and facilities are accessible; however they may be in a nearby town or village rather than within the same settlement as the housing and therefore journeys may be longer in comparison to Option 1. Allowing for some development in smaller villages also offers opportunities for them to meet their own needs which will help to promote social inclusion and cohesion. A minor rather than significant positive effect is therefore likely under that option.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	+/-	<p>Under Option 1 there is likely to be a positive effect on reducing social deprivation as new housing development would be steered to the towns and villages that provide the best levels of access to services and facilities which will help to ensure that people, particularly those without a car, do not experience isolation.</p> <p>Option 2 would also involve locating new housing in areas where services and facilities are accessible; however they may be in a nearby town or village rather than within the same settlement as the housing and therefore journeys may be longer in comparison to Option 1. People without access to a car may experience isolation, particularly if public transport links are limited which may well be the case in smaller villages. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore likely under Option 2.</p>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	0	Neither of the options for defining settlement roles would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	0	Neither of the options for defining settlement roles would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	0	Neither of the options for defining settlement roles would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and	++	+/-	Under Option 1 there is likely to be a positive effect on access to healthcare facilities as new housing is likely to be delivered within towns and villages that include GP surgeries (it is

SA Objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
prolong life.			<p>assumed that healthcare facilities would be among the services and facilities to be assessed as part of developing the settlement hierarchy). It is also likely that more people would be able to walk and cycle day to day as housing would be located closer to key services and facilities.</p> <p>Option 2 would also involve locating new housing in areas where GPs are accessible; however they may be in a nearby town or village rather than within the same settlement as the housing and therefore journeys may be longer in comparison to Option 1. Opportunities to walk and cycle day to day are also likely to be more limited as people are more likely to need to travel between settlements. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore likely under that option.</p>
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	-	<p>The effects of new development on greenhouse gas emissions will depend on factors such as the design of the development. The location of the development will influence this SA objective by determining the likely levels of car use amongst residents.</p> <p>Under Option 1 there is likely to be a significant positive effect on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport as new housing is likely to be delivered within towns and villages that include a good range of services and facilities within close proximity. This should mean that day to day journeys are shorter and more easily able to be undertaken on foot or by bicycle. It is also likely that housing would be directed to larger settlements where public transport links are likely to be better.</p> <p>Option 2 would involve locating new housing in areas where services and facilities are accessible, but they may be in a nearby town or village rather than within the same settlement as the housing and therefore journeys may be longer in comparison to Option 1 and levels of car use higher. It is also likely that some housing would be directed to smaller settlements where public transport links are likely to be poor. A potential minor negative effect is therefore likely under that option.</p>
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	0	Neither of the options for defining settlement roles would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	0	Neither of the options for defining settlement roles would have a direct effect on this SA objective.

**Q14: What do you think is the best approach for achieving a housing mix that is suited to current and future housing needs?**

**Option 1:** Continue with the current approach of ensuring all housing provision meets specifically identified housing needs, as identified by evidence such as the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

**Option 2:** Consider housing mix on a site by site basis, in conjunction with a site size threshold.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough	++	+	Both options would have a positive effect on this SA objective as both would seek to deliver a mix of housing types within new residential developments. Option 1 is likely to have a significant positive effect as it would involve following the current approach which has been proven successful in delivering a mix of housing and addressing demand for more smaller and single storey dwellings. It would require all provision to meet the specific needs identified in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Option 2 would have a minor rather than significant positive effect because although it would involve requiring some element of housing mix, there would be more flexibility meaning that a suitable mix may be less likely to be delivered, particularly where viability would be affected.
2. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
4. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport,	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.



SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.			
5. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
6. To promote high quality employment opportunities that meet the need of the community	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
7. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
8. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.

<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Justification</b>
9. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. To promote social cohesion and support the development of community facilities across the Borough	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
11. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
14. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
growth.			
15. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy generated from renewables.	0	0	Neither of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.

**Q61: What policy approach should the Local Plan take to achieving a high quality design in the Borough?**

**Option 1:** Set out an over-arching design policy for the whole Borough applicable to any part of the Borough?

**Option 2:** Set specific design criteria for specific locations and specify design criteria for each of the site allocations within the Local Plan?

**Option 3:** Allow local communities to develop design guidance for their villages?

**Option 4:** A combination of options 1, 2 or 3 (this option has not been subject to SA as the effects would be a combination of the effects of whichever options are combined).

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
2. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.				
3. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
4. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport, encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
5. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
6. To promote high quality employment opportunities that meet the need of the community	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
7. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	+	++	++	<p>Policy Option 1 is likely to have a minor positive effect on the landscape as it would set out criteria for design applying to the whole Borough which would go some way towards achieving high quality design and therefore enhancing the Borough's appearance. However, this approach would not allow for the consideration of the specific characteristics of smaller areas.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is likely to result from Policy Option 2 as setting detailed design criteria relevant to specific locations would allow for addressing the particular characteristics of different areas of the Borough. This would have particularly positive effects in terms of ensuring that the design of new development protects and where possible enhances the quality and character of its surroundings.</p> <p>Option 3 is similar to Option 2 in that it would allow for reflecting local characteristics when setting design guidance. As such, a significant positive effect is also identified on this SA objective.</p>
8. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	0	0	A design policy could have a positive effect on the historic environment if it includes relevant criteria, e.g. specifying that development must protect or enhance historical assets and their settings in Melton. However, the criteria that would be included within such a policy under all three options are not yet known and so a negligible effect is recorded at this stage.
9. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
10. To promote social cohesion and support the development of community facilities across the Borough	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
11. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
economic inclusion.				
12. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	0	Any of the policy options could have a positive effect on this SA objective if the eventual policy addresses the issue of crime within the policy criteria, for example it could require developments to design out crime through including lighting, natural surveillance and defensible space. A negligible effect is recorded at this stage, however, as the specific criteria that would be included within such a policy under all three options are not known at this stage.
13. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
14. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
15. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
16. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy generated from renewables.	0	0	0	Any of the policy options could have a positive effect on this SA objective if the eventual policy addresses the issue of climate change within the policy criteria, for example by encouraging new developments to incorporate low carbon technologies and renewable energy generation. A negligible effect is recorded at this stage, however, as the specific design criteria that would be included within such a policy under all three options are not known at this stage.

**Option 1:** *Include a specific policy which deals with gateways and through routes to Melton Mowbray Town Centre to Melton Mowbray Town Centre in an overarching design policy covering all types of developments?*

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
2. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
3. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
4. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport, encouraging	+	0	Improving the appearance of gateways into Melton Mowbray could encourage walking and cycling by improving routes for those users. Option 1 would have a minor positive effect because a specific policy in the Local Plan would address this issue. Under Option 2 there would be no specific policy; however negative effects are not expected as other generic design policies would still apply. A negligible effect is therefore likely.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.			
5. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation	+	0	Improving the appearance of gateways into Melton Mowbray could enhance the overall impression of the town for visitors, boosting the tourism economy, and encourage investment. Option 1 would have a minor positive effect because a specific policy in the Local Plan would address this issue. Under Option 2 there would be no specific policy; however negative effects are not expected as other generic design policies would still apply. A negligible effect is therefore likely.
6. To promote high quality employment opportunities that meet the need of the community	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
7. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
8. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	0	Policy Option 1 would involve having a specific policy addressing gateways and through routes to Melton Mowbray in the Local Plan – this would help to improve the quality of the built environment in the town and therefore benefit the setting of heritage assets. As such, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.  Under Option Under Option 2 there would be no specific policy; however negative effects are not expected as other generic design policies would still apply. A negligible effect is therefore likely.



<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Justification</b>
9. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
10. To promote social cohesion and support the development of community facilities across the Borough	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
11. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
12. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
13. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
14. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
growth.			
15. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
16. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy generated from renewables.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

#### Q68: How should village envelopes be taken forward through the Local Plan?

**Option 1:** To review all the existing village envelopes and adjust them through the Local Plan process.

**Option 2:** Have defined envelopes for specific villages as a tool to limit development and have the criteria based approach in villages where development would be encouraged in accordance with the spatial strategy for the Borough.

**Option 3:** Not have defined town or village envelopes, and have a detailed policy setting out criteria for use in assessing each proposal on its merits using criteria.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough	+/-	+/-	+/-	<p>Option 1 would involve applying village envelopes for all existing villages which have a defined envelope – this could result in housing development being restricted unnecessarily if over time circumstances change such that the envelope defined in the Local Plan is no longer appropriate. However, the approach would mean that there is clarity about the areas in which housing is in principle appropriate which could assist in the delivery of developments proposed in those areas. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore likely.</p> <p>Conversely under Option 3 village envelopes would not be defined but criteria would instead be used to determine applications. This would allow for more flexibility to respond to changes over time in terms of where development is appropriate, but would also provide less clarity for applicants. Again a mixed effect is therefore likely.</p>

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
				Option 2 would be a hybrid approach whereby an envelope is defined for some villages (as with Option 1) but for other villages a criteria-based approach would be taken (as with Option 2). Mixed effects on housing delivery are therefore also likely for this option, for the reasons described above.
2. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	?	?	+	The options could affect this objective by determining the extent to which access to sustainable transport influences the location of housing developments. If this issue is taken into consideration when defining villages envelopes under Options 1 and 2 there would be positive effects but this is not yet known therefore effects are currently uncertain. Under Option 3 it is indicated that access to sustainable infrastructure (taken to include sustainable transport links) would be one of the criteria used to determine the suitability of applications; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
3. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
4. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport, encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.	?	?	+	The options could affect this objective by determining the extent to which access to sustainable transport influences the location of housing developments. If this issue is taken into consideration when defining villages envelopes under Options 1 and 2 there would be positive effects on access to services but this is not yet known therefore effects are currently uncertain. Under Option 3 it is indicated that access to sustainable infrastructure (taken to include sustainable transport links) would be one of the criteria used to determine the suitability of applications; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
5. To diversify the local economy and encourage new	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
business formation				
6. To promote high quality employment opportunities that meet the need of the community	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
7. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	++/-	++/-	++/-	<p>Defining village envelopes should be an effective way of ensuring that development does not take place in inappropriate locations where there would be adverse impacts on the landscape and local character and providing a good level of clarity about where developments will and won't be appropriate. However, this doesn't allow for flexibility over time and could result in the defined village envelopes becoming out of date. Therefore a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is likely for Option 1.</p> <p>Under Option 3 a criteria-based approach would be taken to determining applications, with several of the proposed criteria relating to the natural environment and landscape character; for example developments would not be permitted if they would result in settlement coalescence or would have an adverse impact on the character of the countryside. This approach would allow for more flexibility over time although it may be less effective than defined village envelopes in terms of ensuring that development consistently takes place in appropriate locations. Therefore a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is likely for Option 3.</p> <p>Option 2 would be a hybrid approach whereby an envelope is defined for some villages (as with Option 1) but for other villages a criteria-based approach would be taken (as with Option 2). Mixed effects on the natural environment are therefore also likely for this option, for the reasons described above.</p>
8. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+/-	+/-	+/-	<p>Defining village envelopes should be an effective way of ensuring that development does not take place in inappropriate locations where there would be adverse impacts on the character of the surroundings, which can otherwise have a negative effect on the historic environment, and providing a good level of clarity about where developments will and won't be appropriate. However, this doesn't allow for flexibility over time and could result in the defined village envelopes becoming out of date. Therefore a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is likely for Option 1.</p> <p>Under Option 3 a criteria-based approach would be taken to determining applications, with one of the proposed criteria being that proposals must respect archaeological features. Development proposals must also be in keeping with their surroundings which will help to avoid negative effects on the setting of heritage assets. This approach would allow for more flexibility over time although it may</p>

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
				<p>be less effective than defined village envelopes in terms of ensuring that development consistently takes place in appropriate locations. Therefore a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is also likely for Option 3.</p> <p>Option 2 would be a hybrid approach whereby an envelope is defined for some villages (as with Option 1) but for other villages a criteria-based approach would be taken (as with Option 2). Mixed effects on the historic environment are therefore also likely for this option, for the reasons described above.</p>
9. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	?	+?	+	Under Option 3 it is specified that one of the issues to be included in a criteria-based policy for determining applications is whether a proposal would result in the loss of high quality agricultural land and if this is the case, development would not be permitted. A minor positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this option as well as Option 2, where a criteria-based approach would be taken for some villages. The effects of Option 1 are uncertain depending on whether this issue (the efficient use of land) is taken into account when determining village envelopes. Because envelopes would also be defined for some villages under Option 2, there is also some uncertainty attached to that option.
10. To promote social cohesion and support the development of community facilities across the Borough	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
11. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To minimise waste and increase the	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
re-use and recycling of waste materials				
14. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
15. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	0	None of the options would have a direct effect on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy generated from renewables.	?	?	+	The options could affect this objective by determining the extent to which people are likely to be able to make use of public transport, reducing emissions from cars. If this issue is taken into consideration when defining villages envelopes under Options 1 and 2 there would be positive effects on access to services but this is not yet known therefore effects are currently uncertain. Under Option 3 it is indicated that access to sustainable infrastructure (taken to include sustainable transport links) would be one of the criteria used to determine the suitability of applications; therefore a minor positive effect is likely.

**Option 1:** Set local density standards, with broad density ranges for different areas of the Borough.

**Option 2:** Ensure, on a site by site basis, that development achieves the optimum level of density appropriate to the sites location, context, infrastructure and public transport accessibility.

**Option 3:** Set out densities for each allocated site and a series of criteria against which to assess unallocated sites.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing	+	+/-	+/-	The density of housing developments can affect this objective by influencing the overall quality of a development and the standard of the living environment, and also by influencing the type of housing that is able to be delivered.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.				<p>Policy Option 1 would define broad density ranges for different areas of the Borough and so it would take into account locally specific circumstances to some extent but not at the very local (site) level. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.</p> <p>Policy Option 2 involves determining the optimum housing density on a site by site basis which would help to ensure the viability of the development and encourage housing delivery. However, stipulating the optimum housing density may conflict with the housing needs of a local community in terms of the type of housing delivered. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore identified.</p> <p>Similarly to Option 2, Option 3 is likely to have mixed effects on this SA objective as it will tailor housing density ranges at the site level, although in this case only for allocated sites.</p>
2. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	+	+?	<p>Policy Option 2 involves determining appropriate housing densities on a site by site basis and one of the factors to be taken into account is existing public transport provision and infrastructure. This should help to ensure that the transport network is not overloaded and that opportunities for people to use sustainable transport to access jobs are maximised. A minor positive effect is therefore identified on this SA objective for that option.</p> <p>Option 1 would have a negligible effect on this objective as setting broad densities for different areas of the Borough wouldn't allow for consideration of locally specific issues such as the transport network around an individual site. Option 3 could have a minor positive effect if transport considerations apply when identifying an appropriate range for allocated sites, and if this is included in the criteria to apply to unallocated sites; however this is currently uncertain.</p>
3. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
4. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport,	0	+	+?	<p>Policy Option 2 involves determining appropriate housing densities on a site by site basis and one of the factors to be taken into account is existing public transport provision and infrastructure. This should help to ensure that the transport network is not overloaded and that opportunities for people to use sustainable transport are maximised, reducing congestion. A minor positive effect is therefore identified on this SA objective for that option.</p> <p>Option 1 would have a negligible effect on this objective as setting broad densities for different areas</p>

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.				of the Borough wouldn't allow for consideration of locally specific issues such as the transport network around an individual site. Option 3 could have a minor positive effect if transport considerations apply when identifying an appropriate range for allocated sites, and if this is included in the criteria to apply to unallocated sites; however this is currently uncertain.
5. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
6. To promote high quality employment opportunities that meet the need of the community	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
7. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	+	++	+	<p>By setting broad density standards for different areas of the borough, Policy Option 1 is expected to have a positive effect on this objective as those standards should take into account the landscape capacity of different areas within Melton and therefore contribute to protecting local character and distinctiveness. The positive effect is expected to be minor rather than significant, however, as setting broad density ranges does not allow for considering the context of individual sites at the very local level.</p> <p>Policy Option 2 would go further, taking into account the local context when considering the optimum housing density at individual sites and therefore should be even more effective in terms of protecting the landscape from potential adverse impacts of housing developments. As such, a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective.</p> <p>Option 3 would involve setting out densities for each allocated site and using criteria to identify appropriate densities on unallocated sites. This option is similar to Option 2 in that it would allow for the specific circumstances of individual sites to be considered, but only in relation to allocated sites. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.</p>
8. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.



