

## **SA/SEA Scoping for the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village (OCGV) Area Action Plan (AAP) and West Eynsham Strategic Development Area (SDA) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

1. As you may be aware, West Oxfordshire District Council recently adopted its new Local Plan covering the period up to 2031.
2. The plan includes two strategic site allocations at Eynsham – land to the north of Eynsham which is intended to accommodate a new garden village of around 2,200 homes and land to the west of Eynsham which is intended to accommodate a sustainable urban extension of around 1,000 homes. A site context plan is attached to this letter for ease of reference (**Appendix I**).
3. The detailed planning of the garden village site is to be taken forward through an ‘Area Action Plan’ (AAP) and for the west Eynsham site through a supplementary planning document (SPD) in the form of a ‘development framework’.
4. As a formal development plan document, the proposed Garden Village AAP must be subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) in accordance with legislative requirements. Whilst there is no legal requirement to subject the proposed West Eynsham SPD to SA, the Council intends to given the inter-relationship between the two sites, particularly in respect of transport and movement and infrastructure provision.
5. Given that significant SA work has already been carried out in support of the Local Plan, including consideration of the proposals at Eynsham, rather than prepare a full, separate SA scoping report, the District Council has set out the proposed scope of its planned SA work for the garden village and west Eynsham sites in the form of this letter.
6. In line with Government guidance, an integrated SA and SEA process will be undertaken. Therefore, throughout this letter the term ‘SA’ should be taken to mean ‘SA incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive’. The letter seeks to meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations as efficiently as possible and will be the subject of consultation with the statutory environmental bodies for a 5-week period.
7. In order to ensure timely progress with the AAP and SPD it would be helpful if you could respond to this scoping request no later than **4 January 2019**.

### **Previous SA scoping and the proposed approach for the Garden Village and West Eynsham**

8. Scoping is the first stage in the SA process, with the purpose of setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope of the SA.
9. The five sub-tasks involved in the Scoping stage include:
  1. Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives (Task A1).
  2. Collating baseline information (Task A2).
  3. Identifying sustainability issues and problems (Task A3).
  4. Developing the SA framework (Task A4)
  5. Consulting on the scope of the SA (Task A5).
10. To inform the SA of the Local Plan 2031, an initial scoping report was prepared in 2007 and subsequently updated in 2008 and 2009.

11. The scoping report(s) drew out a number of key objectives through consideration of relevant plans and programmes and assessed a range of baseline information to identify a series of sustainability issues and problems.
12. The key objectives and sustainability issues were then reflected in the agreed SA framework which comprised the following 16 headline objectives (and associated sub-objectives/decision-aiding questions):
  1. Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home
  2. Improve health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities
  3. Promote thriving and inclusive communities
  4. Improve education and training
  5. Maintain a low level of crime and fear of crime
  6. Improve accessibility to all services and facilities
  7. Improve the efficiency of land use
  8. Reduce waste generation and disposal
  9. Reduce air pollution and improve air quality
  10. Address the causes of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and be prepared for its impacts.
  11. Protect and improve soil and water resources
  12. Reduce the risk from all sources of flooding
  13. Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity
  14. Conserve and enhance landscape character and the historic environment
  15. Maintain high and stable levels of employment
  16. Promote sustainable economic growth and competitiveness
13. Whilst the baseline information and consideration of relevant plans and programmes was updated as part of the Local Plan SA report produced in 2015, the SA framework remained unaltered and was used throughout the Local Plan process including SA addendum reports published in 2016, 2017 and 2018.
14. Given that the SA work carried out in support of the Local Plan has very recently been found sound<sup>1</sup>, the Council considers that it provides a logical and robust starting point for the further SA work to be undertaken in respect of the garden village AAP and west Eynsham SPD.
15. As such, a relatively 'light touch' is proposed whereby the Council has in this scoping letter focused on recent plans and programmes and baseline information of particular importance and significance to the Eynsham area in order to understand whether the sustainability 'issues and problems' identified in the broader SA of the Local Plan remain relevant and applicable and/or whether there are any more locally specific issues that need to be addressed through the further SA work that is proposed for the Eynsham sites.
16. This in turn enables a judgement to be made on the suitability of the 16 SA headline objectives (and associated sub-objectives/decision-aiding questions) used in the Local Plan SA work and whether they need to be refined and/or augmented.

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<sup>1</sup> Inspector's report of 24 August 2018 - <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1887174/West-Oxfordshire-Report.pdf>

## Task A1 Update: Review of relevant plans, policies and programmes

17. The Council's most recent assessment of relevant plans, policies and programmes – PPPs (and the key sustainability objectives arising) was undertaken as part of the Local Plan SA report produced in February 2015.
18. The report considered a broad range of international, national, regional and local plans and programmes including various European directives, the NPPF (2012) the National Infrastructure Plan (2013) the Oxfordshire Strategic Economic Plan, Cotswolds AONB Management Plan and various local authority Core Strategies and Local Plans.
19. From this, the following key sustainability objectives were identified:
  - conserve and enhance natural habitats, biodiversity and geodiversity
  - the protection, improvement and sustainable use of water resources
  - maintain and improve air quality
  - respond to climate change by reducing carbon emissions and adapt to the likely impacts of climate change
  - promote and encourage the development of renewable and low-carbon decentralised energy sources
  - make the best use of previously developed land
  - encourage the sustainable use of natural resources
  - reduce waste generation and achieve the sustainable management of waste, addressing it as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option
  - achieve a wide choice of high quality homes to address the requirements of the community
  - tackle the overall shortage of affordable housing by increasing supply
  - create inclusive and mixed communities and tackle social exclusion wherever it exists
  - promote and enhance existing town centres encouraging a wide range of services accessible to all
  - promote diversification and adaptable agricultural sectors whose farming achieves high environmental standards
  - protect and enhance historic and cultural landscapes with particular attention given to designated areas
  - maximise the benefits of tourism and the economic contribution it makes to rural areas
  - reduce the need to travel wherever possible especially by car and promote more sustainable transport choices
  - improve accessibility to all services and facilities
  - where possible, avoid flood risk to people or property, considering it on a catchment wide basis and recognising that flood risk will increase with climate change
  - improve the health and well-being of people and reduce inequalities in health
  - encourage healthy lifestyles and develop high quality, sustainable and accessible sport, recreation and leisure facilities
  - reduce crime and fear of crime
  - ensure the skills of the workforce match existing and potential business opportunities
  - ensure high and stable levels of employment
  - encourage sustainable economic growth and competitiveness

20. While the SA framework used in the preparation of the Local Plan 2031 is relevant here, regard for updated information and policy contexts must also be given. Thus, a review of PPPs that have come into effect since the last review in 2015 has been completed as part of this scoping letter and is found in **Appendix 2**.
21. The following PPPs are considered to be of particular importance/significance to future proposed growth at Eynsham:

National	Regional /Sub-Regional	Local
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2018)</li> <li>The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017)</li> <li>Historic Environment Good Practice Advice (2015)</li> <li>TCPA Garden City Principles and Guidance: Guides 1-9 (2016/17)</li> <li>MHCLG Garden Communities Prospectus (2018)</li> <li>Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) (2017)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oxfordshire Strategic Economic Plan (2016)</li> <li>Oxfordshire Strategic Environmental Economic Investment Plan (2015)</li> <li>Oxfordshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) (2018)</li> <li>Oxfordshire Housing &amp; Growth Deal (2017)</li> <li>Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (2017)</li> <li>Connecting Oxfordshire: Local Transport Plan 2015-2031 (2016)</li> <li>Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Part 1: Core Strategy (2017)</li> <li>Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2018 – 2021 (2018)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 (2018)</li> <li>West Oxfordshire Design Guide (2016)</li> <li>Draft Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan (30 September 2018)</li> </ul>

22. In light of the updated assessment of plans, policies and programmes, the following additional sustainability objectives have been identified in addition to those included in the previous SA of the Local Plan. These are reflected in the proposed sub-objectives set out in the SA framework attached at Appendix 3.

- To ensure that identified housing needs are met including unmet needs arising from Oxford City;
- To accelerate where possible the delivery of new housing including affordable housing;
- Ensuring that new development is supported by appropriate and timely investment in infrastructure;
- To promote increased levels of home working, facilitated by improved broadband provision, to reduce out-commuting and increase the self-containment of communities;
- Maintain and improve transport connections to support economic growth and vitality
- To develop a high quality, innovative and resilient integrated transport system;

- Ensure a sufficient supply of aggregate materials is available to meet identified development needs with priority given to secondary and recycled aggregate materials (where practicable);
- Ensuring a strong link between jobs and housing growth;
- Innovation-led growth, underpinned by the strength of Oxfordshire’s research, business collaboration and supply chain potential;
- Promote high quality design that protects and enriches the character of the District;
- Supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities;
- To meet the needs of a range of different age groups including children and young people and older people.

23. Of particular relevance to the proposed Garden Village AAP are the garden city principles which have been identified by the TCPA as follows:

- Strong vision, leadership and community engagement;
- Community ownership of land and long term stewardship of assets;
- Provision of a wide range of jobs within easy commuting distance of homes;
- Ensuring a broad mix of housing types and tenures that are genuinely affordable including starter homes and opportunities for self-build;
- Providing integrated and accessible transport systems, with walking, cycling and public transport designed to be the most attractive forms of local transport;
- Beautifully and imaginatively designed homes with gardens, combining the best of town and country to create healthy communities, and including opportunities to grow food;
- Strong cultural, recreational and shopping facilities in walkable, vibrant, sociable neighbourhoods;
- Development that enhances the natural environment, providing a comprehensive green infrastructure network and net biodiversity gains, and seeks to minimise carbon use and achieve energy-positive technology to ensure climate resilience;
- Land value capture for the benefit of the community.

24. Also of relevance is the Government’s Garden Communities Programme, the prospectus<sup>2</sup> for which sets out a number of ‘key qualities’ that new Garden Communities such as the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village will be expected to demonstrate. These include:

- Clear identity** – a distinctive local identity as a new garden community, including at its heart an attractive and functioning centre and public realm.
- Sustainable scale** – built at a scale which supports the necessary infrastructure to allow the community to function self-sufficiently on a day to day basis, with the capacity for future growth to meet the evolving housing and economic needs of the local area.
- Well-designed places** – with vibrant mixed use communities that support a range of local employment types and premises, retail opportunities, recreational and community facilities.
- Great homes** – offer a wide range of high quality, distinctive homes. This includes affordable housing and a mix of tenures for all stages of life.
- Strong local vision and engagement** – designed and executed with the engagement and involvement of the existing local community, and future residents and businesses. This should include consideration of how the natural and historic environment of the local area is reflected and respected.

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<sup>2</sup> Garden Communities Prospectus (Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government , August 2018) - [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/734145/Garden\\_Communities\\_Prospectus.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/734145/Garden_Communities_Prospectus.pdf)

- f) **Transport** –integrated, forward looking and accessible transport options that support economic prosperity and wellbeing for residents. This should include promotion of public transport, walking, and cycling so that settlements are easy to navigate, and facilitate simple and sustainable access to jobs, education, and services.
  - g) **Healthy places** – designed to provide the choices and chances for all to live a healthy life, through taking a whole systems approach to key local health & wellbeing priorities and strategies.
  - h) **Green space** – generous, accessible, and good quality green and blue infrastructure that promotes health, wellbeing, and quality of life, and considers opportunities to deliver environmental gains such as biodiversity net gain and enhancements to natural capital.
  - i) **Legacy and stewardship arrangements** – should be in place for the care of community assets, infrastructure and public realm, for the benefit of the whole community.
  - j) **Future proofed** – designed to be resilient places that allow for changing demographics, future growth, and the impacts of climate change including flood risk and water availability, with durable landscape and building design planned for generations to come. This should include anticipation of the opportunities presented by technological change such as driverless cars and renewable energy measures.
25. To ensure that the garden community principles and qualities outlined above are embedded into the OCGV AAP, they are included in the SA Framework attached at Appendix 3 such that each sustainability objective addresses at least one garden community principle/quality.

#### **Task A2 Update: Baseline information**

26. Baseline information provides the context for assessing the sustainability of different options and provides the basis for identifying trends, predicting the likely effects of the proposals and monitoring their outcomes.
27. The requirements for baseline data vary widely, but it must be relevant to environmental, social and economic issues, be sensitive to change and should ideally relate to records which are sufficient to identify trends.
28. Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive requires data to be gathered on biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the inter-relationship between the above factors.
29. Baseline information for the whole of West Oxfordshire District has been collated and regularly updated through the SA of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 and has been consulted on as part of the SA process. The most recent District-wide baseline data is set out in SA Addendum Report Appendix 2 (September 2016)<sup>3</sup> and data pack produced by the District Data Service.<sup>4</sup>
30. To help inform this scoping letter, specific regard has been had to baseline data of particular relevance to the Eynsham area. This includes information made available as part of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) undertaken in 2018<sup>5</sup> a Local Insight Profile for the Eynsham area published in January 2018 and updated in October 2018 and the latest draft version of the Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan (September 2018). It also includes information

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1572185/CD10-Sustainability-Appraisal-Addendum-Appendices.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.oxford.gov.uk/districtdata/downloads/file/349/west\\_oxfordshire\\_datapack\\_2016pptx](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/districtdata/downloads/file/349/west_oxfordshire_datapack_2016pptx)

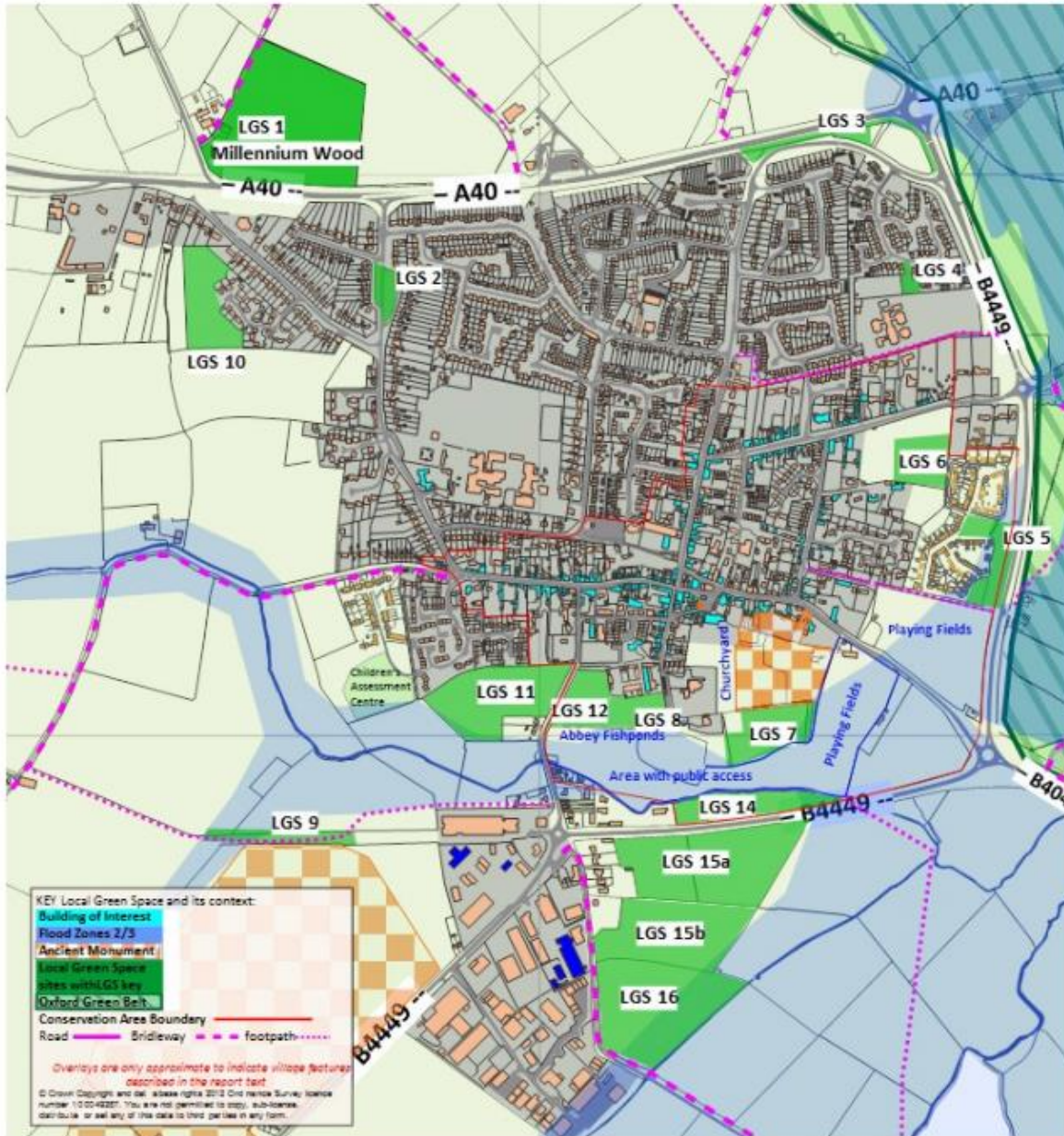
<sup>5</sup> <http://insight.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/joint-strategic-needs-assessment>

drawn from the existing Local Plan evidence base where it is of specific relevance to the Eynsham area (e.g. landscape character).

