



South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Sustainability Appraisal

Regulation 19 Sustainability Appraisal Report

South Derbyshire District Council

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

South Derbyshire District Council is reviewing the South Derbyshire Local Plan which was adopted in in two parts with Part 1 in 2016 and Part 2 in 2017.. The draft South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Review is anticipated to be submitted for Examination in Public in 2026 and has a proposed end date of 2042.

SLR Consulting Ltd has been commissioned to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review.

Development Plan Documents (DPD) must be subject to a SA incorporating the requirements of the Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) Regulations¹.

This SA Report relates to the to the Regulation 19² Local Plan Part 2 Review.

1.2 This Document

The remaining sections of this document are structured as follows:

- **Section 2: Approach to the SA** describes the methodology and approach to the SA;
- **Section 3: The Scope and Content of the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review (Publication Version)** and sets out its vision and objectives;
- **Section 4: Review of Other Programmes and Plans** describes the context of SA. This section is supported by **Appendix A**;
- **Section 5: Summary of Baseline Data** including key sustainability issues, data gaps and future evolution of the baseline. This section is supported by **Appendix B**;
- **Section 6: Assessment of the Draft Local Plan Policies** presents the potential significant effects of the policies of the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review (Publication Version) and discusses their performance. This section is supported by **Appendix C**;
- **Section 7: Assessment of the Draft Local Plan Sites** presents the potential significant effects of the sites of the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review (Publication Version) and discusses their performance. This section is supported by **Appendix D**;
- **Section 8: Habitats Regulations Assessment** presents a summary of this parallel assessment;
- **Section 9: Potential Cumulative Effects** describes cumulative effects which may arise from the preferred options and policies of the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review, the policies and allocations within the Local Plan which have not

¹ as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance (updated 2019).

² Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012



been reviewed, the local plans of neighbouring Districts and Boroughs, as well as projects occurring in and around South Derbyshire;

- **Section 9: Mitigation Measures** presents the measures put forward to offset potential significant negative and uncertain effects of the preferred draft Local Plan Part 2 Review policies and strategic sites to improve their sustainability performance;
- **Section 10: Proposed Monitoring Arrangements** sets out draft indicators for monitoring the potential significant negative and uncertain effects of the Local Plan; and
- **Section 11: Next Steps** sets out the next activities in the SA and Local Plan Part 2 Review.

1.3 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

An SA of DPDs is required under Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024) also requires SA of Local Plans³.

The SA must incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations). The SEA Regulations transpose the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) into English law and applies to a range of plans and programmes, including DPDs. The purpose of the SEA Directive is to ensure a high level of environmental protection, and to integrate the consideration of the environment into the preparation and adoption of plans, with a view to promoting sustainable development. Within the context of local planning in England, it is accepted practice to integrate the requirements of SA and SEA into a single assessment process as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance (updated 2020).

SA assesses the significant environmental, social and economic effects of the Local Plan, the “reasonable” alternatives to the Plan’s strategy, policies and proposals, and the reasons for discounting alternatives. The SA ‘testing’ of the DPD policies and their reasonable alternatives will help to develop the most sustainable policies and proposals as an integral part of the plan’s development.

Guidance for SA sets out an objectives-led, staged process. The Local Plan objectives, policies and development sites are appraised against a set of objectives to identify whether there is the potential for significant effects (either positive or negative), and recommendations are proposed to mitigate any significant adverse and uncertain effects.

³ It should be noted that the methodology and procedural requirements for the assessment of Local Plans have changed following the publication of the 30-Month Plan guidance. However, this report has been prepared and presented as a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) because both the Local Plan and the associated SA process were formally initiated under the previous planning policy and assessment framework. Consequently, the scope, methodology and reporting structure have been developed in accordance with the guidance and statutory requirements that were applicable at the commencement of the plan-making process.



1.4 Habitats Regulations Assessment

In the UK, the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) has been transposed into domestic legislation as the Habitats Regulations 2010 which requires an assessment of any plans which are likely to have a significant effect on any protected Habitat Sites, i.e. Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs). This is commonly referred to as a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). This requirement includes strategic plans with an impact on land use. Ramsar wetland sites are also included in HRA.

An HRA screening exercise was undertaken as part of the Regulation 19 draft Local Plan Part 2 Review to determine if the preferred options (either in isolation and/or in combination with other plans or projects) would generate an adverse impact upon the integrity of a Habitat Site, in terms of its conservation objectives and qualifying interests. The findings of the HRA Report are summarised in **Section 8**.

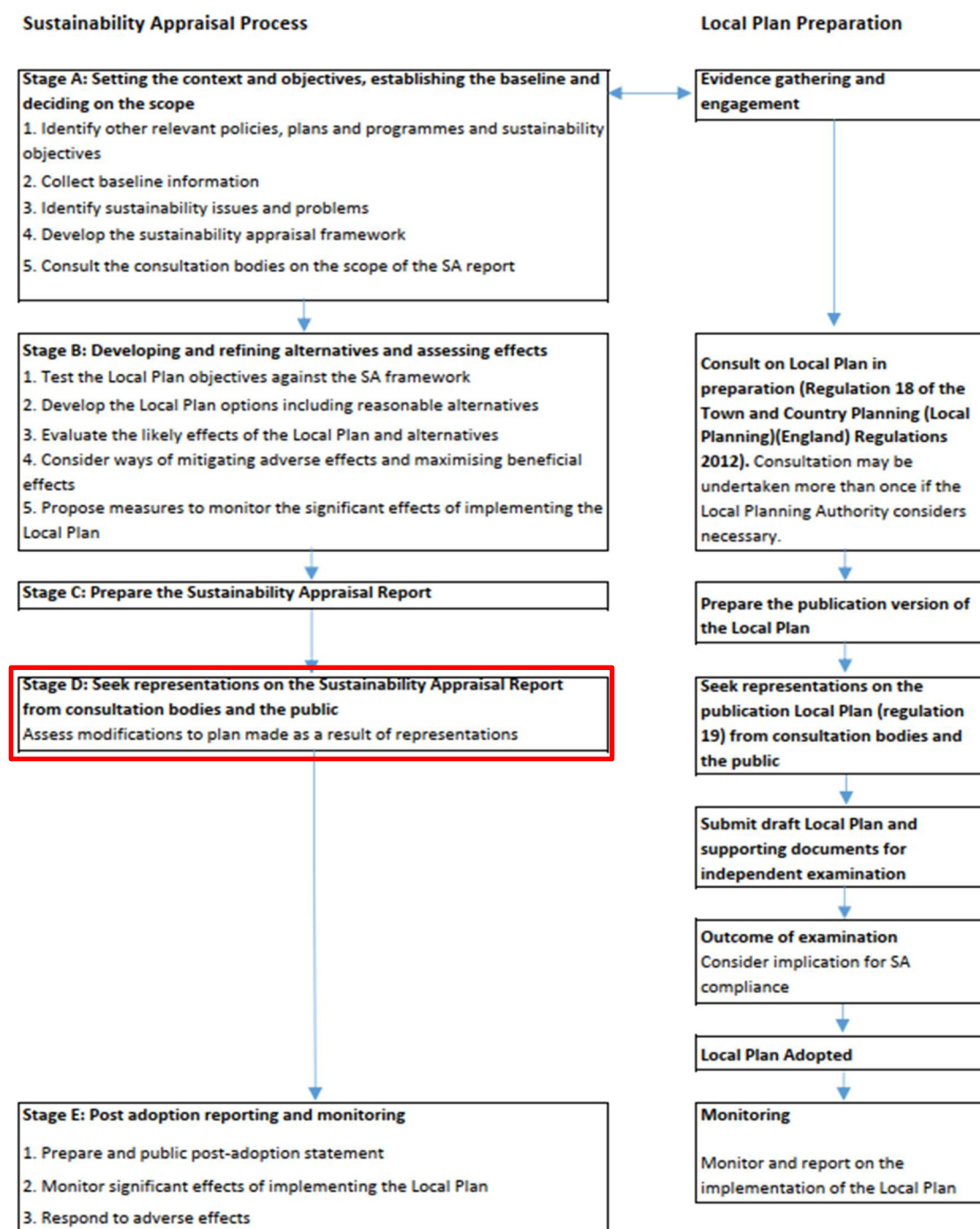


2.0 Approach to the SA

2.1 SA Processes and Requirements

The SA process is shown in **Figure 2-1**. This SA Report represents Stage D of the SA process.

Figure 2-1: The SA Process



2.2 Stage A: Scoping

The purpose of the Scoping stage is to identify existing and future environmental, social, and economic issues facing South Derbyshire, based on analysis of baseline data and other relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (PPP).

The Scoping stage has been completed. It involved the preparation of a SA Scoping Report for consultation with selected stakeholders⁴ in accordance with legal requirements. Within the Scoping Report a set of SA objectives were proposed within a framework which cover the SA issues identified for the District.

The Scoping Report was consulted on between 10th October 2022 and 5th December 2022 (a period of 8 weeks) for the Local Plan as a whole with an additional consultation between 24th November 2025 - 30th January 2026 (a period of 9 weeks).

The Scoping Report presented baseline information on the environmental, social and economic characteristics of the plan area, including the likely evolution of the baseline within the plan period.

The Scoping Report set out the SA Framework of objectives which was developed by SDDC using the issues identified in the baseline data and the review of PPP. The SA Framework of objectives will be used to assess the Local Plan policies, including proposed locations for new development and any reasonable alternatives, identifying the significant effects that the assessment will need to focus on.

Responses to the SA Scoping Report were received from 18 consultees. Amendments were made to the SA Framework following the consultation. The final SA Framework can be found in **Table 2-2**.

The final version of the SA Framework is shown in **Table 2-1**. This version has been updated following a review by SLR consultants, taking into account updates to the baseline data and PPP review in 2024.

The SEA Regulations set out topics which must be considered in an SEA and **Table 2-1** demonstrates where these are covered by the SA topics. These topics are also set out in the SA Framework in **Table 2-2**.

The SA Framework contains objectives and sub-objectives. The sub-objectives are used to help guide the assessment of the Local Plan, including proposed locations for new development and any reasonable alternatives. Baseline data evidence is also referred to when using the SA Framework to assess the Local Plan.

Table 2-1: Coverage of SA Topics

South Derbyshire SA Topics	SEA Regulations Requirements
Biodiversity	Biodiversity, flora and fauna
Housing	Material Assets
Accessibility and Health	Material Assets
Quality of Life	Population

⁴ As a minimum this needs to include the statutory consultees which are Natural England, Historic England, and the Environment Agency



South Derbyshire SA Topics	SEA Regulations Requirements
Inequalities	Population
Economy	Not required
Employment	Not required
Infrastructure	Material Assets
Sustainable Travel	Material Assets
Town and Village Centres	Material Assets
Resources	Soil
Pollution	Air Water
Contributions to Climate Change	Climatic Factors
Adaptation to Climate Change	Climatic Factors
Townscape and Historic Environment	Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological factors
Landscape	Landscape



Table 2-2: SA Framework

Sustainability Topic	Sustainability Objective	Detailed Decision-making Criteria
Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora and Fauna	S01 Biodiversity To safeguard and enhance biodiversity (including BAP habitats and species) and geodiversity through biodiversity net gain and improve connectivity between, and access to, green spaces and functional habitats.	Will it conserve and enhance natural or semi natural habitats including internationally, nationally and locally designated wildlife sites, or create new wildlife habitats, and contribute to the creation of a network of habitats and green infrastructure in the District?
		Will it protect BAP or protected species and contribute to the delivery of new, or safeguard existing BAP priority species and habitats?
		Will it protect sites of geological importance?
Population and Human Health	S02 Housing To ensure everyone has access to sustainable housing, which is affordable, and meets the needs of all residents including the elderly and other vulnerable groups and will support the vitality of existing communities and settlements.	Will it reduce the number of households waiting for accommodation or accepted as homeless?
		Will it increase the number and mix of housing?
		Will it improve the suitability of new homes for older and disabled people?
		Will it provide affordable housing for those unable to access market housing?
		Will it meet the needs of the travelling community and show people?
		Will it secure infrastructure or community facilities?
Population and Human Health	S03 Accessibility and Health To improve local accessibility to healthcare, education, employment, retail facilities and recreational resources (including open spaces and sports facilities) and enhance wellbeing, promoting healthy and sustainable lifestyles.	Will it promote healthy lifestyles?
		Will it deliver new, or contribute to the expansion or improvement of existing open spaces, green infrastructure, schools or healthcare facilities within reasonable walking distance?
		Will it deliver growth within reasonable walking distance to a planned or existing major employment area (5ha +) or town centre?
		Will it improve opportunities for active travel including walking, wheeling and cycling?
		Will it deliver services or facilities on-site or elsewhere within the District?
Population and Human Health	S04 Quality of Life To create safe and attractive places which contribute towards quality of life and community cohesion.	Will it contribute towards reducing crime or fear of crime?
		Will it provide attractive places which provide opportunities for communities to mix and meet?
Population and Human Health	S05 Inequalities Ensure all residents have equitable access to employment, education, community services and facilities irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership or pregnancy/maternity.	Ensure the option / policy does not have an adverse/ discriminatory impact on protected characteristics/ equality groups?
		Will it narrow the inequality gap between the richest and poorest in the District?
		Will it reduce inequalities associated with deprivation across the District?
Population and Human Health	S06 Economy To deliver growth in key employment sectors and support the creation of new and retention of existing businesses in urban and rural areas.	Will it encourage the creation of new businesses and existing businesses to grow?
		Will it encourage economic diversification?
		Will it help support and encourage the growth of the local economy (including in rural areas)?
		Will it support the enhancement of the District's tourism and cultural offer?
Population and Human Health	S07 Employment To create greater employment opportunities and higher value jobs across the whole District	Will it help to improve skills levels and access to training within the District?
		Will it reduce unemployment rates overall and reduce disparities which exist across different parts of the District?
Material Assets	S08 Infrastructure To deliver improved infrastructure to support growth and economic competitiveness of urban and rural businesses and communities.	Will it minimise the impact of traffic congestion on the strategic and local road network through the delivery of new or enhanced transport infrastructure?
		Will it provide opportunities to access key services, including doctor's surgeries, education facilities, employment and town, local or village centres by means other than car?
		Will it make the best use of other infrastructure which serves new development?
Material Assets	S09 Sustainable Travel To promote sustainable travel habits including walking, cycling and public transport (bus and rail) usage.	Will it reduce journey lengths and times?
		Will it maximise opportunities for walking and cycling?
		Will it maximise opportunities to access public transport provision?



Sustainability Topic	Sustainability Objective	Detailed Decision-making Criteria
Material Assets	S010 Town and Village Centres To ensure that town and village centres are vibrant and viable.	Will it improve existing shopping facilities within town and village centres? Will it help safeguard existing town and village centres?
Soil, Water and Air	S011 Resources To minimise waste and ensure the sustainable use and protection of natural resources including greenfield land, soil and minerals resources.	Will it enhance opportunities for increased levels of recycling in the District? Will it improve or remediate contaminated land or reuse previously developed land which has not been restored? Will it protect Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Agricultural Land? Will it avoid the sterilisation of minerals resources?
Soil, Water and Air	S012 Pollution To minimise water, air, light and noise pollution and ensure that future growth does not lead to the further deterioration of environmental conditions.	Will it contribute to improvements in water quality in the District? Will it avoid increasing noise levels locally or introducing incompatible uses into an already noisy location? Will it avoid deterioration in air quality within the District? Will it reduce light pollution on sensitive receptors by keeping external lighting to the minimum required for safety and security?
Climatic Factors	S013 Contributions to Climate Change To reduce the District's contribution towards the emission of climate change gases.	Will it provide opportunities to access local services and facilities by public transport walking or cycling? Will it support the delivery of renewable energy capacity (including small scale or community energy projects)? Will it support the shift toward usage of electric and ultralow emissions vehicles?
Climatic Factors	S014 Adaptation to Climate Change To manage the effects of climate change including flood risk, reduced water availability and overheating.	Will it minimise flood risk? Will it include provision of sustainable urban drainage which mimic natural drainage patterns? Will it contribute towards sustainable water use?
Cultural Heritage (including Architectural and Archaeological Heritage)	S015 Townscape and Historic Environment. To conserve and enhance the townscape, historic environment, heritage assets (including known and unknown archaeological sites) and their settings.	Will it protect and enhance the condition and setting of historic, cultural, architectural and archaeological features in South Derbyshire? Does it improve the quality of the built environment, and respect and protect existing townscape character? Will it improve access to, and understanding of, the District's historic and cultural assets for enjoyment and educational purposes?
Landscape	S016 Landscape To conserve and enhance the District's landscape character.	Does it respect and protect existing landscape character? Will it protect sensitive landscapes including those within the World Heritage Site or its buffer or Special Landscape Areas? Will it safeguard landscape features such as hedgerows? Will it avoid intrusion into the greenbelt?