	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
environment, heritage assets and their settings.				
9. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	?	?	?	Higher housing density represents more efficient use of land. Therefore, the effects of all options on this SA objective are uncertain as they will depend on the specific standards that would be set under each approach.
10. To promote social cohesion and support the development of community facilities across the Borough	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
11. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
12. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
13. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
14. To provide the necessary physical	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.				
15. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
16. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy generated from renewables.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

**Q73: The Borough Council currently relies on the NPPF for guidance on heritage assets when determining planning applications. How should the new Melton Borough Local Plan consider Heritage Assets?**

**Option 1:** Individual policies addressing historic landscapes, archaeological sites, listed Buildings and their settings and conservation areas.

**Option 2:** A single policy regarding the protection of all heritage assets and to retain Conservation Areas as set out in the current Melton Borough Local Plan.

**Option 3:** Continue to rely on the detail contained with the NPPF and National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG)

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
2. To make efficient use of transport	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.				
3. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
4. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport, encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
5. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
6. To promote high quality employment opportunities that	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
meet the need of the community				
7. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
8. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	++	+	0	<p>A significant positive effect is likely for Policy Option 1 as providing specific detail in specific policies addressing historic landscapes, archeologically sites, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas would go a long way towards helping to conserve and even enhance Melton's heritage assets.</p> <p>Policy Option 2 is likely to have a minor positive as a single policy protecting all types of heritage assets would still help to ensure that Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings are protected and where possible enhanced; however effects may be less significant where a single generic policy for all types of heritage assets is used.</p> <p>A negligible effect is likely on Policy Option 3 as the absence of a policy is unlikely to affect this SA objective – while opportunities to bring about more positive effects would be missed, negative effects are not expected as guidance in the NPPF relating to the historic environment would still apply.</p>
9. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
10. To promote social cohesion and support the development of	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
community facilities across the Borough				
11. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
12. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
13. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
14. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
15. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
16. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy	0	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Justification
generated from renewables.				

**Q77: How should the Local Plan ensure a range of appropriate uses are provided for in the Town Centre to ensure its offer, viability and vitality is maintained?**

*Option 1: Include a policy or policies which within the Town Centre restricts any continuous frontages (primary or secondary) to specific uses and concentrations of single uses.*

*Option 2: Adopt a more flexible approach considering each proposal on its merits and its ability to add to the offer, vitality and viability of the Town Centre?*

SA objective	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
2. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
3. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objective	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
4. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport, encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
5. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation	-?	+	Under Option 1, town centre uses along continuous frontages would be restricted to specific uses – this approach could result in high vacancy rates if demand for those uses is low. This would have a negative effect on the economy and business formation. Under Option 2 there would be more flexibility to consider proposals individually, seeking to increase the range of business in the town centre and benefitting vitality allowing for market forces to be responded to.
6. To promote high quality employment opportunities that meet the need of the community	-?	+	Under Option 1, town centre uses along continuous frontages would be restricted to specific uses – this approach could result in high vacancy rates if demand for those uses is low. This would have a negative effect on the associated jobs. Under Option 2 there would be more flexibility to consider proposals individually, seeking to increase the range of business in the town centre and benefitting job creation allowing for market forces to be responded to.
7. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objective	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
8. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
9. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
10. To promote social cohesion and support the development of community facilities across the Borough	-?	+	Under Option 1, town centre uses along continuous frontages would be restricted to specific uses – this approach could result in high vacancy rates if demand for those uses is low. This would have a negative effect on the range of facilities available for local people. Under Option 2 there would be more flexibility to consider proposals individually, seeking to increase the range of business in the town centre and resulting in people having access to a wider range of services in central locations.
11. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	-?	+	Under Option 1, town centre uses along continuous frontages would be restricted to specific uses – this approach could result in high vacancy rates if demand for those uses is low. This would have a negative effect on the associated jobs and therefore poverty and exclusion. Under Option 2 there would be more flexibility to consider proposals individually, seeking to increase the range of business in the town centre and benefitting job creation allowing for market forces to be responded to.
12. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
13. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.



SA objective	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
materials			
14. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
15. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
16. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy generated from renewables.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

**Q79: How should the Local Plan deal with proposals for equestrian related development in the rural area?**

**Option 1:** By relying on general policies that cover development in rural areas?

**Option 2:** A specific policy to cover the development of all stables and equestrian activity?

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
17. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
18. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services to ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
19. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
20. To improve social inclusion by increasing the accessibility of services through the use of public transport, encouraging walking and cycling and reducing reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
21. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation	-?	+/-?	<p>Option 1 would involve relying on general rural development policies in the Local Plan when assessing applications for equestrian facilities. This could mean that there is a less clear framework for applicants considering this type of proposal which could hinder the development of appropriate proposals which can otherwise benefit the rural economy. However, general rural development policies should still provide some guidance. A potential but uncertain minor negative effect is therefore identified.</p> <p>Under option 2 a specific policy would be included in the Local Plan addressing equestrian development proposals.</p>

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
			This would provide a clearer framework for applicants considering this type of proposal and may mean that appropriate applications are more likely to be successful, to the benefit of the rural economy. However, this approach may also result in more restrictive criteria applying, hindering equestrian developments. A potential but uncertain mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore identified in relation to the rural economy and new business formation.
22. To promote high quality employment opportunities that meet the need of the community	-?	+/-?	<p>The development of new equestrian facilities would result in job creation although the number of associated jobs is likely to be small.</p> <p>Option 1 would involve relying on general rural development policies in the Local Plan when assessing applications for equestrian facilities. This could mean that there is a less clear framework for applicants considering this type of proposal which could hinder the development of appropriate proposals which can otherwise benefit rural job creation. However, general rural development policies should still provide some guidance. A potential but uncertain minor negative effect is therefore identified.</p> <p>Under option 2 a specific policy would be included in the Local Plan addressing equestrian development proposals. This would provide a clearer framework for applicants considering this type of proposal and may mean that appropriate applications are more likely to be successful, to the benefit of job creation. However, this approach may also result in more restrictive criteria applying, hindering equestrian developments. A potential but uncertain mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore identified in relation to employment generation.</p>
23. To protect the natural environment, increase biodiversity levels and enhance multifunctional green infrastructure across the Borough	0	+	<p>Option 1 would involve relying on other rural development policies in the Local Plan and not including a policy specifically relating to equestrian development. This would mean that opportunities to address the potential for adverse impacts on the natural environment specifically from such developments would be lost; however it is expected that other policies in the Local Plan would include relevant criteria such that a negative effect is unlikely to occur. A negligible effect is most likely under this option.</p> <p>Policy Option 2 is likely to have a minor positive effect on this SA objective as it would involve having a specific policy in the Local Plan relating to equestrian development which it is expected would include criteria relating to the protection of landscape character and potentially the wider natural environment.</p>
24. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	+	<p>Inappropriate equestrian development could have negative effects on the historic environment as a result of deterioration in the wider landscape character affecting the setting of heritage assets.</p> <p>Option 1 would involve relying on other rural development policies in the Local Plan and not including a policy specifically relating to equestrian development. This would mean that opportunities to address the potential for adverse impacts on the landscape and therefore the setting of heritage features would be lost; however it is expected that other policies in the Local Plan would include relevant criteria such that a negative effect is unlikely</p>

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
			to occur. A negligible effect is most likely under this option.  Policy Option 2 is likely to have a minor positive effect on this SA objective as it would involve having a specific policy in the Local Plan relating to equestrian development which it is expected would include criteria relating to the protection of landscape character which can benefit the setting of heritage assets.
25. To use land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
26. To promote social cohesion and support the development of community facilities across the Borough	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
27. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
28. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
29. To minimise waste and increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
30. To provide the	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

SA objectives	Option 1	Option 2	Justification
necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.			
31. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.
32. To adapt to and plan for climate change and increase energy generated from renewables.	0	0	The policy options are not likely to affect this SA objective and so negligible effects are likely.

# Appendix 10

## Detailed SA Matrices for the Emerging Options

## Spatial Strategy

### Policy SS1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
18. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the provision of good quality housing for current and future residents. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
19. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the provision and access of good education and training opportunities. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
20. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with access to sustainable and active modes of transport. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
21. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with economic growth. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
22. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the preservation and enhancement of the character of the landscape in the borough. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
23. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
24. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
25. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with efficient land use and soil quality. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
26. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the promotion of social inclusion and the development of and access to local services and facilities. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
27. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the reduction of poverty, social deprivation and securing economic inclusion. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
28. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with improved safety, reducing crime and the fear of crime. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
29. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with the reduction of waste arisings and increased re-use and recycling rates. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
30. To provide the necessary physical conditions and	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with providing the physical conditions and infrastructure needed to enable



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
infrastructure to enable economic growth.		economic growth. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
31. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with health. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
32. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with climate change. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
33. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with flood risk management. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
34. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	The policy reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Melton, which is assumed to cover issues associated with water quality and water efficiency. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for this SA objective, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.

### Policy SS2: Development strategy

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	The policy provides for the development of at least 6,125 homes to meet the objectively assessed housing need for Melton Borough between 2011 and 2036. Housing will be mainly focussed at Melton Mowbray but will also be delivered at smaller settlements to meet local needs. A significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++/-	The development of at least 6,125 new homes over the plan period could put strain on existing schools and colleges; however the policy specifies that development will be expected to contribute positively to the contribution of key infrastructure, which is taken to include education facilities. Focussing most of the new housing at Melton Mowbray, followed by primary rural service centres, should ensure that most new residents have good access to the schools and colleges that are mainly concentrated in those larger settlements. However, continuing to focus most development at Melton Mowbray may mean that potential opportunities to

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		improve access to education facilities in rural areas are lost. If population growth is centred at Melton Mowbray there will be less of an increase in support for rural schools, although the development strategy does allow for some limited development in rural areas. Overall, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is therefore likely.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The development strategy involves locating most development at Melton Mowbray which is likely to have a significant positive effect on enabling people to use sustainable transport. Journeys to work and to access services and facilities are likely to be shorter and therefore more easily undertaken on foot or by bicycle, and public transport services in the Melton Mowbray area are better than in the more rural parts of the Borough. The policy also specifies that development at Melton Mowbray will be expected to contribute positively to the provision of key infrastructure including traffic relief, which may involve improvements to sustainable transport links. A significant positive effect is therefore likely.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The policy provides for the development of some 51 hectares of employment land to meet local needs between 2011 and 2036. Most of this employment land will be located at Melton Mowbray (up to 31 hectares) which should mean that the jobs created are accessible for most people and can be reached via public transport. The development of new employment sites which are assumed to be of high quality should encourage investment and result in the delivery of jobs to meet the needs of the growing population. A significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+/--?	The development strategy set out in this policy focuses most new development at Melton Mowbray. In the open countryside, development will be restricted to that which is necessary and appropriate. Minimising the extent of development in rural areas may help to preserve the character of villages and the quality of rural landscapes. However, while directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer good opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites at the town, it will also result in the loss of greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray and landscape sensitivity around Melton Mowbray is generally moderate or high. Therefore, a mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect is identified for this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on the specific location of development at Melton Mowbray and elsewhere in relation to the areas of highest landscape sensitivity (site allocations have been subject to SA separately) and on the design of the development and the incorporation of mitigation measures.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+/--?	<p>The large-scale development proposed through this policy could result in disturbance or damage to biodiversity and geodiversity; however effects will depend more on the specific location of the development in relation to areas of biodiversity and geodiversity value rather than its overall distribution within the Borough (site allocations have been subject to SA separately).</p> <p>While directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer good opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites within the town, thereby avoiding habitat loss on greenfield sites, it will also result in large-</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>scale development on greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray. It is also noted that brownfield sites within the town may harbour valuable biodiversity.</p> <p>While directing most growth to Melton Mowbray would steer the majority of development away from the SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites located elsewhere in the Borough, there are a number of Local Wildlife Site around the town, including the large Melton Country Park Local Wildlife Site to the north and Bull Field and Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings in the west. In addition, some level of development will still take place in and around the smaller settlements where there are also sites of biodiversity and geodiversity value. Therefore, it will be important for development sites at Melton Mowbray and elsewhere to be considered carefully in relation to the potential impacts on these features (this has been addressed at the strategic level through the SA of site allocations). New development may also offer good opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements wherever it is located, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure. Therefore, the overall effects of this option are mixed (minor positive and significant negative) and are currently uncertain, depending on the design and specific location of development.</p>
<p>7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The large-scale development proposed through this policy could result in impacts on cultural heritage assets and their settings. Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray could help to preserve the historic character of the rural villages although this policy does still direct some development to the smaller settlements. However, the effects of development will depend mainly on its specific location, rather than its broad distribution, in particularly the proximity of development to sensitive heritage features (site allocations have been subject to SA separately). There is a cluster of listed buildings in the centre of Melton Mowbray which could be affected by nearby development. While there are fewer heritage features outside of the town centre, there are a number of scattered listed buildings as well as two Scheduled Monuments – Sysonby Grange and Medieval Settlement Remains – to the north west and south west of Melton Mowbray respectively, which may be affected by nearby development, particularly if it is large in scale. There are also designated and undesignated heritage features at the smaller settlements that could be affected by development. Therefore, an overall significant negative effect is identified although this is currently uncertain depending on the design of development and its specific location, particularly the location of the development that comes forward outside of Melton Mowbray. It is also recognised that high quality new development may offer the opportunity to enhance the setting of nearby heritage features.</p>
<p>8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.</p>	<p>--?</p>	<p>The large-scale development proposed through this policy will inevitably result in the loss of greenfield land, and considering the extent of high quality agricultural land in the Borough, it is likely that there will be loss of land which is Grade 3a or higher.</p> <p>While directing most development to Melton Mowbray may offer some opportunities for infill development on brownfield sites within the town, thereby avoiding development on greenfield land, it would also result in large-scale development on greenfield land adjoining Melton Mowbray. Most of the land around Melton Mowbray is Grade 3 agricultural land (some of which is Grade 3a) although there are also areas of Grade 2</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		land, particularly to the north west, north east and south east of the town. Development in those areas could therefore have particularly negative effects. Two of the Minerals Consultation Areas in the Borough are adjacent to Melton Mowbray, to the east and west of the town. Development in those locations could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals resources. There are also areas of high quality agricultural land in and around the smaller settlements of the Borough which could be lost as the policy directs some limited development there, and opportunities for infill development on brownfield land at smaller villages are likely to be more limited. Overall, a significant negative effect on this objective is therefore likely although this is uncertain depending on the eventual location of development at Melton Mowbray and elsewhere, in relation to the areas of highest quality agricultural land and Minerals Consultation Zones (site allocations have been subject to SA separately).
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+ +/-	Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the services and facilities that are mainly located there, particularly benefitting people without access to a car. Focussing the population growth at the town could also stimulate the provision of new services and facilities there and the policy specifies that development at Melton Mowbray will be expected to contribute positively to the provision of key infrastructure which is taken to include community services and facilities. A significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely. However, directing most development to Melton Mowbray would also compound access-related issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new services and facilities in those areas are lost, although some limited development is still directed to the smaller settlements under this policy. Village vitality may also be detrimentally affected as more activity is concentrated in Melton Mowbray. Therefore, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is likely overall.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+/-	The development of some 51 hectares of employment land between 2011 and 2036 will help to reduce poverty and economic exclusion by providing jobs to meet the needs of the growing population. Focussing most new development at Melton Mowbray is likely to mean that there is reduced support for rural services and facilities and reduced village vitality which would increase social deprivation and exclusion in rural areas; however focussing development at Melton Mowbray would improve social inclusion for the concentration of people living in and around the town. A mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is therefore likely.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The amount and distribution of development in Melton Borough would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. Instead, effects will be determined by factors such as the design of development, e.g. the incorporation of lighting, which can improve perception of safety at night.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-?	The development of at least 6,125 new homes at some 51 hectares of employment land between 2011 and 2036 will inevitably result in an overall increase in waste generation, although per capita waste generation will not be affected. This, and levels of recycling, will instead be influenced by consumer behaviour and the incorporation of sustainable waste management systems within new developments. The effects of