31. For ease of reference, the baseline information is summarised according to the 3 'pillars' of sustainability – Environment, Society and Economy.

#### Environmental

32. Eynsham is a village in West Oxfordshire, close to the City of Oxford and is located immediately south of the A40 around half way between Witney and Oxford. It falls within Eynsham Parish which extends to the north of the A40 and to the west to include Barnard Gate.
33. Eynsham has a rich heritage with the settlement being originally established as a consequence of its proximity to the River Thames and the crossing at Swinford. The first documented reference to Eynsham is in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle for AD 571 but there is also evidence of occupation in the Roman period and a Bronze Age enclosure ditch over 3,000 years old was found under the site of the former Eynsham Abbey.
34. A Conservation Area covers much of the southern part of Eynsham and there are a number of listed buildings. Collectively, there are 5 Grade II Listed Buildings within the OCGV and West Eynsham sites and 4 in close proximity to the site boundaries. Additionally within the village of Eynsham itself, there are 71 Grade II Listed Buildings, one Grade II\*, and two Scheduled Monuments. A third Scheduled Monument lies immediately adjacent to the West Eynsham site overlapping with a small part of the southern end of the site.
35. Eynsham village has a squarer form than its surrounding settlements which tend to follow a more linear form along roads. Eynsham's original core was extended as part of a planned medieval settlement and has since been obscured by post-WWII modern development until the late 1990s. The majority of dwellings were built between 1945 and 1999 (66.8%) with just 11% being built since 2000. Compared to the national average there are more detached, semi-detached and terraced properties and much fewer flats. Notably, compared to the District average there are fewer detached properties and more semi-detached and terraced properties.
36. As a result of its historic origins, the village has a distinct, compact form being tightly hemmed in by continuous functional flood plain from the south west to north east and the A40 to the north. The compact nature of the village means it is very walkable, allowing residents to access shops, schools, pubs, places of worship and other services, events and meetings that take place in various venues on foot. There is however a relative lack of green space – an issue highlighted in the draft Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan which seeks to identify a number of local green spaces as shown on the plan overleaf.



37. In landscape terms, much of the land to the west and north of Eynsham falls within the 'Eynsham Vale' landscape character area as defined in the West Oxfordshire Landscape Assessment (1998).
38. Overall, the Eynsham Vale has an attractive and largely unspoilt, rural character but with some localised variations in quality and condition. The majority of the garden village site and the northern half of the West Eynsham site are classified as 'semi-enclosed rolling vale farmland'. Characteristics of this landscape type include a stronger structure of trees and hedgerows, trees and occasional belts or blocks of woodland, a semi- enclosed character and moderate intervisibility.
39. At West Eynsham, the southern half of the site (south of Chilbridge Road) is classified as 'open rolling vale farmland' and is therefore more sensitive in landscape terms. Characteristics of this landscape type include larger-scale, cultivated fields (predominantly arable) with regular



field boundaries, a weak structure of tightly clipped hedges and few hedgerow trees, an open, denuded character and high intervisibility.

40. The eastern part of the garden village site is classified as 'semi-enclosed flat vale farmland' with characteristics being distinctly flat and low-lying, a stronger landscape structure of ditches, hedgerows and occasional woodland blocks and a semi-enclosed character with moderate to low intervisibility.
41. As part of collective work on unmet housing need in 2016<sup>6</sup>, independent consultants LUC assessed a large proportion of the garden village site (excluding the northern parts around City Farm) and concluded that it was of 'medium-high' landscape sensitivity as a result of its strong rural character. LUC also assessed the northern half of the West Eynsham site concluding that it is of 'medium' landscape sensitivity due to the contribution it makes to the rural setting of Eynsham.
42. In terms of biodiversity, the West Eynsham and OCGV sites contain, and are in proximity to, areas notable for their biodiversity and ecology. Within the OCGV site, sensitivities and designations include: predominantly lower though some high spatial priority areas of woodland priority habitat network; high priority for stewardship of farm wildlife areas; Keeping Rivers Cool project area; woodland for water priority catchment area; environmentally sensitive area of the upper Thames tributaries (south east corner of site); nitrate vulnerable zone for surface water; drinking water safeguard zone (surface water); drinking water protection area; some areas classified within Flood Zone 2 and immediately adjacent to areas classified as Flood Zone 2 and 3; stewardship agreements; and agricultural land (including some best and most versatile agricultural land).
43. The site also includes the Eynsham Millennium Wood which is part of the national forest inventory, a woodland improvement area, Woodland Trust site, and part of the Woodland Grant Scheme 3.
44. Land at West Eynsham contains a number of sensitivities and designations including: predominantly lower though some high spatial priority areas of woodland priority habitat network (north east part of site); priority habitat for deciduous woodland; priority species for countryside stewardship targeting (Lapwing and Brown Hairstreak); Keeping Rivers Cool project area; nitrate vulnerable zone (surface water); drinking water safeguard zone (surface water); drinking water protection area; areas around the Chil Brook classified within Flood Zone 2 and 3; and agricultural land (including some best and most versatile agricultural land).
45. Of relevance to both sites is the Oxford Meadows Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which is located approximately 2.5km and 3.7km east of the OCGV and West Eynsham sites respectively. It comprises a lowland hay meadow and includes vegetation communities that are unique, reflecting the influence of long-term grazing and hay cutting on lowland hay meadows. The previous Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) work carried out in support of the Local Plan identified potential issues in terms of air pollution (nitrogen oxide emissions from vehicular activity along the A40, and nitrogen deposition) and recommended plan-level measures to enable a conclusion of no adverse effect to be reached.
46. Both sites are also in close proximity to the Oxford Green Belt which lies adjacent to the OCGV site on its eastern boundary. Both sites are within the outer most impact risk zones for nationally recognised Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) nearby to the east and southeast including Wytham Woods, Wytham ditches and flushes, and Cassington Meadows.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1572227/SD14-Oxford-Spatial-Options-Assessment-LUC-September-2016-.pdf>

47. In terms of green infrastructure, both sites contain bridleway networks and public right of ways (PRoWs). The OCGV site also includes the Eynsham Millennium Wood. Eynsham itself also has a number of playing/recreation fields, well-maintained allotments and informal 'dog walking' fields.
48. Transport is a key issue for this sub-area. The A40 runs east-west through it and significant congestion occurs between Eynsham and Oxford at peak times. This also has a knock-on effect as drivers choose to avoid the A40 by using the A4095 through Long Hanborough and Bladon before joining the A44 just south of Woodstock. This leads to large volumes of through traffic in those villages and congestion on the A44 approaches to Oxford.
49. A further key issue for Eynsham is the congestion caused at peak times by the Swinford Toll Bridge to the south east as drivers opt to use the B4044 as a further alternative to the A40 for travel into and beyond Oxford. Further pressure on the primary routes is caused by industrial traffic from the Lower Windrush area which often travels north, due to inadequate river crossings to the south (e.g. Newbridge).
50. In terms of public transport, Eynsham has access to very good bus services, with regular premium services to Oxford, Witney and Carterton. There is a need to improve bus journey times, however, through Eynsham and approaching the Wolvercote roundabout on the edge of Oxford. £35m of funding has been made available through the local growth fund and will be used to implement improvements including the provision of a new park and ride site to the north of Eynsham, coupled with the provision of an eastbound bus lane between the park and ride and the Duke's Cut canal bridge near Wolvercote. Further funding potential exists through the Government's Housing and Infrastructure Fund (HIF) which would enable westbound bus priority together with additional dualling and other improvements to the A40.
51. In term of rail infrastructure, Hanborough Station is located around 5km to the north of Eynsham along Lower Road.
52. Notably the number of households with no car or just one car is higher than District average and the number with two or more cars is below the District average. Those that live in Eynsham travel an average of 15.6km to work while those who work in Eynsham travel 18.3km from home.<sup>7</sup> Further, Eynsham residents commute primarily to Woodstock, Witney, Kidlington and Oxford city, as well as Cotswold District and London.
53. Levels of air pollutants are in line with the District and national averages in terms of Benzene (0.01ppm) and particulates (0.4ppm). Concentrations of nitrogen dioxide are slightly higher than the District average (0.3ppm versus 0.2ppm) but below national levels (0.5ppm) and sulphur dioxide is on a par with the District average which itself is just below the national average (0.04ppm for District and village versus 0.05ppm nationally). While air quality in Eynsham is relatively good, the congestion along the A40 and potential impacts on the Oxford Meadows SAC and the Oxford Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) are a key consideration.

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<sup>7</sup> Eynsham Commuting Data - <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1876254/Eynsham-Travel-to-Work.pdf> (2011)

## Social

54. Eynsham falls within the Eynsham – Woodstock sub-area as defined by the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031. It is the third largest of the Local Plan's five sub-areas, covering around 14,000 hectares and accommodating a population of around 21,000 people. The three main settlements within the sub-area are Eynsham, Long Hanborough and Woodstock.
55. With a population of around 5,000, Eynsham is the fourth largest settlement in West Oxfordshire, located just south of the A40, half-way between Oxford and Witney and just beyond the western edge of the Oxford Green Belt. Eynsham is an important local service centre offering a wide range of facilities and employment.
56. The indicative housing requirement for the Eynsham – Woodstock sub-area as set out in the West Oxfordshire Local Plan is 5,596 homes in the period 2011 – 2031. This includes past completions (547 homes) existing large commitments (1,258 homes) existing small commitments (164 homes) allocated sites (3,338) and future 'windfall' development (289 homes).
57. Eynsham has been identified as the location with the greatest potential for further development due to the size of the settlement as well as its proximity and connections to Oxford City and the Oxfordshire 'knowledge spine'. As a result, the area to the west of Eynsham has been allocated as a strategic development area for around 1,000 homes while the area to the north of Eynsham will be the site of the garden village with a working assumption of around 2,200 new homes.
58. Relative to national averages, Eynsham has: a larger proportion of owner-occupied housing (74.4% versus 64.1%); fewer owner-occupied shared ownership homes (0.5% versus 0.9%); social rented households (12.3% versus 17.7%); and homes rented from Council (2.6% versus 9.4%). There are more homes rented from a housing association or social landlord (9.7% versus 8.3%) and fewer rented from a private landlord or letting agency (11.0% versus 15.4%).
59. The average house price in Eynsham is £430,965 compared to the England average of £342,964. The affordability gap for affordable housing is £53,104 and £126,541 for the average house price, significantly higher than national averages in both regards (£39,328 and £42,272 for England respectively).
60. At present in West Oxfordshire there are eleven authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites, including at Stanton Harcourt, Barnard Gate and Eynsham. The sites are small, accommodating one family and are privately run. There are also sites for Travelling Showpeople at Cassington, and Freeland. The existing Travelling Showpeople site at Cuckoowood Farm, Freeland, has been identified as suitable for limited expansion and received planning approval for 6 additional plots in March 2017. Further potential for an additional site to meet the accommodation needs of the travelling communities will be considered as part of the future masterplan work of the Strategic Development Areas, especially the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village.
61. According to 2016 data, Eynsham has a significantly larger population aged 65+ (24.3%) relative to the District (20.9%) and England averages (17.9%). A snapshot of 2015 data also reveals that the Eynsham and Cassington ward had the highest number of older people in the District (though Burford had the highest proportion).

62. Eynsham's population also contains significantly more 'White British' people than the national average (92.2% compared to 79.8%), with relatively few 'non-white' residents (3.5% versus 14.6% nationally). Christianity is the majority religion (64%) with 'no religion' a distant second (26.9%). Compared to England household averages, there are more pensioner households (27.8% of Eynsham's households versus 20.7% of England's), fewer single-person households (12.6% in Eynsham versus 17.9% nationally), fewer lone parent families with dependent children (17.8% in Eynsham versus 24.5% nationally), and more married households (37.3% in Eynsham versus 33.2% in England).
63. Eynsham has a vibrant, active community that sustains a good range of shops and retail businesses as well as many societies, clubs and sports teams. Whilst Eynsham is a village, its size makes it larger than many nearby small towns. Unlike a small town, however, there is no commercial centre, with the village's core features including the church and the square in the historic centre with shops and services scattered along the oldest streets<sup>8</sup>. The village has a medical centre (the Eynsham Medical Centre), village hall, three churches, 3 play areas, football and cricket pitch, and a number of other community facilities. The percentage of total green space (all types) coverage is 1.1% in Eynsham versus 0.7% in West Oxfordshire and 2.2% in England.
64. There are two schools, one secondary (Bartholomew School) and one primary (Eynsham Community Primary School). Pupil attainment at Key Stage 4 is above average (409.0 versus 377.8 for the District and 366.3 across England) and at Key Stage 1 and 2, broadly in line. In terms of early years, the number of pupils achieving at least the expected level in all 17 early learning goals is lower than the District and national averages (57.9% in Eynsham, 64% in West Oxfordshire, and 58.0% in England) as is the percentage of pupils achieving a 'good level of development' (53.9% in Eynsham versus 65% District-wide and 60% in England).
65. The proportion of people in Eynsham with no qualifications (20%) is less than the national average (22.5%) but higher than the District average (17.6%). The proportion with the highest qualification (equivalent to degree or higher) is slightly above the District average (33.3% versus 32.9%) and above the national average (27.4%).
66. Between June 2017 and May 2018, the number of all crimes reported in Eynsham was 46.3 per 1,000 of the population, significantly lower than the national average of 134.5. In terms of health and well-being the proportion of residents with a limiting long-term illness, whilst slightly higher than the District average (16.3% versus 14.5%), remains lower than the national Average (17.6%). Compared to national incidence levels, nearly twice the numbers of people are likely to have colorectal cancer (incidence ratio of 193 versus 104 for the District) and are more likely to die from stroke incidence ratio of 120 for Eynsham versus 101 for West Oxon).
67. The percentage of physically active adults is slightly lower than the District average (64% versus 66% of the adult population) and a higher proportion of people (both children and adults) are classified as obese relative to District levels (8.8% of reception year children in Eynsham versus 66% District-wide and 62% across England; 16% of year 6 children in Eynsham versus 15.4% in the District and 19.4% in England; 24.9% of adults in Eynsham versus 23.5% District-wide and 24.1% in England).