2.3 Stage B: Alternative Options Assessment

During Stage B, a number of reasonable alternatives were considered and subject to assessment alongside the preferred policies as described below.

In October 2024, an SA was undertaken to support the Regulation 18 consultation on the SDDC preferred Approach to its Local Plan. This assessment assessed alternatives to the spatial strategy, policy alternatives and strategic sites. The findings of this can be found in the South Derbyshire Local Plan Regulation 18 Sustainability Appraisal Report⁵.

The development of the Local Plan Part 2 has been influenced by the results of the Regulation 18 SA of the Local Plan preferred approach. The alternatives identified within the Regulation 18 SA have been considered as part of the development of the Local Plan Part 2. Further details on the link between the Local Plan Part 1 and the Local Plan Part 2 is described in **Section 3**.

As part of the Regulation 19 assessment of the Local Plan Part 2, additional site options have been assessed, these have been outlined in **Section 7.3**.

2.3.1 How The Assessment Has Been Undertaken

To ensure a consistent approach was taken for each policy and site assessment, all options were assessed against the SA framework (**Table 2-2**) to the same level of detail, in order to identify potential sustainability effects. Significance criteria are set out in **Table 2-3**. The significance criteria inform the overall significance score given to each potential sustainability effect identified for each SA Objective.

During the assessment of sites and preferred policies, reference has been made to the baseline data and key sustainability issues in the District which was identified during the Scoping stage.

Where appropriate, the assessments identify whether the sites and preferred policies require any mitigation or enhancement in order to offset potential significant negative or uncertain effects and to promote sustainable development. The findings of the assessments of the sites options can be found in **Appendix D** and are summarised within **Section 6 and 7** of this report, which also provides reasons for selecting the preferred sites and policies. The findings of both the policies assessment and sites assessment can be found in **Section 6 and Section 7** of this report and **Appendix C and D** respectively. Potential cumulative effects are identified within **Section 9** of this report.

⁵ South Derbyshire District Council (2024). Local Plan Part 1 Review, Interim Sustainability Appraisal Report. Available at: <https://www.southderbyshire.gov.uk/our-services/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/local-plan-review?chapter=3>



Table 2-3: Significance Criteria

Sustainability Objective	Assessment Criteria	
S01 Biodiversity: To safeguard and enhance biodiversity (including BAP habitats and species) and geodiversity through biodiversity net gain and improve connectivity between, and access to, green spaces and functional habitats. - Will it conserve and enhance natural or semi natural habitats including internationally, nationally and locally designated wildlife sites, or create new wildlife habitats? - Will it protect BAP or protected species and contribute to the delivery of new, or safeguard existing BAP priority species and habitats? - Will it protect sites of geological importance?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the loss, partial loss of or irreversible damage of internationally designated habitats/species and BAP habitats/species, and no provision of biodiversity net gain).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the loss of some internationally designated habitats/species and BAP habitats/species) unless mitigation measures are identified to fully mitigate likely effects of development.
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the protection and enhancement of some internationally designated habitats/species and BAP habitats/species).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the protection and enhancement of internationally designated habitats/species and BAP habitats/species, and the provision of biodiversity net gain).
S02 Housing: To ensure everyone has access to sustainable housing, which is affordable, and meets the needs of all residents including the elderly and other vulnerable groups and will support the vitality of existing communities and settlements. - Will it reduce the number of households waiting for accommodation or accepted as homeless? - Will it increase the number and mix of housing? - Will it improve the suitability of new homes for older and disabled people? - Will it provide affordable housing for those unable to access market housing? - Will it meet the needs of the travelling community and show people? - Will it secure infrastructure or community facilities?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. provision of housing does not meet identified housing need, including affordable homes and homes suitable for the elderly or other vulnerable groups, or the needs of travelling community and show people).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. provision of housing does not meet identified housing need).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. provision of housing does meet identified housing need with regards to the provision of affordable housing, or mix of housing).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. provision of housing does meet identified housing need, including affordable homes and homes suitable for the elderly or other vulnerable groups, and the needs of travelling community and show people).
S03 Accessibility and Health: To improve local accessibility to healthcare, education, employment, retail facilities and recreational resources (including open spaces and sports facilities) and enhance wellbeing, promoting healthy and sustainable lifestyles. - Will it promote healthy lifestyles? - Will it deliver new, or contribute to the expansion or improvement of existing open spaces, schools or healthcare facilities within reasonable walking distance? - Will it deliver growth within reasonable walking distance to a planned or existing major employment area (5ha +) or town centre? - Will it improve opportunities for active travel including walking and cycling? - Will it deliver services or facilities on-site or elsewhere within the District?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. not promoting healthy lifestyles, not providing new/expanded services/facilities including open spaces, schools or healthcare, particularly within a reasonable walking distance).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. is poorly related to some services and facilities).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. promoting healthy lifestyles).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. is well related to services and facilities, promoting healthy lifestyles, providing new/expanded services/facilities including open spaces, schools or healthcare, particularly within a reasonable walking distance).
S04 Quality of Life: To create safe and attractive places which contribute towards quality of life and community cohesion. - Will it contribute towards reducing crime or fear of crime? - Will it provide attractive places which provide opportunities for communities to mix and meet?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. increases crime or fear of crime and does not provide opportunities for communities to mix and meet).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. low level increases in crime or fear of crime).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. some reduction in crime or fear of crime).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. reduces crime or fear of crime and provides opportunities for communities to mix and meet).



Sustainability Objective	Assessment Criteria	
S05 Inequalities: Ensure all residents have equitable access to employment, education, community services and facilities irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership or pregnancy/maternity. - Ensure the option / policy does not have an adverse/ discriminatory impact on protected characteristics/ equality groups? - Will it narrow the inequality gap between the richest and poorest in the District? - Will it reduce inequalities associated with deprivation across the District?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. exacerbates existing inequality issues, and creates adverse/discriminatory impacts on protected characteristics/equality groups within the District).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. exacerbates existing inequality issues).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. reduces existing inequality issues).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. reduces existing inequality issues and ensuring no adverse/discriminatory impacts on protected characteristics/equality groups within the District).
S06 Economy: To deliver growth in key employment sectors and support the creation of new and retention of existing businesses in urban and rural areas. - Will it encourage the creation of new businesses and existing businesses to grow? - Will it encourage economic diversification? - Will it help support and encourage the growth of the local economy (including in rural areas)? - Will it support the enhancement of the District's tourism and cultural offer?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the loss of existing businesses, businesses or the loss of more than 1ha of employment land stunted growth of the local economy, and the reduction of the tourism and cultural industries).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the loss of existing businesses or the loss of less than 1ha of employment land).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. leads to diversification and growth of the economy (including in rural areas)).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. leads to diversification and growth of the economy (including in rural areas) and the growth of existing businesses/creation of new businesses). Site delivers more than 1ha of employment land and/or the delivery of a local centre on a development site.
S07 Employment: To create greater employment opportunities and higher value jobs across the whole District. - Will it help to improve skills levels and access to training within the District? - Will it reduce unemployment rates overall and reduce disparities which exist across different parts of the District?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. the plan option would significantly underprovide against the District's identified employment land requirement or site would lead to the net loss of existing jobs (more than 50 equivalent FTE), exacerbating disparities across the District).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. would lead to some under provision against the District's identified employment land requirement, or site would lead to the net loss of existing jobs (less than 50 equivalent FTE).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the creation of permanent jobs, including some higher value employment opportunities to diversify the offering within the District. Sites would create less than 50 FTE permanent jobs (net)).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the creation of permanent jobs >50 FTE permanent jobs (net), including some higher value employment opportunities, reducing disparities across the District).
S08 Infrastructure: To deliver improved infrastructure to support growth and economic competitiveness of urban and rural businesses and communities. - Will it minimise the impact of traffic congestion on the strategic and local road network through the delivery of new or enhanced transport infrastructure? - Will it provide opportunities to access key services, including doctor's surgeries, education facilities, employment and town, local or village centres by means other than car? - Will it make the best use of other infrastructure which serves new development?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. pressure on existing highways network is not minimised, and provides no opportunity to access local services and facilities by means other than car).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. provides no opportunity to access local services and facilities by means other than car).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. provides some opportunity to access local services and facilities by means other than car).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. pressure on existing highways network is minimised through the delivery of new roads and/or capacity enhancements, and provides opportunity to access local services and facilities by means other than car).



Sustainability Objective	Assessment Criteria	
S09 Sustainable Travel: To promote sustainable travel habits including walking, cycling and public transport (bus and rail) usage. - Will it reduce journey lengths and times? - Will it maximise opportunities for walking, wheeling and cycling? - Will it maximise opportunities to access public transport provision?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. provides no opportunity to reduce journey lengths/times or improve access to public transport or active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling). Site is poorly related to public transport provision (over 800m to an infrequent bus or train service), and walking and cycling routes and provides no potential to improve these locally).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. provides no opportunity to improve access to public transport or active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling). Site is poorly related to public transport (over 800m to an hourly bus or train service), and walking and cycling routes and provides limited potential to improve these locally beyond connecting to the highways network and surrounding PROW network).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. provides opportunity to improve access to public transport and active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and is within 800m of hourly or better bus or train service). Sites would need to have potential for connecting into local cycle routes, improving public rights of way or on highways footpaths and supporting existing public transport services within the vicinity of the site).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. provides opportunity to reduce journey lengths/times and improve access to public transport/active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling)). Plan option would provide opportunity to significantly improve sustainable transport provision locally and is within 400m of a very frequent bus or train service. Sites are capable of connecting and expanding local cycle route provision, improving PROW or highways routes or delivering new or enhanced public transport services).
S010 Town and Village Centres: To ensure that town and village centres are vibrant and viable. - Will it improve existing shopping facilities within town and village centres? - Will it help safeguard existing town and village centres?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. accommodates large scale retail development in out of town locations and the large scale loss of retail sites (more than 1000 sqm) for other uses).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. accommodates large scale retail development in out of town locations or through the loss of existing retail sites or shops (less than 1000sqm)).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. delivers additional small scale retail provision (less than 1000sqm) within town or edge of centre locations, within village centres or as part of an appropriate sustainable urban extension).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. delivers additional retail provision (more than 1000sqm) within town or edge of centre locations, within village centres or as part of an appropriate sustainable urban extension, and safeguards existing town and village centres).
S011 Resources: To minimise waste and ensure the sustainable use and protection of natural resources including greenfield land, soil and minerals resources. - Will it enhance opportunities for increased levels of recycling in the District? - Will it improve or remediate contaminated land or reuse previously developed land which has not been restored? - Will it protect Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Agricultural Land? - Will it avoid the sterilisation of minerals resources?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. limits opportunities for recycling, leads to the loss of greenfield land including land identified as being Best and Most Versatile (Grades 1-3), and the sterilisation of a nationally significant minerals resource).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. leads to the loss of greenfield land and some areas of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land (Grades 1-3)).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. does not lead to the loss of greenfield land/areas of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land (Grades 1-3)).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. provides opportunities for recycling within the District, remediation and reuse of previously developed land, does not lead to the loss of greenfield land including land identified as being Best and Most Versatile (Grades 1-3), and avoids sterilisation of a nationally significant minerals resource).
S012 Pollution: To minimise water, air, light and noise pollution and ensure that future growth does not lead to the further deterioration of environmental conditions. Will it contribute to improvements in water quality in the District?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. contributes to water, noise, air and light pollution both within the District and the neighbouring authorities).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. contributes to noise and air pollution).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.



Sustainability Objective	Assessment Criteria	
- Will it avoid increasing noise levels locally or introducing incompatible uses into an already noisy location? - Will it avoid deterioration in air quality within the District? - Will it reduce light pollution on sensitive receptors by keeping external lighting to the minimum required for safety and security?	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. avoids noise and air pollution).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. avoids water, noise, air and light pollution).
S013 Contributions to Climate Change: To reduce the District's contribution towards the emission of climate change gases. - Will it provide opportunities to access local services and facilities by public transport walking or cycling? - Will it support the delivery of renewable energy capacity (including small scale or community energy projects)? - Will it support the shift toward usage of electric and ultralow emissions vehicles?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. does not provide opportunities for public transport/active travel, does not support the delivery of renewable energy and does not support the use of electric vehicles).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. does not provide opportunities for public transport/active travel).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. provides opportunities for public transport/active travel).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. provides opportunities for public transport/active travel, supports the delivery of renewable energy and supports the use of electric vehicles).
S014 Adaptation to Climate Change: To manage the effects of climate change including flood risk, reduced water availability and overheating. - Will it minimise flood risk? - Will it include provision of sustainable urban drainage which mimic natural drainage patterns? - Will it contribute towards sustainable water use?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. flood risk is not minimised, provision is not made for SuDs and contributions are not made towards sustainable water use).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. flood risk is not minimised).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site development addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. flood risk is minimised).
	++	Plan option or site development addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. flood risk is minimised, provision is made for SuDs and contributions are made towards sustainable water use).
S015 Townscape and Historic Environment: To conserve and enhance the townscape, historic environment, heritage assets (including known and unknown archaeological sites) and their settings. - Will it protect and enhance the condition and setting of historic, cultural, architectural and archaeological features in South Derbyshire? - Does it improve the quality of the built environment, and respect and protect existing townscape character? - Will it improve access to, and understanding of, the District's historic and cultural assets for enjoyment and educational purposes?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. causes irreversible harm to heritage assets and/or their setting, negatively impacts townscape character, and limits access to historic assets).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. has the potential to cause irreversible harm to heritage assets and/or their setting).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. protects and enhances heritage assets and/or their setting).
	++	Plan option or site addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. protects and enhances heritage assets and/or their setting, positively impacts townscape character, and improves access to historic assets).
S016 Landscape: To conserve and enhance the District's landscape character. - Does it respect and protect existing landscape character? - Will it protect sensitive landscapes including those within the World Heritage Site or its buffer or Special Landscape Areas? - Will it safeguard landscape features such as hedgerows? - Will it avoid intrusion into the greenbelt?	--	Plan option or site development works against the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. does not protect existing landscape character and sensitive landscapes, does not safeguard landscape features and causes intrusion into the greenbelt).
	-	Plan option or site development works against some of the decision making criteria (e.g. does not protect existing landscape character and sensitive landscapes).
	?	Uncertain effect of plan option or site development.
	0	Neutral effect of plan option or site development (neither supports nor detracts from the achievement of the SA objective).
	+	Plan option or site addresses some of the decision making criteria (e.g. protects existing landscape character and sensitive landscapes).
	++	Plan option or site addresses the majority of/all decision making criteria (e.g. protects existing landscape character and sensitive landscapes, safeguards landscape features and avoids intrusion into the greenbelt).



For the assessment of site options, SDDC undertook an assessment of sites, utilising spatial data within a Geographical Information System (GIS) to inform the assessment of each proposed site allocation against the SA Framework. GIS provides data about environmental constraints and locations of facilities / assets. SDDC utilised a GIS layer detailing the location, size, and shape of each potential site option. Information regarding the potential housing yield, site size and overall use of the site was also utilised. The SA assessment methodology also used the District Council's interactive webpage to identify the South Derbyshire Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) sites and assessments.