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		development on waste generation will depend to some extent on the location of sites that are allocated for development (i.e. whether they are on brownfield land which may offer opportunities for the re-use of existing buildings and materials) and the allocated sites have been subject to SA separately. However, focussing most development at Melton Mowbray would require the development of an urban extension on greenfield land; therefore opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials are less likely to exist and a minor negative effect is likely overall.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	The level of housing development proposed through this policy is higher than the minimum required, in order to meet the need arising from natural population growth and also supporting economic growth. Therefore, a positive effect is likely in relation to enabling economic growth as a result of the Borough's labour force being stronger. This would have resulting positive effects on the diversity of jobs available. In addition, focussing most development at Melton Mowbray may help to reduce traffic congestion as more people can walk, cycle and use public transport day to day and this may have an indirect positive effect on creating conditions to enable economic growth (reducing congestion). Overall a significant positive effect is likely.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++/-	<p>The development of at least 6,125 new homes over the plan period could put strain on existing healthcare facilities; however the policy specifies that development will be expected to contribute positively to the contribution of key infrastructure, which is taken to include health-related infrastructure such as GP places.</p> <p>Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be shorter. This is likely to help increase levels of physical activity day to day. Access to healthcare facilities would also be better, as most of the GPs and other medical facilities in the Borough are located in the town. A significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely. However, directing most development to Melton Mowbray would also compound access issues for people in rural areas, and would mean that potential opportunities to stimulate the provision of new facilities (including healthcare facilities) in those areas are lost. Therefore, a mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is likely overall.</p>
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	<p>The scale of development proposed through this policy will inevitably result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, although the extent to which new development is energy efficient and may incorporate renewable energy generation and use would be determined by design and people's behaviour rather than the spatial distribution of the development.</p> <p>Locating most development at Melton Mowbray would mean that more people would be able to access the jobs, services and facilities that are mainly located there via sustainable transport e.g. on foot or by bicycle, as journeys would be shorter. There are also better public transport links in and around the town compared with the more rural areas of the Borough where levels of car use would be likely to be much higher. This would have a significant positive effect on levels of emissions and air quality, particularly because the policy specifies that development at Melton Mowbray will be expected to contribute positively to the provision of key infrastructure within the town, including traffic relief.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	-?	Focussing most development at Melton Mowbray is likely to result in the loss of permeable greenfield land as it would not be possible to deliver that amount of development through infill alone. There are fairly extensive areas of flood zones 2 and 3 in Melton Mowbray, around the River Eye which runs through the town from east-west. Therefore, focussing most development at the town may mean that it is more difficult to steer development away from high flood risk areas, and a potential minor negative effect is identified. However, this is uncertain depending on the exact location of development, and it is noted that it may be possible to incorporate mitigation such as SuDS into new development.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	?	<p>The scale of development proposed through this policy will inevitably involve an increase in demand for water resources although there would not be a per capita increase. The effects of development on the efficient use of water resources will depend on the design of the development and behaviour of people, rather than the spatial distribution of development within the Borough.</p> <p>Focussing most of the Borough's development at Melton Mowbray may place particularly increased pressure on the sewage treatment works serving the town. Information about existing capacity at the sewage treatment works is not currently available; however it is assumed that any upgrades to the capacity that may be required would be delivered as part of the development proposals, particularly because the policy specifies that development at Melton Mowbray would be expected to contribute positively to the provision of key infrastructure. There is a Source Protection Zone in Melton Mowbray, although this is in the centre of the town, away from the greenfield land around the edge of the town where large-scale development would need to be focussed. The likely effect on this objective is therefore uncertain.</p>

### Policy SS3: Sustainable communities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	The policy provides for small-scale housing development outside of allocated sites where it would meet an identified local need. The small-scale of development that is likely to result from the policy and the relatively restrictive criteria that proposals must adhere to means that a minor rather than significant positive effect is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+	This policy permits small-scale housing development outside of allocated sites where it would be served by sustainable infrastructure or would provide new infrastructure or services to the wider benefit of the settlement. This is taken to include education infrastructure such as school places and so the policy could help to support small rural schools through appropriate new development. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and	+/-	This policy could result in the development of housing outside of allocated sites which may be in less sustainable locations in terms of access to sustainable transport. However, the effects of any such development on transport patterns would depend on its specific location which is not yet known. In addition,



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.		the policy only permits this type of development where it would be served by sustainable infrastructure or would provide new infrastructure or services to the wider benefit of the settlement – this is taken to include sustainable transport infrastructure. Overall a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is likely.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy permits development outside of allocated sites where it would provide economic development to meet local needs, subject to other criteria being met. Therefore, a minor positive effect is likely as the policy could increase employment opportunities in more rural parts of the Borough.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+/-	This policy could result in the development of housing outside of allocated sites which may be in less appropriate locations in terms of their impacts on the landscape. However, any development resulting from the policy would be small-scale (10 dwellings or fewer) and it would only be permitted where it is well-related to an existing settlement and of a high standard of design which respects local landscape and settlement character. Overall a mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect is likely.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	Any development resulting from this policy would only be permitted where it respects ecological and biodiversity features and provides mitigation to prevent any potential harm. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	Any development resulting from this policy would only be permitted where it respects heritage features and provides mitigation to prevent any potential harm. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+?	The policy requires proposals for small-scale development outside of allocated sites to not result in the loss of best and most versatile land where possible. Therefore, a minor positive effect is likely although there is uncertainty attached due to the fact that in some circumstances the loss of high quality land may be permitted.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	The policy permits small-scale housing development outside of allocated sites where it would enhance the sustainability of the settlement(s) which it relates to. This includes a requirement that it should be well served by infrastructure or will provide new infrastructure or services to the benefit of the settlement. Therefore, the policy should help to support and improve services in the rural parts of the Borough and a significant positive effect is likely.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy permits small-scale housing development outside of allocated sites where it would enhance the sustainability of the settlement(s) which it relates to. This includes a requirement that it should be well served by infrastructure or will provide new infrastructure or services to the benefit of the settlement. Therefore, the policy should help to reduce social deprivation and exclusion in rural communities and a minor positive effect is likely.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+/-	This policy permits small-scale housing development outside of allocated sites where it would be served by sustainable infrastructure or would provide new infrastructure or services to the wider benefit of the settlement. This is taken to include healthcare infrastructure such as GP places and so the policy could help to support rural healthcare facilities through appropriate new development. A minor positive effect is therefore likely. However, this is mixed with a minor negative effect as the policy could result in development in more rural parts of the Borough where levels of car use are likely to be higher.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	-	New development will inevitably involve an increase in greenhouse gas emissions although the scale of development resulting from this policy is likely to be small and effects will be determined mainly by the design of the development and people's behaviour. However, the policy could result in development in more rural parts of the Borough where levels of car use are likely to be higher which would have a minor negative effect on this objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	Any development resulting from this policy would only be permitted where it does not increase the risk of flooding. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective and a negligible effect is recorded.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
efficient use of water resources.		

**Policy SS4: South Melton Mowbray sustainable neighbourhood (strategic allocation)**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	<p>The sustainable neighbourhood allocated through this policy would deliver approximately 2,000 homes which constitutes some 30% of the outstanding housing requirements in the Borough. Therefore, the site would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>188</sup>. The policy also requires 37% of these homes to be affordable (subject to viability) as well as requiring a mix of home types, tenures and sizes which should help to meet the needs of a wide range of new residents. The policy requires the provision of extra care housing for the elderly. The sustainable neighbourhood will also include a permanent site for Gypsies and Travellers which will accommodate at least three pitches and will therefore help to meet the needs of this specific group.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective.</p>
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++	<p>This site would be developed as an urban extension and is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north. As such, siting development at this location will provide good access to the concentration of existing schools in Melton Mowbray. The existing Swallow Dale Primary School and Longfield Academy would be located within walking distance of the sustainable neighbourhood meaning that pupils would have a good level of access to these facilities without travelling by car. A new primary school by Dalby Road and financial contributions towards secondary education are also to be provided as part of the development and this should help to mitigate any increased pressure on local school places which might otherwise have occurred as a result of the increase in local population. Overall a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective.</p>
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++/-	<p>Given the very close proximity of sustainable neighbourhood to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of transport day to day. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links that run through the development area - the number 19, 40 and 113 bus services run along the A606 between Oakham and Melton (Monday to Saturday) and the journey time to Melton town centre is less than 15 minutes. The 100 and 128 services run between Melton Mowbray and Leicester (Monday to Saturday) and the 5A service runs adjacent to the northern boundary of the site offering a 20 minute frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre. Additionally, the policy supports the provision of a new and enhanced bus service which would provide access to Melton Mowbray Town Centre and local employment opportunities at a minimum frequency of 20 minutes and this should encourage local</p>

<sup>188</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>residents to make use of public transport, further reducing reliance on private car use.</p> <p>Most journey lengths should be short as there is a good concentration of existing jobs, services and facilities in Melton Mowbray. The location of the sustainable neighbourhood in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. The policy provides for the delivery of employment land, educational and community facilities as well as improved walking and cycling routes as part of the development which would further encourage new residents to use sustainable forms of transport.</p> <p>Given the current transport infrastructure, the expected delivery of new infrastructure and essential service development which might ease congestion in the town centre and current and future public transport provision in the area a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>However, this is combined with a potential minor negative effect also, as the development of this sustainable neighbourhood would facilitate the delivery of a strategic road link between the A606 and A607 at Melton Mowbray as well as other improvements to the road network where adverse impacts are identified. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift.</p>
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>This potential SUE is within close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre. As such it would provide new residents with good access (by public transport) to job opportunities in the town and at other employment sites (including industrial estates such as Leicester Road Industrial Estate to the north west). The policy also provides for new employment land (approximately 20ha) within the SUE area. The new employment provision will include B1 (business), B2 (general industrial) and B8 (storage and distribution) and will also allow for the expansion and improvement of the existing Leicester Road Industrial Estate. The employment land allocated in this area would potentially be a commercially attractive location given its links to the town centre as well as proximity to current employment sites. This would provide additional employment opportunities for residents and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.</p>
<p>5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	<p>+/--?</p>	<p>The South Melton Mowbray sustainable neighbourhood would involve the development of a large area greenfield land to the south of Melton Mowbray and so could impact upon local landscape character. The eastern side of the area allocated would cover a large part of the Area of Separation between Melton Mowbray and Burton Lazars. The Area of Separation between Melton Mowbray and Eye Kettleby would also be encroached upon by the development. As such, the development of this sustainable neighbourhood could contribute to the coalescence of these settlements although the policy specifies that their separate identities will be retained.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>The area to the south of Melton Mowbray where this allocation lies is classed as being of medium-high sensitivity to development<sup>189</sup>. This is due to the intricate small scale landscape and cultural pattern and open visual character and the degree of intervisibility which is increasingly present towards the east. A potential significant negative effect on the landscape is therefore identified as a result of large-scale development at this location. However, it is noted that the site lies within a folded/rolling valley which may reduce the negative impacts on the landscape. The policy requires an approach which incorporates masterplanning to be pursued when submitting a development proposal as part of the Melton South Sustainable Neighbourhood. This approach is to be respectful of strategic green gaps and should also provide areas of new landscaping which will potentially mitigate landscape impacts. In addition, the existing 'hard' development edge south of Melton Mowbray could be improved by appropriately designed new development in this area and as such a minor positive effect is expected in combination with the previously identified significant negative effect; therefore a mixed effect is expected on this SA objective overall. The effects are currently uncertain given that the exact effect will depend on the design of the development and considering that there may be potential to mitigate these effects.</p>
<p>6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	<p>+/--?</p>	<p>The allocated site is almost directly adjacent to Leicester Road Grassland Local Wildlife Site and within 200m of Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings Local Wildlife Site, although there are no Local Wildlife Sites within the boundaries of the development site. A number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have also been identified within this area particularly towards the central area of the site by Sandy Lane.</p> <p>The loss of a large area of greenfield land may have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss, although it may be possible to incorporate mitigation into the development, for example through the inclusion of green infrastructure to promote habitat connectivity.</p> <p>As such, a potential significant negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective due to the potential habitat destruction or disturbance which may result from construction and operation of the development. However, the policy supports the protection and enhancement of existing wildlife corridors in the area and requires that new development protects and enhances areas of biodiversity. It also provides for a protection zone between the River Eye SSSI and any future development. Therefore, the potential negative effect on this SA objective is expected to be mixed with a minor positive effect. The effect is recorded as uncertain until the exact design and layout of the development is known.</p>
<p>7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their</p>	<p>--/+?</p>	<p>The land allocated by the policy is within close proximity of a Scheduled Monument to the south east by Melton Road on the approach to Burton Lazars. This designation includes St Mary and St Lazarus Hospital. To the north west the site is located almost adjacent to the Scheduled Monument which is by Leicester Road.</p>

<sup>189</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Melton Borough Protected Open Areas Study.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
settings.		<p>The closest Listed Buildings to the area allocated for development are Chestnut Farmhouse which is a Grade II Listed Building within Burton Lazars to the south east and Squires Monument which is within the grounds of the Church of St James and is a Grade II* Listed Building also within Burton Lazars.</p> <p>Development at this location could potentially have a significant negative impacts on the setting of these historic assets given their close proximity to the sustainable neighbourhood. However, the policy provides for protection and potential enhancement of historical and archaeological features, specifically referring to the St Mary and Lazarus Hospital. As such a minor positive effect is also expected on this SA objective and overall a mixed effect is recorded. This is uncertain until the detailed design and layout of the site is known.</p>
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	<p>The area allocated by this policy comprises greenfield land which is mainly Grade 3 Agricultural Quality, although there is an area of Grade 2 Agricultural Land in the west of the site. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of high quality agricultural land.</p> <p>Part of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area (MCA) is also within the site, towards its north western edge by Kirkby Lane. The close proximity of this MCA may result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction.</p> <p>Overall, a significant negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p>
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	<p>This sustainable neighbourhood would be large enough to be relatively self-contained with the policy providing for, in addition to residential properties, new facilities and services including a primary school, community facilities, medical services and local employment opportunities as well as a new local centre to include a small parade of shops by Dalby Road. The policy requires the support of secondary education provision through financial contributions. This would be to the benefit of internal cohesion of the new development area given that residents would not have to travel to access important services. The development would also be within close proximity of the existing services and facilities that are concentrated in Melton Mowbray and would therefore provide support for their ongoing viability. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	<p>The South Melton Mowbray Sustainable Neighbourhood would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Melton Mowbray. The policy would also result in the provision of new employment opportunities (approximately 20ha of land is to be allocated for B2, B2 and B8 uses to expand and enhance the Leicester Road Business Park adjacent to the site to the north west) and community facilities (including a school and medical services), reducing the risk of existing services and facilities becoming overloaded and leading to social exclusion. The policy supports the provision of a large amount of affordable housing (37% of the 2,000 new homes to be built are to be affordable dependent on viability), thereby reducing barriers to home ownership in Melton. A significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.</p>
11. To improve community safety,	+	<p>The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
reduce crime and the fear of crime.		incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. These issues will be determined through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known. However, the policy specifically requires that walking routes and cycle paths which are provided are to be safe. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However levels of recycling will not be affected by the development allocated through this policy, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new sustainable neighbourhood. As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	<p>The policy provides for a bypass which would link the A606 in the west and A607 in the east within the area covered by the sustainable neighbourhood. As such, the development would provide the land needed to facilitate this route thus reducing congestion in Melton Town centre, which might otherwise have a negative effect on the local economy particularly in light of the proposed growth in the area.</p> <p>The policy also provides for approximately 20ha of employment land with the sustainable neighbourhood for B1 (business), B2 (general industrial) and B8 (storage and distribution) uses and expansion enhancement of the existing Leicester Road Business Park. Given that the policy provides for the enhancement of the road network which could potentially improve strategic connections for business locally and also provides a substantial amount of new employment land a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective.</p>
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	<p>The policy proposes an urban extension which is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the north. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the existing healthcare facilities in Melton Mowbray. The land allocated for development through this policy would be located within 800m of Melton Mowbray hospital on the A607 to the north west and there are also GPs within the town that could be easily accessible, meaning residents would have a good level of access to these existing facilities, potentially via sustainable transport. The policy also provides for the creation of new local services and facilities which would include new medical services. This would reduce the potential for any adverse effects which might otherwise result from a concentrated large increase in population and the pressure on existing facilities which would be associated with this.</p> <p>The area which is allocated by this policy is located within close proximity of a number of open spaces: Top Park is located to the south within 360m by Lime Street and Mars Sports ground is located to the north west of the site within 180m by Saxby Road. New development of this large scale would also present opportunities for further open space to be incorporated within the SUE and the policy supports development which provides new cycling and walking links including those making use of green infrastructure. There is further support in the policy for the provision of facilities which may support healthier lifestyle choices amongst residents given that new high quality multi-functional green spaces should be created in line with</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.</p>	<p>++/-</p>	<p>the Council's open space standards. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>While large-scale new development to the south of Melton Mowbray will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings, this will depend largely on its design which is not yet known. Considering the large scale of this development it could offer good opportunities to incorporate renewable energy generation and the policy supports development which exceeds building regulation in terms of energy efficiency and carbon emissions.</p> <p>Given the very close proximity of sustainable neighbourhood to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the north, there is very good potential for residents and employees travelling to and from the site to make use of sustainable modes of transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. People will be able to make use of the existing public transport links and the enhanced public transport provision that the policy supports. A modal shift away from car use is supported by the policy through the provision of improved cycling and walking facilities as well as accessible bus stops which connect to the town centre and local employment opportunities.</p> <p>The policy also allows for the provision of employment land (20ha) and community services (including medical services, a school and new local centre) within the proposed development area which could reduce the need to travel. The location of the sustainable neighbourhood in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure would be supplemented by additional cycling and walking provisions as well as an improved public transport network, it is expected that these contributions could lead to an overall benefit for local greenhouse gas emissions and air quality. As such a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective.</p> <p>However, this is combined with a potential minor negative effect also, as the policy would support the creation of a new strategic road link between the A606 and A607. While this would help to reduce congestion and the resulting pockets of poor air quality, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles.</p>
<p>16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.</p>	<p>+/-?</p>	<p>The main potential source of flooding in the area allocated by this policy is a tributary of the River Wreake in the north west. This area of the site has been identified as being partly within Flood Zones 2 and 3. As such, the overall area within the site which is at high risk of flooding is relatively small when compared to the total developable area and it is expected that development could be accommodated in areas not affected by risk of flooding.</p> <p>The policy promotes development which provides appropriate sustainable drainage systems and is provided in downstream areas to reduce flood risk where possible. It also supports the development of buildings</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		<p>which are adaptable to future climatic conditions including flooding. These measures should help to reduce the risk of flooding and as such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>The development would, however, involve the development of a large area of greenfield land which would substantially increase the area of impermeable surfaces in Melton and reduce potential for infiltration of surface water locally, potentially increasing flood risk. As such a combined minor negative effect is also expected on this SA objective. The negative effect is recorded as uncertain given that development may be sited away from the areas which have been identified as being at high risk of flooding.</p>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of the large-scale development proposed through this policy, this would depend mainly on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location. The policy also requires that development in this area protects and enhances water quality and as such it is anticipated that appropriate measures to achieve this aim will be put in place. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>

#### Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray north sustainable neighbourhood

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	<p>The sustainable neighbourhood would deliver approximately 1,500 homes which constitutes some 25% of the outstanding housing requirements in the Borough. Therefore, the site would make a substantial contribution towards meeting the Borough's housing need for between 195 and 245 new homes per annum up to 2036<sup>190</sup>. The policy also requires 37% of these homes to be affordable homes (subject to viability) and requires a mix of home types, tenures and sizes which should help to meet the needs of a wide range of people. A permanent Gypsy and Traveller site which is to accommodate at least three pitches is also provided for by the policy as well as extra car housing for the elderly. A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this objective.</p>
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	++	<p>The area of land allocated through this policy is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the south. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the concentration of existing schools in Melton Mowbray. The existing schools of St Mary's Melton Mowbray Church of England Primary School on Brampton Road and John Ferneley High School on Scalford Road would be located within walking distance of the sustainable neighbourhood meaning that pupils would have a good level of access to these facilities, potentially via sustainable modes of transport. A primary school (covering 2.5ha) and financial contributions towards secondary education are also to be provided as part of this development and</p>

<sup>190</sup> GL Hearn (June 2014) Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		this should help to mitigate any pressure on local schools which might otherwise occur as a result of a significant increase in the local population. Overall a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
<p>3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.</p>	++/-	<p>Given the very close proximity of the Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray to the south, there is very good potential for residents of this site to make use of sustainable modes of transport. While the centre of Melton Mowbray is outside of reasonable walking distance (taken to be 600m) there should be good opportunities to cycle and travel by bus. Residents could make use of the existing public transport links that are in close proximity to the development area such as the bus stops currently located on Nottingham Road, Scalford Road, Wymondham Way and Kipling Drive which provide access to the town centre. The allocated area has public transport routes that run through it including the hourly 19 service between Oakham and Nottingham, the 24 service between Melton Mowbray and Bottesford, the 25 service between Melton Mowbray and Stathern and the 15 service which offers a 30 minute frequency service to Melton Mowbray town centre. Journey times to Melton Mowbray town centre are less than 15 minutes. Additionally, the policy supports the provision of a new and enhanced bus service which would provide access to Melton Mowbray Town Centre and local employment opportunities and would further reduce reliance on private car use.</p> <p>The policy does not make reference to providing walking and cycling routes in the area but it is expected that levels of walking and cycling may be good given that new employment uses and a new local centre, as well as services and facilities (including a school community facilities and new local centre at Scalford Road) will be provided within the development area and will therefore be located within close proximity to the new residential properties.</p> <p>Given the current transport infrastructure, the expected deliver of new infrastructure and essential service development which might ease congestion in the town centre and current and future public transport provision in the area, a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>However, this is combined with a potential minor negative effect also, as the development of this site would facilitate the delivery of a strategic road link between the A606 and Nottingham Road as well as a route which allows for north/south connectivity in Melton. While this would help to reduce congestion, it may make car use more attractive and therefore make it more difficult to encourage modal shift.</p>
<p>4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.</p>	++	<p>The Melton Mowbray North sustainable neighbourhood is within close proximity of Melton Mowbray town centre. As such it would provide new residents with good access (by public transport) to job opportunities in the town and at other employment sites (including industrial estates such as Asfordby Business Park to the west). The policy also provides for small-scale employment uses as part of a new local centre by Scalford Road, which is mainly limited to B1 (office) use. This would provide some additional employment opportunities for residents and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
<p>5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.</p>	+?/--	<p>Although it would not result in settlement coalescence and would not encroach upon any of the Areas of Separation in the Borough, the development of the Melton Mowbray North sustainable neighbourhood would involve development on a large area of greenfield land which would significantly affect the form and setting of Melton Mowbray by significantly extending the edge of the town to the north.</p> <p>The landscape sensitivity of this area to the north of the town has been assessed as being medium to high due to its tranquil undeveloped rural character as well as its variable topography<sup>191</sup>. Therefore, a potential significant negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective.</p> <p>However, the existing 'hard' development edge north of Melton Mowbray could be improved by appropriately designed new development in this area. This is supported through the policy which provides for an improved town edge while seeking to maintain the separate areas of Thorpe Arnold and Scalford to the north east and north of Melton Mowbray respectively and responding to the landscape setting of the Borough,. The policy supports the provision of new landscaping and areas of green space while protecting important strategic green gaps. This may help to mitigate any adverse impacts on the landscape and as such a minor positive effect is also expected on this SA objective. The mixed effects are currently uncertain given that the exact effect on the landscape of the Borough will depend on the design and layout of any development.</p>
<p>6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.</p>	+/--?	<p>The area of land which would comprise the Melton Mowbray North sustainable neighbourhood contains part Melton Country Park Local Wildlife Site and is also located in close proximity to the Scalford Brook Local Wildlife Site, Nottingham Road Hedgerow Local Wildlife Site and Corfe Wet Grassland Local Wildlife Site. A number of areas which have been identified as being of importance for the breeding of great crested newts have also been identified within the area; to the south west towards the A606, to the north by Scalford Road and also within Melton Country Park. The loss of a large area of greenfield land is likely to result in habitat loss and the large scale residential development proposed may result in increased recreational pressures which could be to the detriment of local biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy does, however, provide for mitigation in relation to negative effects which may result on biodiversity as a result of this potential development. Existing green infrastructure and wildlife corridors are to be protected and new corridors are to be provided to allow for increased habitat connectivity. As such a minor positive effect is also expected in combination with the significant negative effect previously identified. Effects are uncertain at this stage until detailed proposals for the site come forward.</p>
<p>7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their</p>	+/--?	<p>Syonsby Lodge, a Grade II Listed Building, is located within the area which is allocated for development within the policy to the east of the A606. The new neighbourhood would also be within close proximity of a Scheduled Monument (Syonsby Grange) which is located on St Bartholomew's Way to the west. Development at this location could therefore potentially have negative impacts on the setting of these</p>

<sup>191</sup> Influence Environmental (2015), Melton Borough Protected Open Areas Study.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
settings.		designated historic assets and a significant negative effect could occur in relation to this SA objective although this is uncertain until detailed proposals for the site are known. The policy, however, supports development which allows for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment. In addition to this masterplanning which is to support all planning applications for development within the area is to be supportive of the protection of local heritage assets. The approach supported by the policy should therefore help to mitigate adverse effects on the historic environment and as such a minor positive effect is also expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	<p>The area covered by the proposed sustainable neighbourhood comprises greenfield land which is mainly Grade 3 Agricultural Quality, with a sizeable area of the land to the east of Scalford Road and some of the land surrounding the Melton Country Park being Grade 2 Agricultural Land. The development of this area would therefore result in the loss of high quality agricultural land.</p> <p>Part of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area (MCA) is also within the SUE towards the south east by the Melton Spinney Road. The development could therefore result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction. As such, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	<p>The area allocated for development through this policy would be immediately adjacent to the existing urban area of Melton Mowbray where there is a high concentration of the Borough's services and facilities. Therefore, opportunities to access existing services in the town on foot or by public transport would be high. Focussing large scale population in growth in one location could result in the nearest existing services and facilities becoming overloaded; however the policy supports the development of a local centre within the sustainable neighbourhood which would include a school and other essential community facilities. Development here would also stimulate the existing services in Melton Mowbray and contribute to their ongoing viability.</p> <p>As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	<p>The SUE to the north of Melton Mowbray would be located in close proximity of existing schools and employment opportunities in and around Melton Mowbray and the policy would also result in the provision of new employment opportunities in the new local centre as well as community facilities (including a school), reducing the risk of existing services and facilities becoming overloaded and leading to social exclusion. The policy supports the provision of a large amount of affordable housing locally (37% of the 1,500 new homes to be built are to be affordable dependent on viability) as such reducing barriers to home ownership in Melton.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective</p>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of	+	The effects of development on levels of crime and fear of crime will depend on factors such as the incorporation of green space within the site which, depending on design and the use of appropriate lighting, could have an effect on perceptions of personal safety, particularly at night. These issues will be determined

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
crime.		<p>through the detailed proposals for the site which are not yet known. The policy does require that any development proposal be supported by a masterplan however. This approach could help to create safer neighbourhoods in terms of appropriately incorporating safe green spaces and active street frontages which provide natural surveillance while allowing for road networks which will be suitable and safe for the type of development proposed.</p> <p>A minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	<p>All development, particularly when it is large in scale, will result in an increase in waste generation. However levels of recycling will not be affected by this development, as it is assumed that the kerbside recycling collection which covers the whole Borough would be extended to include the new development. As this site is on greenfield land, opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. Therefore, a negligible effect is identified.</p>
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	<p>The policy provides for development in this area which would incorporate the delivery of a strategic road link between the A606 and Nottingham Road as well as a route which allows for north/south connectivity in Melton to help reduce congestion in Melton Mowbray Town centre. The provision of infrastructure which will help to ease local congestion would benefit local economic growth. The policy also provides for some employment uses (mainly limited to B1 office use) within the new local centre which is to be created as part of the development. This employment development would therefore be located in close proximity to residential development giving residents a good level of access to these employment opportunities. Overall a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective..</p>
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	<p>The policy proposes an urban extension which is adjacent to the existing urban edge of Melton Mowbray to the south. As such, siting development at this location should provide good access to the existing healthcare facilities that are concentrated in Melton Mowbray. The development area would be located within 2km of Melton Mowbray hospital on the A607 to the south east. The policy does not provide specifically for additional healthcare facilities but does provide for additional community facilities which could include healthcare and also provides for extra care housing which may be of benefit to the health and well-being of elderly people.</p> <p>The development is adjacent to Melton Country Park and this area of open space could potentially encourage healthier and more active lifestyles amongst new residents. The policy also seeks to protect and enhance existing green infrastructure in the area and the provision of a multi-functional network of green spaces through the policy should further benefit health. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.</p>
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the	++/-	<p>While the large-scale development proposed through this policy will inevitably result in an increase in emissions from buildings it is recognised that the policy supports development which exceeds building regulations in terms of energy efficiency and carbon emissions.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
Borough.		<p>Given the proximity of the development area to Melton Mowbray to the south, new residents could make use of the existing public transport links such as the bus stops currently located on Nottingham Road, Scalford Road, Wymondham Way and Kipling Drive which provide access to the town centre. The policy seeks to supplement these current provisions with a new and enhanced bus service which links to the town centre and local employment opportunities, which may further reducing reliance on car use. The policy's support for employment uses and new community facilities and services in the area and in close proximity to proposed residential properties may also result in new residents making use of more sustainable forms of transport over car use in the area.</p> <p>The location of the housing in fairly close proximity to the town centre would also allow for access to Melton Mowbray railway station which provides a direct connection to Leicester to the south west. Given the current transport infrastructure, the potential for public transport infrastructure development and the provision of new essential services and employment uses in the area a significant positive is likely. However, this effect is expected in combination with a minor negative effect given that the policy supports the strategic road link between the A606 and Nottingham Road as well as a new north/south route- while this would help to ease congestion, it could facilitate ongoing car use and the associated emissions.</p>
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+/-	<p>The main potential source of flooding in the development area is Salford Brook which to the west. This area has been identified as being within Flood Zone 3a, 3b and 2 in parts. The overall area which is at high risk of flooding is relatively small when compared to the total area within the boundaries of the potential SUE, however, and it is expected that development could be accommodated in areas not affected by risk of flooding.</p> <p>The policy promotes development which provides appropriate sustainable drainage systems and is provided in downstream areas to reduce flood risk where possible. It also supports the development of buildings which are adaptable to future climatic conditions including flooding. These measures should help to reduce the risk of flooding in the Borough and as such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.</p> <p>The development would, however, involve the development of a large area of greenfield land which would substantially increase the area of impermeable surfaces in Melton. This reduction of greenfield land would reduce areas where infiltration could occur, increasing risk of flooding from surface water. As such a minor negative effect is also expected on this SA objective. .</p>
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	<p>While levels of water consumption would inevitably increase as a result of large-scale development, this would depend mainly on the behaviour of residents and the incorporation of water efficiency measures into the new development.</p> <p>There is only one Source Protection Zone (SPZ) in Melton Borough and this is within the centre of Melton Mowbray so would be unaffected by development at this location which the policy guides. The policy requires</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		that development in this area protects and enhances water quality. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

### Policy SS6: Alternative development strategies and local plan review

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	A significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective as the policy will ensure that local requirements for housing are met. If this not achieved through the Local Plan, monitoring will identify the shortfall and if there is a persistent shortfall in housing delivery or changes to the objectively assessed housing need, the Council will carry out an early review to identify alternative development sites where housing may be more easily deliverable. The policy therefore provides additional security in relation to meeting the housing needs (including affordable housing provision) of both present and future residents in Melton Borough.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	This policy will ensure that local requirements for housing and employment provision are met, as the Council will undertake monitoring and if there is a persistent shortfall in housing and employment delivery or there are changes to the objectively assessed housing and employment need, the Council will carry out an early review to identify alternative development sites. Therefore, the policy will help to ensure that people are able to live and work within closer proximity, rather than having to travel outside of the Borough to access jobs, or to live outside of the Borough if they work in Melton. This will help to ensure convenient access to jobs and reduce journey lengths, thereby making the use of sustainable modes of transport more likely. A minor positive is therefore likely on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	A significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective because the policy will ensure that the local requirements for employment development are met. If this not achieved through the Local Plan, monitoring will identify the shortfall and if there is a persistent shortfall in employment development or changes to the objectively assessed jobs need, the Council will carry out an early review to identify alternative development sites where employment-related development may be more easily deliverable. The policy therefore provides additional security in relation to meeting the employment needs of the Borough.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. The impacts of potential alternative development sites would be assessed at the time of any Local Plan review that may be triggered by this policy.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. The impacts of potential alternative development sites would be assessed at the time of any Local Plan review that may be triggered by this policy.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. The impacts of potential alternative development sites would be assessed at the time of any Local Plan review that may be triggered by this policy.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. The impacts of potential alternative development sites would be assessed at the time of any Local Plan review that may be triggered by this policy.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy will ensure that Melton Borough delivers the amount of employment development set out in the Local Plan through monitoring new development. If targets for employment development have not been met, this policy will trigger an early review of the Local Plan to identify alternative development sites. A positive effect is therefore identified in relation to this SA objective as ensuring that an appropriate amount of employment development takes place will help to reduce poverty and secure economic inclusion.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable	+	The policy may help to reduce traffic congestion in the Borough as ensuring that housing and employment is provided within the Borough to meet local needs may help to reduce commuting distances as people will be able to live and work within closer proximity. In addition, the policy will help to ensure that an appropriate supply of deliverable land is allocated to meet the needs of businesses – if the sites allocated in this Local

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
economic growth.		Plan do not come forward to meet needs, a Plan review will be triggered to identify alternative sites. A minor positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. The impacts of potential alternative development sites would be assessed at the time of any Local Plan review that may be triggered by this policy.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. The impacts of potential alternative development sites would be assessed at the time of any Local Plan review that may be triggered by this policy.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective. The impacts of potential alternative development sites would be assessed at the time of any Local Plan review that may be triggered by this policy.