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<sup>8</sup> Eynsham Draft Neighbourhood Plan page 5 <https://eynsham-pc.gov.uk/variable/organisation/173/attachments/ENP-policies-v3.09.pdf>

68. The number of emergency hospital admissions is also higher than the District average though below England rates. Overall life expectancy is on a par with West Oxfordshire as a whole which is slightly higher than the national average 81 years for males in Eynsham and West Oxon versus 79 years across England; 84 years for females in Eynsham and West Oxon versus 83 years for England).

#### Economic

69. Eynsham plays an important economic role and along with Carterton, Chipping Norton and Witney and is a relatively important centre in terms of commercial property. Wharf Road, Eynsham is home to one of West Oxfordshire's largest employers, Siemens Magnet Technology. There is also an area of established business use to the south of Eynsham along either side of the B4499 – Oasis Park and Oakfields Industrial Estate. Just fewer than 18% of businesses are in the professional, scientific and technical services sector.
70. Evidence<sup>9</sup> prepared in support of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 identifies the Eynsham and Woodstock sub-area as being of particular importance with around 25% of the District's employment as a whole located here with around 10,400 jobs (a higher number of jobs than resident workers).
71. It also identifies a relative lack of employment land provision and suggests that in the Eynsham – Woodstock sub-area, there is a need to allocate further land for employment to support the growth of the Oxford City region. It is for this reason that the garden village allocation makes provision for 40 ha of new business land (out of a total site area of around 215 ha).
72. The proportion of economically active people aged 16-74 is higher than the national average (73.6% versus 69.9% respectively) but below the District average (76.8%). There are more economically inactive residents compared to West Oxfordshire as a whole (26.4% in Eynsham versus 23.2% in West Oxon), fewer full time (41.3% in Eynsham versus 45.4% in West Oxon) and self-employed workers (11.7% in Eynsham versus 12.4% in West Oxon) and a greater proportion of part-time employees (16.1% in Eynsham versus 14.3% in West Oxon). A high proportion of the workforce is either in managerial (11.9%) or professional (34%) occupations.
73. This is reflected in close links with Oxford with around 30% of workers travelling to work in Oxford. Notably, job density (i.e. number of jobs as a percentage of the working age population) is above the District and national averages (83% in Eynsham versus 68.8% in West Oxon and 74.8% in England). The breakdown of public and private sector workers is very similar to the district-wide position.
74. Unemployment benefit (1.1%), Job Seeker's Allowance (0.1%) and youth unemployment claimants (0.7%) are below the national proportion of claimants (2.2%, 0.4% and 2.9% respectively) as is the proportion of incapacity benefit claimants (2.5% in Eynsham versus 5.5% in England) and the proportion of working age workless benefit claimants (3.6% versus 7.5% in England). Net weekly household income after housing costs is £31,806 in Eynsham, £33,397 in West Oxfordshire and £27,311 in England.

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<sup>9</sup> West Oxfordshire Economic Snapshot and Outlook (January 2015)

### **Task A3 Update: Key Sustainability Issues**

75. Drawing on the consideration of relevant plans and programmes and baseline information, the Council in its previous Local Plan SA scoping report identified 17 'key sustainability issues' which subsequently formed the basis for the overall SA framework.
76. Table I overleaf sets out these 17 issues together with additional commentary on a number of issues more specific to the Eynsham area – drawing on Stages A1 and A2 above. Also set out in the table against each key issue is a brief commentary on the likely evolution of matters in the absence of the AAP/SPD documents.

**Table I – Key Sustainability Issues Update**

Key Issue – District wide	Key Issue – Eynsham area	Likely sustainability issues if the AAP and/or SPD is not implemented
<p>S1 - Like many areas the District has an ageing population. As the population ages, more people may require increased support in terms of housing, healthcare and transport. Demographic changes, including an ageing population, are also resulting in smaller households.</p>	<p>E1 – In 2015, Eynsham &amp; Cassington Ward had the largest population of older people in West Oxfordshire. While West Oxfordshire has a larger than national percentage of the population aged 65+, Eynsham &amp; Cassington’s percentage of its population aged 65+ is greater still. This is reflected in lower than District average rates of economic activity. Therefore, planning for an ageing population and seeking to increase the proportion of younger people and in turn economic activity rates is extremely important for the Eynsham &amp; Cassington area.</p>	<p>The adopted West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 highlights the potential issues associated with an ageing population and includes a number of policies to address this including OS2 – Locating Development in the Right Places, OS4 – High Quality Design, OS5 – Supporting Infrastructure, H2 Delivery of New Homes and H4 – Type and Mix of New Homes.</p> <p>Policy EW1 – Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth and EW2 – West Eynsham Strategic Development Area both require the provision of a balanced mix of house types and tenures and the provision of appropriate supporting infrastructure.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present an opportunity to supplement these policies at a site-specific scale. This includes the opportunity to consider in more detail the specific types of homes and other supporting uses that are needed to most effectively address identified needs moving forward.</p> <p>Without the implementation of the AAP/SPD there is potential for a continued imbalance in terms of the demographic ‘spread’ of the local population, the needs of older people not being properly met with potentially increased strain on social services and health infrastructure. Failure to attract a younger demographic through the provision of affordable new homes could also perpetuate the lower than District average rates of economic activity.</p>
<p>S2 - House prices in West Oxfordshire are increasing at a faster rate than the increase in wages making it more difficult for local people to enter the housing</p>	<p>E2 – Like the rest of West Oxfordshire housing affordability is a key issue in the Eynsham area. Average prices for detached and terraced houses are above the District</p>	<p>The adopted West Oxfordshire Local Plan (2018) through Policy H1 - Amount and distribution of housing sets out the level of housing which should be provided to meet the needs of the District and Oxford City (at least 15,950 homes). It also sets out the level of</p>

<p>market. This has resulted in rising levels of housing need.</p>	<p>average and the 10-year house price change (2007 – 2017) was higher in Eynsham than West Oxfordshire as a whole across all property types.</p>	<p>housing that should be provided in the Eynsham-Woodstock sub-area (5,596 homes). Policy H3 - Affordable housing sets out that new housing development should make an appropriate contribution to affordable housing in the District where applicable.</p> <p>Policies EW1 - Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth and EW2 - West Eynsham Strategic Development Area set the assumed level of housing both locations will provide which is to include an appropriate level of affordable homes.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these policies at a site specific scale. This includes the opportunity to address the potential for a lack of supply of new affordable housing in the local area which might otherwise result and lead to a potential increase in need and a worsening of current affordability problems/ratios.</p> <p>Without the implementation of the AAP/SPD there is potential for the current predominance of owner-occupation to continue with recognition that this will be enjoyed by those who are already on the housing ladder.</p>
<p>S3 - General levels of health in the District are high but specific health issues such as obesity have increased in prominence nationwide and are a particular concern in children, indicating a need to change our diet but also increase physical activity. Although a rural district with large areas of attractive countryside, rural communities can find that, outside the rights of way network, access to public open space is limited.</p>	<p>E3 – Eynsham has a higher than average incidence of colorectal cancer and mortality due to stroke, as well as a greater proportion of people, especially children and adults, who are obese relative to the District as a whole. Improved access to the countryside/public open space as well as leisure/community facilities to support an active community can help to address this.</p>	<p>The adopted West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 recognises the importance of health and well-being. Core Objective 9 (CO9) is to promote inclusive, healthy, safe and crime free communities whilst CO11 is to maximise the opportunity for walking, cycling and use of public transport. CO13 is to look to maintain or improve where possible the health and wellbeing of the District’s residents through increased choice and quality of shopping, leisure, recreation, arts, cultural and community facilities.</p> <p>A number of the plan policies relate to healthy living including OS4 – High Quality Design, OS5 – Supporting Infrastructure, H4 – Type and Mix of New Homes, E5 – Local Services and Community Facilities, T1 – Sustainable Transport, T3 – Public Transport, Walking and Cycling, EH3 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity, EH4 – Public Realm and Green</p>



		<p>Infrastructure, EH5 – Sport, recreation and children’s play.</p> <p>Policies EW1 - Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth and EW2 - West Eynsham Strategic Development Area both include specific criteria that will help to address health issues including for example the provision of supporting infrastructure.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these policies at a site specific scale. This includes the opportunity to consider in more detail specific needs and opportunities arising from the developments and in the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk of current indicators of poor health in certain areas being likely to continue or potentially worsen with the opportunities to address this e.g. through improved recreational and leisure facilities, not being fully realised.</p>
<p>S4 - Levels of unemployment in the District are typically low. Low skills levels are apparent in certain areas of the main towns of Witney, Chipping Norton and Carterton and may have implications for future economic growth.</p>	<p>E4 – Unemployment in Eynsham is less than the national average, but more than the District average. Notably the proportion of people with no qualifications whilst less than the national average, is higher than the District average. However, the proportion of people with the highest qualification (i.e. equivalent to degree or higher) is above the District average. This is reflected in a high proportion of the workforce being in managerial or professional occupations. There appears to be a slight problem in terms of early years’ education with attainment falling behind the District average.</p>	<p>The adopted West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 recognises the importance of education, skills and employment opportunities. A core objective (CO7) is to support sustainable economic growth which adds value to the local economy, improves the balance between housing and local jobs, provides a diversity of local employment opportunities, capitalises on economic growth in adjoining areas, improves local skills and work readiness, removes potential barriers to investment and provides flexibility to adapt to changing economic needs.</p> <p>A number of policies are of direct relevance including OS5 – Supporting Infrastructure, E1 – Land for Employment and E2 – Supporting the Rural Economy.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these policies at a site specific scale. This includes the opportunity to consider in more detail specific needs and opportunities arising from the developments including those relating to education and skills for example.</p>

		In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk of current trends continuing or worsening (e.g. early years' education attainment rates and the proportion of residents with no qualifications). There is also a potential cost in terms of employment, training and skills opportunities associated with the developments not being fully realised.
S5 - There is a low level of crime and fear of crime but speeding vehicles, violent crime and antisocial behaviour remain issues of concern.	E5 – The Eynsham area has a low level of crime; however, burglary, criminal damage and vehicle crime offences remain issues of concern.	<p>Whilst there is generally a low level of crime in West Oxfordshire, the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 recognises the importance of this issue and includes a core objective (CO9) to promote inclusive, healthy, safe and crime free communities.</p> <p>Policy OS4 – High Quality Design requires new developments to demonstrate high quality, inclusive and sustainable design with the provision of a safe, pleasant, convenient and interesting environment where the quality of the public realm is enhanced and the likelihood of crime and fear of crime is reduced.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement this objective and policy at a site specific scale through further specific guidance/advice/policy on design and layout and other related matters.</p> <p>Without the AAP/SPD in place, there is a risk that some current trends (e.g. burglary, criminal damage and vehicle crime) could continue or potentially worsen and that opportunities to address the causes or reduce the opportunities for these and other crimes to take place are not fully realised creating potential impacts in terms of quality of life and health and well-being.</p>
S6 - Outside of the main towns of the District public transport accessibility is generally poor. Certain groups without access to a car, such as older people on lower incomes, young people, lone parents and those experiencing mental health problems may be particularly at risk	E6 – Levels of car ownership in Eynsham show a difference to the District trend with more households with one or fewer cars and less households with more than two cars, potentially reflecting the relatively good availability of public transport including premium bus services along the A40 and	Generally high levels of car ownership across the District are recognised as a key issue in the West Oxfordshire Local Plan as is the rural nature of the District and the difficulties faced by a large proportion of people in being able to use public transport, walking or cycling as alternatives. One of the plan's core objectives (CO4) is to locate new residential development where it will best help to meet housing needs and reduce the need to travel with a further objective

<p>of social exclusion as a result. An ageing population presents increasing challenges as the elderly are highlighted as a particular group least likely to have access to a private car.</p>	<p>Hanborough station nearby. Traffic congestion on the A40 is however a key issue due to the volume of traffic particularly in the morning and evening peaks.</p>	<p>(CO11) being to maximise the opportunity for walking, cycling and use of public transport.</p> <p>A number of policies are of relevance including OS2 – Locating Development in the Right Places, OS5 – Supporting Infrastructure, T1 – Sustainable Transport and T3 – Public Transport, Walking and Cycling.</p> <p>Policies EW1 - Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth and EW2 - West Eynsham Strategic Development Area both require consideration to be given to the need for supporting infrastructure including to mitigate the traffic impact of development.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these policies at a site specific scale. This includes consideration of matters such as parking standards, car clubs, travel plans etc.</p> <p>In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk that opportunities to maximise the use of non-car modes of travel are not fully exploited and that congestion e.g. on the A40 continues to occur or potentially worsens.</p>
<p>S7 - The number of people travelling to work by car has increased and the distance people travel to work has increased. The District has several congestion problems. The A40 between Witney and Oxford is seen as the County's worst congestion problem.</p>	<p>E7 – 2011 Census data shows that people in Eynsham commute an average of 15.6km to work, primarily to Woodstock, Witney, Kidlington, Oxford City and London. People who work in Eynsham travel an average of 18.3km from home and come from immediately north and west of the village. As congestion on the A40 is a major concern, a number of improvements have already been, are under way, or are planned as part of Oxfordshire County Council's <i>Connecting Oxfordshire – local transport plan – A40 route strategy</i>.</p>	<p>The West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 recognises out-commuting and traffic congestion on some key routes such as the A40 as key issues. A core objective (CO1) is to enable new development, services and facilities of an appropriate scale and type in locations which will help improve the quality of life of local communities and where the need to travel, particularly by car, can be minimised. CO4 is to locate new residential development where it will best help to meet housing needs and reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>Part of the overall vision of the plan is to deliver an improved balance of housing and jobs and increased levels of home working, facilitated by improved broadband provision, to reduce out-commuting and increase the self-containment of local communities.</p>

		<p>Relevant policies include OS2 – Locating Development in the Right Places, OS5 – Supporting Infrastructure, T1 – Sustainable Transport and T3 – Public Transport, Walking and Cycling.</p> <p>Policies EW1 - Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth and EW2 - West Eynsham Strategic Development Area both require consideration to be given to necessary supporting infrastructure including transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Policy EW1 also includes the provision of a large element of new business land (40 hectares) to help increase local employment and training opportunities and reduce the need for people to travel to work elsewhere.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these policies at a site specific scale. This includes consideration of matters such as the type, mix and scale of business land provided, parking standards, car clubs, travel plans, overall mix and location of uses etc.</p> <p>In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk that opportunities to effectively address current issues of traffic congestion are not fully realised and that this continues or worsens. Also that the opportunity to reduce people’s propensity to travel elsewhere is not maximised and that the current trend of out-commuting continues or potentially worsens.</p>
<p>S8 - Air quality objectives are not being met at Bridge Street, Witney and Horsefair, Chipping Norton as a result of traffic congestion in these streets.</p>	<p>E8 – With the exception of nitrogen dioxide levels, the air quality at Eynsham is on par or better than the national and District averages; however, air quality remains a key concern for many people and is of particular relevance with regard to Oxford Meadows to the east of Eynsham which is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).</p>	<p>The importance of air quality is recognised in the West Oxfordshire Local Plan. Part of the overall vision is to improve opportunities for walking, cycling and the use of public transport to reduce reliance on the private car and address traffic congestion on key routes including the A40 as far as reasonable, thereby helping to improve journey times and air quality.</p> <p>One of the plan’s core objectives (CO16) is to enable improvements in water and air-quality. A number of policies are of relevance including T1 – Sustainable Transport, T4 – Parking Provision and EH8</p>