Where GIS data could be used to inform the assessment, a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rating was applied to each indicator. This was determined through the application of a set of RAG criteria which are set out in **Appendix C**. These criteria were generated through reference to existing guidance / good practice; the sources of this guidance and good practice are also included within the Appendix. Some criteria were identified using professional judgement. The RAG ratings helped to inform the assessment of all site options against the SA Framework.

The assessment of site options has taken into account the potential mitigation provided by other policies within the Local Plan Part 1 and 2 Review. This has subsequently provided a whole plan assessment. However, this means that if a change is made to a mitigating policy, the performance of the site options may be affected. Further recommendations for mitigation and enhancement measures have also been provided within the assessments of the site options and preferred policies.

2.4 Stage C: Producing the SA Report

Stage C of an SA involves identifying the significant environmental effects of the Local Plan including short, medium and long term; permanent and temporary; positive and negative effects and documenting the SA process and findings within a formal SA Report and an accompanying Non-Technical Summary (NTS). These documents set out the SA findings of the Local Plan Part 2 policies and sites as well as the reasonable alternatives (options) considered.

2.5 Stage D: Consultation

Stage D of the SA process is consultation on the formal SA Report for the Regulation 19 stage, when statutory and public consultees were invited to comment on the draft plan and the accompanying SA Report.

Following Stage D consultation from 19 October to 30 November 2026, comments will be reviewed by SDDC and the Local Plan Part 2 policies updated.

2.6 Assumptions and Limitations

The SEA Regulations require the environmental report, which is contained within this SA Report to include a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of data) encountered in compiling the required information.

The assessment of policies and site allocation options has been undertaken as a desk-based exercise using the baseline information presented in **Appendix B** and



using published GIS data. No site visits have been undertaken for the purposes of the SA.

Every effort is made to predict effects accurately; however, this is inherently challenging given limited understanding of precisely how the plan will be implemented and limited by understanding of the baseline. Given uncertainties, there is inevitably a need to make assumptions. Assumptions are made cautiously and explained within the assessment text. The aim is to strike a balance between comprehensiveness and conciseness/accessibility to the non-specialist. In many instances, given reasonable assumptions, it is not possible to predict 'significant effects', but it is possible to comment on merits (or otherwise) of the draft plan in more general terms.

Some assumptions and limitations are noted within the assessments of the sites options and policies, the full details of which can be found within **Appendix C and D**.

2.7 How the requirements of the SEA Regulations have been met

Table 2-4 outlines where elements of the SEA Regulations are addressed within the report.

Table 2-4: Fulfilling the Requirement of the SEA Regulations

What the regulations say ⁶	How this is addressed
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme.	Set out in Section 3 of this document.
An outline of the relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	Set out in Section 4 of this document and in Appendix A .
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.	Set out in Section 5 of this document and in Appendix B .
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Section 3.3 of this document outlines the characteristics of the plan area in general, and Section 5 outlines those areas likely to be significantly affected. These characteristics and potential interactions have been informed by information contained within the SA baseline data Appendix B .
Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	Section 5 of this document provides a summary of baseline data and outlines key sustainability issues related to each SA topic. Sites designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC which could be affected by the South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Review are identified within Section 11 and the standalone HRA Report.
The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or	Section 4 and Appendix A outline relevant environmental protection objectives. The environmental objectives have been taken into

⁶ Please see Schedule 2 of the SEA regulations: *Information for Environmental Reports*.



What the regulations say ⁶	How this is addressed
programme and the way those objectives and any environmental, considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	account through integrating them within the SA Framework.
The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. The identification of the above effects should consider secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects.	Section 6 and 7 sets out the potential significant effects of the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review and Section 6 and 7 discusses the significant effects of reasonable alternatives. Details of the nature of effects are provided within Appendices C and D . This includes indirect (secondary), cumulative (cumulative and synergistic), duration (short/medium/long term), permanent or temporary and negative or positive effects. Intra and Inter Plan cumulative effects are discussed in Section 9 .
The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.	Section 10 sets out mitigation measures for potential significant negative effects and uncertain effects.
An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with	Section 6 and 7 provides a summary of the relative performance of the reasonable alternatives identified and assessed as well as the information provided within Appendix C which details the policies assessments, Appendix D details the sites assessments.
A description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.	Section 2 outlines the methodology for all stages of the SA and Section 2.6 specifically describes any technical difficulties, assumptions and limitations that were relevant to the assessment. Appendix B outlines data gaps.
A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring.	Discussed in Section 11 of this document.
A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	The non-technical summary is provided separately. This summarises all details outlined in this report and appendices.
The report must include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment.	The whole SA Report addresses this.
Consultation: Authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail	The Scoping Report was consulted on with selected stakeholders ⁷ for an 8 week period from 10 th October to 5 th December 2022. Regulation 18

⁷ As a minimum this needs to include the statutory consultees which are Natural England, Historic England, and the Environment Agency



What the regulations say ⁶	How this is addressed
of the information which must be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4).	draft of the Local Plan and the Interim SA Report were published for consultation between 7 th October- 6 th December 2024 and issued to key stakeholders and the public. Regulation 19 draft of the Local Plan Part 2 Review and SA Report will be published for consultation between 19 th October to 30 th November and issued to key stakeholders and the public.
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.	The SA report was consulted on for seven weeks between 19 th October to 30 th November and has been amended following consultation where appropriate. The Regulation 19 Local Plan Part 2 Review (Publication Version) will be screened and this SA Report updated prior to submission.
Identify where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of a Member State.	Section 6 and 7 presents the potential significant effects of the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review. The assessment has not identified any potential effects on member states.
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8). Provision of information on the decision: 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. The measures decided concerning monitoring.	This will be set out in the SA Adoption Statement.
Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation.	Proposed monitoring arrangements are discussed in Section 11 .



3.0 The Scope and Content of the South Derbyshire Local Plan

3.1 Description of the Plan

The adopted South Derbyshire Local Plan is made up of two parts:

- Part 1: covers the strategic part of the Plan. It contains strategic policies comprising of housing and employment allocations and spatial policies.
- Part 2: covers non-strategic housing allocations, detailed heritage and conservation policies, detailed retail policies, Green Belt review of anomalies, countryside policies and development management policies.

As part of the draft Local Plan Review both the Local Plan Part 1 and Local Plan Part 2 are being reviewed and updated. The Local Plan Part 1 Review was submitted to the Secretary of State for public Examination on the 26th August 2026, and identifies strategic allocations and policies.

Part 1 and Part 2 of the Local Plan should be read as a whole, as more than one policy may apply. Furthermore, when adopted the Part 1 Review and Part 2 Review of the Plan supersede the policies from the adopted Local Plan Part 1 (2016) and Local Plan Part 2 (2017).

The Local Plan Part 2 is being updated in line with the Local Plan Part 1, including the vision, objectives, spatial strategy, strategic policies and strategic housing and employment allocations.

In reviewing the Local Plan, the Council has updated its evidence base by commissioning an update of existing evidence, or new evidence where necessary, and will continue to do so to ensure robust policies and proposals in the Local Plan. Where appropriate this evidence has been undertaken or commissioned jointly with other local planning authorities.

In accordance with the requirements of the 'Duty to Co-operate' the Local Plan is being updated in close co-operation with neighbouring local planning authorities. Amber Valley, Derby City and South Derbyshire form the Derby HMA, and the relevant councils are working closely together to respond to strategic growth issues and requirements. This is likely to result in additional housing need being met within the District, to meet the collective needs of the Derby HMA.

3.2 Plan Vision and Objectives

The Local Plan Part 2 has been prepared in line with the vision and objectives outlined in the Local Plan Part 1.

As outlined in Part 1, the vision for the new South Derbyshire Local Plan is:

"The vision for South Derbyshire is one of sustainable growth, renewal and opportunity. By 2042, the economy will have grown with more jobs in a more diverse business environment supported by a more skilled, diverse workforce. Local communities will be safe, healthy and inclusive and will have access to sport and physical recreation to improve and transform their health and wellbeing, a range of jobs, housing, education, health, shops, services, facilities and green space by a choice of travel options including



sustainable travel options such as active travel, public transport and other non-car modes.”

Similarly, the Local Plan Local Plan objectives are outlined within the Local Plan Part 1 and are as follows:

1. To ensure future development is locally distinctive and environmentally, socially and economically sustainable through the achievement of design excellence, addressing the causes and effects of climate change including flooding and reducing waste and pollution;
2. To ensure the needs of an ageing population, and a higher than average proportion of younger people, are recognised in shaping all aspects of our communities;
3. To enable, support and promote a robust and diverse economy, resistant to downturns and providing a strong base for sustainable growth which respects environmental limits and safeguards natural resources;
4. To ensure the District's housing stock is decent, suitable and affordable, there is provision for all, it meets community need and is balanced with access to employment opportunities;
5. To ensure our communities are safe, clean, vibrant, active and healthy, with access to sports and physical recreation;
6. To ensure sustainable living and working in urban and rural communities;
7. To reduce the need to travel and to encourage necessary travel to be by sustainable modes of transport, including active travel, providing access to jobs, shopping, leisure, services and facilities from all parts of the District;
8. To ensure the social, physical and green and blue infrastructure needed to support strong growth levels is provided at an appropriate time and made accessible to our communities;
9. To respect and enhance the varied character, landscape, cultural, heritage and natural environment (including the wider Nature Recovery Network) of our fast-growing District;
10. To make the most of the economic, social and environmental opportunities presented by the District's central location within the National Forest and promote the continued growth of local tourism and leisure offer across the whole of the District;
11. To make optimum use of previously developed and under-used land and bring empty and derelict buildings into reuse subject to wider sustainability considerations;
12. To enhance and develop the role of Swadlincote town centre and its wider urban area as a focus for living, working, shopping and leisure; and
13. To ensure growth in South Derbyshire (including the two housing led strategic sites STRA1 and STRA2) is co-ordinated with development in adjoining areas both within and outside the Derby HMA.

3.3 Local Plan Part 2 Policies

There are 25 policies within the Local Plan Part 2, detailed in **Table 3-1**. These should be read as a whole alongside the Local Plan Part 1 policies. Where the same policy chapter headings exist within both parts of the Plan, the policy numbers within Part 2 continue on from those within Part 1.



Table 3-1: Local Plan Part 2 Policies

Policy Chapter	Policy
Settlement Boundaries	Policy SDT1: Settlement Boundaries and Development
Housing	Policy H23: Non-Strategic Housing Allocations
	Policy H24: Replacement Dwellings in Rural Areas
	Policy H25: Rural Workers' Dwellings
	Policy H26: Residential Gardens within Rural Areas
	Policy H27: Residential Extensions and other Householder Development
	Policy H28: Residential Conversions
	Policy H29 Extensions to and intensification of authorised Gypsy and Traveller Sites
Built and Natural Environment	Policy BNE5: Development in Rural Areas
	Policy BNE6: Agricultural Development
	Policy BNE7: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows
	Policy BNE8: Local Green Space
	Policy BNE9: Enhancement of Local Green Spaces
	Policy BNE10: Advertisements and Visual Pollution
	Policy BNE11: Shopfronts
	Policy BNE12: Former Power Station Land
Retail	Policy RTL1: Retail Hierarchy
	Policy RTL2: Swadlincote Town Centre Potential Redevelopment Locations
Infrastructure	Policy INF11: Telecommunications
	Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary Education Facilities
	Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village
	Policy INF14: Burial Grounds
	Policy INF15: Public Art
	Policy INF16: Mercia Marina
	Policy INF17: Toyota Policy

3.4 Local Plan Part 2 Sites

A key part of the local planning process is to identify and allocate key sites for development. The Local Plan Part 2 proposes 15 site allocations, detailed in **Section 7.2**.

All proposed development sites underwent an initial sifting process by SDDC which identified potential key constraints and identified the sites that were developable.

It should be noted that some of the proposed site allocations may be subject to further viability testing.



3.5 Overview of the Plan Area

South Derbyshire encompasses an area of approximately 33,800 hectares (112 square miles). As shown in **Figure 3-1**, the District is bounded by the City of Derby, North West Leicestershire, Erewash, East Staffordshire and the Derbyshire. It is a primarily rural area, with the largest settlement in the District being Swadlincote, with a population approaching 40,000. There are also many villages and settlements including Hilton, Melbourne, and Willington, among others.



LEGEND

South Derbyshire District Boundary

South Derbyshire District Council

SLR

**SOUTH DERBYSHIRE
LOCAL PLAN PART 2 SA
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT
COUNCIL BOUNDARY**

FIGURE 3-1

Scale 1:175,000 @ A4 Date OCTOBER 2026

Kilometers

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4.0 Review of Other Policies, Plans and Programmes

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

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

The review process ensures that the Local Plan complies with existing PPP at international, national and regional levels of governance and also reinforces and supports local plans and strategies. The process entails identifying and reviewing those PPP and environmental protection objectives that are directly relevant to both the Local Plan and the SA.

For practical reasons the scoping task of identifying related plans and programmes cannot yield an exhaustive or definitive list of legislative/non-legislative documents. The review has been focussed to ensure that only policies that are current and of direct relevance to the Local Plan are reviewed. The PPP review provides the context for the SA and helped to inform the SA Framework of objectives and assessment questions.

The initial review of policies, plans and programmes was conducted by SDDC, and published within the Scoping Report. The PPP in this section and in **Appendix A** was updated by SDDC following consultation on the SA Scoping Report between December 2023 and February 2024. The data was also updated in June 2024 by SLR consultants.

A detailed outline of the policy documents, the objectives and the targets reviewed is set out in **Appendix A. Table 4-1** outlines the key messages of the PPP.



Table 4-1: Key Messages of the PPP

SA Topic	Key Message for the Plan
Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora And Fauna	• Protect and enhance biodiversity, including designated sites, designated water bodies priority species, habitats and ecological networks. • Provide accessible natural green and blue space. • Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity in line with NPPF, Environment Act 2021 and Levelling-Up Act 2023. • Need to recognise the wider benefits of ecosystem services. • Biodiversity enhancement in and around development should be led by a local understanding of ecological networks. • Create buffer zones around high-quality habitats. • Plant and manage trees, forests, and woodlands so that they are fit for the future. • Maximise the potential of Green Infrastructure and develop it for healthy communities and ecosystems. • Aim to prevent harm to geological conservation interests. • To maintain and enhance geodiversity through the management of sites, areas and wider landscapes. • To increase recognition of our geodiversity in international, national, regional environmental and planning development policies and legislation.
Population and Human Health	• To ensure fair and equal access to services and support irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership or pregnancy/maternity. • Design out crime and the fear of crime. • Tackle poverty and inequality. • Planning policies should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places. • Improve public health and wellbeing by connecting people with nature. (Ensure everyone has access to good quality green and blue spaces within a 15-minute walk from home). • Increase the proportion of people regularly exercising. • Support equitable access to sport and physical activity. • Promote healthier lifestyles and reduce obesity. • Deliver high quality open spaces that meet the needs of local residents and are accessible to all. • Meet future housing need. The NPPF requires local authorities to use their evidence base to ensure that their Local Plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area, and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development, as far as is consistent with the policies set out in the NPPF, including identifying key sites which are critical to the delivery of the housing strategy over the plan period. • Ensure that housing growth requirements are accommodated in the most sustainable way. • Enable housing growth and deliver a mix of high-quality housing of varying size and tenure in order to meet local housing needs. • There is a need for a mix of housing that will be attractive to older people and those with care needs, including new mixed tenure 'care ready' age designated housing. • Ensure there is an adequate supply of adapted households, specifically wheelchair user dwellings. • Ensure an adequate number of gypsy and traveller pitches. • Create jobs and prosperity. • Support economic growth and productivity, having regard to local industrial strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration. • Encourage long term investment in economic capital, including infrastructure, skills and knowledge. • Planning policies should be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices. • Promote a dynamic economy that encourages innovation.
Material Assets	• Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land for housing and employment sites. • Contribute to tackling climate change by developing and promoting low carbon travel choices. • Support the move to low emission vehicles. • Encourage sustainable transport and reduce the need to travel. • Make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling; make cycling and walking a natural choice for shorter journeys. • Create places that are safe, secure and attractive which minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. • Have an integrated, well managed and inclusive rights of way and access network. • Local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks.