## Communities

### Policy C1: Housing allocations

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	This policy allocates sites for housing provision over the Plan period, to meet the objectively assessed need for 4,965 additional homes between 2015-2036, taking into account completions and commitments between 2011 and 2015. The policy focuses most development at Melton Mowbray (3,231 of the residential 4,965 homes required) and provides support for development proposals which would deliver a mix of housing types as well as affordable housing. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people	+	This policy would direct most new housing development to Melton Mowbray, followed by the Primary Rural Settlements. Directing most development to these areas will provide new residents with relatively good levels of access to existing education facilities. In addition, the policy provides support for development proposals at the allocated sites that would provide the necessary infrastructure required to support the



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
have access to education.		development, which may include new schools or school places. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	This policy would focus most of the new housing development in the Borough at Melton Mowbray followed by the Primary Rural Settlements where relatively good employment opportunities and public transport links and services and facilities are located. As such, new residents may be required to travel less by car. Development which promotes walking, cycling and access to public transport will also be supported by this policy. However, the policy still allocates some housing at smaller settlements where public transport provision is less good and levels of car use are likely to be high. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	This policy will not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	This policy allocates sites for housing development, and directs most housing to the more developed areas of the Borough (Melton Mowbray followed by the Primary Rural Settlements. As such, the potential negative effects of new development on landscape character will be reduced in comparison to if more development was allocated at the smaller rural villages. However, the policy does allocate sites for residential development in areas of high landscape sensitivity, in particular the North Melton SUE. The combined effects of the site allocations on this SA objective are therefore likely to be significantly negative although this is uncertain until specific proposals come forward and the design and layout of the development is known.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-/+	This policy allocates sites for housing development, which could have negative effects on biodiversity and geodiversity, particularly because a number of the allocated sites are within close proximity of designated sites or have been identified as being of moderate ecological sensitivity in the Biodiversity Study that has been carried out on behalf of Melton Borough Council. However, the policy provides support for development proposals which would adequately mitigate impacts on important site features including trees, protected habitats and species. Therefore, an overall mixed effect (minor negative/minor positive) is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-/+	This policy allocates sites for housing development, which could have negative effects on the historic environment, particularly because a number of the allocated sites are within close proximity of designated heritage features such as listed buildings. However, the policy provides support for development proposals which include measures to mitigate any adverse impacts on heritage assets. Therefore, an overall mixed effect (minor negative/minor positive) is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	This policy allocates sites for housing development and although the allocated sites are mostly located in and around the more developed areas of Melton (Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Settlements), the allocated sites are mostly located on greenfield land which would be lost. This is particularly likely as a result of the development of the large urban extensions that are allocated to the north and south of Melton Mowbray. Overall the policy would result in the loss of a significant area of moderate to good quality agricultural land (Grade 3 and above) and as such a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	This policy allocates sites for housing development and the allocated sites are mostly located in and around the more developed areas of Melton (Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Settlements) where access to services and facilities is likely to be relatively good. In addition, the policy supports development proposals at the allocated sites where they would provide the necessary infrastructure required to support the development, which could include the development of new community services and facilities. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	-	This policy allocates sites for housing development which are mainly on greenfield land where opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials are likely to be limited. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy would direct most new housing development to Melton Mowbray, followed by the Primary Rural Settlements. Directing most development to these areas will provide new residents with relatively good levels of access to existing healthcare facilities. In addition, the policy provides support for development proposals at the allocated sites that would provide the necessary infrastructure required to support the

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
		development, which may include new GP places or other healthcare related infrastructure. Allocating most housing development at the larger settlements should also provide good opportunities to walk and cycle day to day. Therefore, a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	This policy allocates most of the new housing development in the Borough at Melton Mowbray and the Primary Rural Settlements where access to employment opportunities, public transport links and services and facilities is likely to be relatively good. As such, new residents may be required to travel less by car which would reduce local contributions to climate change and improve air quality. The policy also supports development proposals at the allocated sites that would promote walking, cycling and access to public transport. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+/-	This policy provides support for development proposals at the allocated sites which would mitigate the impacts of flooding and incorporate SuDS. However, it also allocates large areas of greenfield land for residential development, the loss of which would reduce the area of permeable surfaces in Melton and could reduce infiltration of surface water. Overall a mixed effect (minor positive/minor negative) is therefore expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+/-	The scale of development resulting from the sites allocated in this policy would inevitably result in an increase in the consumption of water although this issue would also be influenced by factors such as the behaviour of residents and how well water efficiency measures are incorporated into the developments which is not known at this stage. The location of housing sites could affect water quality, depending on whether they are in an area where there is capacity at the local sewage treatment works to treat additional wastewater generated by the overall scale of development proposed. This information is not yet available (the Council is currently working with stakeholders to gather this information) and it will be used during later stages of the SA once it becomes available. While there is a Source Protection Zone in the Borough, this is in the centre of Melton Mowbray and therefore some distance from all of the site allocations. Overall, a potential but uncertain minor negative effect is therefore identified.

### Policy C2: Housing mix

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	This policy requires developments to provide a mix of house types and sizes to address local needs, in particular the need for more small, entry level homes and housing for the elderly. The requirement for housing developments of 10 or more new dwellings to provide an appropriate mix and size of houses should result in the provision of a range of housing to accommodate different groups. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
have access to education.		
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and	+	This policy requires developments to provide a mix of housing types and sizes within developments of 10 or more dwellings. This may have a positive effect on social inclusion by ensuring that communities contain a

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.		mix of people and by enabling elderly or disabled people to remain in their own homes. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy seeks to ensure that housing of various types is provided within new residential developments, including homes that are appropriate for the elderly and disabled people. Proposals for care homes are specifically supported. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

### Policy C3: National space standard and smaller dwellings

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	This policy requires housing developments of ten dwellings or more to meet the national space standard for at least 50% of the dwellings with up to and including three bedrooms. The national space standard is not included in the Building Regulations, therefore applying the standard supplements the requirements set out there. The policy should ensure that there are more small homes in Melton that are of an attractive standard in terms of the internal space which may encourage older people to down-size which would realise more family sized homes on to the market. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
landscape.		
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
economic growth.		
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

#### Policy C4: Affordable housing provision

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	This policy will result in the provision of affordable housing at sites of six or more dwellings across all areas identified for housing within the Plan at a targeted amount of 37%. As such this approach should result in the provision of housing which is affordable to local residents; this is of particular relevance when it is considered that the affordability issue in Melton means that to buy one of the cheapest 25% of homes sold in the Borough, residents currently need to earn more than the national average wage. As such, a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.		
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	+	Ensuring that affordable housing is available to meet the needs of people who may be unable to afford a property otherwise (for example first time buyers) will have a minor positive effect on social inclusion.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

### Policy C5: Affordable housing through rural exception sites

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	This policy would allow for the provision of affordable housing in rural areas where there is a demonstrable need from people with a local connection, and the housing would remain as affordable in perpetuity. This approach would deliver housing to meet local needs and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	-	This policy would provide housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough. These areas are less likely to provide good access to existing services and facilities including schools and colleges and as such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	-	This policy would provide housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough. These areas are less likely to provide good access to public transport links and are more to not be within close proximity of essential services and facilities. Residents at these locations are therefore less likely to make use of alternative forms of transport (walking or cycling) over car use and as such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	This policy would provide housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough. These areas are less likely to provide residents, particularly those without a car, with convenient access to existing employment opportunities and as such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	--?	This policy would provide housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough in locations where they would not normally be allowed, in order to meet local needs for affordable housing. Given the rural nature of the Borough and the importance of the countryside in defining the local landscape character there is potential for this type of exceptions housing to be detrimental to the overall character of Melton. As such a potential but uncertain significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective although effects will be determined mainly by the location and design of the development.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	-	This policy would provide for housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough where it would not normally be permitted in order to meet local needs for affordable housing. Such development would be more likely to proceed on greenfield land, much of which in Melton is of good agricultural quality (grade 3 agricultural land and above). A potential but uncertain minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective although effects will be determined mainly by the location of the development.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++/-	This policy would provide for housing development at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough in order to meet local needs for affordable housing. This will have a positive effect on social inclusion by enabling first time buyers and young families to remain in rural communities rather than being priced out. However, this policy would also result in housing at more rural locations where access to community facilities is likely to be poor. As such a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	This policy would provide for housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough in order to meet local needs for affordable housing. This will help to secure economic inclusion and reduce social deprivation (barriers to housing is considered as an important part of assessing how deprived a given area is). A significant positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and	-	This policy would provide housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough. These areas are less likely to provide good access to existing services and facilities including healthcare facilities and as such a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
prolong life.		
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	-	This policy would provide housing at more rural locations (settlements with a population of less than 3,000) in the Borough. These locations are less likely to provide good levels of access to existing public transport links, employment opportunities or essential services and facilities. As such, residents are more likely to be required to make journeys by car which would be detrimental to local air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. A minor negative effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### Policy C6: Gypsies and travellers

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	The policy will ensure that sites are allocated to meet the identified needs of Gypsies and Travellers for at least 15 permanent pitches and two transit pitches. The criteria set out in the policy will combine to ensure that sites are of a high standard. A significant positive effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people	+	The policy requires sites for Gypsies and Travellers to be well-related in relation to local infrastructure and services, and to provide safe and convenient access to the road network. A minor positive effect is therefore likely on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
can make sustainable transport choices.		
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	-/+?	The provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers could have a negative effect on the landscape, in the same way that any form of new development might. However, this is uncertain until the location of all sites is known. The policy requires sites for Gypsies and Travellers to be appropriate in scale and to have a functional relationship with a nearby town or village, which should reduce the potential for impacts on the landscape, as will providing pitches within the allocated sustainable neighbourhoods. A mixed (minor negative/minor positive) effect is likely overall and there is uncertainty attached until the location of all sites is known.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	-/+?	The provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers could have a negative effect on the landscape, in the same way that any form of new development might. However, this is uncertain until the location of all sites is known. In addition, new development may offer opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements such as green infrastructure provision. A mixed (minor negative/minor positive) effect is likely overall and there is uncertainty attached until the location of all sites is known.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	-?	The provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers could have a negative effect on the historic environment, in the same way that any form of new development might. However, this is uncertain until the location of all sites is known. The policy supports sites for Gypsies and Travellers that are to be located near services, suggesting that the sites are to be on the fringes of settlements. Many of Melton's settlements include designated Conservation Areas and listed buildings and therefore sites could have an adverse effect on Melton's historic assets. Therefore a potential but uncertain negative effect is identified in relation to this SA objective, although the small number of sites allocated by the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	-?	The effects of this policy will depend largely on whether Gypsy and Traveller sites are developed on brownfield land which is not yet known; however as they are to be incorporated within the sustainable neighbourhoods north and south of Melton Mowbray which are on greenfield land, a minor positive effect is most likely.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the	+	The policy supports sites for Gypsies and Travellers that will have a functional relationship with the nearby town and village and not cause significant detrimental impact to the existing community, thereby promoting social inclusion. As such, a minor positive effect is likely as the policy does not provide services.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	The policy supports sites for Gypsies and Travellers where they are free from flooding. As such, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.		

### Policy C7: Rural services

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+	The policy supports the protection, retention and enhancement of rural services, and it is specified in the policy that schools are included. Therefore, the closure or change of use of a school would only be permitted in certain circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the facility is no longer viable or there are alternative facilities in the village which would fulfil the role. As such, a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	The policy seeks to protect, retain and enhance rural services which will therefore reduce the need for people to undertake longer journeys by car and therefore a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective because the policy will help to retain the jobs associated with rural services and facilities by avoiding their closure.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	++	This policy encourages the protection, retention and enhancement of community services in Melton. This will ensure that residents in rural areas have access to services and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The provision, protection and enhancement of community services in rural communities through this policy will have a minor positive effect on social inclusion and cohesion.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy supports the protection, retention and enhancement of rural services, and it is specified in the policy that health services are included. Therefore, the closure or change of use of a healthcare facility would only be permitted in certain circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the facility is no longer viable or there are alternative facilities in the village which would fulfil the role. In addition, retaining rural services will enable more people to walk and cycle shorter distances to access these facilities, as opposed to undertaking longer journeys by car. As such, a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The policy seeks to protect, retain and enhance rural services which will therefore reduce the need for people to undertake longer journeys by car and therefore a minor positive effect is likely in relation to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

### Policy C8: Self build and custom build housing

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	++	This policy would support the development of self-build properties in the Borough. The requirement for developers on large sites to supply at least 5% of dwelling plots to self-builders or custom builders will enable people to develop homes that meet their particular needs. Given the demand for self-build (the supporting text states that local chartered surveyors have up to three enquiries per week from self-builders), this policy approach should help to supply land for a much sought after part of the housing sector. This approach will also allow for dwellings to satisfy a number of different types of residences to be developed within the Borough. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	The policy provides support for self-build developments in rural locations where they are well related to existing settlements, which is expected to reduce negative impacts on the rural landscape of the Borough and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
efficient use of water resources.		

### Policy C9: Healthy communities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	This policy requires that developments makes a contribution towards the creation of 'healthy homes' which are affordable. This should result in the development of higher quality homes, as issues such as natural light and space would be taken into account. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	This policy provides for developments which are located within range of employment opportunities in accessible locations, while being well integrated within a safe and convenient network of streets with good public transport provisions. It also encourages walking and cycling to contribute towards health objectives. As such residents may be encouraged to make use of public transport networks and other alternative forms of transport and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	This policy requires development proposals to make a positive contribution towards a range of employment opportunities which are within accessible locations. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	Some of the measures in this policy could have a positive effect on biodiversity as it encourages development to contribute towards green spaces and encourages the use of edible landscaping, garden plots and allotments which may provide habitat for biodiversity enhancements.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	This policy seeks to maximise opportunities for social interaction by ensuring that development proposals make a positive contribution to the provision of facilities such as sport and recreation facilities. It also seeks to better connect homes and shops, schools, healthcare, leisure and other facilities via sustainable modes of transport which will improve access for people without a car. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	This policy seeks to ensure that development is located where it will provide a good level of access to a range of employment opportunities and recreational facilities. As such residents are likely to have good access local employment opportunities and facilities which should allow for social inclusion and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	+	This policy requires developments to contribute towards the delivery of a safe network of streets, paths and cycle paths; therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	The overall aim of this policy is to ensure that new development in Melton makes a positive contribution to health and well-being. The policy would require that development is considered in relation to its health implications in terms of access to essential facilities, employment opportunities and green spaces. Large developments would be required to complete a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and also contribute towards local healthcare provision where there would be an impact upon the capacity of existing provision. The policy also seeks to enable more people to walk and cycle day to day, participate in society more activity and engage in local food production. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	This policy seeks to deliver development that is located within safe and accessible networks of streets, paths and footpaths and within areas which are accessible of green spaces, recreational facilities and employment opportunities. This approach may reduce the need to travel by private car in Melton which should benefit local air quality. The policy also requires that development specifically be considerate of local air quality with new development in AQMAS required to provide an air quality assessment where appropriate. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	This policy requires development proposals to make a contribution towards the delivery of 'healthy homes' in Melton, one of the criteria for which is that they are to be safe from flooding. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

## Economy

### Policy EC1: Employment growth in Melton Mowbray

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.		
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	The policy allocates land for employment uses at Asfordby Business Park, Pera Business Park and as part of the sustainable urban extension to the south of Melton Mowbray. While Asfordby Business Park is less accessible than the other two locations, it is within walking distance (600m) of the proposed northern sustainable urban extension at Melton Mowbray therefore may provide accessible employment opportunities for people there. The employment use at the southern sustainable urban extension will be located in close proximity of the residential development proposed as part of that development and Pera Business Park is located towards the centre of Melton Mowbray on Nottingham Road with numerous existing residential properties in close proximity which should encourage residents to access the site by more sustainable modes of transport. The policy also requires that allocated and non-allocated sites are located in areas that are easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport. The requirement of the policy to adopt a sequential approach to town centre uses where offices are proposed should also result in employment uses being focussed in central areas where more people can access employment opportunities by walking and via exiting sustainable transport links. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The policy allocates three sites for employment development which will result in a supply of 30.29ha of employment land. This will go a long way towards satisfying the identified need for 50.75ha of employment land in Melton up to 2036 given that a 'realistic deliverable supply' of 19.46ha has previously been identified. The allocated sites are all either located within close proximity of existing residential properties or are located in close proximity to the allocated urban extensions to the north and south of Melton Mowbray; therefore jobs should be easily accessible for many people. The policy also requires that new employment uses are easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport services. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+/--?	<p>This policy allocates land for employment use in the Borough. It also requires that employment related development on allocated and unallocated sites are sympathetic to important landscapes and the settlement it is related to in terms of scale, while not impacting upon land which is of particular importance to the form and character of a settlement.</p> <p>However, Melton Borough is distinctly rural in character and the loss of greenfield land to employment uses (as proposed by the policy, particularly at the southern urban extension and at Asfordby Business Park) is expected to have a negative effect on local landscape character. This negative effect has the potential to be amplified given that the Areas of Separation between Melton Mowbray and Burton Lazars and Asfordby and Asfordby Hill which prevent coalescence between these settlements are in close proximity to employment land which has been proposed. As such a mixed (minor positive and significant negative) effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain until detailed proposals for the sites come forward.</p>