		<p>– Environmental Protection.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these policies at a site specific scale. This includes consideration of air quality related matters such as the mix and quantum of different land uses and transport arrangements including the opportunities to reduce vehicular emissions through for example, reduced travel or travel by alternative means to the private car.</p> <p>In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a potential for these issues not to be fully explored and addressed through a more detailed planning framework. This could lead to a worsening of air quality problems in the immediate locality or further afield including at the Oxford Meadows SAC.</p>
<p>S9 - Many of the larger previously developed sites suitable for redevelopment have now been developed and in a rural district the opportunities to use brownfield land are limited. Beyond 2011 further urban extensions on greenfield sites may need to be provided. Such urban extensions may be relatively sustainable if the infrastructure required to support them is provided and efficient use is made of the land. It should also be noted that whilst there is the presumption that previously developed land should be developed before Greenfield land, some previously developed land may not be appropriate for development due to wider sustainability considerations such as their amenity or biodiversity value.</p>	<p>E9 – To meet the anticipated housing needs in the local area and also to help meet Oxford City’s unmet housing need, two strategic sites were identified in Eynsham – land to the north and west which are been allocated for 2,200 and 1,000 homes respectively within the new Local Plan 2031. Comprehensive and co-ordinated development that is masterplan-led and accompanied by appropriate infrastructure can help to ensure that development is sustainable despite being on greenfield land.</p>	<p>The West Oxfordshire Local Plan recognises the relatively limited supply of previously developed (brownfield) land and the associated need to release undeveloped greenfield sites to meet identified development needs. Part of the overall vision is to meet the needs of West Oxfordshire’s communities, and play a role in helping to meet wider needs, without significant change to the intrinsic character of the District.</p> <p>A number of policies are of particular relevance including OS2 – Locating Development in the Right Places, H1 – Amount and Distribution of Housing and H2 – Delivery of New Homes.</p> <p>Policies EW1 - Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth and EW2 - West Eynsham Strategic Development Area both involve the release of large areas of undeveloped greenfield land for development. The principle of this has already been accepted by the Local Plan Inspector and the role of the AAP/SPD is to provide further detailed guidance on how the sites should be brought forward.</p> <p>In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk that the positive opportunities associated with the sites will not be fully realised and</p>

		that the necessary supporting infrastructure is not delivered in a timely, phased manner. The AAP/SPD will help to ensure that both sites come forward based on a set of agreed principles and utilising high quality design, materials and layout.
S10 - Although the proportion of waste being recycled or composted is increasing the amount of waste being produced also appears to be increasing although this may reflect increases in collection.	E10 – the level of growth planned for Eynsham (3,200 homes in total through the two proposed allocations) will increase the amount of waste generated locally including construction waste initially and in the longer-term residential and commercial waste. Opportunities for sustainable waste management will need to be fully explored.	<p>The importance of addressing waste generation and collection in a sustainable manner is recognised in the Local Plan 2031. Core objective (CO17) is to minimise the use of non-renewable natural resources and promote more widespread use of renewable energy solutions and CO18 is to improve the sustainable design and construction of new development, including improving energy, water efficiency and water management.</p> <p>Policy OS3 – Prudent Use of Natural Resources requires new development to have regard to the need to minimise waste and making adequate provision for the re-use and recycling of waste; and causing no deterioration and, where possible, achieving improvements in water or air quality.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these objectives and policy at a site specific scale. This includes consideration of the potential opportunities for sustainable management of all forms of waste.</p> <p>In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk that opportunities are not taken and that the developments generate additional waste including construction waste in the short term and residential and commercial waste in the longer term, that is not managed as effectively or sustainably as it could be resulting in a potential increase in unnecessary vehicular trips associated with waste collection and management/disposal.</p>
S11 - Although data on carbon emissions is limited, responding to climate change and reducing carbon emissions through	E11 – the level of growth planned for Eynsham (3,200 homes in total through the two proposed allocations) will have a direct	The importance of reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change is a central theme of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031. A core objective (CO15) is to contribute to reducing the causes and

<p>increased energy efficiency and increasing the supply of renewable and low-carbon decentralised energy sources is seen as a key challenge.</p>	<p>effect on carbon emissions in the Eynsham area. Opportunities to minimise impact on climate change and to adapt accordingly will need to be fully explored.</p>	<p>adverse impacts of climate change, especially flood risk. CO17 is to minimise the use of non-renewable natural resources and promote more widespread use of renewable energy solutions whilst CO18 is to improve the sustainable design and construction of new development, including improving energy, water efficiency and water management.</p> <p>A number of policies are of direct relevance to this issue including OS1 – Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development, OS2 – Locating Development in the Right Places, OS3 – Prudent Use of Natural Resources, OS4 – High Quality Design and EH6 - Decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy development (excepting wind turbines).</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these objectives and policies at a site specific scale for example through the consideration of opportunities to bring forward renewable and low-carbon energy sources, sustainable construction and energy efficiency in new buildings.</p> <p>In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk that these issues are not fully addressed and effectively mitigated, resulting in a demonstrable increase in carbon emissions in the Eynsham area.</p>
<p>S12 - Significant climate change is now thought unavoidable and is expected to result in more frequent extreme weather events. As such there is a need to secure new development and infrastructure which is resilient to the effects of climate change particularly as buildings and infrastructure may have a 20-100 year life span.</p>	<p>E12 – As above.</p>	<p>As above, but also, in the absence of more detailed guidance/policy as set out in the AAP/SPD, there is a risk that the proposed developments may be less resilient and less able to adapt to the effects of climate change.</p>
<p>S13 - There is a network of relatively isolated sites of particular importance for</p>	<p>E13 – Much of Eynsham village to the north</p>	<p>The importance of biodiversity and geodiversity is a key theme of the</p>

<p>biodiversity in the District, which in the context of climate change would benefit from expansion and linkage to provide more sustainable biodiversity management units. The status of some priority species, notably water voles and farmland birds, has declined in recent years. Farmland birds have declined largely as a result of some agricultural practices.</p>	<p>and west is surrounded by semi-enclosed rolling farmland that is highly valued by residents, especially for its biodiversity. Although there are no specific national designated sites of importance for biodiversity within the site allocations, there are existing records of protected and notable species. City Farm - a conventionally managed farm has been identified as being of European Importance for arable plants by Plantlife and threatened plant species. Local Wildlife Sites, the Oxford Meadows and Farmoor Conservation Target Area and patches of ancient woodlands are also in close proximity.</p>	<p>West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031. Part of the overall vision is to provide a network of safe, inclusive, vibrant, well-connected and prosperous market towns and villages within a healthy, attractive, historically and biodiversity rich environment where new development achieves a high standard of design and respects and complements the distinctive character of the area whilst managing the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>A core objective (CO14) is to conserve and enhance the character and significance of West Oxfordshire's high quality natural, historic and cultural environment – including its geodiversity, landscape, biodiversity, heritage and arts – recognising and promoting their wider contribution to people's quality of life and social and economic well-being both within the District and beyond.</p> <p>Policies of particular relevance include OS4 – High Quality Design, EH2 – Landscape Character and EH3 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these objectives and policies at a site specific scale taking into account the relevant constraints to both sites but also the potential, positive opportunities to deliver net gains in biodiversity.</p> <p>In the absence of clear guidance provided through the AAP/SPD there is a risk that these site-specific opportunities will not be fully taken leading to a potentially negative effect on local and nearby biodiversity assets.</p>
<p>S14 - The District has a rich archaeological and architectural heritage which along with the natural beauty of the District's countryside contributes to a high quality landscape recognised in national designations such as the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. These assets also present an irreplaceable resource for education,</p>	<p>E14 – The Eynsham Area has a rich record of archaeological and architectural heritage, including Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings and structures, and Listed Parks &amp; Gardens. Part of the built up area of Eynsham village is also designated as a Conservation Area. Further known archaeological sites/ finds in the wider area include remnants of Iron Age activity to the</p>	<p>The Local Plan 2031 recognises the District's rich and varied historic environment which contributes greatly to the distinctive character and identity of the area, to its tourism, cultural and social role, to economic prosperity and to quality of life.</p> <p>A core objective (CO14) is to conserve and enhance the character and significance of West Oxfordshire's high quality natural, historic and cultural environment – including its geodiversity, landscape, biodiversity, heritage and arts – recognising and promoting their wider</p>



<p>leisure and tourism. Meeting the development needs of the community whilst maintaining a high quality landscape, including the conservation and enhancement of areas, sites and buildings that contribute to the archaeological, architectural and natural heritage, and promoting access to historic assets and the countryside remains a continuing challenge.</p>	<p>north, Roman pottery, a suspected deserted medieval village, known as Tilgarsley, its setting within medieval field systems, evidence of an early medieval gravel pit, and an ancient Salt Way. These assets present an irreplaceable resource for education, leisure and tourism. Meeting the development needs of the community whilst maintaining a high quality landscape, including the conservation and enhancement of areas, sites and buildings that contribute to the archaeological, architectural and natural heritage, and promoting access to historic assets and the countryside remains a continuing challenge.</p>	<p>contribution to people's quality of life and social and economic well-being both within the District and beyond.</p> <p>Policies of particular relevance include OS4 – High Quality Design, EH9 – Historic Environment, EH11 – Listed Buildings, EH13 – Historic Landscape Character and EH15 – Scheduled Monuments and other nationally important archaeological remains.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Plan clearly provides an overarching level of protection and guidance, the AAP/SPD documents provide the opportunity to consider in more detail how heritage matters can be most effectively addressed at the site-level, including for example the Listed Buildings at City Farm within the garden village site and the scheduled monument at the southern end of the West Eynsham SDA.</p> <p>In the absence of the AAP/SPD there is a risk that these issues are not fully and properly considered and that the positive opportunities presented by the development of the two sites are not fully realised.</p>
<p>S15 - The economy of West Oxfordshire appears prosperous with low unemployment levels and high levels of economic activity. A key challenge is to maintain this prosperity and ensure sustainable economic growth, maintaining the Quality of Life for all residents.</p>	<p>E15 – Reflecting the older demographic profile of the Eynsham area, rates of economic activity are below the District average with a higher than average proportion of economically inactive residents. A key issue is to increase economic activity rates by attracting inward investment and a more balanced age profile.</p>	<p>Economic growth and productivity is a central theme of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031. Part of the overall vision is that the District's economy will have grown and diversified, adding value and capitalising on the proximity to the Oxfordshire 'knowledge spine' and the presence of RAF Brize Norton and that an improved balance of housing and jobs and increased levels of home working will have been achieved, facilitated by improved broadband provision to help reduce out-commuting and increase self-containment.</p> <p>A core objective (CO7) is to support sustainable economic growth which adds value to the local economy, improves the balance between housing and local jobs, provides a diversity of local employment opportunities, capitalises on economic growth in adjoining areas, improves local skills and work readiness, removes potential barriers to investment and provides flexibility to adapt to changing economic needs.</p> <p>Relevant policies include E1 – Land for Employment, E2 – Supporting</p>

		<p>the Rural Economy and E4 Sustainable Tourism.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these objectives and policies at a site specific scale.</p> <p>Policy EW1 - Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth for example includes provision for around 40 ha of new business land as part of the overall mix of land uses.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD provide an opportunity to consider in more detail how economic objectives can be met.</p> <p>In the absence of this more detailed guidance there is a risk that opportunities to increase jobs, skills, training and economic productivity will not be fully capitalised on. This could lead to a continuation of the current trend of relatively low rates of economic activity or a worsening of this trend as the local population continues to age without an influx of new residents and workers.</p>
<p>S16 - The District contains some considerable sand, gravel and limestone resources, the extraction of which needs to be managed to protect environmental quality, with particular regard to archaeological sites and remains, landscape impacts, after-use and traffic impacts.</p>	<p>E16 – The Eynsham area includes an existing aggregate recycling facility (David Einig) which has permanent planning permission and is safeguarded under the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan. There are also known mineral resources (sand and gravel) in the area.</p>	<p>The West Oxfordshire Local Plan recognises that the District contains some extensive sand and gravel and limestone resources particularly in the southern half of the District, focused on the Lower Windrush Valley which has seen extensive mineral extraction for a number of years.</p> <p>The plan contains no specific policies as this is a matter for the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan.</p> <p>There are known sand and gravel resources in the Eynsham area and also within the garden village site there is an existing aggregate recycling facility. Policy EW1 - Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth requires appropriate measures to safeguard and take account of the operational requirements of the existing aggregate recycling facility within the site and also to safeguard sand and gravel deposits where appropriate having regard to the</p>

		<p>policies of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan.</p> <p>These issues are less relevant to the West Eynsham SDA.</p> <p>The AAP provides the opportunity to further consider the operational requirements of the aggregate recycling facility as well as the issue of mineral safeguarding. In the absence of the AAP there is a risk that these issues are not properly addressed for example inadequate buffer distances.</p>
<p>S17 - There are some significant rivers flowing through the District, including the Thames along the southern boundary of the District, the generally biodiversity rich Windrush which runs through Witney and Burford and the Evenlode running through the agricultural areas of central West Oxfordshire. In the context of climate change extreme weather events may increase the risk of flooding from these rivers. The quality of the water in these water courses may affect habitats of international importance at Oxford Meadows.</p>	<p>E17 - The Eynsham area is mostly classified at Flood Zone 1 (low risk) but there are some areas classed as Flood Zone 2 (medium risk) and 3 (high risk) associated with watercourses and underlying geology. In the event of extreme weather events, especially those that pose flood risks, new infrastructure must be resilient and able to adequately mitigate impacts. New development should not increase flood risk elsewhere or adversely impact water quality.</p>	<p>The Local Plan 2031 recognises the importance of both flood risk and water quality. A core objective (CO15) is to contribute towards reducing the causes and adverse impacts of climate change, especially flood risk.</p> <p>Policy OS4 – High Quality Design requires development to demonstrate resilience to future climate change, particularly increasing temperatures and flood risk as well as the use of water conservation and management measures. As a general principle, OS2 requires all development to not be at risk of flooding or be likely to increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.</p> <p>Policy EH7 – Flood Risk sets out the Council’s overall approach towards flood risk in line with national policy whilst also requiring sustainable drainage to manage run-off and support improvements in water quality.</p> <p>Policy EH8 – Environmental Protection sets out that proposals for development will only be acceptable provided there is no adverse impact on water bodies and groundwater resources, in terms of their quantity, quality and important ecological features.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD documents present opportunities to supplement these objectives and policies at a site specific scale taking into account the relevant constraints to both sites but also the potential, positive opportunities to deliver improvements to any existing issues of flood risk and water quality.</p>

		<p>In their absence there is a risk that flood risk is not managed as effectively as it could potentially be causing potential concerns in terms of the impacts of the development on flood risk which could become worse over time having regard to long-term climate change. Also there is the potential for a deterioration in water quality caused by the lack of a co-ordinated approach to development.</p>
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### Task A4 Update: SA Framework

77. Attached at **Appendix 3** is the proposed framework to be used for the SA of the Garden Village Area Action Plan and West Eynsham SPD.
78. To provide some context, the first column sets out the 16 overarching SA objectives that were used in the previous Local Plan SA work. The second column sets out the associated sub-objectives/decision-aiding questions that were used in the previous Local Plan SA work.
79. Having regard to these and the updates to tasks A1, A2 and A3 outlined above, the third column then sets out the proposed sub-objectives/decision-aiding questions that will be used for the further SA work to be carried out in respect of the Garden Village AAP and West Eynsham SPD documents.
80. Two minor issues should be noted. Firstly that the previous Local Plan SA objective 14 (landscape and heritage) has, for the purpose of this scoping exercise, been separated into two separate landscape and heritage objectives (14 and 15). Secondly, that potential impact on soil resources is now to be considered under SA objective 7 – efficiency of land-use having previously been considered under SA objective 11 – Protect and improve soil and water resources.
81. Corresponding SEA topics and Garden Village Principles have also been listed (Columns 4 and 5) to ensure that the proposed sub-objectives align with these additional frameworks.