SA Topic	Key Message for the Plan
Soil, Water and Air	• Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management. • Encourage and support with Circular Economy where possible. • Waste should be managed in line with the waste hierarchy: ○ Prevent or reduce waste; ○ Reuse; ○ Recycle; ○ Other recovery methods; and ○ Dispose. • Meet national, regional and localised waste targets including those on landfill, reuse and recycling. • Safeguard existing waste management sites. • To provide protection to the local environment and residents, whilst ensuring the provision of waste management facilities in accordance with Government policy and society's needs. • Promote sustainable use of water as a natural resource. • Improve water efficiency. • Promote sustainable and water efficient development, including retrofitting of SUDs. • Ensure that groundwater and surface water quality is improved or maintained where possible. • Protect and enhance groundwater, reducing any upward trends in pollution. • Planning can ensure water quality and the delivery of adequate water and wastewater infrastructure. • Meet national and localised water quality and wastewater targets. • Ensure Water Framework Directive (WFD) designated water bodies and their supporting elements are protected and enhanced. • Protect soil quality and avoid soil pollution. • Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land. • Effective soil protection during construction. • Ensure that air quality is maintained or enhanced and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum and meet agreed air quality targets and objectives. • Minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment. • Planning policies should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light, and noise pollution from development, on local amenity and nature conservation. • Manage flood risks in an appropriate way taking account of the needs of the communities and the environment. • Reduce the level of flood risk to residents and include natural flood management where possible which would provide additional benefits to residents compared to traditional hard engineered flood solutions. • Avoid development in areas of flood risk. • Improve flood awareness and emergency planning. • Maximise the potential of Green Infrastructure.
Climatic Factors	• Increase resilience to climate change impact through the location, mix and design of development. • Adapt to climate change e.g. considering future climate change risks when allocating development sites. • Reducing the need to travel and providing sustainable transport to help mitigate climate change by reducing emissions. • Promote low carbon economies and adopt proactive strategies to mitigate carbon emissions in line with the Climate Change Act, a 100% reduction by 2050. • Minimise the effects of climate change. • Increase the resilience of homes and buildings. • Ensure infrastructure is located, planned, designed and maintained to be resilient to climate change. • Support energy efficiency and other sustainability improvements to existing buildings. • Continue to cut greenhouse gas emissions in order to mitigate the climate emergency declared by South Derbyshire District Council. • Encourage the provision of renewable energy. Change to 'provide opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy technologies'. • Increase energy efficiency and move towards a low carbon economy.
Cultural Heritage	• Conserve and enhance, international, national and local designated heritage assets including locally significant historic buildings and heritage assets.



SA Topic	Key Message for the Plan
	• Protect and conserve the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings. • Maintain and enhance access to cultural heritage assets. • Preserve and enhance Conservation Areas in South Derbyshire. • Ensure development in or adjacent to Conservation Areas or Listed buildings (and their settings) respects their character and context and enhances the quality of the built environment. • Ensure that any alterations or repairs to traditional buildings preserve and where possible, improve the character and appearance of the building. Ensure these include no damage to natural habitats (e.g.: bats and swift nests) and that contractors are trained and mindful in protecting these habitats. • Promote the use of sustainable materials. • Protect the historic environment for the benefit of our own and future generations. • Maximise the economic and social impact of heritage and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it.
Landscape	• Protect and enhance valued and historic landscapes, biological and geological conservation interests, and soils. • Recognise the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services. • Seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness. • Recover nature and enhance the beauty of landscapes. • Maintain and enhance the overall quality and diversity of landscape character across the District. • Seek to protect Green Belt. • Maximise the potential of Green Infrastructure. • There are major economic benefits to be gained from natural capital and their value should be considered and incorporated into decision-making in relation to land use.



5.0 Summary of Baseline Data

The detailed baseline is contained within **Appendix B**. This section outlines a summary of the information contained within the appendix, presented by SA topic. The baseline data in this section and in **Appendix B** was updated by SDDC following consultation on the SA Scoping Report between December 2023 and February 2024. The data was also updated in June 2024 by SLR consultants.

Table **5-1** summarises the key sustainability issues identified within South Derbyshire.



Table 5-1: Key Sustainability Issues Identified for South Derbyshire and Likely Evolution Without the Local Plan

Key Issues Identified	Description	Likely Evolution Without the Plan
Biodiversity, Geodiversity, Flora and Fauna		
Pressure on protected species' habitats	A relatively small area of the District is designated for ecology and geodiversity value and there are significant areas where BAP habitats and species are poorly represented. Development could lead to further loss or deterioration of local habitats, including Local Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves. New development may affect specific nationally, or internationally designated wildlife sites, including development within the River Mease Special Area of Conservation catchment where proposed housing development currently has to be nutrient neutral in order to be permitted.	Development pressures could worsen without the Local Plan policies to guide development to the least sensitive parts of the District, and provide wildlife corridor zones. This could lead to continued degradation and possible loss of nature conservation sites, designated water bodies, and species. Further population growth could also increase pressure on existing nature areas, due to the lack of access opportunities.
Access to green spaces	Green Infrastructure is not readily accessible to all residents. There is an undersupply of local nature reserves per 1000 people and there is a need to improve access to nature given the lack of existing opportunities and further population growth could increase pressure on existing areas.	Policy intervention from the Local Plan could support improving levels of physical activity through walking and cycling, improving access to facilities and services by these modes through improvements to the public realm and improving access to green space, particularly in areas of deprivation.
Population and Human Health		
Population increase	The District is observing one of the highest rates of growth nationally. Net in-migration, particularly by the middle aged (with an associated in-movement of older school children) and older people that is a primary factor accounting for the increasing population. The population of the District will increase over the plan period.	Without the Local Plan, average house prices are likely to remain high and without the Local Plan requiring certain levels of affordable housing provision, the baseline situation could worsen. A shortfall in primary and secondary school places, as well as Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) school places are also likely to likely to persist. Without the Local Plan it may be more difficult to direct new housing growth to locations where sufficient infrastructure capacity exists to accommodate additional needs and/or within accessible distances (e.g. schools/education provision).
Dependant population	The District has an ageing population and residents 65 or older have increased by over 30% since the beginning of the Plan period. The elderly population profile has an impact on the provision of health care and housing requirements. Population growth and ageing demographics will create additional infrastructure-related pressures, including demand for specialist forms of housing.	Without the Local Plan to encourage and facilitate the delivery of a mix of new, accessible housing and new community facilities, the baseline situation of an ageing population will continue.
Meeting the needs of gypsies and travellers	The District has a population of gypsies and travellers whose needs differ to the wider population. There is a demand for this form of housing and a relative lack of supply.	Without the Local Plan, suitable land and accommodation for the District's gypsy and traveller communities may not be allocated. This could lead to settlement in unsuitable and unsustainable locations across the District.
Deprivation	Levels of deprivation vary through the District with particular pockets of deprivation, particularly in areas in and surrounding Swadlincote. Deprivation is largely due to a lack of skills development.	Without the Local Plan, average house prices are likely to remain high and the provision of affordable housing is likely to remain small. As a result, the baseline situation could continue or worsen.
Housing mix and affordability	Insufficient affordable dwellings have been delivered in recent years to meet local need and has often been below the target of 30% per annum. Average household size in the District is decreasing. A typical house costs more than 12 times a typical salary making housing unaffordable for many and there is a significant need for multiple types of housing provision.	Without the Local Plan, the Council is likely to be less effective in encouraging housing in the most sustainable locations, and ensuring the right type, size and tenure of housing is delivered to address local needs. This may adversely impact existing social, economic, environmental, and health inequalities and issues. Average house prices are likely to remain high and without the Local Plan requiring certain levels of affordable housing provision, the baseline situation could worsen.
Unemployment	Unemployment rates are on average low but vary significantly across the District.	Without the Local Plan, the economic growth of the District is likely to be limited further.
Dependency on industry	Manufacturing employs more workers compared to national averages. The manufacturing sector has been under pressure in recent years, thus the local implications may prove significant if the industry fails to grow.	Without the Local Plan, employment land for new manufacturing facilities may be more difficult to develop, however, trends in the manufacturing sector in the UK are subject to national economic factors.
Material Assets		
Shortage of employment land	South Derbyshire has a shortage of B2/B8 premises of all sizes, and of office space. Development is inhibited by rising construction costs and a shortage of readily available employment land.	Without the Local Plan, the provision of employment land is likely to be limited due to pressure from housing development. This could result in economic growth of the District being limited further.
Declining retail centres	The comparative performance of some of the District's retail centres has declined in recent years, although vacancy rates are relatively low. The local tourism industry has not grown significantly in recent years.	The Plan seeks to enhance the vibrancy and viability of town centres. Without the Plan, development may be focused in rural areas where residents are access retail centres, and therefore would be unable to contribute to their future vibrancy and viability. The Plan ensures residential and employment sites are focused in areas where they are able to address this issue.



Key Issues Identified	Description	Likely Evolution Without the Plan
Public transport demand and accessibility	There is pressure on public transport provision across the District, which is relatively poor and disconnected overall, particularly in rural areas. Much of the District is inaccessible by train as Swadlincote lacks a station. However, there are some parts of the District closer to Derby, as well as Hatton which offer connections. East Midlands Airport in Castle Donington is also within proximity to many connecting networks.	Without the Local Plan and policy intervention to improve the transport network, workers may continue to predominately use private cars to travel to work, which will have impacts on the local environment (including air quality) and could exacerbate congestion, as well as safety issues for other road users. Without investment into the accessibility of public transport, current options may not meet the needs of the future population in the long term, which is expected to increase.
Congestion	There are numerous significant road networks and connections in the District which are vital links but are also sources of pollution as they become congested, particularly those heading towards Derby.	Without the Plan, congestion may worsen if development is focused in areas with poor access to public transport or unsuitable road networks.
Soil, Water and Air		
Waste	Over 4/10 of waste in the District is reused, recycled, or composted. Additional minerals and waste capacity is likely to be required within the plan period.	With an increasing population within the District, it is likely that the amount of waste produced will continue to rise. Without the local plan, this will result in even less waste being recycled, reused or composted and is likely that the waste hierarchy will not be followed effectively.
Threats to greenfield land	Housing developments on previously developed land have decreased and most developments completed are on greenfield sites. In some instances, this has led to a loss of agricultural land. There are several previously developed (brownfield) sites which have potential for regeneration and will need to be prioritised in order to minimize the loss of greenfield sites and Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Agricultural Land.	Without the Plan, development may be focused solely on greenfield sites where suitable previously developed and brownfield land may be available. In addition, speculative applications would be more likely to be granted. This could lead to the loss of BMV Agricultural Land and would also negatively impact sustainability across multiple different objectives such as climate change adaptation and resources.
Water quality	Water quality within the District's main rivers is generally classified as being of poor or moderate quality and rivers are unlikely to meet good status in The Dove, Trent, Derwent and Mease.	It is likely that increases to population will increase water demand within the District. This is likely to place strain on both demand, as well as wastewater treatment services. Without the local plan encouraging efficiency measures such as SUDs to reduce flood risk and encourage quality, water resources are likely to be negatively affected.
Water resources	New development will generate the need for additional water supply. Water providers in the vicinity could be put under greater pressure due to increasing demand and climate change.	
Air quality	New development is unlikely to significantly affect air quality in the District, although growth in some locations near Derby could negatively affect air quality management areas in Derby.	Without policy intervention and significant investments, the target to achieve carbon neutrality and therefore improve air quality in the District will not be achieved.
Light pollution	Some of the larger towns and villages within the District experience light pollution (over 32 nanoWatts/cm2/sr), such as Swadlincote.	Light pollution levels are likely to worsen without the Local Plan; this is due to uncontrolled development, particularly in rural areas.
Climatic Factors		
Flood risk	Parts of South Derbyshire are at significant flood risk and this could be exacerbated by climate change or future development. There is a need to minimise and mitigate flood risk.	Flood risk is likely to worsen with climate change and the increased occurrence of extreme weather events, affecting the intensity and frequency of precipitation. Without the Local Plan guiding development to areas of lowest flood risk, the risk of development occurring in areas of higher flood risk could increase. The importance of sustainable adaptation measures to flood risk, such as SUDs, will also be dismissed without the Local Plan.
Contributions to climate change	Transport is the highest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the District, as a result of high levels of car usage.	Without the Local Plan to encourage and facilitate resilience to climate change and the implementation of renewable energy generating developments, the baseline situation is likely to continue or worsen with development. This will make it unlikely that South Derbyshire will achieve its commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
Adaptation to climate change-renewable energy	There is a relatively limited uptake of renewable forms of energy use and production in the District. There is a need to identify suitable areas for the generation of renewable and low-carbon energy within the District and supporting infrastructure, as well as encourage the use of on-site renewable energy in new developments and the installation of domestic renewables in existing developments	Without the Plan, the transition towards renewable energy in the District may slow. Renewable energy generation is a key aspect of climate change adaptation. The Plan seeks to find suitable locations for new renewable energy sites across the District.
Adaptation to climate change-electric vehicles	The number of electric vehicles registered remains low but is increasing. It is expected that the use of electric vehicles will continue to increase in the future. The Climate Emergency and Net Zero will require a drastic overhaul of energy consumption practices and uptake in renewable energy sources.	Without the Plan, new developments may not be required to provide electric vehicle charging points which play a key role in reducing the District's contribution to climate change. This may slow the rate at which residents transition towards using electric vehicles.
Cultural Heritage		
Threats to the historic environment	The townscape of historic, archaeological and/or cultural heritage (including the setting of heritage assets) could be negatively affected by new development which can erode	Without the Local Plan policies which protect heritage assets from the potential negative effects of development and encourages enhancements, the baseline situation is likely to continue.



Key Issues Identified	Description	Likely Evolution Without the Plan
	the quality of the built environment and heritage features or sterilise or lead to the loss of existing heritage and other historic assets.	
Landscape		
Threats to landscape	Unmitigated development could erode local landscape character.	Without the Local Plan policies which protect the certain areas of the landscape from the possible impacts of development, the baseline situation is likely to continue. Development pressures on Green Belt are likely to contribute to landscape character degradation.



6.0 Assessment of the Draft Local Plan Part 2 Policies

6.1 Introduction

The summary tables in this section present the sustainability performance of the preferred policies of the draft Local Plan Part 2. The policies are arranged within the following chapters, and this section follows the same structure:

- Settlement Boundaries;
- Housing;
- Built and Natural Environment;
- Retail; and
- Infrastructure.

Detailed assessments of the policies can be found in **Appendix C**.

The assessments of the preferred policies take into account mitigation embedded within the Local Plan policies, for example requirements to retain landscape and habitat features on strategic sites or ensuring infrastructure needs of new developments are met.

A discussion of the performance of the policies within each chapter is provided under each summary table. The key to the sustainability effect scores is shown in **Table 6-1**.

Table 6-1: Key to Sustainability Significance Scores

Potential Sustainability Effect	Symbol
Significant positive	++
Minor Positive	+
Neutral	0
Uncertain	?
Minor Negative	-
Significant Negative	--



6.2 Summary of Policy Assessment

6.2.1 Settlement Boundaries Policies

The Settlement Boundaries chapter contains one amended policy:

- Policy SDT1: Settlement Boundaries and Development.

Table 6-2: Summary of Settlement Boundary Policy Assessments

Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Policy SDT1: Settlement Boundaries and Development	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+

Summary of Significant Effects

No potential significant effects have been identified for Policy SDT1. Full details of effects have been outlined in **Appendix C**.



6.2.2 Housing Policies

The Housing chapter contains seven amended policies:

- Policy H23: Non-Strategic Housing Allocations;
- Policy H24: Replacement Dwellings in Rural Areas;
- Policy H25: Rural Workers' Dwellings;
- Policy H26: Residential Gardens within Rural Areas;
- Policy H27: Residential Extensions and other Householder Development;
- Policy H28: Residential Conversions; and
- Policy H29: Extensions to and intensification of authorised Gypsy and Traveller Sites.