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+/--?	<p>The policy would result in the allocation a total of 30.29ha of land for employment use in the Borough. This scale of development could have a negative effect on local biodiversity in terms of disturbance during the construction and operational phases and there may be indirect effects as a result of air pollution caused by commuting and commercial traffic (although it recognised that this effect may be reduced given that employment uses should be accessible by walking, cycling and public transport according to the policy). The southern Melton Mowbray sustainable urban extension site is located in close proximity to the Leicester Road Grassland Local Wildlife Site and Melton Mowbray Railway Sidings Local Wildlife Site meaning there is potential for negative impacts from this specific employment site.</p> <p>However, the policy specifies that employment developments on allocated or unallocated sites are not to cause an adverse effect on habitats or species and should be designed to protect the natural environment. Therefore, an overall mixed (significant positive and minor negative) effect is likely although this is uncertain until specific proposals for the sites come forward.</p>
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+/--?	<p>One of the allocated employment sites, the southern Melton Mowbray sustainable urban extension, is located within close proximity of a Scheduled Monument to the south east by Melton Road on the approach to Burton Lazars. This designation includes St Mary and St Lazarus Hospital. The closest Listed Building to this urban extension is Chestnut Farmhouse which is a Grade II Listed Building within Burton Lazars to the south east. The policy also proposes economic development at Asfordby Business Park. A number of Grade II Listed Buildings including the Church of Bartholomew and Grange Cottage are located within close proximity of the area to the north. As such there could be a significant negative effect on this SA objective due to potential impacts on the setting of these designate heritage assets although this is uncertain until specific proposals for employment development come forward. In addition, the policy requires that development for employment use on allocated or unallocated sites is designed to protect important historic assets; therefore a mixed effect is likely overall.</p>
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	--	<p>The sites allocated for employment development in this policy, particularly the 20ha within the sustainable urban extension to the south of Melton Mowbray and the 10ha by Asfordby Business Park, cover large areas of greenfield land which is mainly Grade 3 Agricultural Quality. The development of these sites would therefore result in the loss of a large amount of high quality agricultural land. In addition, part of a sand and gravel Mineral Consultation Area (MCA) is located in close proximity to the sustainable urban extension to the south of Melton Mowbray towards its north western edge by Kirkby Lane. The Asfordby Business is also located in close proximity to an MCA towards its southern boundary by Melton Road. The close proximity of these MCAs to areas which have been identified for employment related development may result in the sterilisation of minerals although it may be possible to explore opportunities for prior extraction. Overall, a significant negative effect is expected on this SA objective.</p>
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to	0	<p>The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.</p>



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	++	The policy will result in a supply of 30.29ha of employment land across three allocated sites which will assist in satisfying the identified need for 50.75ha of employment land up until 2036 given that a 'realistic deliverable supply' of 19.46ha has previously been identified. The allocated sites are located within close proximity of existing and proposed areas of residential development; therefore a large number of residents should be able to access a range of new employment opportunities proposed for Melton Mowbray and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	This policy allocates 30.29ha of employment land across three sites. These sites are located in areas which are located within close proximity of existing and proposed residential properties and the policy requires that employment uses are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling which should help to reduce congestion in the Borough. As such, a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy supports employment development which is located in areas which are accessible by walking and cycling. This approach may help to encourage healthier lifestyles amongst residents and therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	The policy addresses the provision of employment land within Melton Mowbray. Although new employment development at the allocated sites will inevitably result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions and could affect air quality (depending on the nature of commercial activities at the sites), the three allocated sites are located in close proximity to existing and proposed areas of residential development which will reduce emissions from commuting as people may be able to live and work within closer proximity and travel via sustainable modes of transport. The policy itself supports proposals that would allow for this. The policy also supports development which exceeds energy efficiency regulations and carbon emissions and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective overall.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and	+/-	This policy allocates three sites for employment development in Melton Mowbray at Asfordby Business Park, the sustainable urban extension to the south of Melton Mowbray and land by Pera Business Park. These sites are not within areas of high flood risk and only the sustainable urban extension to the south of Melton Mowbray is located in close proximity to flood zones 2 and 3 towards its western boundary by Eye Kettleby

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
elsewhere.		but it is anticipated that this small area can be avoided. However, the development of these sites would collectively involve a sizeable loss of greenfield land which could reduce infiltration and increase flood risk. However, the policy supports proposals for employment development which incorporates sustainable drainage systems and flood alleviation measures as well as buildings which are adaptable to flooding. A mixed effect is likely overall.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	This policy promotes development which incorporates sustainable drainage systems and food alleviation measures. This approach should help to reduce the potential for local surface water flood risk and sewage contamination. The policy also requires that employment development be designed to protect and enhance water quality in the Borough. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

### Policy EC2: Employment growth in the rural area (outside of Melton Mowbray)

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective because the policy requires rural employment proposals to be accessible by walking, cycling or public transport.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the	++	The policy promotes employment growth in rural areas through supporting proposals that allow new employment land to be provided in rural service centres and other rural settlements. The policy also supports rural employment proposals that create or safeguard jobs including the re-use of existing farm buildings, schemes for farm diversification, small-scale tourism proposals, the expansion of existing rural businesses and use of land for agriculture, forestry and equestrian activity. As such a significant positive

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
needs of the community.		effect is likely for this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	The policy provides support for employment growth in rural areas which could risk effects on the landscape and character of rural areas. However, the policy requires that proposals must be of an appropriate scale for their location and host settlement context, respect the environmental quality, form and character of the rural area and its landscape. As such a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	A minor positive effect is likely for this SA objective because the policy states that proposals are to not adversely affect habitats or species.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	A minor positive effect is likely for this SA objective because the policy states that proposals are to not adversely affect historic assets and their settings.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	The policy states that support will be given to proposals that re-use existing farm buildings and protect best and most versatile agricultural land. A minor positive effect is therefore likely on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	Through supporting new businesses and business expansion in rural areas, the policy will secure economic inclusion. As such, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
materials.		
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	Through supporting business growth and expansion proposals, the policy provides the necessary physical conditions for development to take place. As such, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy is likely to have a minor positive effect on health because it supports proposals that are accessible by walking and cycling.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective because the policy supports rural employment growth proposals that are accessible by walking, cycling or public transport. This should reduce the need to travel by private car which decreases greenhouse gas emissions leading to improved air quality.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	?	The policy does not specifically address flood risk; however it encourages proposals that would involve re-using existing farm buildings. This should help to reduce the loss of permeable surfaces through new developments. However, the effects are largely uncertain depending on the location of development proposals.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### Policy EC3: Existing employment sites

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.		
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++/-	<p>The policy safeguards a number of current employment sites in Melton Mowbray. The majority of these sites are located in close proximity to the existing residential development in Melton Mowbray (Melton and Kettleby Foods, Leicester Road Estate and Saxby Road Area) or the residential development proposed as part of the sustainable urban extension north of Melton Mowbray (Asfordby Business Park, Holwell Works and Stanton PLC). The safeguarded sites are also located close to public transport links which may help to encourage residents to make use of alternative modes of transport. Two sites, Crown Business Park and Old Dalby Trading Estate are located within close proximity of Old Dalby which is a smaller settlement and so there are reduced numbers of residential properties and transport links close by. The final site, Masterfoods HQ, is located more than 1km from the nearest settlement which is Waltham on the Wolds to the north. As such, employment uses being safeguarded in those locations may result in ongoing car use.</p> <p>The policy, however, requires that employment uses are not changed to non-employment uses unless the site in question is not well related to existing centres or accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. This should help to retain employment development which is located in areas which may encourage these alternative forms of transport. Overall a mixed effect (significant positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.</p>
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The policy seeks to safeguard employment sites in the Borough, preventing their change of use unless they are no longer economically viable for employment purposes in the long term. This policy should therefore result in the continued provision of land for employment land in Melton and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	This policy protects a number of existing employment sites within the Borough from change of use but would not result in new development. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	This policy protects a number of existing employment sites within the Borough from change of use but would not result in new development. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their	0	This policy protects a number of existing employment sites within the Borough from change of use but would not result in new development. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
settings.		
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	This policy protects a number of existing employment sites within the Borough from change of use but would not result in new development. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	This policy relates to safeguarding of existing employment sites and allocations within the Borough. It is not expected to impact upon the provision of community facilities in the Borough. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	This policy seeks to prevent the loss of employment land in the Borough by safeguarding existing sites. This will help to maintain employment levels and avoid poverty and economic exclusion. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	This policy relates to safeguarding of existing employment sites and allocations within the Borough. It is not expected to impact upon local crime and community safety which is more likely to be addressed through design considerations. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	This policy protects a number of existing employment sites within the Borough from change of use but would not result in new development. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	This policy would safeguard identified sites for employment uses. As such potential employers considering investment in the local area might have more confidence of securing land which is in the appropriate use class to provide local employment opportunities. Residents in the area will therefore be provided with more opportunities for employment and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy protects employment land at a number of identified sites. The majority of these sites are located in close proximity to Melton Mowbray (Melton and Kettleby Foods, Leicester Road Estate and Saxby Road Area) or the residential development proposed as part of the sustainable urban extension to the north of Melton Mowbray (Asfordby Business Park, Holwell Works and Stanton PLC) where the largest concentration of residential properties in the Borough is found. As such, people may be able to walk and cycle to work, to the benefit of their health. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and	+/-	The policy safeguards a number of current employment sites in Melton Mowbray for employment uses. The majority of these sites are located in close proximity to the existing residential development in Melton

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		<p>Mowbray (Melton and Kettleby Foods, Leicester Road Estate and Saxby Road Area) or the residential development proposed as part of the sustainable urban extension to the north of Melton Mowbray (Asfordby Business Park, Holwell Works and Stanton PLC). The sites are also close to public transport links which may help people to make use of alternative modes of transport to the benefit of local air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. Two sites, Crown Business Park and Old Dalby Trading Estate are located within close proximity of Old Dalby which is a smaller settlement and as such the site is located further from high concentrations of residential properties and transport links in comparison to settlements of a higher order. The final site, Masterfoods HQ, is located more than 1km from the nearest settlement which is Waltham on the Wolds to the north. As such these sites outside of Melton Mowbray will be located in areas where residents may have to make use of private cars to a greater degree to access them and therefore this may have detrimental impacts on local air quality.</p> <p>The policy, however, requires that employment uses are not changed to non-employment uses unless the site in question is not well related to existing centres or accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. This should help to retain employment development in areas where it is possible to use these alternative forms of transport and thus help to reduce any negative impacts on local air quality. Overall a mixed effect (minor positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.</p>
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	This policy protects a number of existing employment sites within the Borough from change of use but would not result in new development. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	This policy protects a number of existing employment sites within the Borough from change of use but would not result in new development. A negligible effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

#### Policy EC4: Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.		
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	The policy would retain Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses. These areas benefit from an existing rail link and are also located within close proximity of the area proposed for the sustainable urban extension to the north of Melton Mowbray as well as Asfordby Hill which is a Secondary Rural Service Centre <sup>192</sup> in the Borough. As such, the sites are in close proximity to existing residential properties and areas where new properties are likely to be sited meaning a high number of people may be able to access jobs at the sites by sustainable modes of transport. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	This policy would retain employment uses at the Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works sites, thereby stimulating employment provision and economic growth in those locations. Given that the sites are located within close proximity of an existing rail link, they may be attractive to potential new investors. The policy also only permits the redevelopment of the site for other uses if particular criteria are met. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	This policy protects Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works but would not result in new development; therefore a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	This policy safeguards Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses but would not result in entirely new development that could impact upon biodiversity. The policy also requires that development at these sites does not affect habitats or species in the area. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	This policy safeguards Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses but would not result in entirely new development that could impact the historic environment or the setting of heritage assets in the Borough. The policy also specifically requires that development at these sites does not adversely affect heritage assets, in particular Welby Church. Therefore, a minor positive effect on this SA objective is likely.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and	+	The policy safeguards Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses and these sites present opportunities to develop brownfield land, as stated in the supporting text of the policy. This approach of making use of brownfield land over greenfield land is more efficient use of land and therefore a

<sup>192</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015), Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
enhancing soil quality.		minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	This policy seeks to prevent the loss of employment land in the Borough by safeguarding the land at Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works. These sites will be maintained for employment use unless they are no longer economically viable; therefore helping to avoid poverty and economic exclusion by ensuring employment provision in a generally well-accessible part of the Borough. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+	This policy relates to safeguarding of Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses. Although further employment-related development in those areas may result in an overall increase in waste production, this policy would not result in the allocation of further land for employment use and the supporting text of this policy highlights that there are opportunities for brownfield development at the sites which may allow for the re-use of materials and buildings on site. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	This policy would safeguard Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses, ensuring that there is land available for inward investment, and a minor positive effect is likely.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy would safeguard Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses. These areas are located within close proximity of the proposed sustainable urban extension to the north of Melton Mowbray and the Secondary Rural Service Centre of Asfordby Hill to the south. As such a high number of residential properties would be located in close proximity to these employment opportunities which could encourage residents to make use of alternative modes of transport to access jobs there. This would be to the benefit of local residents' health and therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas	+	The policy would retain the use of Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses. These areas benefit from an existing rail link and are also located within close proximity of the area proposed for

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.		the sustainable urban extension to the north of Melton Mowbray as well as Asfordby Hill which is a Secondary Rural Service Centre <sup>193</sup> in the Borough. As such, the sites are in close proximity to existing residential properties and areas where new properties are likely to be sited meaning a high number of people may be able to access jobs at these sites by sustainable modes of transport which could prevent any further degradation of local air quality. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	This policy relates to the safeguarding of Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses. It is not expected to directly result in further development outside of this area and therefore should not result in the loss of greenfield land (thereby reducing infiltration) or result in development which is located in areas of high flood risk. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy would safeguard Asfordby Business Park and Holwell Works for employment uses. It is expected that any development within these areas should be accommodated within the existing water treatment infrastructure. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.

#### Policy EC5: Other employment and mixed-use proposals

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	The policy addresses employment and mixed use development which contains elements of employment use in the Borough. It provides support for mixed use developments which contain elements of residential use of varying dwelling types and sizes, including affordable housing to meet the needs. As such this approach may help to supplement the residential allocations made in Policy C3 of the Local Plan and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy addresses employment and mixed use development which contains elements of employment use in the Borough. It would not affect the provision of education facilities in Melton. As such a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people	+/-	The policy supports employment and mixed use development in locations which can easily be accessed by public transport, walking and cycling. This approach is expected to result in a minor positive effect on this SA objective. However, the policy also supports development at out of town centre locations where it is deemed that the use in question is not more appropriate in town centre locations. As such, development may be located in areas which are located further from residential population thus encouraging travel by car. A minor negative effect is therefore expected in combination within the minor positive effect already highlighted and overall a mixed effect is expected on this SA objective.