## Assessment methodology for the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD

82. As outlined above, the SA work for the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD will be undertaken in the context of the SA work that has already been undertaken in relation to the allocated land, during the preparation of the new West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031.
83. All of the options for the development of the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD, including any reasonable alternative options, will need to be subject to a SA. This will include strategic options for the overall development of the site; specific site options if there are choices to be made; and in the case of the AAP, any options that there may be for policies to be included in the Plan.
84. Each policy and/or site option will be subject to a SA using broadly the same approach as used for the SA of the Local Plan, i.e. setting out the assessment of each policy or site option in a matrix with a score and a brief justification for that score being given for each objective.
85. As set out above, the assessment will be undertaken on the basis of the sub-objectives/decision-aiding questions listed in Column 3 of the SA framework attached at Appendix 3.

## SA Report

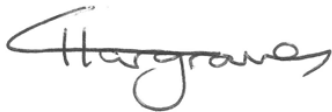
86. Once the SA matrices are finalised the findings will be compiled into a draft SA report. This will be structured so as to meet all of the requirements of Annex I of the SEA Directive, and will include:
  1. An outline of the contents of the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD and its relationship with other relevant plans, policies and programmes (including in particular its relationship with the emerging West Oxfordshire Local Plan).
  2. The environmental, social and economic characteristics of the Eynsham area, including any problems or issues and their likely evolution without the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD (in many cases the policies in the Local Plan are likely to address the issues to some extent).
  3. Key environmental, social and economic policy objectives set at the international, national and local level of relevance to the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD.
  4. The SA framework being used for the SA of the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD.
  5. The reasonable alternatives considered, including how they performed in sustainability terms and an outline of West Oxfordshire District Council's reasons for selecting particular options for inclusion in the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD.
  6. Any difficulties encountered during the SA process, e.g. data limitations.
  7. The significant effects of the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD on each of the SA objectives, taking into account mitigation (which may be provided by policies in the OCGV AAP, West Eynsham SPD and emerging Local Plan).
  8. A proposed monitoring framework for monitoring the significant effects identified (this is likely to link closely with the monitoring framework for the Local Plan).
  9. A Non-Technical Summary which summarises all of the above.
87. The SA report will also include an appendix setting out the scoping consultation comments received and noting how each one has been addressed in the full SA report (e.g. any resulting amendments made to the SA objectives or baseline information).

## Consultation and Next Steps

88. The SEA Regulations require a local authority to consult the statutory environmental bodies (Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England) regarding the scope of an SA/SEA for a minimum of five weeks.

89. The District Council is now inviting comments on the scope of the SA as set out in this letter. In particular, the consultees are requested to consider:
- Whether there are any additional plans, policies or programmes that are particularly relevant to the SA/SEA of the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD.
  - Whether the baseline information provides a suitable baseline for the SA/SEA of the emerging OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD
  - Whether there are any additional key sustainability issues that should be included.
  - Whether the proposed SA framework is appropriate and includes a suitable range of proposed sub-objectives (note that these flow from the overall SA framework which has already been consulted on in relation to the previous SA/SEA of the Local Plan).
90. The responses from this scoping consultation will be reviewed and taken into account during the assessment of the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SPD against the SA objectives. The SA report will explain how any consultation responses have been addressed.
91. Please return your comments no later than **4 January 2019** to myself, either at the address at the top of this letter or via e mail to the address below.

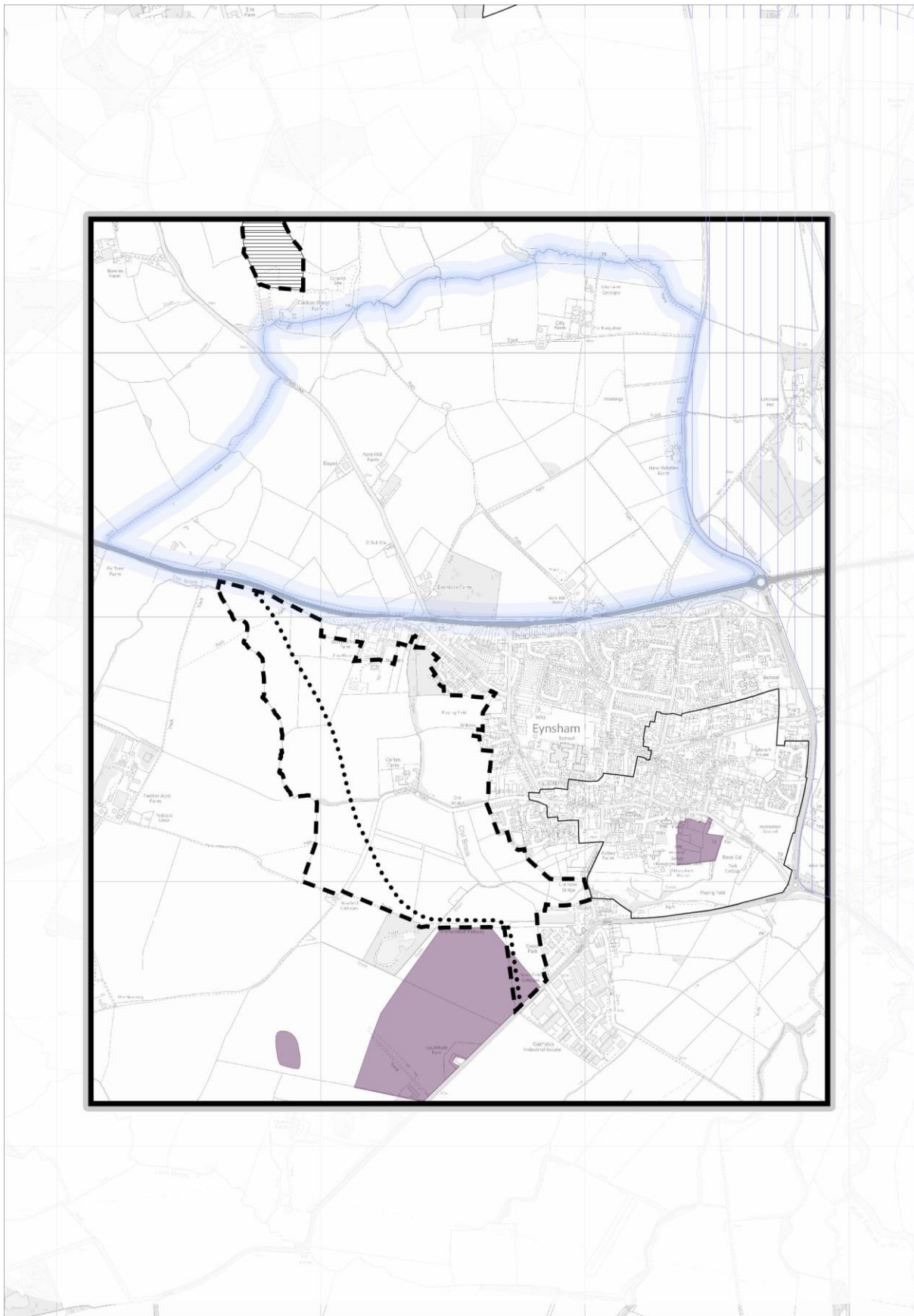
Yours sincerely



Chris Hargraves

**Planning Policy Manager  
West Oxfordshire District Council**

# Appendix I – Site Context Plan





## APPENDIX 2. Plans, programmes and environmental objectives (post 2015)

Title & Legislation	Summary, Objectives, Key Targets & Indicators	Implications for SA, AAP and SPD
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>		
<p><i>United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN, 2015)</i></p>	<p>Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals address interconnected global challenges including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. The Goals and targets aim to be achieved by 2030.</p> <p>The UK Government has yet to localise the SDGs and determine a UK level plan for their implementation.</p>	<p>The SA should consider the SGDs when developing objectives.</p> <p>The AAP and SPD should consider the SGDs when developing policies/proposals.</p>
<b>EUROPEAN UNION</b>		
<p><i>Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) (Office of Gas and Electricity Markets, 2018)</i></p> <p><i>Directive 2015/1513 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 98/70/EC relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and amending Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources</i></p> <p><i>Strategic Plan 2016-2020 (Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, 2016)</i></p>	<p>Heating makes up 46% of the UK's total energy consumption and this is therefore a key initiative in reaching 2020 targets of 15% energy from renewable sources. The incentive is to give a household a fixed income to produce their own renewable heat energy from either solar or wind power.</p> <p>The RHI aims to increase the amount of renewable energy used for heating. Targets have been set for both the non-domestic and domestic sectors. This will increase the overall level of renewable energy used for heating to 12% from the 1.5% that it is now. This Directive creates a common framework for the use of renewable energy in the EU so as to limit greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promote cleaner transport. To do so, Member states require suppliers of fuel or energy to reduce the life cycle GHG per unit of energy of fuels used by at least 6% by 31 December 2020. The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for fossil fuel suppliers to reduce the greenhouse gas intensity of the fossil fuels supplied. Each Member State must also ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of the final consumption of energy in transport.</p> <p>Each EU country is to make a national action plan for 2020, setting a share for renewable energy sources in transport, heating and the production of electricity.</p> <p>In order to contribute to achieving the overall goals set at EU level, the Commission has set a number of General Objectives based on the priorities outlined by President Juncker. DG MOVE's activities contribute actively to these and in particular the following 5 General Objectives :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission General Objective 1: "A New Boost for Jobs, Growth and Investment"</li> <li>• Commission General Objective 2: "A Connected Digital Single Market"</li> <li>• Commission General Objective 3: "A Resilient Energy Union with a Forward-Looking Climate Change Policy"</li> <li>• Commission General Objective 4: "A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base"</li> <li>• Commission General Objective 5: "A Stronger Global Actor"</li> </ul> <p>DG MOVE's actions contributing to the General Objectives for the Commission fall under 3 Specific Objectives, which correspond to the main instruments available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DG MOVE Specific Objective 1: "An efficient, sustainable, safe and secure Single European Transport Area: Improve regulation, ensure a high degree of implementation of EU legislation in the transport area and open and fair competition both in the EU and in relations with key partner countries."</li> <li>• DG MOVE Specific Objective 2: "A modern European transport infrastructure: Ensure the effective implementation of the Trans-European Transport Network with the help of the Connecting Europe Facility and the innovative financial instruments (EFSI)."</li> </ul>	<p>Include a sustainability objective relating to increasing energy provided from renewable sources.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should support renewable energy provision. Include a sustainability objective relating to increasing energy provided from renewable sources.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should support renewable energy provision including electricity, heat and transport.</p> <p>The SA should consider the general and specific objectives when developing the sustainability framework.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should consider the general and specific objectives of the Strategic Plan when developing policies/proposals</p>

- DG MOVE Specific Objective 3: "An innovative transport sector: Ensure the effective implementation of funding for research and innovation activities in the transport area under Horizon 2020."

To measure the progress made by DG MOVE towards implementing its policies and attaining its specific objectives, a number of indicators are presented in annex to the Strategic Plan. The following three indicators will be given special attention:

1. Transposition rate in transport legislation (see specific objective 1)
2. Total amount of Connecting Europe Facility grants, delegations, contributions signed for transport projects and programmes (see specific objective 2)
3. Total amount of Horizon 2020 grants, delegations, contributions signed for transport projects and programmes (see specific objective 3)

## NATIONAL

### National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2018)

The National Planning Policy Framework 2018 replaces the previous NPPF 2012 and sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with development plans, including Neighbourhood Plans.

**The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.** Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across each of the different objectives):

- a) **an economic objective** – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;
- b) **a social objective** – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and
- c) **an environmental objective** – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.

These objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in this Framework; they are not criteria against which every decision can or should be judged. Planning policies and decisions should play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions, but in doing so should take local circumstances into account, to reflect the character, needs and opportunities of each area.

So that sustainable development is pursued in a positive way, at the heart of the Framework is a **presumption in favour of sustainable development** (paragraph 11). For plan-making this means that:

- a) plans should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area, and be sufficiently flexible to adapt to rapid change;
- b) strategic policies should, as a minimum, provide for objectively assessed needs for housing and other uses, as well as any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas, unless:
  - i. the application of policies in this Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a strong reason for restricting the overall scale, type or distribution of development in the plan area; or
  - ii. any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole.

For decision-taking this means:

- c) approving development proposals that accord with an up-to-date development plan without delay; or d) where there are no

The NPPF is relevant to all SA objectives. The SA should include objectives relating to:

- Deliver a sufficient supply of homes;
- Build a strong, competitive economy;
- Ensure the vitality of town centres;
- Promote healthy and safe communities;
- Promote sustainable transport;
- Promote high quality communications;
- Make effective use of land;
- Achieve well-designed places;
- Protect Green Belt land;
- Meet the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change;
- Conserve and enhance the natural environment;
- Conserve and enhance the historic environment; and
- Facilitate the sustainable use of minerals.

The AAP must conform to the NPPF and:

- Set out clear economic visions for that particular area.
- Recognise the importance of villages to the local area.
- To implement sustainable transport

relevant development plan policies, or the policies which are most important for determining the application are out-of-date, granting permission unless:

- i. the application of policies in this Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a clear reason for refusing the development proposed; or
- ii. any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole.

**Plan-making:** The planning system should be genuinely plan-led. Succinct and up-to-date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area; a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities; and a platform for local people to shape their surroundings. Plans should:

- a) be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development;
- b) be prepared positively, in a way that is aspirational but deliverable;
- c) be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between planmakers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees;
- d) contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals;
- e) be accessible through the use of digital tools to assist public involvement and policy presentation; and f) serve a clear purpose, avoiding unnecessary duplication of policies that apply to a particular area (including policies in this Framework, where relevant).

The development plan must include **strategic policies** to address each local planning authority's priorities for the development and use of land in its area. Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development, and make sufficient provision for:

- a) housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development;
- b) infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
- c) community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure); and
- d) conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Local planning authorities and county councils (in two-tier areas) are also under a **duty to cooperate** with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries.

The preparation and review of all policies should be underpinned by **relevant and up-to-date evidence**. This should be adequate and proportionate, focused tightly on supporting and justifying the policies concerned, and take into account relevant market signals. Local plans and spatial development strategies should be informed throughout their preparation by a **sustainability appraisal** that meets the relevant legal requirements. This should demonstrate how the plan has addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives (including opportunities for net gains). Significant adverse impacts on these objectives should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).

Plans should set out the **contributions expected from development**. This should include setting out the levels and types of affordable housing provision required, along with other infrastructure (such as that needed for education, health, transport, flood and water management, green and digital infrastructure). Such policies should not undermine the deliverability of the plan.