Table 6-3: Summary of Housing Policy Assessments

Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Policy H23: Non-Strategic Housing Allocations	+	++	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	--	-	+	+	+	+
Policy H24: Replacement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+



Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Dwellings in Rural Areas																
Policy H25: Rural Workers' Dwellings	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	-
Policy H26: Residential Gardens within Rural Areas	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0
Policy H27: Residential Extensions and other Householder Development	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+
Policy H28: Residential Conversions	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	+	0	+	0	+	0
Policy H29: Extensions to and intensification of authorised	0	++	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	--	+	0	+	+	+



Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Gypsy and Traveller Sites																

Summary of Significant Effects

Potential significant positive effects have been identified for Policy H23 and Policy H29 in relation to housing (SO2). These policies allocate land for housing within the District, that makes a significant contribution towards meeting the required housing supply for South Derbyshire.

Potential significant negative effects have been identified for two policies (H23 and H29) in relation to resources (SO11). These policies could result in the use of land and natural resources, including greenfield land and agricultural land. This is likely to result in the irreversible loss of this natural resource.

Uncertain effects have been identified for Policy H26 in relation to biodiversity (SO1) as this policy has potential to result in disturbance to habitats depending on the scale of development that may arise from this policy. However, effects are likely to be determined by individual developments that may come forward.



6.2.3 Built and Natural Environment Policies

The Built and Natural Environment chapter contains eight amended policies:

- Policy BNE5: Development in Rural Areas;
- Policy BNE6: Agricultural Development;
- Policy BNE7: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows;
- Policy BNE8: Local Green Space;
- Policy BNE9: Enhancement of Local Green Spaces;
- Policy BNE10: Advertisements and Visual Pollution;
- Policy BNE11: Shopfronts; and
- Policy BNE12: Former Power Station Land.

Table 6-4: Summary of Built and Natural Environment Policy Assessments

Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Policy BNE5: Development in Rural Areas	0	+	-	0	0	+	+	-	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	-



Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Policy BNE6: Agricultural Development	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+
Policy BNE7: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	++
Policy BNE8: Local Green Space	++	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	+
Policy BNE9: Enhancement of Local Green Spaces	++	0	++	++	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	++
Policy BNE10: Advertisements and Visual Pollution	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0
Policy BNE11: Shopfronts	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0
Policy BNE12: Former Power Station Land	?	0	0	0	0	+	+	?	?	0	+	?	?	?	0	?



Summary of Significant Effects

Potential significant positive effects have been identified for two policies (BNE8 and BNE9) in relation to biodiversity (SO1) as these policies contribute to protecting, restoring and enhancing biodiversity within the District.

Policy BNE9 has also resulted in potential significant positive effects on accessibility and health (SO3) and quality of life (SO4). This policy improves public access and connectivity to local green spaces, as well as promoting community involvement in these spaces, which has potential to improve access to green space, support healthy lifestyles as well as provide opportunities for community cohesion.

Two policies (BNE7 and BNE9) have resulted in potential significant positive effects on landscape (SO16). These policies both protect the landscape character and support the development of landscape features such as trees, hedgerows and woodland, and the protection of local green spaces.

Uncertain effects have been identified for BNE12 in relation to biodiversity (SO1), infrastructure (SO8), sustainable transport (SO9), pollution (SO12), climate change contributions (SO13), climate change adaptation (SO14), and landscape (SO16) as effects are likely to be determined by the scale and nature of development that may occur as a result of this policy.



6.2.4 Retail Policies

The Retail chapter contains two amended policies:

- Policy RTL1: Retail Hierarchy; and
- Policy RTL2: Swadlincote Town Centre Potential Redevelopment Locations.

Table 6-5: Summary of Retail Policy Assessments

Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Policy RTL1: Retail Hierarchy	0	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	+	++	+	0	0	+	+	0
Policy RTL2: Swadlincote Town Centre Potential Redevelopment Locations	?	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	++	+	?	+	+	+	+

Summary of Significant Effects

Potential significant positive effects have been identified for both Policy RTL1 and RTL2 in relation to economy (SO6) and town and village centres (SO10). These policies both support retail and town centre uses, whilst maintaining the vitality and viability of town centres, supporting economic activity and economic growth in these areas within South Derbyshire.



Uncertain effects have been identified for Policy RTL2 for biodiversity (SO1) and pollution (SO12) as effects are likely to be determined by the scale of development that arises from the redevelopment of sites within Swadlincote Town Centre.



6.2.5 Infrastructure Policies

The Infrastructure chapter contains seven amended policies:

- Policy INF11: Telecommunications;
- Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary Education Facilities;
- Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village;
- Policy INF14: Burial Grounds;
- Policy INF15: Public Art;
- Policy INF16: Mercia Marina; and
- Policy INF17: Toyota Policy.

Table 6-6: Summary of Infrastructure Policy Assessments

Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Policy INF11: Telecommunications	+	0	+	0	+	++	+	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+
Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary	+	0	++	+	+	0	+	++	+	0	--	-	+	0	0	?



Policy	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Education Facilities																
Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village	?	++	++	0	0	++	++	++	?	0	--	-	?	?	0	?
Policy INF14: Burial Grounds	?	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	?
Policy INF15: Public Art	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+
Policy INF16: Mercia Marina	+	0	+	+	0	++	+	+	0	0	+	?	0	0	0	0
Policy INF17: Toyota Policy	+	0	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	0	+	+	++	0	0	+

Summary of Significant Effects

Potential significant positive effects have been identified for one policy (INF13) in relation to housing (SO2) as this policy supports the development of Infinity Garden Village, which provides a mixed use development including additional housing opportunities. Similarly, potential significant positive effects on accessibility and health (SO3) have been identified for Policy INF12 and INF13. These policies both result in the development of additional community facilities, improving access to these facilities and healthy lifestyles through active travel links to these facilities.

Additionally, potential significant positive effects on economy (SO6) have been identified for four policies (INF11, INF13, INF16 and INF17). These policies all support the development of economic opportunities across the District, including improving economic infrastructure and



supporting investment and economic growth in South Derbyshire. Policies INF13 and INF17 have also resulted in potential significant positive effects on employment (SO7) as these policies provide additional employment opportunities through development that is associated with these policies.

Three policies (INF11, INF12 and INF13) have also resulted in potential significant positive effects on infrastructure (SO8) due to the development of new infrastructure, such as transport and broadband that supports improvements to infrastructure across the District.

Policy INF17 has resulted in potential significant positive effects upon climate change contributions (SO13). This policy supports enhanced energy efficiency within the existing Toyota buildings and provides additional low-carbon energy generation, as well as supporting sustainable transport to the site, which is anticipated to reduce greenhouse gas contributions.

Potential significant negative effects have been identified for resources (SO11) in relation to two policies (INF12 and INF13). These policies both result in the potential for irreversible loss of greenfield land that may be of agricultural value.

Uncertain effects have been identified for two policies (INF13 and INF14) in relation to biodiversity (SO1). These policies both result in the potential for disturbance or loss of habitats and species. However, effects are likely to be determined by the scale and nature of development that arises as a result of these policies. Uncertain effects have also been identified for landscape (SO16) in relation to INF12, INF13 and INF14). There is potential that the development of these policies may result in the alteration of the local landscape due to the loss of greenfield land. However, effects are likely to be determined by the scale and design of the school development that may arise.

Policy INF13 has resulted in uncertain effects on sustainable travel (SO9), climate change contributions (SO13) and climate change adaptation (SO14) as effects are likely to be determined by individual scheme design of developments arising from this policy. Similarly, uncertain effects have also been identified for Policy INF16 for pollution (SO12) as effects are likely to be determined by the scale and nature of future development and how it may affect levels of pollution.



6.3 Assessment of Alternative Policies

The SEA Regulations require all reasonable alternatives to the draft plan to be assessed and case law⁸ has determined that all options should be assessed to the same level of detail. This section presents information about the alternatives that have been considered and assessed through the SA, and the reasons for choosing the preferred options.

In October 2024, an SA was undertaken to support the Regulation 18 consultation on the SDDC preferred Approach to its Local Plan. This assessment assessed alternatives to the spatial strategy, policy alternatives and strategic sites. The findings of this can be found in the South Derbyshire Local Plan Regulation 18 Sustainability Appraisal Report⁵.

The policies in the Local Plan Part 2 are to implement and add detail to the strategy as set out in the Local Plan Part 1, these have been subject to separate Sustainability Appraisal. It is not considered to be a reasonable alternative to have policies in the Local Plan Part 2 that deviate from the Part 1 strategy.

In the main, the policies in the Part 2 Local Plan have been rolled forwards from the adopted Local Plan Part 2 with minor amendments to reflect updated National Policy or changes to the Use Class Order, these policies have been previously assessed in the Sustainability Appraisal for the adopted Local Plan Part 2. The Local Plan Part 2 also includes a limited number of new policies relating to Burial Grounds, Public Art, Mercia Marina and Toyota. In terms of alternatives, it was considered whether to have a policy or no policy at all amounts to sustainable development and in all cases to have the policy as drafted was preferable on numerous sustainability grounds than to have no policy at all.

⁸ [Heard vs Broadland District Council](#), February 2012



7.0 Assessment of the Draft Local Plan Part 2 Sites

7.1 Introduction

SDDC undertook an assessment of sites to be included within the Local Plan Part 2. The assessment of the Local Plan Part 2 site allocations is summarised in **Section 7.2** and presented in full, alongside the RAG assessment, in **Appendix C**. A matrix approach has been utilised for the assessment which has applied the significance criteria shown in **Table 7-1**, with a detailed criteria presented in **Appendix C**.

Table 7-1: Significance of Effect

Effect Significance	Key
Potential for significant positive effects	++
Potential for minor positive effects	+
Potential for minor negative effects	-
Potential for significant negative effects	--
Uncertain effects	?
Neutral	0

An overview of the performance of proposed allocation sites against each SA objective, together with a summary of the potential significant effects, is presented below.

Further details on the insignificant effects, i.e. minor positive, minor negative, mixed and neutral effects, are detailed in **Appendix C**. This appendix also sets out the nature of effects such as magnitude, spatial extent and duration. Where Local Plan policies may provide mitigation, these have been considered and outlined within the assessment. Details on mitigation measures put forward to address potential negative and uncertain effects are included in **Appendix C**.



7.2 Assessment of Sites

Table 7-2 provides an overview of the performance of proposed site allocations against each SA objective.

Table 7-2: Summary of Proposed Site Allocations Assessments

Alternative Sites	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
H23A: North of Linton Road, Castle Gresley	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	-	-
H23B: Southwest Swadlincote	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	--	?	++	0	-	0
H23C: Swadlincote Lane, Church Gresley	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	-
H23D: Land south of Walton Road, Drakelow	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	-	0	-
H23E: Land off Peregrine Avenue and Willington Road Etwall	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
H23F: Land south of Etwall	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
H23G: Land East of Hatton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
H23H: Land East of Hilton	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	--	?	0	0	-	-
H23I: Land South of Primula Way, Littleover	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
H23J: Jawbone Lane, Melbourne	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	0	0	0	-	-
H23K: Kings Newton Lane, Melbourne	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	--	?	+	0	0	-
H23L: Land off Old Etwall Road, Mickleover	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	-	0	0	0	-	-
H23M: Land off Mount Pleasant Road, Repton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	?
H23N: William Nadin Way, Swadlincote, Site D	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	-	0	0	0	0	-
H23O: Land north of Willington	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	-	?
H23P: Land off Kingfisher Way, Willington	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	-	-

Summary of Significant Effects

Potential significant positive effects have been identified for housing (SO2) in relation to nine housing sites. This has been identified where sites have potential to deliver 100 or more homes, and therefore make a significant contribution towards South Derbyshire's housing target. Potential significant positive effects have also been identified for one site (H23B) in relation to climate change contributions (SO13) as this site is located in an area with sustainable transport infrastructure, well located to employment areas and the site is anticipated to make appropriate provision for EV charging and low carbon heating options.

Potential significant negative effects have been identified for resources (SO11) where sites are located on greenfield land, that is of agricultural land use and development may lead to the permanent and irreversible loss of this resource.

Uncertain effects have been identified for the majority of sites in relation to pollution (SO12). New development may result in additional noise and light pollution during construction and operation, however, at this stage, the precise nature of development and associated mitigation measures is not known. However, adverse effects are likely to be reduced through the incorporation of appropriate design and mitigation measures, such as sensitive site layout, landscaping, lighting strategies and buffer zones.

Two sites (H23M and H23O) have resulted in uncertain effects on landscape (SO16) as development at these sites may affect landscape character and visual amenity. The significance of effects will depend on site-specific design, the application of mitigation measures and the findings of any detailed landscape and visual assessments undertaken.



7.3 Assessment of Alternative Sites

The SEA Regulations require an assessment of the plan and its “reasonable alternatives”. The assessment of reasonable alternatives does not need include all possible alternatives, but only those that are realistic.

It should be noted that the outcome of the SA is not the only factor that determines whether a site should be allocated. The deliverability and viability of sites are also key considerations for SDDC, as to whether a site can be justified for allocation and inclusion in the final plan.

The assessment of alternative site allocations has been undertaken utilising the same method and level of detail as the preferred site allocations. Findings of the alternatives site assessment have been summarised below in **Table 7-3** and presented in full in **Appendix D**. The summary provided below details the significance after the application of mitigation measures. These have been detailed in **Appendix D**.

Overall, alternative site options have performed similarly to preferred site options across the SA objectives, with significant effects largely associated with housing, resources, and pollution. However, there are more significant negative effects associated with biodiversity and landscape for alternative site options.



Table 7-3: Summary of Alternative Site Assessments

Alternative Sites	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Site 3_Egginton Road, Etwall	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 5_Valley Road, Overseal	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	--	0	0	-	-
Site 7_Moor Lane, Aston	+	+	0	0	0	+	-	0	-	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 8_Willington Power Station	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	--	?	0	0	0	?
Site 9_Land south of Ashby Road East, Burton upon Trent	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	?	?	0	0	-	--
Site 10_Park Road , Swadlincote	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	++	?	0	0	-	--
Site 11_Land at Butt Lane and Vale Road, Woodville	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	-	?
Site 14_Sandcliffe Road, Swadlincote	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	--	0	0	0	0	?
Site 20_Land off Etwall Road , Willington	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	--	?	0	0	-	-
Site 21_Land at Vale Road, Woodville	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	--	?	+	0	-	?
Site 22_Land at Butt Lane and Vale Road, Woodville	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	-	?
Site 23_Land at Ashby Road, Woodville	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	-	?
Site 24_Land north of Burton Road, Swadlincote	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	-	?
Site 25_Tawney Hay Farm	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 26_Land South of Moria Road , Overseal	--	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	--	0	0	0	-
Site 27_Egginton Road, Hilton	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	--	?	+	0	-	-
Site 28_Land at Sales Lane , Burton	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	0	?
Site 30_Land off Weston Road, Aston on Trent	+	++	0	0	0	+	-	0	-	0	--	0	0	0	0	-
Site 31_Burton Road, Overseal	--	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	?	--	0	0	0	-
Site 33_Land at Scropton Lane, Hatton	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 34_East of Moor Lane, Aston	+	++	0	0	0	+	-	0	+	0	--	0	0	0	0	-
Site 35_Land off Hall Croft Avenue, Overseal Part B	--	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	?	--	0	0	-	-
Site 36_Sandcliffe Road, Swadlincote (Phase 1)	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	?
Site 37_Hill Top Farm	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	0	?
Site 39_Land at Sutton Lane Hilton	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	0	-
Site 40_Old Shardlow Nurseries, London Road, Shardlow	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	--	-	-
Site 41_Land at Willington Road, Etwall	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	--	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 42_Land at Aston Lane, Shardlow	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-