<sup>193</sup> Melton Borough Council (2015), Melton Local Plan Settlement Roles, Relationships and Opportunities

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
can make sustainable transport choices.		
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy supports appropriate proposals for employment use or mixed use schemes which are outside existing or allocated sites. This policy addresses 'speculative' employment sites and proposals for mixed uses incorporating employment and as such provides additional flexibility to the Local Plan allowing for consideration for sites outside those already allocated. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	The policy supports appropriate proposals for employment use or mixed use schemes which are outside existing or allocated sites and therefore could result in development in areas of higher landscape sensitivity. However, the policy requires landscape features not to be negatively impacted upon by employment and mixed use proposals and therefore a minor positive effect is likely.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	The policy supports appropriate proposals for employment use or mixed use schemes which are outside existing or allocated sites and therefore could result in development in areas which are of biodiversity importance. However, the policy requires development to not have impacts on habitats and species and so a minor positive effect is likely.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy supports appropriate proposals for employment use or mixed use schemes which are outside existing or allocated sites and therefore could result in development in areas which are important to the character and townscape of settlements in the Borough. However, the policy requires development to be considerate of local historic assets and their settings and so a minor positive effect is likely.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	-?	The policy addresses employment and mixed use development which contains elements of employment use in the Borough. It promotes development proposals for employment use or mixed use schemes which are outside existing or allocated sites. Given that this approach would allow permissions for more speculative proposals development could result on greenfield sites and therefore a minor negative effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on specific proposals that come forward.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0?	The policy addresses employment and mixed use development which contains elements of employment use in the Borough. This approach would not directly result in the provision of community facilities in the Borough and therefore a negligible effect is expected on this SA objective. The effect is uncertain given that mixed use developments promoted by the policy may contain community uses.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy supports mixed use development proposals which would include residential uses with an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes, including affordable housing to meet local needs. The provision of this affordable housing is expected to supplement the main component of affordable housing which is required through other policies and as such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	The policy provides support for proposals for employment and mixed use development outside of allocated sites which would supplement the employment land already allocated. It should allow for a flexible approach to employment development in the Borough and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy requires proposals for employment and mixed use developments to be located in areas which are easily accessible by walking and cycling and therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+/-	The policy supports development which is located in areas which can easily be easily by public transport, walking and cycling. This approach is expected to result in a minor positive effect on this SA objective given that this would help to prevent any increase in greenhouse gas emissions or detrimental impacts to air quality. However, the policy also supports development at out of town centre locations where it is deemed that the use in question is not more appropriate in town centre locations. As such, development may be located in areas which are located further from residential areas, thus encouraging travel by car with the associated impacts on local air quality and the Borough's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. A minor negative effect is therefore expected in combination within the minor positive effect already highlighted and overall a mixed effect is expected on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### Policy EC6: Melton Mowbray town centre

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+/-	The policy seeks to focus retail growth within Melton Mowbray town centre which is relatively well-served by public transport. The policy, however, requires proposals to make adequate provision for car parking which may facilitate ongoing car use. As such, mixed effects are likely overall as the location of the development would mean there is access to public transport (minor positive effect) but car use could be encouraged through providing car parking spaces (minor negative effect).
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	The policy seeks to support the economy of Melton Mowbray town centre and avoids out of town development which would be detrimental to the health of the town centre. The policy takes into account findings from the Retail Study and favours A1 over A2-5 development as the town centre is still a destination to buy goods and services, despite a decline in this nationally. Through the provision of retail development, employment opportunities should result from this policy. As such a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment,	+	A minor positive effect is likely in relation to this SA objective as the policy notes that any new retail or leisure development in the town centre must be sympathetic to the numerous heritage assets within and

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
heritage assets and their settings.		adjacent to the town centre. The policy also requires development to enhance the compact, legible and walkable character of town centre.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct impact on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The policy seeks to focus town centre uses including retail development in Melton Mowbray town centre and to avoid inappropriate out of centre development which would be less accessible. A minor positive effect on access to facilities is therefore likely.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	Through the provision of development in Melton Mowbray town centre, the policy promotes economic inclusion as the town centre is accessible by public transport and so a minor positive effect is expected.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	Melton Mowbray town centre is the main destination for shopping and leisure within the Borough and the policy seeks to retain and enhance the viability and vitality of this area. The policy recognises Melton Mowbray's resistance to town centre decline and encourages A1 retail uses and allows for A2-5 uses only if it can be proven that they will not have an adverse impact on the character and/or sustainability of the primary frontage. Additionally, the policy recognises that the physical appearance of development is also an important influence on maintaining economic growth and it requires proposals to enhance the compact, legible and walkable character of town centre, maintain a vibrant and active continuous shop frontage in and around the retail core and incorporate a high quality of shop front and advertisement design. As such, a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and	+	The policy is likely to have a minor positive effect on health because focussing retail and other town centre development in Melton Mowbray town centre instead of out of centre locations is likely to enable higher levels of walking and cycling.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
prolong life.		
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The policy is likely to have a minor positive effect on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport and improving air quality as it seeks to focus retail development and other town centre uses in the centre of Melton Mowbray, avoiding out of centre development which is likely to result in higher levels of car use.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

#### Policy EC7: Retail development in the Borough

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people	+	The policy supports town centre development in settlements with an existing retail offer, provided that the development can be fully integrated. As such, a minor positive effect is likely as development central location would be accessible and have existing public transport links. In addition, the provision of retail space within the new sustainable neighbourhoods at Melton Mowbray will reduce the need for people to travel by car day to day and may encourage walking and cycling.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
can make sustainable transport choices.		
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy supports retail development within settlement centres in Melton which could stimulate employment opportunities. As such a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy supports retail development that is of an appropriate scale, is physically integrated and does not have an adverse impact on the character of the village. This will help to conserve the historic assets within settlements and therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	The policy supports retail development in centres in favour of less central locations, which will help to reduce greenfield development and a minor positive effect is likely.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	The policy supports appropriate retail development located in settlement centres which are more accessible locations which are generally better served by public transport. This promotes social inclusion and so a so minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy supports retail development within settlement centres in Melton which could stimulate employment opportunities, thereby reducing poverty and economic exclusion. As such a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.



<b>SA Objectives</b>	<b>SA Score</b>	<b>Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)</b>
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### **Policy EC8: Tourism**

<b>SA Objectives</b>	<b>SA Score</b>	<b>Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)</b>
1. To ensure that the housing stock	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.		recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	This policy directs tourism attractions and facilities of a significant scale towards areas which are firstly within the town centres, then on the edge of town centres and then at other accessible locations. Locating facilities which are likely to draw large numbers of people in areas which are more accessible by public transport will help to encourage residents and visitors to make sustainable transport choices. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	++	This policy supports the appropriate development of facilities for cultural, visitor and tourism uses. These uses are to include accommodation and tourist attractions and, given the contribution that tourism makes to the local economy, this approach is expected to benefit the creation of new employment opportunities within Melton. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective. However, it is noted that employment resulting from tourism is often seasonal and low paid.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	This policy supports the appropriate development of facilities for cultural, visitor and tourism uses and requires that such development does not adversely affect the landscape. It also states that proposals should be of an appropriate scale, form and character, and a minor positive effect is therefore likely.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	This policy supports the appropriate development of facilities for cultural, visitor and tourism uses and requires that such development does not adversely affect designated habitats or species.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	This policy supports the appropriate development of facilities for cultural, visitor and tourism uses and requires that such development does not adversely affect historic assets and their setting. Some heritage assets can have value for tourism themselves, such as Belvoir Castle, and the policy may therefore help to maintain such features. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	The policy requires that tourism development does not adversely affect the best and most versatile land and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	This policy supports appropriate tourism development which may result in the provision of facilities that are also of value to local people (for example new museums, cafes or meeting places). A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	This policy supports appropriate tourism development and so should result in employment provision, helping to reduce poverty and secure economic inclusion. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the	+/-	This approach supports the appropriate provision of new facilities (including new attractions) for tourism within the Borough. Larger attractions are to be provided in more accessible locations (firstly town centres, then town centre edges and then other accessible locations) which may benefit local air quality. Drawing increased numbers of tourists to Melton, however, is likely to result in an increased need for travelling by private car in the area, if only to access the Borough from other locations begin with. This is expected to be

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
Borough.		to the detriment of local air quality. As such a mixed overall effect (minor positive/minor negative) is expected on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

## Environment

### Policy EN1: Landscape

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	-	This policy relates to the enhancement and protection of Melton's landscape and countryside. The policy requires that development is sensitive of landscape setting and should not affect areas of tranquillity within the Borough. Certain types of industry uses which might result in new employment opportunities in the Borough may negatively impact upon local tranquillity and landscape character and therefore may be incompatible with this policy. As such a minor negative effect may occur in relation to this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	++	This policy requires new development to be sensitive to its landscape setting as defined in the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study. New development is also required to be respectful of existing landscape character and tranquillity and as such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	This policy relates to the protection of the landscape character within Melton. With this aim, the policy requires that new development protects important trees, hedges, vegetation and water areas. These areas may have value for wildlife and their protection is therefore expected to benefit local biodiversity. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	This policy relates to the protection of the landscape character within Melton and provides protection for important settings. This is likely to have a positive effect on the setting of heritage assets.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
crime.		
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy is likely to have a minor positive effect on health because it requires developments to not affect areas of tranquillity which are of value for recreation – this should encourage and enable ongoing active outdoor recreation, with benefits for public health.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### Policy EN2: Biodiversity and geodiversity

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
the Borough.		
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	The policy seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity within the Borough and there may also be indirect minor positive effects on local landscape character, for example by protecting and enhancing areas of habitat such as open spaces.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	++	The primary purpose of this policy is to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity within the Borough. Ecologically sensitive areas are to be protected and development which contributes to wildlife networks is to be supported. This process will be supported by the use of planning conditions and obligations. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity within the Borough and there may also be indirect minor positive effects on heritage assets, for example by protecting and enhancing areas of habitat such as open spaces which can contribute to the setting of heritage features.
8. To use land and mineral	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.		
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	The measures in this policy seeking to protect and enhance biodiversity should have a minor positive effect on flood risk management, in particular the maintenance and provision of open spaces. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	This policy would result in the protection of river corridors and the de-culverting of watercourses where appropriate. This approach would be of benefit to water quality as it would limit surface water flooding from blockage and thus potential contamination. The removal of culverts may also improve local water quality through preventing potential contamination by erosion of undersized culverts. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

### Policy EN3: The Melton green infrastructure network

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	+	The policy states that new or enhanced green infrastructure should look to provide educational resources for local residents. These resources are expected to be smaller education centres which might supplement the learning activities of schools within the Borough and as such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	Green infrastructure that is to be maintained when new development is proposed includes access routes such as public rights of way. Cycling and walking links between new green corridors and towns and villages should also be provided. This approach is expected to promote walking and cycling in the area and as such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment	+	This policy provides support for opportunities for sustainable leisure and tourism, which could have a minor positive effect on economic diversification and employment creation.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
opportunities that meet the needs of the community.		
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	++	This policy seeks to protect and enhance green infrastructure within the Borough including strategic green infrastructure which has been identified within the Areas of Separation, Settlement Fringe and Local Green Space Study. These are areas which contribute to the local landscape character of Melton. The policy also supports new green infrastructure which will enhance landscape character, and seeks to protect Areas of Separation. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	++	This policy requires new development to retain important green infrastructure elements including habitats for local wildlife (such as watercourses, woodland and hedgerows) and local geological sites. The policy also states that new or enhanced green infrastructure corridors should look to make provisions for biodiversity opportunities. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	This policy seeks to protect and enhance green infrastructure within the Borough which is likely to have benefits for the setting of heritage assets. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	This policy would protect green infrastructure within the Borough including open space. As such, development is more likely to be directed to brownfield land and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	This policy would protect important green infrastructure within the Borough including access routes (such as public rights of way). This approach should improve access to services, particularly for those without a car. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy states that green infrastructure should be used to provide access to employment opportunities. This should allow residents in the Borough to have an improved level of access to local employment opportunities to the benefit of their economic inclusion. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
the reuse and recycling of waste materials.		
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy would not result in the provision of new healthcare facilities in the Borough; however it would protect and enhance local green infrastructure which would include access routes such as public rights of way, designated public green space and sports pitches. The provision of these facilities may encourage residents to partake of healthier lifestyles and therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	This policy seeks to protect the green infrastructure network within Melton. This includes local public rights of way, the protection of which may encourage more residents to make use of alternative forms of transport instead of car use. This would potentially reduce greenhouse gas emissions and thus improve local air quality and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	This policy seeks to protect and enhance green infrastructure in the Borough. This will ensure that areas of permeable surfaces remain, allowing for surface water infiltration which will reduce the potential for flooding in the Borough as a whole. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

#### Policy EN4: Areas of Separation

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	Although this policy would limit development within the Areas of Separation in the Borough it is expected that development of housing required within Melton could still be accommodated elsewhere. As such a negligible effect is expected on this Sa objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	++	This policy would restrict development within the Areas of Separation which have been identified within the Borough. This would prevent settlement coalescence and maintain the rural character of the Borough. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	This policy would restrict development within the identified Areas of Separation in the Borough which may have a positive effect on biodiversity in those areas by avoiding the loss of greenfield land and potentially valuable habitats.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	This policy would restrict development within the Areas of Separation which have been identified within the Borough, to the benefit of local landscape character. The rural landscape acts as the setting of for many of the heritage assets in Melton and as such its protection should help to conserve and enhance the historic environment and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and	+	This policy would restrict development within the Areas of Separation which have been identified within the Borough, which would help to protect large areas of greenfield land between the settlements from development. This may help to direct development to brownfield sites at the more developed areas of the

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
enhancing soil quality.		Borough. This approach is considered to be a more efficient use of land and therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
within the Borough and elsewhere.		
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	This policy would not have a direct effect on this SA objective.

#### Policy EN5: Local green space

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	This policy requires development proposals to protect designated local green spaces within the Borough and to protect their character, which will have a minor positive effect on the wider quality and character of the Borough's landscapes.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	++	This policy protects local green spaces within the Borough and requires development proposals not to harm their key features, value and functionality which includes biodiversity benefits. The policy will help to maintain important habitats within Melton and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	This policy would protect local green spaces within the Borough. Given that local green spaces may contribute to the setting of historic assets within the Borough a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	This policy would protect local green spaces within the Borough. This approach would protect areas of greenfield land and also areas of undeveloped land which may be of higher agricultural value (agricultural grade 3 or higher) from development. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.		recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy would protect local green spaces within the Borough. These areas may be made use of by local residents for active outdoor recreation, to the benefit of both mental and physical health. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	This policy would protect local green spaces within the Borough, which provide areas of permeable surfaces with flood risk management benefits. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

#### Policy EN6: Settlement character

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	++	This policy protects important open green spaces within the Borough which contribute to the character of a settlement. As such, a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	This policy protects important open green spaces within the Borough, which is likely to have a minor positive effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat maintenance.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	++	This policy would protect important green spaces within the Borough. The criteria set out to define important open spaces include those which contribute to the setting of historic built form as well as those which contribute to key characteristics of a Conservation Area. As such the protection of these green spaces is likely to benefit the local historic environment and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	This policy protects important green spaces within the Borough. This approach would protect areas of greenfield land which may include areas of undeveloped land which are of higher agricultural value (agricultural grade 3 or higher) from development. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
community facilities across the Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy would protect important green spaces within the Borough. These areas may be made use of by local residents for active outdoor recreation, to the benefit of both mental and physical health. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	This policy would protect important green spaces within the Borough. As such these areas of permeable surfaces would be maintained, with benefits for flood risk management and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
efficient use of water resources.		

**Policy EN7: Open space, sport and recreation**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	++	This policy would result in the protection of open space which contributes to the quality and character of the landscape in the Borough. It also identifies a number of natural greenspaces which are to be enhanced and given the rural nature of Melton it is expected that this should also be of benefit to local landscape character. A significant positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	++	The policy promotes development which will provide contributions towards the improvement of open space in the Borough including natural and semi-natural greenspace which will be of benefit to local biodiversity. The policy identifies a number of specific natural greenspaces including Nature Reserves and SSSIs which are to be enhanced. The policy will also result in the improvement of playing pitches and other formal recreational areas which may result in decreased recreational pressures on areas of important habitats for local wildlife. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy would not address the protection of local heritage assets; however it does encourage development which makes a contribution to the improvement of open space. These features play an important part in defining the character of a given area and this approach should therefore help to enhance the setting of local heritage assets. A minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	The policy supports development which makes provision for open space including allotments. This will prevent the development of areas of greenfield land and a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	+	This policy encourages new development to contribute towards the enhancement, retention and provision of new open spaces and sports facilities. Although these provisions would not provide support for all community uses this approach should provide areas where residents can interact thus promoting social inclusion and cohesion in the Borough. A minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
economic growth.		
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	++	This policy would result in the protection and enhancement of open spaces and sports facilities in the Borough. New developments of ten homes or more would be required to contribute towards this aim and specific areas for enhancement are identified through this policy. As such residents in the Borough may be encouraged to make healthier lifestyle choices and engage in active recreation, and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	This policy would result in the protection of open spaces within the Borough. It would also require developments of ten houses or more to provide contributions towards local open space maintenance and creation. These areas provide greenfield land at which surface water infiltration may occur reducing the potential for increased flood risk in Melton. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### Policy EN8: Climate change

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	To mitigate and adapt to climate change, the policy requires development to be sustainably designed and constructed promoting high quality builds. This will ensure that new residential developments will be suitable for present and future residents of the borough and so a minor positive effect is likely for this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of	+	The policy requires opportunities for sustainable transport to be incorporated into new developments which would improve accessibility to services, employment and educational facilities as well as reducing the need to

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.		make journeys by private car. As such, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy aims to mitigate and adapt to climate change which includes incorporating sustainable and active modes of transport opportunities into new developments. Although this policy does not relate to new business formation, the provision of sustainable modes of transport as part of new developments could increase access to employment opportunities and therefore have a minor positive effect on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	The policy identifies green infrastructure as a measure to mitigate and adapt to climate change in Melton, which is likely to have benefits for biodiversity in terms of habitat creation and improved connectivity. A minor positive effect is therefore identified on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the	+	The policy aims to mitigate and adapt to climate change which includes incorporating sustainable and active modes of transport opportunities into new developments. This will increase accessibility to community facilities across Melton Borough and so a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
Borough.		
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy requires new developments to be sustainably designed and constructed as well as providing renewable and/or low carbon energy production that could be decentralised. This may help to address fuel poverty - 18-30% of residents lived in fuel poverty in 2012 (DECC, 2014). The provision of energy efficient homes would help to reduce the proportion of income spent on fuel and could therefore alleviate fuel poverty. As such, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy seeks to mitigate and adapt to climate change and requires development proposals to consider the provision of sustainable and active modes of transport. This will reduce journeys made by private car thus reducing pollution levels that can contribute to poor health. Active modes of transport also promote healthy lifestyles through encouraging exercise. As such, a minor positive effect is likely.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	The policy requires new developments to improve energy efficiency through sustainable buildings, the incorporation of renewable/low carbon energy sources and also through the provision of sustainable modes of transport. All of these requirements will reduce greenhouse gas emissions which will also improve the air quality within the Borough. A significant positive effect is therefore likely on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	+	The policy seeks to mitigate and adapt to climate change and requires development proposals to demonstrate that consideration has been given to flood risk management. A minor positive effect is therefore identified on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.		