The NPPF provides guidance in the following sections:

**-Delivering a sufficient supply of homes:** To determine the minimum number of homes needed, strategic policies should be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance – unless

modes

- Enhance the provision of local community facilities and services by supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks.
- Identify size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations.
- Establish a strong sense of place to live, work and visit.
- Promote safe and accessible environments with a high quality of life and community cohesion.
- Use opportunities offered by new development to reduce causes/impacts of flooding.
- Conserve and enhance local biodiversity.
- Conserve and enhance heritage assets
- Identify and safeguard mineral resources and associated infrastructure and promote the use of recycled/secondary materials prior to the extraction of primary materials.

exceptional circumstances justify an alternative approach which also reflects current and future demographic trends and market signals. In addition to the local housing need figure, any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account in establishing the amount of housing to be planned for. Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required<sup>27</sup>, and expect it to be met on-site unless: a) off-site provision or an appropriate financial contribution in lieu can be robustly justified; and b) the agreed approach contributes to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities.

**-Building a strong, competitive economy:** Planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development. The approach taken should allow each area to build on its strengths, counter any weaknesses and address the challenges of the future. Planning policies should:

a) set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration; b) set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period; c) seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment; and d) be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices (such as live-work accommodation), and to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances.

**-Ensuring the vitality of town centres:** Planning policies and decisions should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation. Planning policies should: a) define a network and hierarchy of town centres and promote their long-term vitality and viability – by allowing them to grow and diversify in a way that can respond to rapid changes in the retail and leisure industries, allows a suitable mix of uses (including housing) and reflects their distinctive characters; b) define the extent of town centres and primary shopping areas, and make clear the range of uses permitted in such locations, as part of a positive strategy for the future of each centre; c) retain and enhance existing markets and, where appropriate, re-introduce or create new ones; d) allocate a range of suitable sites in town centres to meet the scale and type of development likely to be needed, looking at least ten years ahead. Meeting anticipated needs for retail, leisure, office and other main town centre uses over this period should not be compromised by limited site availability, so town centre boundaries should be kept under review where necessary; e) where suitable and viable town centre sites are not available for main town centre uses, allocate appropriate edge of centre sites that are well connected to the town centre. If sufficient edge of centre sites cannot be identified, policies should explain how identified needs can be met in other accessible locations that are well connected to the town centre; and f) recognise that residential development often plays an important role in ensuring the vitality of centres and encourage residential development on appropriate sites.

**-Promoting healthy and safe communities: places which:** Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which: a) promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other – for example through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres, street layouts that allow for easy pedestrian and cycle connections within and between neighbourhoods, and active street frontages; b) are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas; and c) enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling.

**-Promoting sustainable transport:** Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, so that: a) the potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed; b) opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and changing transport technology and usage, are realised – for example in

relation to the scale, location or density of development that can be accommodated; c) opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use are identified and pursued; d) the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account – including appropriate opportunities for avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects, and for net environmental gains; and e) patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes, and contribute to making high quality places. All developments that will generate significant amounts of movement should be required to provide a travel plan, and the application should be supported by a transport statement or transport assessment so that the likely impacts of the proposal can be assessed.

**-Supporting high quality communications:** Planning policies and decisions should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections. Policies should set out how high quality digital infrastructure, providing access to services from a range of providers, is expected to be delivered and upgraded over time; and should prioritise full fibre connections to existing and new developments (as these connections will, in almost all cases, provide the optimum solution).

**-Making effective use of land:** Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions. Strategic policies should set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously-developed or 'brownfield' land.

**-Achieving well-designed places:** Plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable. Design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area's defining characteristics. Neighbourhood plans can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development.

To provide maximum clarity about design expectations at an early stage, plans or supplementary planning documents should use visual tools such as design guides and codes. These provide a framework for creating distinctive places, with a consistent and high quality standard of design. Local planning authorities should ensure that they have access to, and make appropriate use of, tools and processes for assessing and improving the design of development. These include workshops to engage the local community, design advice and review arrangements, and assessment frameworks such as Building for Life.

**-Protecting Green Belt land:** The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and their permanence. Green Belt boundaries should only be altered where exceptional circumstances are fully evidenced and justified, through the preparation or updating of plans. Strategic policies should establish the need for any changes to Green Belt boundaries, having regard to their intended permanence in the long term, so they can endure beyond the plan period. Inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances.

**-Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change:** The planning system should support the **transition to a low carbon future** in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure. Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. Policies should support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts, such as providing space for physical protection measures, or making provision for the possible future relocation of vulnerable development and infrastructure.

Inappropriate development in **areas at risk of flooding** should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest

risk (whether existing or future). Where development is necessary in such areas, the development should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere.

Strategic policies should be informed by a strategic flood risk assessment, and should manage flood risk from all sources. They should consider cumulative impacts in, or affecting, local areas susceptible to flooding, and take account of advice from the Environment Agency and other relevant flood risk management authorities, such as lead local flood authorities and internal drainage boards. All plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development – taking into account the current and future impacts of climate change – so as to avoid, where possible, flood risk to people and property.

**-Conserving and enhancing the natural environment:** Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and **enhance the natural and local environment** by: a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate; d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and f) remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

To protect and **enhance biodiversity and geodiversity**, plans should: a) Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

Planning policies and decisions should ensure that: a) a site is suitable for its proposed use taking account of **ground conditions** and any risks arising from land instability and contamination. This includes risks arising from natural hazards or former activities such as mining, and any proposals for mitigation including land remediation (as well as potential impacts on the natural environment arising from that remediation); b) after remediation, as a minimum, land should not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990; and c) adequate site investigation information, prepared by a competent person, is available to inform these assessments.

**-Conserving and enhancing the historic environment:** Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account: a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; b) the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring; c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and d) opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place. When considering the **impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage** asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance. Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification.

**-Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals:** Planning policies should: a) provide for the extraction of mineral resources of local and national importance, but not identify new sites or extensions to existing sites for peat extraction; b) so far as practicable, take account of the contribution that substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste would make to the supply

of materials, before considering extraction of primary materials, whilst aiming to source minerals supplies indigenously; c) safeguard mineral resources by defining Mineral Safeguarding Areas; and adopt appropriate policies so that known locations of specific minerals resources of local and national importance are not sterilised by non-mineral development where this should be avoided (whilst not creating a presumption that the resources defined will be worked); d) set out policies to encourage the prior extraction of minerals, where practical and environmentally feasible, if it is necessary for non-mineral development to take place; e) safeguard existing, planned and potential sites for: the bulk transport, handling and processing of minerals; the manufacture of concrete and concrete products; and the handling, processing and distribution of substitute, recycled and secondary aggregate material; f) set out criteria or requirements to ensure that permitted and proposed operations do not have unacceptable adverse impacts on the natural and historic environment or human health, taking into account the cumulative effects of multiple impacts from individual sites and/or a number of sites in a locality; g) when developing noise limits, recognise that some noisy short-term activities, which may otherwise be regarded as unacceptable, are unavoidable to facilitate minerals extraction; and h) ensure that worked land is reclaimed at the earliest opportunity, taking account of aviation safety, and that high quality restoration and aftercare of mineral sites takes place.

**TCPA Garden City Principles and Guidance: Guides 1-9 (2016/2017)**

The T CPA has produced a suite of guidance with practical steps for all those interested in making C21st Garden Cities a reality. Guidance provides detail and case studies on a wide range of key issues, including planning, investment, land assembly, delivery, and longterm stewardship. The guide topics are:  
 Guide 1: Locating and consenting new Garden Cities (2017)  
 Guide 2: Finance and Delivery (2017)  
 Guide 3: Design and Masterplanning (2017)  
 Guide 4: Planning for Energy and Climate Change (2016)  
 Guide 5: Homes for All (2016)  
 Guide 6: I'd love to live there! Planning for Art and Culture (2016)  
 Guide 7: Planning for Green and Prosperous Places (2017)  
 Guide 8: Creating health promoting environments (2017)  
 Guide 9: Long-term Stewardship (2017)

The SA should consider the guidance set out in these documents when developing objectives.

The AAP should consider the guidance set out in these documents when developing policies/proposals.

**Garden Village Key Principles (TCPA, 2016)**

The OCGV will be based on key garden village principles as set out by the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA). The Garden City Principles are a distillation of the key elements that have made the Garden City model of development so successful, originating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century Garden City movement and articulated for a 21<sup>st</sup> century context. Taken together, the principles form an indivisible and interlocking framework for the delivery of high-quality places.

The SA objectives should be influenced and aligned with garden village principles.

Garden villages are new settlements of between 1,500 and 10,000 homes and based on the following 9 key principles:

- Strong vision, leadership and community engagement
- Community ownership of land and long term stewardship of assets
- Provision of a wide range of jobs within easy commuting distance of homes
- Ensuring a broad mix of housing types and tenures that are genuinely affordable including starter homes and opportunities for self-build
- Providing integrated and accessible transport systems, with walking, cycling and public transport designed to be the most attractive forms of local transport
- Beautifully and imaginatively designed homes with gardens, combining the best of town and country to create healthy communities, and including opportunities to grow food
- Strong cultural, recreational and shopping facilities in walkable, vibrant, sociable neighbourhoods
- Development that enhances the natural environment, providing a comprehensive green infrastructure network and net biodiversity gains, and seeks to minimise carbon use and achieve energy-positive technology to ensure climate resilience
- Land value capture for the benefit of the community

The AAP should develop policies/proposals that aim to achieve these principles.

**Garden Communities Prospectus (MHCLG August 2018)**

Government prospectus inviting bids for ambitious, locally supported, proposals for new garden communities at scale. Each will be holistically planned, self-sustaining, and characterful. Garden communities expected to embrace the following key qualities:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Clear identity - a distinctive local identity as a new garden community, including at its heart an attractive and functioning centre and public realm.</li> <li>b) Sustainable scale – built at a scale which supports the necessary infrastructure to allow the community to function self-sufficiently on a day to day basis, with the capacity for future growth to meet the evolving housing and economic needs of the local area.</li> <li>c) Well-designed places – with vibrant mixed use communities that support a range of local employment types and premises, retail opportunities, recreational and community facilities.</li> <li>d) Great homes – offer a wide range of high quality, distinctive homes. This includes affordable housing and a mix of tenures for all stages of life.</li> <li>e) Strong local vision and engagement – designed and executed with the engagement and involvement of the existing local community, and future residents and businesses. This should include consideration of how the natural and historic environment of the local area is reflected and respected.</li> <li>f) Transport –integrated, forward looking and accessible transport options that support economic prosperity and wellbeing for residents. This should include promotion of public transport, walking, and cycling so that settlements are easy to navigate, and facilitate simple and sustainable access to jobs, education, and services.</li> <li>g) Healthy places – designed to provide the choices and chances for all to live a healthy life, through taking a whole systems approach to key local health &amp; wellbeing priorities and strategies.</li> <li>h) Green space – generous, accessible, and good quality green and blue infrastructure that promotes health, wellbeing, and quality of life, and considers opportunities to deliver environmental gains such as biodiversity net gain and enhancements to natural capital.</li> <li>i) Legacy and stewardship arrangements – should be in place for the care of community assets, infrastructure and public realm, for the benefit of the whole community.</li> <li>j) Future proofed – designed to be resilient places that allow for changing demographics, future growth, and the impacts of climate change including flood risk and water availability, with durable landscape and building design planned for generations to come. This should include anticipation of the opportunities presented by technological change such as driverless cars and renewable energy measures.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) (2017)</b></p>	<p>The Housing Infrastructure Fund is a government capital grant programme of up to £2.3 billion, which will help to deliver up to 100,000 new homes in England. Funding will be awarded to local authorities on a highly competitive basis, providing grant funding for new infrastructure that will unlock new homes in the areas of greatest housing demand.</p> <p>The Housing Infrastructure Fund will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver new physical infrastructure to support new and existing communities;</li> <li>• Make more land available for housing in high demand areas, resulting in new additional homes that otherwise would not have been built;</li> <li>• Support ambitious local authorities who want to step up their plans for growth and make a meaningful difference to overall housing supply; and</li> <li>• Enable local authorities to recycle the funding for other infrastructure projects, achieving more and delivering new homes in the future.</li> </ul>	<p>The AAP/SPD should seek to take advantage of the HIF where possible.</p>
<p><b>Housing and Planning Act (2016)</b></p>	<p>The Act makes widespread changes to housing policy at the national level. Measures introduced in the Act relate to starter homes, and permitting the sale of higher value local authority homes. Starter homes are the new affordable housing product designed by the government to specifically meet the housing needs of younger generations and to allow them to access homeownership. The overarching aim of the Act is to promote home ownership and increase levels of house building.</p>	<p>The SA should include an objective relating to the provision of an appropriate range of housing within the Eynsham area.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD will need to take account of the provisions of the Act in relation to housing provision.</p>
<p><b>Housing White Paper: Fixing our broken housing market (2017)</b></p>	<p>The emphasis of the Paper is on four areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Local Planning Authorities planning for the right homes in the right places.</li> </ul>	<p>Include SA objectives relating to housing provision, community</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Building homes faster.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Diversifying the housing market.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Helping people right now to invest in affordable homes.</li> </ul>	<p>facilities and services.</p> <p>Particular emphasis on accelerating the delivery of new homes and diversifying opportunities to help meet identified needs.</p>
<p><i>The National Adaptation Programme and the Third Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting Making the country resilient to a changing climate (Defra, 2018)</i></p>	<p>The National Adaptation Programme (NAP) document – covering England only – sets out a register of actions agreed under the programme, aligns actions being taken with the risks identified in the 2012 Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA), and establishes timeframes for actions according to different themes.</p> <p>The NAP sets out actions according to six themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Built environment</li> <li>– Infrastructure</li> <li>– Healthy and resilient communities</li> <li>– Agriculture and forestry</li> <li>– Natural environment</li> <li>– Business and local government.</li> </ul> <p>The NAP identifies actions to be taken by the government, as well as by local governments, the private sector and civil society. The NAP focuses on particular areas of particular importance, guided by the CCRA's assessment of the magnitude, confidence and urgency scores assigned to particular risks.</p> <p>The NAP also sets out four overarching objectives to address the greatest risks and opportunities arising due to climate change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Increasing awareness</li> <li>– Increasing resilience to current extremes</li> <li>– Taking timely action for long-lead time measures</li> <li>– Addressing major evidence gaps.</li> </ul> <p>On July 19th, 2018, a second version of the National Adaptation Programme was released. This version covers the period 2018-2023.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives which seek to promote the implementation of adaptation measures to make the area more resilient to a changing climate.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should take the 4 overarching objectives set out in the Programme into account when developing policies/proposals.</p>
<p><i>A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (HM Government, 2018)</i></p>	<p>The 25 Year Environment Plan sets out government action to tackle a wide range of environmental pressures. The 25 Year Environment Plan identifies six areas around which action will be focused. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Using and managing land sustainably.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Protecting and improving the global environment.</li> </ul>	<p>The SA should include sustainability objectives that relate to the protection of the natural environment.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should develop policies/proposals that promote conservation and enhancements of the natural environment and take account of the goals of the Environment Plan.</p> <p>Include sustainability objectives to protect and improve air quality.</p> <p>Ensure that the AAP/SPD policies/proposals will contribute to</p>
<p><i>Draft Clean Air Strategy 2018 (DEFRA, 2018)</i></p>	<p>The draft Clean Air Strategy 2018 sets out actions to improve air quality by reducing pollution from a wide range of sources. The final Clean Air Strategy will inform the detailed National Air Pollution Control Programme, to be published by March 2019.</p>	