Alternative Sites	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Site 43_Hatton Hall	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 44_Land at Newton Road , Newton Solney	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	?	0	0	0	?
Site 46_Winchester Drive , Linton B	--	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	--	0	0	0	-
Site 47_Land north of Derby Road, Etwall	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	?
Site 48_Land to the east of Ashby Road, Melbourne	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	-	-
Site 49_Land to west of Cockshut Lane/west of Derby Road, Melbourne	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 50_Land south of Station Road, Melbourne	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	-	0	-
Site 51_Land to the north of Chellaston Lane, Aston on Trent	+	++	0	0	0	+	-	0	-	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 52_Land west of Longlands Road, Midway	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	?
Site 53_Woodville Road, Swadlincote	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	?
Site 54_Land off Hall Croft Avenue, Overseal Part A	?	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	?	?	0	0	-	-
Site 55_Land at Colliery Lane, Linton	--	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	--	0	0	0	-
Site 56_Main Street, Kings Newton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 57_Land east of Weston Road, Aston on Trent, Derby	+	+	0	0	0	+	-	0	-	0	--	0	0	0	0	-
Site 60_Land at Sealwood Lane, Linton	--	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	--	0	0	0	-
Site 64_Willington Road, Etwall	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	--	?	0	0	-	-
Site 65_Land north of Burnaston Lane and south of Main Street, Etwall	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	-	-
Site 66_Land South Of Milton Road, Repton	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	?
Site 67_Land north of Blackwell Lane, Melbourne	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	-	-
Site 68_Land to the south of Swarkestone Road, adj. The Cottage Filling Station, Swarkestone	+	+	-	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	--	-	+	0	-	-
Site 69_Stangleigh Road, Overseal	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	--	0	0	0	-
Site 71_Cauldwell Road, Linton	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	?	--	0	0	0	-
Site 72_Land off Ashby Road East, Bretby	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	?	0	0	0	--
Site 73_Land at Burton Road, Overseal	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	?	--	0	0	-	-
Site 74_Land to north of the Castle Way, Willington	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	-	-
Site 75_Shardlow Road , Aston on Trent	+	+	0	0	0	+	-	0	-	0	--	0	0	0	-	-
Site 77_Winchester Drive, Linton	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	--	0	0	0	-



Alternative Sites	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Site 79_Land off Newton Road, Newton Solney	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	?	0	0	0	?
Site 82_Land to the rear of Derby Road, Aston on Trent	+	+	0	0	0	+	-	0	-	0	--	0	0	0	0	-
Site 86_Kings Newton Lane Part 1, Kings Newton	+	+	-	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	0	-
Site 87_99 Woodland Road, Stanton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	?	0	0	0	--
Site 90_Land at Ashby Road, Woodville	?	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	?	?	0	0	0	-
Site 91_Cowlshaw, Shardlow	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	--	-	-
Site 92_Land adj to Askew House, Milton Road, Repton	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	?
Site 95_Kings Newton Lane Part 2, Kings Newton	+	+	-	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	--	?	+	0	0	-
Site 96_Land adj. 42 Woodland Road, Stanton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	?	0	0	0	--
Site 99_Land south east of Woodville Road	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	?
Site 101_Land South of The Castle Way, Willington Part 1	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	--	?	0	0	-	-
Site 102_Land at Bretby View	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	+	0	+	0	0	?
Site 103_Broadfields Farm, Thorntree Lane, Newhall	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 104_Land at Rose Tree Lane, Newhall	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 109_Moor Lane, Aston	+	+	0	0	0	+	-	0	-	0	--	0	0	0	0	-
Site 110_Land west of Cockshut Lane, Melbourne	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	0	0	0	0	-
Site 112_Woodland Road , Stanton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	-	?	0	0	0	-
Site 114_Land to the north of Robinson's Hill, Melbourne	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	0	0	0	-	-
Site 115_Land off Bretby Lane, Bretby	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	-	0	--	?	0	0	0	--
Site 117_Land at London Road, Shardlow	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 119_Land at Linton Health, Linton	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	--	0	0	0	-
Site 120_Land off Aston Lane, Shardlow	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 121_Land off Aston Lane, Shardlow	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	--	-	--
Site 124_London Road , Shardlow	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-
Site 127_Land off Derby Road, Hilton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	-	?	0	--	0	?
Site 128_Land at Vale Road and Elmsdale Road, Woodville	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	-	?
Site 129_Land at Vale Road, Woodville	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	?
Site 130_Land at Sutton Lane, Hilton	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	--	?	+	0	0	-
Site 131_Land at Mount Pleasant Road, Repton	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	0	0	?
Site 132_Land north of Derby Road, Hilton	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	--	?	0	0	0	-



Alternative Sites	SA Objectives															
	Biodiversity	Housing	Accessibility and Health	Quality of Life	Inequalities	Economy	Employment	Infrastructure	Sustainable travel	Town and Village Centres	Resources	Pollution	Climate Change Contributions	Climate Change Adaptation	Historic Environment	Landscape
	SO1	SO2	SO3	SO4	SO5	SO6	SO7	SO8	SO9	SO10	SO11	SO12	SO13	SO14	SO15	SO16
Site 133_Land off Hall Croft Avenue, Overseal Part A	--	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	?	--	0	0	-	-

Summary of Significant Effects

Potential significant negative effects have been identified for biodiversity (SO1) where sites are located on greenfield land that has existing biodiversity assets, such as designated sites, within the site, or where the site allocation may intersect with the catchment of a designated site. This may lead to damage and disruption to local habitats and species as a result of development. Potential significant negative effects have also been identified for resources (SO11) where sites are located on agricultural land (including BMV) as development may lead to the permanent and irreversible loss of this resource. Similarly, for landscape (SO16) where development is located within the greenbelt, it is likely that these sites would significantly alter landscape character.

Additionally, sites that have potential to increase pollution, including within the River Mease SAC, have resulted in potential significant negative effects on pollution (SO12). One site (Site 41_ Land at Willington Road, Etwell) has resulted in potential significant negative effects on sustainable travel (SO9) as the site is not well served by any public transport service and has a lack of facilities within the local proximity. Conversely, five sites have resulted in potential significant positive effects on sustainable transport (SO9) due to the location of sites close to both public and active travel options, supporting sustainable travel options.

Four sites have resulted in potential significant negative effects on climate change adaptation (SO14). These effects have been identified where sites are located within flood zone 2 and 3 and flood risk is not adequately mitigated by local plan policies.

Potential significant positive effects have been identified for housing (SO2) for the majority of alternative sites. Significant positive effects have been identified where sites will deliver over 100 dwellings as they will make a significant contribution to meeting the District's housing need. Additionally, potential significant positive effects on resources (SO11) have been identified where sites are unlikely to result in the loss of agricultural land and development is likely to protect minerals resources.

Potential uncertain effects have been identified for biodiversity (SO1) where sites are located on greenfield land and may result in damage or disruption habitats and species, but there is potential for mitigation from Local Plan Part 2 Policies to be implemented. However, the exact policy wording is currently unclear and therefore effects are uncertain. Similarly, uncertain effects have been identified for resources (SO11) where sites are partially located on greenfield, agricultural land that is of lower value, but there is potential for mitigation from Local Plan Part 2 Policies to be implemented. However, the exact policy wording is currently unclear and therefore effects are uncertain.

The majority of alternative sites have resulted in uncertain effects on pollution (SO12). New development may result in additional noise and light pollution during construction and operation, however, at this stage, the precise nature of development and associated mitigation measures is not known. However, adverse effects are likely to be reduced through the incorporation of appropriate design and mitigation measures, such as sensitive site layout, landscaping, lighting strategies and buffer zones.

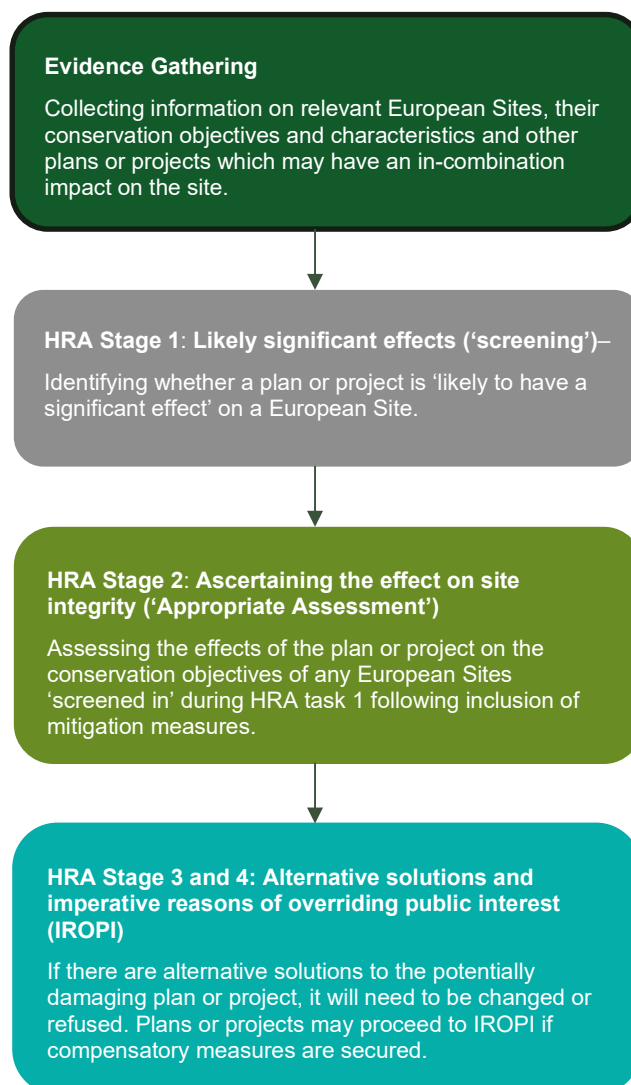
Potential uncertain effects have been identified for landscape (SO16) as development at these sites may affect landscape character and visual amenity. The significance of effects will depend on site-specific design, the application of mitigation measures and the findings of any detailed landscape and visual assessments undertaken.



8.0 Habitats Regulation Assessment

This section summarises the separate HRA that accompanies the Local Plan Part 2. **Figure 8-1** sets out the overall HRA process in accordance with Communities and Local Government draft guidance. Current best practice demonstrates that a blurring of the tasks in an iterative manner is the most effective method of assessing a plan as it develops.

Figure 8-1: The HRA Process



The HRA process requires close working with Natural England in order to agree the process and outcomes and, if necessary, obtain information and agree mitigation proposals.

8.1 Screening

The purpose of screening is to identify whether a plan or project could result in Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on any of the Habitat Sites included within the scope of the HRA, in terms of the Sites' conservation objectives and qualifying interests.

The HRA screening considers the following Habitats Sites:



- River Mease SAC;
- West Midlands Mosses SAC;
- Midland Meres and Mosses – Phase 1 Ramsar site (coterminous with West Midlands Mosses SAC);
- Bees Nests and Green Clay Pits SAC;
- Peak District Dales SAC;
- Gang Mine SAC;
- Pasturefields Salt Marsh SAC;
- Cannock Extension Canal SAC; and
- Cannock Chase SAC.

The Regulation 19 draft Local Plan Part 2 Review was subject to screening in October 2026 to identify pathways between the policies and the Habitats Sites, in isolation and/or in combination with other plans or projects and to determine whether an LSE on a relevant Habitats Site could exist. This identified the potential for the draft Local Plan Part 2 Review to result in LSEs on all of the Habitats Sites in relation to physical damage, disturbance (audio or visual) and Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) or undesirable species in combination.

The HRA therefore needed to progress to the next stage, Appropriate Assessment (AA).

8.2 Appropriate Assessment

AA of the South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Review has been undertaken and has determined that the Plan will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any Habitats Site, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects, through physical damage, disturbance, or the introduction and spread of INNS and other undesirable species.

Cannock Chase SAC lies beyond the established recreational Zone Of Influence (ZOI) and therefore development arising from the Local Plan would not be expected to contribute to recreational pressure on the site. For the remaining Habitats Sites, available evidence including Natural England's SSSI Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) tool⁹ indicates that residential development within South Derbyshire is unlikely to adversely affect the habitats and species for which those Sites are designated.

Furthermore, policies within the Local Plan and neighbouring Local Plans support the provision and enhancement of green infrastructure, open space and recreation facilities, thereby increasing opportunities for recreation closer to where people live and reducing pressure on designated sites. Adverse effects on the integrity of Habitats Sites can therefore be excluded.

⁹ Natural England, SSSI Impact Risk Zones (England). Available at: <https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/Defra::sssi-impact-risk-zones-england/explore?location=52.834205%2C-2.490369%2C6>



The South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 HRA Report (2026) has been submitted as a standalone document alongside this SA Report and the Regulation 19 Local Plan Part 2 Review (Publication Version).



9.0 Potential Cumulative Effects

9.1 Introduction

The SEA Regulations require that cumulative effects are considered when identifying likely significant effects. Cumulative effects arise, for instance:

- Where multiple individual policies and/or sites have a combined effect on an objective; or
- Where multiple policies and/or sites individually have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect.

The significance of cumulative effects resulting from a range of activities, or multiple incidences of one activity, may vary based on factors such as the nature of the proposed sites and policies and the sensitivity of the receiving communities and environment.

This section therefore presents the findings of the following:

- **Intra-plan effects:** Consideration of how different proposed policies and sites within the Local Plan may interact and cause cumulative effects on a receptor; and
- **Inter-plan and project effects:** How the proposed policies and sites within the Local Plan could result in cumulative effects in association with other plans, policies and projects in the surrounding area.

Table 9-1 outlines the key to effects for potential significant cumulative effects.

Table 9-1: Key to Cumulative Effects

Effect	Key
Significant positive cumulative effect	++
Significant negative cumulative effect	--
No overall cumulative effect	0

The potential significant intra-plan cumulative effects are identified in **Table 9-2**, whilst the potential significant inter-plan cumulative effects are identified in **Table 9-4**. Potential cumulative effects have also been identified within **Appendix C and D**.



9.2 Intra-Plan Cumulative Effects

Table 9-2 outlines the potential Intra-Plan cumulative effects arising from the Local Plan Part 2.

Table 9-2: Potential Intra-Plan Cumulative Effects Summary

SA Objective	Effect	Summary of Effects
SO1: Biodiversity	++	There is the potential for a positive cumulative effect from the implementation of built and natural environment policies. Developments should enhance green space, include green infrastructure, and protect trees, woodland and hedgerows.
	--	There is the potential for a negative cumulative effect on biodiversity if multiple large scale housing developments were to come forward. Given that a number of housing allocations are located on greenfield land, there is potential for a cumulative loss of greenfield land to development, which could lead to fragmentation of habitats and reduced habitat connectivity.
SO2: Housing	++	There is potential for a positive cumulative effect if multiple housing developments within South Derbyshire come forward within the plan period. These developments will help to meet the District's housing target and increase the provision of affordable homes, reducing barriers to housing and providing a mix of homes that suit the needs of the growing population. There is also potential for a cumulative positive effect on housing quality and standards across the District, by taking into account the needs of different groups in the community.
SO3: Accessibility and Health	++	Infrastructure policies as well as some of the proposed allocations include the provision of new community facilities and services, such as healthcare and community facilities. This could result in a positive cumulative effect on health and wellbeing. The provision and improvements to the public realm and open spaces, as part of some developments and policies, could result in positive cumulative effects on the health and wellbeing of the population in South Derbyshire.
	--	There is a potential for negative cumulative effects to result if multiple housing developments were to come forward without necessary capacity in healthcare facilities, due to the increased strain on existing healthcare facilities and the potential increased demand from new populations.
SO4: Quality of Life	++	It is assumed that all new developments will be built to a high standard of safety. There may be potential for positive cumulative effects from developing sites to provide housing and public realm improvements, particularly if designing out crime principles are applied. Policies support high quality design and landscaping which can also help to generate a sense of pride and ownership within the community, resulting in the potential to improve community cohesion and quality of life.
SO5: Inequalities	++	There is potential for positive cumulative effects to occur through the delivery of multiple well-designed developments that deliver necessary infrastructure to meet the needs of new residents, as well as existing residents, particularly through the housing and built and natural environment policies, improving access for social groups inclusively.
	--	If developments are delivered which do not provide infrastructure to meet needs, pressure could be placed on existing services due to increased population demands arising from multiple developments, leading to potential cumulative negative effects. There is also potential for a cumulative increase in disturbance to existing local residents.
SO6: Economy	++	There is the potential for positive cumulative effects on the economy if multiple developments were to come forward, including proposed housing allocations and development associated with built and natural environment and infrastructure policies. Proposed policies and sites will deliver housing and support investment in the District's town and local centres, helping to strengthen the economy of South Derbyshire.
SO7: Employment	++	There is potential for a positive cumulative effect on employment if multiple developments were to come forward. Investment in the District and potential new developments could help to attract further inward investment and provide employment opportunities.
SO8: Infrastructure	++	There is the potential for positive cumulative effects on infrastructure if multiple developments were to come forward within South Derbyshire. Most new developments will help to improve access to infrastructure through pedestrian and cycle connections and access to public transport. Policies relating to infrastructure, retail and built and natural environment also contribute to improving community infrastructure within the District, particularly through improving open space, retail spaces, and secondary education facilities.
SO9: Sustainable travel	++	There is the potential for positive cumulative effects on sustainable travel if multiple developments were to come forward within South Derbyshire. Most new developments will help to improve access to sustainable transport through improvements to pedestrian and cycle connections, making active travel more appealing. Access to public transport may also be improved as part of the developments due to their location.
SO10: Town and Village Centres	++	A potential positive cumulative effect on town and village centres is anticipated as a result of built and natural environment and retail policies. These policies encourage investment in South Derbyshire's town and local centres, helping to maintain their vitality and viability and support retail and other town centre uses.
SO11: Resources	--	There are a number of proposed housing allocations where there is potential for land take of greenfield land to occur. This could result in a cumulative loss of greenfield land including BMV land, and agricultural land.
SO12: Pollution	++	If multiple developments are located with good connectivity to public transport and active travel facilities it will enable more people to use public transport modes instead of private vehicles, helping to improve air quality. There is also potential for built and natural environment policies to increase green infrastructure which may help to reduce air pollution, as well as reduce light and air pollution. Water quality and drainage measures are likely to be specific to each development, but there may be cumulative benefits if implemented across housing developments and as a result of built environment policies.
	--	A temporary negative cumulative effect has the potential to arise during the construction phase, if multiple housing developments were to come forward with overlapping construction periods. Construction of these developments may temporarily worsen air and noise pollution from construction plant emissions, dust and construction traffic. There is potential for decreases in water quality from developments as a result of increases in surface water runoff and impacts on surface water and groundwater, particularly from physical alterations as a result of development