**Policy EN9: Ensuring energy efficient and low carbon development**

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	The policy supports the provision of space for cycle storage in new homes and employment developments and, where appropriate, showers and changing facilities. A minor positive effect is therefore likely as the policy contributes to ensuring people can make sustainable transport choices to access services and sites of employment.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective because the policy supports the provision of office space within homes and fast broadband connection. This reflects the growth in number and diversity of small-medium enterprises in Melton and will provide more flexibility for accessing employment opportunities.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	The policy encourages tree planting and landscaping which should have benefits on the quality and character of the wider landscape, and a minor positive effect is likely.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	The policy encourages tree planting and landscaping which should have benefits for biodiversity, and a minor positive effect is likely.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy supports energy efficiency and low carbon development in existing buildings but stipulates that buildings should only be retrofitted if this does not harm heritage assets or their significance and protects the character of conservation areas. A minor positive effect is therefore likely in relation to this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy seeks to increase energy efficiency and promotes low carbon development. The design of new development should prevent heat loss, incorporate on-site renewable, low carbon or decentralised energy provision and optimise natural sunlight and non-mechanical ventilation. These measures will help to reduce fuel poverty – in 2012, 18-30% of residents in Melton lived in fuel poverty (DECC, 2014). The provision of energy efficient homes would reduce the proportion of income spent on fuel and a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	++	The policy supports development proposals that can demonstrate the effective use of materials that are sourced from high up the waste hierarchy. The policy also supports developments that incorporate site waste management plans which emphasises waste minimisation, re-use and recycling during demolition and construction. A significant positive effect is therefore likely on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	The policy encourages the inclusion of home offices within new developments, as well as high speed broadband connections. These provisions will create opportunities for small enterprises to be established and grow which a trend within the Borough as the rural nature of Melton creates a pleasant working environment. As this policy could lead to job diversification, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective as the policy seeks to promote active modes of transport through the provision of cycle storage and changing facilities. This will encourage residents to exercise, which therefore supports a healthy lifestyle.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	The overarching purpose of this policy is to ensure that development is energy efficient and low carbon development is encouraged. The measures in the policy to achieve this include encouraging the incorporation of renewable energy infrastructure and encouraging more people to cycle in place of car use through the provision of cycle storage, showers and changing facilities. A significant positive effect is therefore identified as the policy will reduce greenhouse gas emissions which will contribute to maintaining and improving air quality.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	Along with supporting energy efficiency and low carbon development, the policy also promotes water efficiency measures. New developments will be supported if they are deemed to reduce demand on water resources, including through the use of efficient appliances, rainwater recycling and water butts. A minor positive is therefore likely on this SA objective.

#### Policy EN10: Energy generation from renewable sources

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.		recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	++	The policy states that renewable energy infrastructure proposals must take into account the surrounding landscape and townscape. Additionally, wind energy developments are only to be located in areas of low or low-moderate sensitivity to wind turbine development, as identified in the Melton and Rushmore landscape sensitivity study and the policy includes detailed information about the size of turbines that will be acceptable in various areas. A significant positive effect is therefore likely on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective as the policy requires proposals for renewable energy technology to consider ecology, designated nature conservation sites, geodiversity and biodiversity.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective as the policy requires proposals for renewable energy technology to take into account heritage assets.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and	+	A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective as the policy requires proposals for renewable energy technology to consider high quality agricultural land.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
enhancing soil quality.		
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The policy states that renewable energy proposals which will directly benefit a local community in the medium and long term and/or are targeted at residents experiencing fuel poverty will be particularly supported. A minor positive effect is therefore likely on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct imp effect act on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy promotes energy generation from renewable energy sources which will reduce the borough's reliance on fossil fuels. There will therefore be a decrease in greenhouse gas emissions which will improve Melton's air quality, leading to potential health benefits. A minor positive effect is therefore identified on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	Through supporting energy generation from renewable sources, the policy will steer Melton's reliance away from fossil fuels to low carbon alternatives. As such a significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective and this will also improve air quality within the borough.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
within the Borough and elsewhere.		
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### Policy EN11: Minimising the risk of flooding

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	This policy promotes the use of SuDS and flood risk management measures which may have indirect positive effects on the quality and character of the wider landscape, for example the incorporation of open green spaces within developments. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	++	The measures in this policy seeking to manage flood risk are likely to have positive effects on biodiversity by reducing the potential for negative effects from flooding that can otherwise occur, for example as a result of habitat inundation or changes to water quality. The policy states that, where appropriate, developers should restore culverted water courses to a natural state to provide biodiversity benefits and that buildings should be set back from watercourses to provide an ecological corridor. Overall a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The measures in this policy seeking to manage flood risk are likely to have positive effects on the historic environment by reducing the potential for negative effects from flooding that can otherwise occur, for example as a result of flooding or listed buildings or other heritage features. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
materials.		
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	+	This policy seeks to mitigate flood risk in the Borough which will help to provide appropriate physical conditions to support economic growth, and a minor positive effect is likely.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	This policy seeks to mitigate flood risk in the Borough which will help to protect local peoples' physical and mental health and wellbeing, which can otherwise be adversely affected by flooding events. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	++	The primary purpose of this policy is to manage the risk of flooding. Of particular importance is the requirement for a sequential test to be followed when identifying land which is suitable for development in terms of flood risk. This approach should help to reduce the level of development located within areas of high risk and elsewhere and a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	This policy seeks to mitigate flood risk which can otherwise have adverse impacts on water quality. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.

#### Policy EN12: Sustainable urban drainage systems

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.		
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	This policy relates to the provision of SuDS within major developments to manage surface water flood risk, including through the provision of green infrastructure. This should have wider benefits for the appearance of the development and its setting within the wider landscape. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	This policy relates to the provision of SuDS within major developments to manage surface water flood risk, including through the provision of green infrastructure and the use of green roofs. This should have wider benefits for biodiversity as a result of habitat creation and connectivity. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	This policy relates to the provision of SuDS within major developments to manage surface water flood risk, including through the provision of green infrastructure. This should have wider benefits for the appearance of the development and therefore its impacts on nearby heritage assets and their settings. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and	++	This policy relates directly to the management of flood risk, requiring the provision of SuDS within major developments to manage surface water flood risk. The policy includes a range of criteria relating to the use of SuDS and requires surface water management strategies for allocated development sites to demonstrate how the guidance in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has been taken into account. Overall, a significant

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
elsewhere.		positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	+	This policy seeks to manage flood risk by promoting the use of SuDS, and so will help to avoid the potential negative effects of flood events on water quality. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.

### Policy EN13: Heritage assets

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	This policy seeks to preserve, protect and enhance heritage assets within Melton. The appropriate use of heritage assets as opportunities for tourism is supported through this policy and this may create employment opportunities in the Borough; therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the	+	This policy seeks to preserve, protect and enhance heritage assets within Melton. The policy includes protection for the setting of heritage assets within the Borough and as such this may afford some indirect

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
quality and character of the landscape.		protection to landscapes which act as the setting for heritage assets within the Borough. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	++	This policy relates specifically to the preservation, protection and enhancement of heritage assets within Melton. New development within the Borough is required to have a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness, while the policy also protects and seeks to encourage the enhancement of the built historic environment and its setting. As such a significant positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
infrastructure to enable economic growth.		
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

## Delivering Infrastructure

### Policy IN1: Transport and strategic transport infrastructure

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
have access to education.		
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	++	A significant positive effect is likely on this SA objective as the overall purpose of the policy is to promote an efficient and safe transport network in Melton, encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport in place of car use. The policy requires new developments to be located where travel can be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes maximised. While the policy also proposes parking provision and improvements to the strategic road network, these measures are not considered to detract from the overall aim to achieve modal shift and it is recognised that there will always be a requirement for car use, particularly given the rural nature of the Borough.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy promotes an efficient and safe transport network in Melton and as such, access to employment opportunities could be increased. A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded. It is assumed that the potential impacts of strategic highway improvement schemes would be assessed in detail at the planning application stage.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded. It is assumed that the potential impacts of strategic highway improvement schemes would be assessed in detail at the planning application stage.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded. It is assumed that the potential impacts of strategic highway improvement schemes would be assessed in detail at the planning application stage.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded. It is assumed that the potential impacts of strategic highway improvement schemes would be assessed in detail at the planning application stage.
9. To promote social inclusion and	+	The policy promotes an efficient and safe transport network in Melton and as such, access to services and facilities across the borough could be increased through the provision and enhancement of sustainable

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.		transport links. A minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	+	The provision of an enhanced sustainable and active transport network in the Borough could promote economic inclusion as more employment opportunities should be accessible without the need of a private car. As such, a minor positive effect is likely on this SA objective.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	++	A significant positive effect is recorded for this SA objective because the policy is concerned with achieving an efficient and safe transport network in Melton which will support economic growth in the Borough. The policy requires new developments to provide for and enhance sustainable and active transport links and the policy will therefore help to reduce congestion which can otherwise impede economic growth.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy promotes an efficient and safe transport network in Melton and supports new development proposals that include the provision or enhancement of sustainable and active modes of transport. A minor positive effect is identified as these impacts will result in fewer journeys to be made by private car, reducing air pollutants leading to improved air quality that can benefit the health of residents in Melton. In addition, increased walking and cycling will benefit health.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	++	The policy promotes an efficient and safe transport network in Melton and supports new development proposals that include the provision or enhancement of sustainable and active modes of transport. A significant positive effect is therefore identified as this will result in fewer journeys being made by private car, reducing greenhouse gases emissions and air pollution. While the policy also proposes parking provision and improvements to the strategic road network, these measures are not considered to detract from the overall aim to achieve modal shift and it is recognised that there will always be some requirement for car use, particularly given the rural nature of the Borough. In addition, the highway improvements will help to reduce congestion, therefore avoiding the associated pockets of air pollution.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded. It is assumed that the potential impacts of strategic highway improvement schemes would be assessed in detail at the planning application stage.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded. It is assumed that the potential impacts of strategic highway improvement schemes would be assessed in detail at the planning application stage.

## Design

### Policy D1: Raising the standard of design

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	The policy requires development proposals to incorporate sustainable means of transport where appropriate, and a minor positive effect is likely. Although it also requires appropriate, safe connections to the existing highway network to be provided, some level of car use will always be necessary in a rural Borough such as Melton and this is not seen to detract from the overall aim to achieve modal shift.
4. To diversify the local economy	+	The policy requires development proposals to incorporate sustainable means of transport where appropriate, which may help to provide access to jobs, particularly for people without cars. A minor positive effect is

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.		therefore likely.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	This policy requires development to be sited and laid out in a way that is sympathetic to the character of the area and encourages the use of landscaping and the retention of trees and hedges to mitigate potential impacts on the landscape. As such a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	+	This policy encourages the use of landscaping and the retention of trees and hedges to mitigate potential impacts on the landscape, which may also have indirect positive effects on biodiversity. A minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy relates to promoting high quality design in the Borough, which will help to reduce the potential for inappropriate development to have negative effects on the setting of heritage assets. A minor positive effect is therefore expected on this SA objective.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	+	The policy requires development to be designed to reduce crime and the perception of crime; therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective.



SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+?	The policy requires development to include waste facilities where appropriate; therefore a minor positive effect is expected on this SA objective although this is uncertain depending on whether these are facilities that allow for the sustainable management of waste such as storage facilities for recycling.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	+	The policy requires development proposals to incorporate sustainable means of transport where appropriate, which could include walking and cycling which would have a minor positive effect on health
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	+	The policy requires development proposals to incorporate sustainable means of transport where appropriate, which should help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality. Although it also requires appropriate, safe connections to the existing highway network to be provided, some level of car use will always be necessary in a rural Borough such as Melton and this is not seen to detract from the overall aim to achieve modal shift. It will also help to reduce congestion which can otherwise lead to pockets of poor air quality.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. A negligible effect is therefore recorded.

### Policy D2: Equestrian Development

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy provides support for equestrian development, provided that certain criteria are met including the need to demonstrate that the operation in question is financially viable. This will help to support the rural economy and the associated employment, and a minor positive effect is likely.
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+?	The policy requires proposals for equestrian development to not have an overtly adverse effect on the landscape or local character; therefore a minor positive effect is likely although this is uncertain as the wording of the policy implies that some negative effect may be permitted. The policy also requires proposals to use sites adjoining settlements where possible and to be grouped where possible with other structures, which should further reduce the potential for negative effects on the landscape.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and	+	The policy requires proposals for equestrian development to where possible make use of existing buildings, thereby avoiding the loss of greenfield land, and a minor positive effect is likely.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.		
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	+	The policy requires proposals for equestrian development to where possible make use of existing buildings, thereby reusing existing materials, and a minor positive effect is likely.
13. To provide the necessary physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.		
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.

### Policy D3: Agricultural workers' dwellings

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
1. To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of the present and future residents of the Borough.	+	The policy provides for the development of essential dwellings to meet the needs of agricultural workers; therefore a minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
2. To develop a strong culture of learning, enterprise and innovation, ensuring that people have access to education.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
3. To make efficient use of transport infrastructure, improve accessibility to employment and services, and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and ensure that people can make sustainable transport choices.	+	The policy would provide for the development of essential dwellings to meet the needs of agricultural workers, enabling them to live and work in close proximity and therefore avoiding the need to travel. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
4. To diversify the local economy and encourage new business formation, promoting high quality employment opportunities that meet the needs of the community.	+	The policy will provide indirect support for the rural economy, by providing for the development of essential residences for agricultural workers. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
5. To conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape.	+	The policy permits residential development for agricultural workers only where the development would not have a detrimental impact on the landscape; therefore a minor positive effect is likely. In addition, it is required that the design of the dwelling, including its scale, materials and curtilage, would be in keeping with the design policy in the Local Plan.
6. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in and around the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
7. To conserve and enhance Melton's historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	+	The policy permits residential development for agricultural workers only where the development would not have a detrimental impact on the landscape – this may have an indirect minor positive effect on the setting of any nearby heritage assets, particularly because it is also required that the design of the dwelling, including its scale, materials and curtilage, would be in keeping with the design policy in the Local Plan.
8. To use land and mineral resources prudently and efficiently, also maintaining and enhancing soil quality.	+	The policy only permits the development of new residential properties for agricultural workers where there are no existing dwellings nearby that would be suitable – this policy criterion will help to avoid any unnecessary development on greenfield land and a minor positive effect is therefore likely.
9. To promote social inclusion and cohesion and support the development of and access to community facilities across the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
10. To reduce poverty, social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
11. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
12. To minimise waste and increase the reuse and recycling of waste materials.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
13. To provide the necessary	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.

SA Objectives	SA Score	Commentary/Explanation (to include secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects)
physical conditions and infrastructure to enable economic growth.		
14. To reduce health inequalities, promote healthy lifestyles and prolong life.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
15. To improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also maintaining and improving air quality in the Borough.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
16. To adapt to climate change by reducing the extent of flood risk within the Borough and elsewhere.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.
17. To maintain and improve water quality and encourage the efficient use of water resources.	0	The policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective and a negligible effect is recorded.