<p><b>Improving air quality in the UK: tackling nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities: Draft UK Air Quality Plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide (Defra and DfT 2017)</b></p>	<p>The Plan provides an overview of actions that the UK Government plans to take to achieve reduction of harmful air pollution, particularly nitrogen dioxide. Proposes reducing air pollution is via charging Clean Air Zones (CAZs) – areas in which emission standards determine whether a vehicle’s owner must pay a charge to enter.</p>	<p>maintaining and improving air quality. Include sustainability objectives to protect and improve air quality.</p>
<p><b>UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations (DEFRA, 2017)</b></p>	<p>Statutory air quality plan for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), setting out how the UK will be reducing roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations.</p>	<p>Ensure that the AAP/SPD policies/proposals will contribute to maintaining and improving air quality. Include sustainability objectives to protect and improve air quality.</p>
<p><b>The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (HM Government, 2017)</b></p>	<p>The Climate Change Act requires the Government to compile every five years its assessment of the risks and opportunities arising for the UK from climate change. It identifies six urgent climate change risks for the UK:  <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure.  <input type="checkbox"/> Risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high temperatures.  <input type="checkbox"/> Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry, with impacts on freshwater ecology.  <input type="checkbox"/> Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity.  <input type="checkbox"/> Risks to domestic and international food production and trade.  <input type="checkbox"/> New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals.</p>	<p>Ensure that the AAP/SPD policies/proposals will contribute to maintaining and improving air quality. Include sustainability objectives relating to the six urgent climate change risks identified in the assessment.</p>
<p><b>The Clean Growth Strategy (HM Government, 2017)</b></p>	<p>Under the Climate Change Act, the Government is required to publish a set of policies and proposals that will enable the legally-binding carbon budgets, on track to the 2050 target, to be met. The Clean Growth Strategy sets out a range of policies and proposals, as well as possible long-term pathways for UK emissions in two ways – by decreasing emissions and by increasing economic growth.</p>	<p>The AAP/SPD should acknowledge the six priority areas identified and ensure that policies help to address such matters, rather than increasing the risks.</p>
<p><b>The Clean Growth Strategy (HM Government, 2017)</b></p>	<p>Under the Climate Change Act, the Government is required to publish a set of policies and proposals that will enable the legally-binding carbon budgets, on track to the 2050 target, to be met. The Clean Growth Strategy sets out a range of policies and proposals, as well as possible long-term pathways for UK emissions in two ways – by decreasing emissions and by increasing economic growth.</p>	<p>Include a sustainability objective relating to increasing energy provided from renewable sources.</p>
<p><b>Industrial Strategy: Building a Britain fit for the future (HM Government, 2017)</b></p>	<p>The Government White Paper sets out the approach to building an industrial strategy that addresses long term challenges to the UK economy by improving living standards and economic growth by increasing productivity and driving growth across the whole country. It identifies five foundations of productivity: Ideas; people; Infrastructure; Business Environment; and Places.</p>	<p>The AAP/SPD should support renewable energy provision including electricity, heat and transport. The SA will need to consider objectives in relation to economic growth and development.</p>
<p><b>Industrial Strategy: Building a Britain fit for the future (HM Government, 2017)</b></p>	<p>The Government White Paper sets out the approach to building an industrial strategy that addresses long term challenges to the UK economy by improving living standards and economic growth by increasing productivity and driving growth across the whole country. It identifies five foundations of productivity: Ideas; people; Infrastructure; Business Environment; and Places.</p>	<p>The AAP/SPD policies/proposals should encourage sustainable economic growth and take account of changing economic conditions and requirements to support businesses and enterprises.</p>
<p><b>Rural Development Programme for England (2015-2020)</b></p>	<p>Provides money for projects to improve agriculture, the environment and rural life. Funding goes to schemes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve rural life and business,</li> <li>• Promote environmentally friendly ways of managing land</li> <li>• Sustain existing and create new areas of woodlands.</li> </ul> <p>Funding is available to a wide range of different sectors including agriculture, forestry, rural businesses and communities.</p> <p>DEFRA sets priorities for the delivery of socio-economic elements of the plan aligning RDPE resources with the priorities of the</p>	<p>The AAP/SPD policies/proposals should seek to take advantage of the Programme where possible.</p>

<p><b>The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017)</b></p>	<p>Rural Growth Review 2011.</p> <p>The programme is delivered nationally by the DEFRA RDPE delivery team who also take responsibility for the community led Leader approach, Natural England, The Forestry Commission and Local Action Groups.</p> <p>The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.</p> <p>Under the Regulations, competent authorities i.e. any Minister, government department, public body, or person holding public office, have a general duty, in the exercise of any of their functions, to have regard to the EC Habitats Directive and Wild Birds Directive. Part 102 (1) of the Regulations States:</p> <p><i>“Where a land use plan: a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or European offshore marine site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site, the ‘plan making authority’ for that plan must, before the plan is given effect, make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site’s nature conservation objectives”.</i></p> <p>The Regulations were recently amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012, which more fully integrates the requirement of the Birds Directive by requiring efforts to avoid pollution or deterioration of habitats for wild birds outside of specific designated areas.</p> <p>The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 have now been re-consolidated pre-Brexit into new legislation with a 2017 date.</p>	<p>The Local Plan has already been subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment. Further assessment would only be required if the quantum of growth were to be increased.</p>
<p><b>Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes 1,2 and 3 (Historic England, 2015)</b></p>	<p>The three guides are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Historic Environment in Local Plans</li> <li>2. Managing Significance in decision taking on the Historic Environment</li> <li>3. The Setting of Heritage Assets - Good practice guides in implementing the NPPF historic environment policy.</li> </ol>	<p>The SA should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of heritage assets.</p>
<p><b>English Heritage Historic England Corporate Plan 2015 to 2018 (2015)</b></p>	<p>The plan sets out its three purposes as to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Secure the preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Promote the preservation and enhancement of the character and appearance of conservation areas; and</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Promote the public’s enjoyment of, and advance their knowledge of, ancient monuments and historic buildings.</li> </ul>	<p>The AAP/SPD must ensure that the requirements of the NPPF with regards to heritage assets are applied in line with best practice.</p> <p>Include a sustainability objective relating to the historic environment.</p>
<p><b>Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015)</b></p>	<p>The Government’s planning policy for Traveller sites which aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure local planning authorities make their own assessment of need.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Work collaboratively to meet need through identification of land setting pitch and plot targets.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Plan for sites over a reasonable timescale.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Protect Green Belt from inappropriate development.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Promote more private Traveller site provision.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reduce number of unauthorised developments.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Include fair, inclusive and realistic policies in Local Plans.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increase the number of sites in appropriate locations.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reduce tension between Travellers and settled communities in planning decisions.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure accessibility to services and facilities.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Protect the local environment and amenity.</li> </ul>	<p>The AAP/SPD should contain policies/proposals to safeguard the historic environment.</p> <p>Ensure the requirements of national planning guidance are reflected in the SA Framework.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should include any policies/proposals to support travelling communities.</p>
<p><b>REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL</b></p>		
	<p>The Oxfordshire Growth Deal aims to drive economic growth through innovation to meet the needs of the area’s science and</p>	<p>The SA should include an objective</p>

<p><b>Oxfordshire Housing &amp; Growth Deal (2017)</b></p>	<p>knowledge-rich economy, and to place Oxfordshire at the forefront of the UK's global innovation ambitions. Building on the successful Oxfordshire City Deal, announced in January 2014, the Deal seeks to drive investment in key sectors – including life sciences, electronics, telecoms and IT – by strengthening the business-critical infrastructure around the Oxfordshire 'Knowledge Spine' stretching from Bicester in the north through Oxford City centre to Science Vale Enterprise Zone in the south of the county.</p> <p>The Growth Deal, subject to a satisfactory conclusion of the funding agreement, will bring together local, national and private funding as well as new freedoms and flexibilities to focus on four key priority areas as identified in the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovative Connectivity – allowing people and knowledge to move freely along the 'Knowledge Spine' and around the county by improving physical (transport) and service (broadband) connectivity</li> <li>• Innovative Place - providing the quality environment needed to support growth</li> <li>• Innovative Enterprise – building on the strength of Oxfordshire's university and industry research and development capacity to develop business collaboration and supply chain potential.</li> <li>• Innovative People – delivering and attracting specialist skills at all levels and across sectors to meet business need</li> </ul>	<p>relating to sustainable economic growth and housing provision.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should be developed in alignment with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal objectives and relevant projects.</p>
<p><b>Oxfordshire Strategic Economic Plan (2016)</b></p>	<p>Over the lifetime of its Deal (2015-2021) the Local Enterprise Partnership estimates that up to 9000 new jobs could be created, 5000 new homes built and that it has the potential to generate £440m public and private investment.</p> <p>This plan's vision is "Oxfordshire as a vibrant, sustainable, inclusive, world leading economy, driven by innovation, enterprise and research excellence." The plan sets out objectives for economic growth to 2030 under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovative enterprise e.g. business collaboration;</li> <li>• Innovative people e.g. building of skills and specialisms;</li> <li>• Innovative place e.g. quality environment and choice of homes;</li> <li>• Innovative connectivity, including sustainable transport routes</li> </ul>	<p>Include a sustainability objective relating to sustainable economic development.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should support regional economic growth objectives.</p>
<p><b>Oxfordshire Strategic Environmental Economic Investment Plan: Creating the Environment for Growth (OxLEP, 2015)</b></p>	<p>The Oxfordshire Strategic Environmental Economic Investment Plan (SEEIP) will provide direction and clarity on how investment in Oxfordshire will be delivered. It is one of a series of investment plans which will sit under the Strategic Economic Plan, and will help to deliver its ambitions for economic growth in Oxfordshire up to 2030.</p>	<p>Include a sustainability objective relating to sustainable economic development.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should take account of any relevant investment strategies.</p>
<p><b>Oxfordshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2018 (Oxfordshire Insight, 2018)</b></p>	<p>This assessment brings together vast range of health and healthcare related data including public health, primary care, and social care and hospital services. The information underpins strategic planning and priority setting across Oxfordshire. Analysis of the data shows that health and well-being overall in Oxfordshire is generally quite stable. A series of priorities have been identified by analyzing trends over time and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More people are living into old age but there are significant differences in life expectancy between particular areas, related to relative disadvantage.</li> <li>• The population is ageing, with the number of people aged over 85 set to double over the next 15 years. This is more apparent in rural areas. The number of informal carers needing support is also rising.</li> <li>• There has been an increase in the percentage of people with a diagnosis of dementia.</li> <li>• School attainment is increasing overall, but some groups of young people still have poor outcomes. These inequalities are related to relative disadvantage.</li> <li>• There is persistent childhood obesity which (although lower than national levels) mirrors upward trends in adult obesity also.</li> <li>• Several diseases that are considered preventable by adopting healthy lifestyles are a cause of concern in some parts of the county.</li> </ul>	<p>The SA should include health and wellbeing objectives.</p> <p>The AAP/SPD should be mindful of the JSNA findings when developing policies/proposals and aim to improve health and well-being.</p>

**A Countywide Approach to Meeting the Unmet Housing Need of Oxford (Oxfordshire Growth Board, 2016)**

- Immunisation rates have been good but there are signs that coverage is slipping

- 1) Public bodies have a Duty to Co-operate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries.
  - 2) A key planning issue in Oxfordshire is how to address the unmet housing need arising from Oxford City identified in the 2014 Oxfordshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment.
  - 3) The Oxfordshire Growth Board agreed to establish a working group and a programme of projects to enable agreement to be reached between the Local Authorities on the level of unmet housing need of Oxford City together with an appropriate apportionment that could then be taken forwards through the Local Plans for each District. This programme is called the Post SHMA Strategic Work programme (the Programme).
  - 4) This report sets out detail of that Programme, the work streams which were commissioned; how the findings were considered and the conclusions which were reached.
  - 5) This report includes a recommended apportionment of the unmet housing need of Oxford.
- The Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OXIS) has been prepared on behalf of the Oxfordshire Growth Board to provide a view of emerging development and infrastructure requirements to support growth from 2016 to 2031 and beyond.

The SA objectives should consider the housing needs of Oxford.

The AAP/SPD should include policies/proposals that help to meet Oxford's unmet housing need.

Include SA objectives related to infrastructure to support growth.

AAP/SPD policies/proposals to ensure that appropriate infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner.

Include a sustainability objective relating to minimising the number of vehicles on the road and improve air quality.

The AAP/SPD should incorporate policies/proposals which aim to minimise the number of vehicles on the roads, to reduce traffic which is contributing to congestion, to minimise the impact on local residents' amenity and to minimize traffic related contribution to air pollution.

Include SA objectives related to the use and protection of mineral resources.

**Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OXIS, 2017)**

**Connecting Oxfordshire: Local Transport Plan 2015-2031 (Oxfordshire County Council, 2016)**

Connecting Oxfordshire has been developed with three over-arching transport goals (economy, environment and society):

1. To support jobs and housing growth and economic vitality;
2. To reduce emissions, enhance air quality and support the transition to a low carbon economy
3. To protect and enhance Oxfordshire's environment and improve quality of life (including public health, safety and individual wellbeing)

And 10 objectives:

- Maintain and improve transport connections to support economic growth and vitality across the county
- Make most effective use of all available transport capacity through innovative management of the network
- Increase journey time reliability and minimise end-to-end public transport journey times on main routes
- Develop a high-quality, innovative and resilient integrated transport system that is attractive to customers and generates inward investment
- Minimise the need to travel
- Reduce the proportion of journeys made by private car by making the use of public transport, walking and cycling more attractive
- Influence the location and layout of development to maximise the use and value of existing and planned sustainable transport investment
- Reduce per capita carbon emissions from transport in Oxfordshire in line with UK Government targets
- Mitigate and wherever possible enhance the impacts of transport on the local built, historic and natural environment

Improve public health and wellbeing by increasing levels of walking and cycling, reducing transport emissions, reducing casualties and enabling inclusive access to jobs, education, training and services.

**Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Part 1: Core Strategy**

The Oxfordshire Minerals Planning Vision is supported by the following objectives which underpin the minerals strategy and policies in this plan:

(2017)

- i. Facilitate the efficient use of Oxfordshire's mineral resources by encouraging the maximum practical recovery of aggregate from secondary and recycled materials for use in place of primary aggregates.
- ii. Make provision for a steady and adequate supply of sharp sand and gravel, soft sand and crushed rock over the plan period to meet the planned economic growth and social needs of Oxfordshire.
- iii. Make an appropriate contribution to meeting wider needs for aggregate minerals, having regard to the strategic importance of Oxfordshire's mineral resources, particularly sand and gravel.
- iv. Enable a continued local supply of limestone and ironstone for building and walling stone for the maintenance, repair and construction of locally distinctive buildings and structures, and of clay to meet local needs for engineering and restoration material.
- v. Provide a framework for investment and development by mineral operators and landowners through a clear and deliverable spatial strategy which is sufficiently flexible to meet future needs and has regard to existing and planned infrastructure.
- vi. Minimise the flood risk associated with minerals development and contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, including through restoration schemes which provide habitat creation as a mechanism for addressing climate change adaptation and additional flood storage capacity in the floodplain where possible.
- vii. Minimise the transport impact of mineral development on local communities, the environment and climate change by minimising the distance minerals need to be transported by road and encouraging where possible the movement of aggregates by conveyor, pipeline, rail and on Oxfordshire's waterways.
- viii. Protect Oxfordshire's communities and natural and historic environments (including important landscapes and ecological, geological and archaeological and other heritage assets) from the harmful impacts of mineral development (including traffic).
- ix. Provide benefits to Oxfordshire's natural environment and local communities through the restoration and aftercare of mineral workings at the earliest opportunity, in particular by contributing to nature conservation, enhancing the quality and extent of Conservation Target Areas, contributing to landscape character, improving access to the countryside, safeguarding local amenity, providing opportunities for local recreation and providing benefit to the local economy.
- x. Implement a biodiversity-led restoration strategy that delivers a net gain in biodiversity, and contributes to establishing a coherent and resilient ecological network, through the landscape-scale creation of priority habitat.
- xi. Safeguard important known resources of sharp sand and gravel, soft sand, crushed rock and fuller's earth to ensure that those resources are not needlessly sterilised and remain potentially available for future use and are considered in future development decisions.
- xii. Safeguard important facilities for the production of secondary and recycled aggregate, railhead sites for the bulk movement of aggregate into Oxfordshire by rail and other infrastructure to support the supply of minerals in Oxfordshire.