SA Objective	Effect	Summary of Effects
		from housing allocations. If not adequately mitigated, there is potential for cumulative increases in flood risk arising from housing developments and urban intensification, due to increases in hard standing and sealed surfaces.
SO13: Climate Change Contributions	--	If multiple developments were to come forward, there is the potential for these developments to be resource intensive and have high levels of embodied carbon. A potential negative cumulative effect is therefore identified in relation to GHGs, particularly during construction.
SO14: Climate Change Adaptation	--	The addition of increased use of hard standing surfaces as part of the proposed housing allocations could increase surface water runoff. Therefore, a large number of new developments could result in potential negative cumulative effects on flooding, if flood resilience measures are not implemented across developments, reducing resilience to climate change.
SO15: Historic Environment	++	A positive cumulative effect may arise if development designs are sensitive to the historic environment and enhance the setting of any surrounding designated heritage assets. This will be further supported by built environment policies, which aim to preserve and enhance the historic environment. Additionally, cumulative improvements to the public realm could improve the setting of heritage assets. Policies may also result in a cumulative improvement in air quality, and reduction in the degradation of heritage assets.
	--	There is the potential for negative cumulative effects on the historic environment if multiple developments were to come forward in close proximity to heritage assets, or if developments were not of an appropriate scale and design. During construction of these new developments there is the potential for disturbance to the historic environment due to noise, vibration and temporary reductions in air quality (in particular dust soiling). During operation, these developments have the potential to negatively impact the setting of heritage assets if not sensitively designed.
SO16: Landscape	++	Positive cumulative effects may arise due to good design of housing developments, and improvements to the public realm, open spaces and the built environment. In combination, such improvements could enhance the landscape and townscape character over the long term.
	--	There is the potential for a negative cumulative effect on landscapes and townscapes if multiple housing developments were to come forward in close proximity to parks and open spaces and areas of high landscape and townscape values. During construction of new developments there is the potential for disturbance to the setting and tranquillity of these areas, temporarily harming the visual amenity.



9.3 Inter-Plan Cumulative Effects

Table 9-3 outlines the sources of potential inter-plan and project cumulative effects, whilst **Table 9-4** details the potential cumulative effects identified for each of the SA topics in relation to these policies and plans. This uses the same key to effects as set out in **Table 9-1** above.

Table 9-3: Sources of Inter-Plan and Project Effects

Policy or Plan	Plan Details
East Midlands Freeport	The East Midlands Freeport features three main sites: the East Midlands Airport and Gateway Industrial Cluster (EMAGIC) in North West Leicestershire, the Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station site in Rushcliffe in Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands Intermodal Park (EMIP) in South Derbyshire.
Midlands Rail Hub	Midlands Rail Hub aims to provide faster, better and more frequent connections across the Midlands. The scheme will add up to 300 additional trains on the rail network per day into or out of Birmingham and provide faster, more frequent or new rail links for over 50 locations including: Nottingham, Leicester, Bromsgrove, Nuneaton, Worcester, Hereford and Cardiff. Midlands Rail Hub will build two 'chords' at Bordesley, as well as 10+ engineering interventions throughout the region. • The West Chord: consists of improvements between Bordesley and Moor Street, allowing access to Birmingham Moor Street from South- West and Wales, allowing additional trains towards Worcester, Hereford, Bristol and Cardiff; and • The East Chord: creates an access to Birmingham Moor Street from the East Midlands, allowing direct access for trains from cities such as Leicester, Derby and Nottingham.
Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Local nature recovery strategies are a new system of spatial strategies for nature and environmental improvement across England that will establish priorities and map proposals to drive nature's recovery and provide wider environmental benefits. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Derbyshire will provide the process for nature recovery in Derbyshire. It will set a long-term vision and action plan that is formed and delivered in collaboration with partners, stakeholders and the public.
Neighbouring Local Plans	Local plans and emerging local plans in neighbouring borough's influence cross-boundary development improvements. The plans include: • Amber Valley Borough Local Plan 2022-2040; • Derby City Core Strategy 2011-2028; • Derby City Council, Emerging Local Plan (Draft Local Plan currently at Regulation 19 stage); • North West Leicestershire District Local Plan 2020-2040; • Erewash Borough Core Strategy 2011-2028; • East Staffordshire Borough Local Plan 2012-2031; and • Derbyshire Dales District Local Plan 2013-2033.
Neighbouring Transport Plans	Local Transport Plans enable Local Authorities to plan for transport in their areas. They can identify both strategic policy and implementation plans for delivering this policy. Therefore, they identify policy options for implementing



Policy or Plan	Plan Details
	transport improvements, including different modes of transport. They also prioritise areas and schemes for development over the plan period. The plans include: • Derby Local Transport Plan 2011-2026; • Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026; • East Midlands Combined County Authority, Local Transport Plan Transport Strategy (currently being prepared); • Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 4; and • Staffordshire Local Transport Plan 2026.
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)	NSIPs are large scale projects like power stations, highways and power lines. They are treated separately from normal local authority planning because of their size and importance to wider communities. There are 16 NSIPs located within the East Midlands region, including those at pre-application, acceptance, pre-examination, examination, recommendation, and decision stage.



Table 9-4: Potential Inter-Plan Cumulative Effects Summary

SA Objective	Effect	Summary of Effects
SO1: Biodiversity	++	A positive cumulative effect may result through BNG delivery through multiple local plans and in accordance with the LNRS. These are likely to be driven by neighbouring local plan policies where green infrastructure is incorporated into design to increase biodiversity and if biodiversity is lost on site, this should be mitigated by improving the quality or management of the rest of the site or deliver off-site compensation of better biodiversity value. Additionally, the development of sustainable transport schemes (Midlands Rail Hub and those arising from local transport plans) alongside the development of the Local Plan Part 2 may increase access to public transport modes, reducing the use of a private car, and therefore reducing GHG emissions, journey times and congestion, resulting in increased tranquillity and improved air quality.
	--	There is potential for cumulative loss, damage or fragmentation of statutory and non-statutory nature conservation sites and habitats if multiple developments were to come forward across similar timeframes. Although it is assumed that any potential negative effects on protected species would be mitigated at a project level, there are wider impacts on biodiversity.
SO2: Housing	++	It is anticipated that a positive cumulative effect will result if multiple housing developments were to come forward in combination with South Derbyshire's proposed development sites. These developments will help to meet housing targets across the Derby HMA and increase the provision of affordable housing in the wider area.
SO3: Accessibility and Health	++	The provision of improved public realm and open spaces as part of some of these developments (neighbouring local plans), has the potential to result in a positive cumulative effect on the health and wellbeing of the population in the region. This is because access to greenspace can provide better mental health and wellbeing outcomes including reduced levels of depression, anxiety and enhanced quality of life, as well as helping to bind communities together, reduce loneliness, and mitigate the negative effects of air pollution and excessive noise.
	--	There is a potential for a negative cumulative effect to result if multiple housing developments were to come forward without adequate infrastructure, due to the increased pressure on existing healthcare facilities arising from population growth.
SO4: Quality of Life	++	It is assumed that all schemes and projects will be built to a high standard of safety. There may be potential for a positive cumulative effect across South Derbyshire and neighbouring districts from developing land to provide housing and public realm improvements, particularly if designing out crime principles are applied. Using high quality design and landscaping can also help to generate a sense of pride and ownership within the community, helping to improve community cohesion.
SO5: Inequalities	++	A potential positive cumulative effect could result from the provision of new community facilities, employment opportunities and services as part of developments. New transport schemes (Midlands Rail Hub) will improve access and connectivity to community facilities and services, especially for the people who cannot drive or do not have access to a private car. If multiple housing developments within both South Derbyshire and neighbouring authorities were to come forward, more people will be located closer to community facilities and employment opportunities. This will result in positive cumulative effects.
	--	If adequate community infrastructure is not developed, there is a potential for a negative cumulative effect to result if multiple developments were to come forward across the District and within neighbouring local authorities due to the increased pressure on existing community facilities arising from population growth.
SO6: Economy	++	There is the potential for a positive cumulative effect on the economy if multiple large-scale developments were to come forward. These developments will provide a substantial amount of office space and jobs, as well as housing provision, which will help to improve connectivity between employment centres and residential areas. Greater cumulative connectivity will result through investments in sustainable transport developments such as Midlands Rail Hub and those arising from transport plans. This will help communities to gain greater access to jobs, services and facilities. Access to activities provides the potential for people to access education and work and participate in social, leisure and cultural activities. Greater connectivity to neighbouring districts may also bring about greater tourism opportunities.
SO7: Employment	++	There is the potential for a positive cumulative effect on employment if multiple large-scale developments were to come forward. These developments will provide a substantial amount of office space and jobs, which will help to improve connectivity between employment centres. Greater cumulative connectivity will result through investments in sustainable transport developments such as Midlands Rail Hub and neighbouring transport plans. This will help communities to gain greater access to jobs, services and facilities.
SO8: Infrastructure	++	There is the potential for positive cumulative effects on infrastructure if multiple developments were to come forward within South Derbyshire and the neighbouring area, including neighbouring local plans and local transport plans. These have the potential to help to improve access to infrastructure through pedestrian and cycle connections and access to public transport across the region.
SO9: Sustainable travel	++	There is the potential for a positive cumulative effect on accessibility and sustainable transport if multiple transport schemes were to come forward during the plan period, such as the Midlands Rail Hub and the schemes listed in local transport plans. These developments would help to increase and improve access to and connectivity of sustainable transport modes within South Derbyshire and the wider Derbyshire area. Additionally, there is potential for a positive cumulative effect as a result of improved accessibility for all users, including disabled and low-income users who may rely on public transportation.
SO10: Town and Village Centres	++	A potential positive cumulative effect on town and village centres is anticipated as a result of neighbouring local plans along with other development in the region. Development contributes to encouraging investment and the town and local centres and preserves centres and encourages retail use.
SO11: Resources	--	There is potential for a negative cumulative effect on the efficient use of land as a number of large-scale projects, such as Midlands Rail Hub, East Midlands Freeport, and NSIPs coupled with other development in neighbouring districts, could lead to a large cumulative loss of greenfield land, some of which is agricultural land.
SO12: Pollution	++	There is potential for proposed developments to incorporate flood risk mitigation, including SuDs, which could help to cumulatively reduce flood risk if implemented within South Derbyshire and in neighbouring authorities. These measures are likely to be implemented through Local Plan policies regarding flood risk management. A positive cumulative effect could result from the development of sustainable transport schemes (Midlands Rail Hub and local transport plans) in combination with new Local Plan allocations and policies. Access to public transport modes could be improved, reducing the use of a private car, and reducing GHG emissions and improving air quality. A further positive cumulative effect could result from a reduction in journey times and congestion on the highway network as a result of neighbouring local plans/transport plans.



SA Objective	Effect	Summary of Effects
	--	If adequate mitigation measures are not put in place, development in South Derbyshire and in neighbouring authority areas could result in a cumulative negative effect from increases in surface water runoff and flood risk, and impacts on surface water and groundwater, particularly from physical alteration as a result of development.
SO13: Climate Change Contributions	++	There may be cumulative benefits from transport initiatives (including Midlands Rail Hub and proposals set out in the forthcoming EMCCA Transport Plan) and low carbon developments (neighbouring local plans) in reducing greenhouse gases and climate change contributions.
	--	A potential temporary negative cumulative effect could result from construction if multiple developments were to come forward together, within South Derbyshire and neighbouring areas. Construction of these developments may increase levels of GHG emissions through the embodied carbon associated with the construction. Increased development is also likely to increase transport related GHG emissions, particularly where this leads to increases in vehicular traffic as well as embodied carbon due to development.
SO14: Climate Change Adaptation	++	Climate change adaptation measures are likely to be specific to each development, but there may be cumulative benefits if implemented across multiple plans. Investment in sustainable transport schemes, such as Midlands Rail Hub, should have positive cumulative effects on climate change from a reduction in private car use. A potential positive cumulative effect could result if multiple housing and commercial developments were to come forward, due to the provision of public realm improvements and enhancements to biodiversity as part of the design. A further positive cumulative effect may result from low carbon and energy efficient design which is resilient to the effects of climate change.
SO15: Historic Environment	++	A potential positive cumulative effect could arise as a result of the Local Plan Part 2, in combination with neighbouring local plans, due to sensitive design of the proposed housing developments which could affect the setting of any designated heritage assets. A potential positive cumulative effect could also result from the development of sustainable transport schemes (Midlands Rail Hub and local transport plans). This could increase access to public transport modes, reducing the use of a private car, and therefore reducing GHG emissions, journey times and congestion in the wider area, resulting in increased tranquillity and settings of heritage assets. A further potential positive effect could result due to improved access to the historic environment provided by the new transport schemes which could present opportunities to generate activity, vitality and tourism.
	--	There is the potential for a temporary negative cumulative effect on the historic environment if multiple housing developments and transport schemes were to come forward at the same time. During construction of these developments there is the potential for disturbance to the historic environment due to noise and air pollution.
SO16: Landscape	++	The provision of public realm improvements through local plans and transport plans could help to increase and improve the open space offering as well as the setting of South Derbyshire's townscape and landscape. This could result in a positive cumulative effect.
	--	There is potential that multiple developments could result in a cumulative loss of open spaces, greenfield land and alterations of the landscape.



10.0 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation of significant negative and uncertain effects of the plan and enhancement of positive effects are a key purpose of SA. The SEA Regulations require that mitigation measures are considered to prevent, reduce or offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan. The measures are known as 'mitigation' measures. Mitigation measures include both proactive avoidance of adverse effects and actions taken after potential effects are identified.

Mitigation provided by other Local Plan policies have been applied throughout the assessment of the Local Plan, and outlined within **Appendix C and D**. The mitigation measures proposed in **Table 10-1** are additional mitigation measures proposed, designed to avoid or reduce the effects identified as potentially negative and uncertain in the proposed policy and site assessments against the SA objectives within the SA Framework.

The table also includes enhancement measures, that aim to optimise positive impacts and enhance sustainability. Both enhancement and mitigation measures are not always within the control of the Local Plan and can be achieved through other plans and strategies.

Policy and site-specific mitigation measures are also included within **Appendices C and D**.



Table 10-1: Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

SA Obj.	Source of Effect/s	Mitigation/Enhancement	Mechanism
SO1	Policy H23: Non-Strategic Housing Allocations Policy H26: Residential Gardens within Rural Areas Policy H27: Residential Extensions and other Householder Development Policy H28: Residential Conversions Policy BNE5: Development in Rural Areas Policy BNE6: Agricultural Development Policy BNE7: Trees Woodland and Hedgerows Policy BNE12: Former Power Station Land Policy RTL2: Swadlincote Town Centre Potential Redevelopment Locations Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary Education Facilities Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village Policy INF14: Burial Grounds Policy INF16: Mercia Marina	Development will deliver a minimum of 10% BNG, as required by national policy	Site level BNG delivery (section 106 agreements) Local Plan Policy BNE3
SO1	H23A: North of Linton Road, Castle Gresley H23B: Southwest Swadlincote H23D: Land south of Walton Road, Drakelow H23F: Land south of Etwall H23G: Land East of Hatton H23H: Land East of Hilton H23J: Jawbone Lane, Melbourne H23K: Kings Newton Lane, Melbourne H23M: Land off Mount Pleasant Road, Repton H23N: William Nadin Way, Swadlincote, Site D H23P: Land off Kingfisher Way, Willington	The site should be required to implement blue / green infrastructure where possible particularly where the site can be connected to the LWS and development should maintain as much of the existing vegetation as possible.	Site level design



SA Obj.	Source of Effect/s	Mitigation/Enhancement	Mechanism
SO1 SO3	Policy BNE9: Enhancement of Local Green Spaces	Policy BNE9 could be enhanced by including specific Local Green Spaces that require improved access and related biodiversity improvements.	Policy text/ supporting text
SO3	H23B: Southwest Swadlincote	The site should improve accessibility between the site over the A444.	Site level Transport and Accessibility Assessment
SO8 SO9 SO12 SO13 SO14 SO16	Policy BNE12: Former Power Station Land	Further details of the scale and nature of future development will help to inform mitigation at the site level for any potential impacts on infrastructure, transport, pollution, climate change, flood risk and landscape.	Further site details and site level assessments
SO7	H23H: Land East of Hilton	Enhanced active travel routes to existing (and future employment) at Toyota and the Freeport would support these employers attract younger people and would ensure opportunities for employment to new residents.	Site level Transport and Accessibility Assessment
SO9	H23H: Land East of Hilton	Dedicated bus services could be sought as part of the site's development.	Site level Transport and Accessibility Assessment
SO9	Policy BNE12: Former Power Station Land	Further details of the scale and nature of future development will help to inform mitigation at the site level for any potential impacts on transport infrastructure.	Further site details and site level assessments
SO11	Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary Education Facilities Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village	A detailed agricultural land assessment should be undertaken in order to identify more accurately what the agricultural classification grade is on development sites.	Agricultural land assessment
SO11	Policy BNE8: Local Green Space	Policy BNE8 could be enhanced by specifically referring to the wider benefits of Local Green Space protection (e.g. protection of greenfield land).	Policy text/ supporting text
SO11	H23B: Southwest Swadlincote H23C: Swadlincote Lane, Church Gresley H23D: Land south of Walton Road, Drakelow	It is recommended that the wording of Policy BNE4 be expanded to ensure that development proposals give due consideration to the careful management of soils and are supported by a Soil Management Plan, where appropriate.	Policy text/ supporting text



SA Obj.	Source of Effect/s	Mitigation/Enhancement	Mechanism
	H23F: Land south of Etwall H23H: Land East of Hilton H23J: Jawbone Lane, Melbourne H23K: Kings Newton Lane, Melbourne H23M: Land off Mount Pleasant Road, Repton H23N: William Nadin Way, Swadlincote, Site D H23P: Land off Kingfisher Way, Willington		
SO11	H23L: Land off Old Etwall Road, Mickleover	100% of the land is subgrade 3, which may or may not be BMV. Further assessment would be required to confirm the quality of land within the site as per the draft wording of Policy BNE4, which means the impact on BMV is uncertain.	Agricultural land assessment
SO12	Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary Education Facilities Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village	A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be implemented during construction.	CEMP/ site level assessment
SO12	Policy H23: Non-Strategic Housing Allocations	Policy H23 should explicitly refer to pollution as a key consideration for sites.	Policy text/ supporting text
SO12	Policy H29: Extensions to and intensification of authorised Gypsy and Traveller Sites	Further details of the scale and nature of G&T extensions will help to inform any additional mitigation required for potential impacts on pollution at the site level.	Further site details and site level assessments
SO12	Policy RTL2: Swadlincote Town Centre Potential Redevelopment Locations Policy INF16: Mercia Marina	Further details of the scale and nature of future development will help to inform mitigation at the site level for any potential impacts on pollution.	Further site details and site level assessments
SO13	Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary Education Facilities	Policy INF12 could be enhanced through the inclusion of requirements for sustainable transport modes and electric vehicle charging points.	Policy text/ supporting text
SO14	Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village	Flood risk mitigation measures, including SuDS, should be incorporated into scheme design.	Site level design
SO14	Policy BNE8: Local Green Space	Policy BNE8 could be enhanced by specifically referring to the wider benefits of Local Green Space protection (e.g. flood risk management).	Policy text/ supporting text



SA Obj.	Source of Effect/s	Mitigation/Enhancement	Mechanism
SO14	Policy INF12: Provision of Secondary Education Facilities Policy INF13: Infinity Garden Village	Development should be undertaken to a high and utilise sensitive design to ensure conservation of the local landscape character.	Site level design
SO14	H23B: Southwest Swadlincote H23D: Land south of Walton Road, Drakelow H23G: Land East of Hatton H23H: Land East of Hilton H23I: Land off Primula Way, Littleover	As the areas covered by a watercourse and flood risk are discrete, it is likely that development would be able to be designed with an appropriate layout to avoid the areas of flood risk within the site.	Site level design
S015	H23D: Land south of Walton Road, Drakelow	Drakelow House is within the site boundary. It is not designated as a heritage asset, but assessment should be undertaken to understand any historic importance of the building prior to development.	Site level Heritage Assessment
S015	H23M: Land off Mount Pleasant Road, Repton	Development of the site would need to be supported by archaeological surveys where necessary. In this instance, the Historic Environment Record area is sufficiently distanced such that development of the site is unlikely to materially impact the heritage asset. Therefore, a neutral effect is identified.	Site level Heritage Assessment



11.0 Proposed Monitoring Arrangements

The SEA Regulations require that monitoring is undertaken on a plan so that the significant effects of implementation can be identified, and remedial action imposed. The purpose of the monitoring is to provide an important measure of the sustainability outcome of the final plan, and to measure the performance of the plan against sustainability objectives and targets. Monitoring is also used to manage uncertainty, improve knowledge, enhance transparency and accountability, and to manage sustainability information.

The aim of monitoring is to check whether the plan is having the significant effects that were predicted in the SA, and to deal with any unforeseen problems. Those remaining significant effects (albeit uncertain effects) that remain following the implementation of the mitigation and enhancement measures above include the following:

- **SO9:** Uncertainty on what transport infrastructure will be provided or how development will be integrated with existing transport infrastructure and services;
- **SO11:** Significant negative effects remain as development is likely to lead to the loss of greenfield land and BMV land;
- **SO12:** Uncertainty on the potential effects on air quality, noise, light or water quality from future development;
- **SO13:** Uncertainty on the details of the scale and nature of future development and how it they will mitigate against climate change;
- **SO14:** Uncertainty on the details of the scale and nature of future development and how it they will mitigate against flood risk; and
- **SO16:** Uncertainty on the details of the scale and nature of future development and how it they will mitigate against any potential impacts on landscape.

It should be noted that these uncertain effects are generally where limited scheme information is currently available.

Table 11-1 below sets out the proposed monitoring measures which could be suitable in monitoring the uncertain residual effects outlined above. The final monitoring schedule will be included within the Adoption Statement, with any relevant targets outlined within the adopted Local Plan included.



Table 11-1: Proposed Monitoring Measures

Potential Effects	Potential Key Performance Indicators	Monitoring Mechanism
SO9: Uncertainty on what transport infrastructure will be provided or how development will be integrated with existing transport infrastructure and services	- Modal share of journeys by walking, cycling and public transport - Number/proportion of developments delivering identified transport infrastructure improvements - Accessibility of new development to key services by sustainable modes - Traffic volumes on key routes	- Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) - Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) monitoring - Highway Authority transport monitoring data - Travel Plan monitoring reports
SO11: Significant negative effects remain as development is likely to lead to the loss of greenfield land and BMV land	- Hectares of greenfield land developed annually - Hectares of Best and Most Versatile (Grades 1, 2 and 3a) agricultural land lost to development - Percentage of housing delivered on previously developed land (PDL)	- AMR - Agricultural Land Classification surveys submitted with applications
SO12: Uncertainty on the potential effects on air quality, noise, light or water quality from future development	- Number of planning permissions requiring air quality, noise or lighting mitigation - Monitoring results for Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) - Number of substantiated statutory nuisance complaints relating to noise or light pollution - Ecological and chemical status of local waterbodies	- Local authority environmental monitoring reports - Environmental Health records - Environment Agency water quality monitoring - Planning condition compliance monitoring
SO13: Uncertainty on the details of the scale and nature of future development and how it they will mitigate against climate change;	- Percentage of major developments incorporating renewable or low-carbon energy technologies - Estimated carbon emissions from new development - Number/proportion of developments meeting adopted energy efficiency standards - Installed renewable energy capacity delivered through the plan	- AMR - Sustainability statements submitted with planning applications



Potential Effects	Potential Key Performance Indicators	Monitoring Mechanism
SO14: Uncertainty on the details of the scale and nature of future development and how it they will mitigate against flood risk; and	• Number of planning permissions contrary to Environment Agency advice on flood risk grounds • Number of applications incorporating SuDS • Number of completed developments within Flood Zones 2 and 3 • Recorded flood incidents affecting new development	• Environment Agency flood monitoring • Lead Local Flood Authority monitoring • Strategic Flood Risk Assessment updates
SO16: Uncertainty on the details of the scale and nature of future development and how it they will mitigate against any potential impacts on landscape	• Number/proportion of developments incorporating landscape mitigation measures • Amount of development permitted within designated landscape areas • Area of habitat creation, green infrastructure and landscape enhancement delivered • Number of appeals allowed where landscape harm was a principal issue	• AMR • Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments



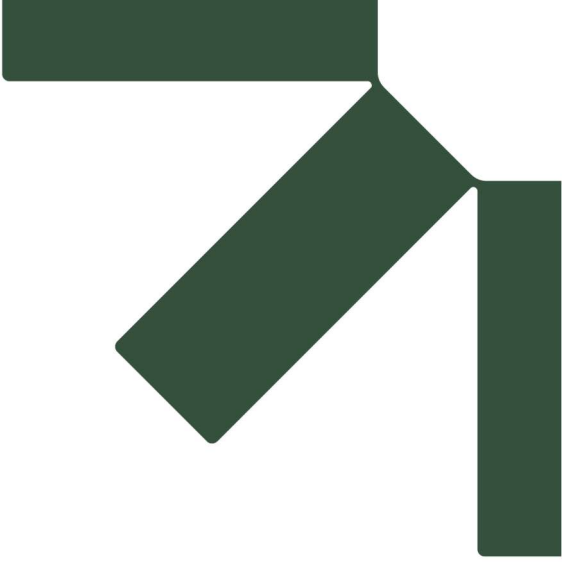
12.0 Next Steps

This SA Report and accompanying NTS and Regulation 19 version of the Local Plan Part 2 Review will be consulted on in October/November 2026, prior to submission to the Secretary of State for Examination in Public in 2027.

Table 12-1: South Derbyshire Local Plan Timetable

Local Plan Activity	Timeframe
Public Consultation	October/November 2026
Submission	December 2026
Examination	Spring 2027
Adoption	Summer 2027





Appendix A Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Sustainability Appraisal

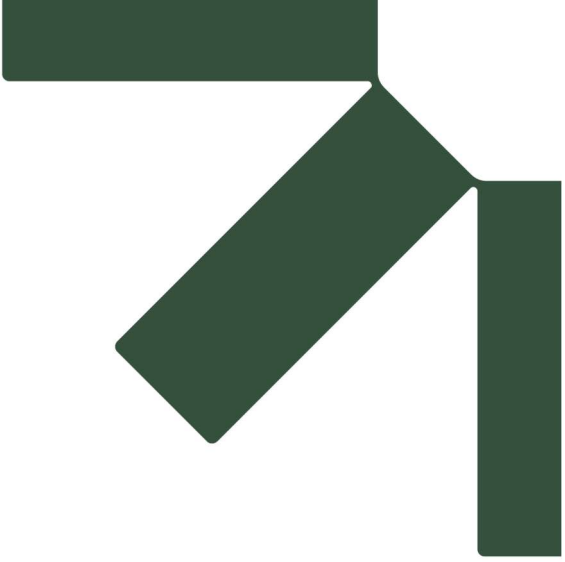
Regulation 19 Sustainability Appraisal Report

South Derbyshire District Council

SLR Project No.: 430.000116.00001

19 October 2026





Appendix B Baseline Data

South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Sustainability Appraisal

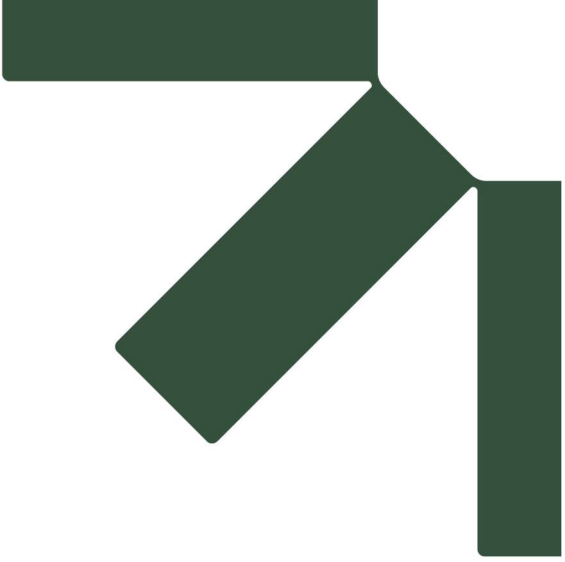
Regulation 19 Sustainability Appraisal Report

South Derbyshire District Council

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Appendix C Policies Assessment

South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Sustainability Appraisal

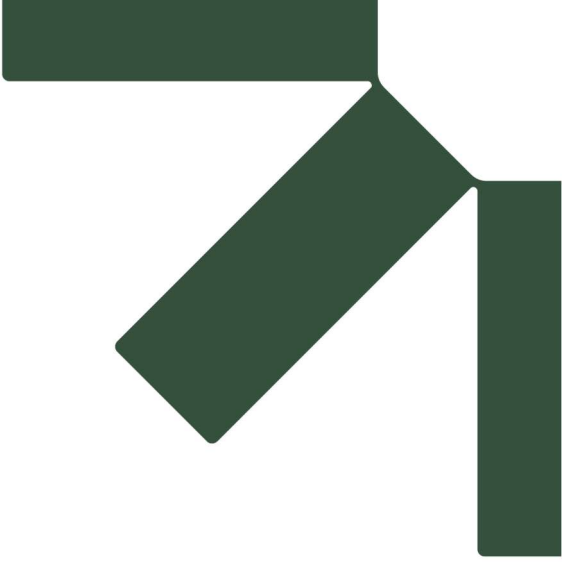
Regulation 19 Sustainability Appraisal Report

South Derbyshire District Council

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Appendix D Sites Assessment

South Derbyshire Local Plan Part 2 Sustainability Appraisal

Regulation 19 Sustainability Appraisal Report

South Derbyshire District Council

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19 October 2026





Making Sustainability Happen