#### Waste Planning Objectives

The Oxfordshire Waste Planning Vision is supported by the following objectives which underpin the waste strategy and policies in this plan:

- i. Make provision for waste management (including residual waste disposal) capacity that allows Oxfordshire to be net self-sufficient in meeting its own needs for municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial waste, and construction, demolition and excavation waste.
- ii. Make provision for facilities for the management of agricultural waste, waste water, hazardous waste and radioactive waste produced in Oxfordshire, recognising that specialist facilities for hazardous and radioactive wastes often require provision at a sub-national or national level.
- iii. Support initiatives that help reduce the amounts of waste produced and provide for the delivery, as soon as is practicable, of waste management facilities that will drive waste away from landfill and as far up the waste hierarchy as possible; in particular facilities that will enable increased re-use, recycling and composting of waste and the recovery of resources from remaining waste.
- iv. Seek to provide for waste to be managed as close as possible to where it arises, and encourage other Waste Planning Authorities to become net self-sufficient in meeting their own waste needs, to:
  - minimise the distance waste needs to be transported by road;

Ensure the AAP/SPD policies/proposals do not hinder or conflict with policies in the core strategy.

- reduce adverse impacts of waste transportation on local communities and the environment; and
  - enable communities to take responsibility for their own waste.
- v. Provide for a broad distribution of waste management facilities to meet local needs across Oxfordshire and make more specific provision for larger facilities that are needed to serve the whole or more substantial parts of the county or a wider area.
  - vi. Seek to ensure that the waste management facilities required in Oxfordshire are provided as an integral part of the infrastructure of the county and where possible are located to enable local employment and local use of energy (heat and power) recovered from waste.
  - vii. Seek to maintain opportunity for necessary disposal of residual waste from Oxfordshire and other areas in operational landfill sites.
  - viii. Avoid the unnecessary loss of green field land when making provision for sites for waste management facilities, giving priority to the re-use of previously developed land.
  - ix. Protect Oxfordshire's communities and natural and historic environments (including important landscapes and ecological, geological and archaeological and other heritage assets) from the harmful impacts of waste management development (including traffic).
  - x. Secure the satisfactory restoration of temporary waste management sites, including landfills, where the facility is no longer required or acceptable in that location.

Indicators and targets have been developed to provide a consistent basis for monitoring the performance of the Core Strategy's vision, objectives and policies for minerals development to 2031. The indicators reflect the intent of the strategy objectives and the sustainability appraisal framework identified in the Sustainability Appraisal Report.

The Council will produce a Minerals and Waste Monitoring Report at least annually, in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). These reports will include an assessment of:

- the extent to which the policies in the Minerals and Waste Local Plan are being achieved;
- any changes needed where policies are not working or objectives are not being met; and
- progress on the preparation of minerals and waste local plan documents.

**Oxfordshire Pupil Place Plan 2017-2021 (Oxfordshire County Council, 2017)**

The Pupil Place Plan ensures that there are enough school places in the correct area for parents to access them. This means that the County Council have a statutory duty to ensure that sufficient places are available within their area for every child of school age whose parents wish them to have one. Further, OCC have the responsibility to:

- promote diversity, parental choice and high educational standards;
- ensure fair access to educational opportunity;
- help fulfil every child's educational potential.

The plan shows local communities and those interested in their development, how the county Council expects school provision to change over the next few years. It brings together information from a range of sources and sets out the issues the county council will face in meeting its statutory duties for providing school places up to 2021.

The plan includes present and predicted future pupil numbers on roll, together with information about birth rates, school capacity, and new housing. The plan analyses changes in the number of school places available over the last year and it suggests where other changes may be necessary in the future. The plan also sets out our policies on school organisation and the statutory framework for making changes such as opening, closing or enlarging schools.

We want to ensure that all children and young people can:

**Be Successful**

1. Have the best start in life;
2. Access high quality education, employment and training that is motivational.

The SA should take the Pupil Place Plan into consideration when developing objectives relating to education.

The AAP/SPD policies/proposals should align with the PPP to ensure educational needs are fulfilled.

Include an SA objective that relates to health and wellbeing, especially for children young people.

**Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2018 – 2021 (Children's Trust Board, 2018)**

3. Go to school and feel inspired to stay and learn  
 4. Have good self-esteem and faith in themselves.  
Be Happy and Healthy  
 5. Be confident that services are available to promote good health and prevent ill health – early in life and before crisis  
 6. Learn the importance of healthy, secure relationships and having a support network  
 7. Access services to improve overall well-being  
 8. Access easy ways to get active.  
Be Safe  
 9. Be protected from all types of abuse and neglect  
 10. Have a place to feel safe and a sense of belonging  
 11. Access education and support about how to stay safe  
 12. Have access to appropriate housing.  
Be Supported  
 13. Be empowered to know who to speak to when in need of support, and know that they will be listened to and believed;  
 14. Access information in a way which suits them best;  
 15. Have inspiring role models;  
 16. Talk to staff who are experienced and caring.

Progress against the performance indicators included in the implementation plan will be monitored by the Children's Trust at each quarterly meeting.

Policies and proposals in the AAP/SPD to take account of the needs of children and young people.

## LOCAL

### West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 (2018)

The Local Plan 2031 is structured by 18 underlying core objectives listed below:

1. Enable new development, services and facilities of an appropriate scale and type in locations which will help improve the quality of life of local communities and where the need to travel, particularly by car, can be minimised.
2. Ensure that new developments are suitably located and well designed to protect and enhance the individual form, character and identity of our towns and villages as well as contributing to the quality of life in West Oxfordshire.
3. Promote safe, vibrant and prosperous town and village centres and resist proposals that would damage their vitality and viability or adversely affect measures to improve those centres.
4. Locate new residential development where it will best help to meet housing needs and reduce the need to travel.
5. Plan for the timely delivery of new housing to meet forecast needs and support sustainable economic growth.
6. Plan for an appropriate mix of new residential accommodation which provides a variety of sizes, types and affordability with special emphasis on the provision of homes for local people in housing need who cannot afford to buy or rent at market prices including those wishing to self-build, as well as homes to meet the needs of older people, younger people, black and minority ethnic communities, people with disabilities, families and travelling communities.
7. To support sustainable economic growth which adds value to the local economy, improves the balance between housing and local jobs, provides a diversity of local employment opportunities, capitalises on economic growth in adjoining areas, improves local skills and work readiness, removes potential barriers to investment and provides flexibility to adapt to changing economic needs.
8. To enable a prosperous and sustainable tourism economy.
9. Promote inclusive, healthy, safe and crime free communities.
10. Ensure that land is not released for new development until the supporting infrastructure and facilities are secured.
11. Maximise the opportunity for walking, cycling and use of public transport.
12. Look to maintain or improve where possible the health and wellbeing of the District's residents through increased choice and quality of shopping, leisure, recreation, arts, cultural and community facilities.
13. Plan for enhanced access to services and facilities without unacceptably impacting upon the character and resources of West Oxfordshire.

The SA should include objectives that support those in the Local Plan.

The AAP/SPD must conform to the policies and objectives set out in the Local Plan 2031, especially with regards to Policies EW1 and EW2.



**West Oxfordshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (Update November 2016)**

**Draft Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan (30 September 2018)**

14. Conserve and enhance the character and significance of West Oxfordshire's high quality natural, historic and cultural environment – including its geodiversity, landscape, biodiversity, heritage and arts – recognising and promoting their wider contribution to people's quality of life and social and economic well-being both within the District and beyond.
15. Contribute to reducing the causes and adverse impacts of climate change, especially flood risk.
16. Enable improvements in water and air quality.
17. Minimise the use of non-renewable natural resources and promote more widespread use of renewable energy solutions.
18. Improve the sustainable design and construction of new development, including improving energy, water efficiency and water management.

The main purpose of the IDP is to identify the infrastructure needed to support future growth planned in West Oxfordshire. The Local Plan Housing Consultation Paper (July 2014) suggested the provision of 9,450 homes in the period 2011 – 2029 (525 per year) along with around 60 hectares of land for business. The pre-submission draft Local Plan proposes an extended plan period to 2031 and aims to provide at least 10,500 homes in this period (525 homes per year).

The IDP is a 'living document' and will be regularly updated and monitored as more information becomes available and as new schemes are completed or new infrastructure requirements are identified.

Monitoring will normally be carried out annually and will include an update of the infrastructure delivered along with the infrastructure which remains outstanding, an assessment of the risk of infrastructure projects being undelivered and a record of CIL and S106 receipts.

Eynsham Parish Council Vision: *Our vision for the Parish of Eynsham at the end of the plan period is that both new and existing residents will be enjoying the same benefits of living in the village as current residents do in 2017 and that the area will be an even more attractive community in which to live and work.*

Our vision will be made reality through meeting eight primary objectives.

ENV 1 Housing: New development shall ensure a mix of housing types and tenures to make a balanced community suitable for this area of West Oxfordshire close to the city of Oxford. The ideal community will have a range of ages, incomes, education and skills so that the community could be largely self-sustaining.

ENV 2 Design: New development shall be visually attractive and in harmony with its immediate setting and character. It shall provide a pleasant and safe place for all residents to live. Developments should achieve a Building for Life or equivalent accreditation and developers should aspire to achieve national recognition for excellence by attaining a 'green' in all categories.

ENV 3 Community facilities: New development shall ensure that new residents have at least the same access to community facilities as existing residents and new developments shall, as far as reasonably practicable, contribute to the facilities of the entire community. Eynsham is successful as a community because it is compact and people can access schools, employment and other facilities without the use of a private car. New developments shall maintain this compact and well-connected feature of the village.

ENV 4 Natural Environment: New developments shall bring together all aspects of design, connectivity and natural environment that constitute the landscape setting of the new (and existing) development, closely linking village and countryside. Quick and easy access to countryside and retaining trees, hedgerows and footpaths is a vital element in retaining a village feel, in some measure compensating for the lack of a village green or park within the existing village.

ENV 5 Transport and parking: New development shall be planned and constructed to ensure that all residents have ready access to local transport networks by private car, bicycle or public transport and that excellent paths are created for pedestrians cyclists and mobility vehicles. New developments should not exacerbate existing parking problems within the village centre and shall ensure adequate and appropriate parking for new residents.

ENV 6 Economy – industry, commerce and retail: New developments shall ensure that Eynsham continues to offer a range of employment opportunities that reflects its location on the edge of the 'knowledge spine' around Oxford city and that potentially utilises a full range of skills from manual through to post-graduate levels. Development should also ensure the continued viability of the excellent range of local shops that allow residents to shop for day to day needs within the village.

ENV 7 Sustainability and climate change: New development shall be sustainable now and in the long term without compromising one for the other. Homes of a standard compatible with the intentions of the Climate Change Act are likely to be commercially viable in Eynsham and offer benefits to be reaped by the many generations that will live in them.

The SA should include an objective relating to the provision of infrastructure to support housing delivery.

The AAP/SPD should include policies/proposals to ensure appropriate infrastructure is delivered alongside housing as set out in the IDP.

The SA should consider the objectives and draft policies into account when developing objectives.

The AAP/SPD should consider the objectives and draft policies of the Neighbourhood Plan into account when developing policy/proposals.

*West Oxfordshire Design Guide (2016)*

ENV 8 A New Settlement: ENVI-7 shall be shared by the new settlement, which shall be built according to Garden Village principles as a new, separate, community. Neither settlement should be dependent on the other; any shared facilities shall be for mutual benefit and without harm to either.

The purpose of the Design Guide is to describe the qualities and characteristics that make West Oxfordshire special – its landscapes, settlements and buildings – and to describe the ways in which good design can protect and enrich the character of the District.

Design is central to a wide range of issues, from the colour of a front door to the layout of a new housing area. Whatever the context, being 'fit for purpose' should never be enough. Outstanding design makes places special, is life-affirming, and forms a material legacy by which future generations will know and judge us: for this reason it should be the aim of all those involved in the change or management of West Oxfordshire's built and natural environment.

The Guide provides advice to supplement policies contained in the West Oxfordshire Local Plan.

The SA should include an objective relating to design.

The AAP/SPD should include policies and proposals to enable high quality design in line with the Council's overall design guide.

*Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site Management Plan (2017)*

The Blenheim Estate aim to maintain and preserve and, where appropriate, enhance the significance, values and character of the WHS, whilst continuing to provide a home for the Dukes of Marlborough, and a high quality visitor experience for future generations. To achieve this the Estate will:

- maintain and manage the Palace and Park to preserve and enhance their character, and, where necessary repair significant buildings or replant parts of the Park in accordance with the objectives of this plan.
- use management practices that are consistent with the above and which are designed to conserve the heritage qualities of the plan area and its OUV (described in chapter 2) through appropriate and sustainable policies and practices.
- protect the existing opportunities for public access including existing public rights of way within the Park and the access arrangements to the Palace and grounds.
- enhance the qualities of visitor facilities and achieve new levels of excellence in visitor management and related experiences as one of the UK's top tourism destinations.
- interpret and present the history of Blenheim Palace and Park to a larger and more diverse audience, and continue to promote high quality education programmes.

The SA should include an objective relating to the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets, with specific reference to Blenheim Palace where appropriate.

The AAP should ensure no harmful impact in terms of the setting of the Blenheim Palace WHS e.g. key views.

### APPENDIX 3. Sustainability Objectives, Sub-Objectives, Corresponding SEA Topics and Relevant Garden Village Principles/Qualities

Sustainability Objectives	Existing sub-objectives	Proposed sub-objectives for the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SDA SPD	SEA topic(s)	Relevant Garden Village Principles/Qualities
1. Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed affordable home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to increase affordable housing provision</li> <li>Provide high quality sustainably constructed housing</li> <li>Provide a mix of housing to meet the current and future needs of the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a balanced mix of dwelling types and tenures to meet identified needs including unmet housing need arising from Oxford City, specialist accommodation, self-build and the travelling community.</li> <li>Increase affordable housing provision, especially for young people, first-time homeowners and essential local workers.</li> <li>Accelerate housing delivery, including affordable housing, in a timely manner (e.g. modular construction, phasing of infrastructure).</li> <li>Provide high quality, sustainably constructed, accessible and adaptable new homes.</li> <li>Promote high quality design that protects and enriches the character of the District.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring a broad mix of housing types and tenures that are genuinely affordable including starter homes and opportunities for self-build</li> <li>Strong cultural, recreational and shopping facilities in walkable, vibrant, sociable neighbourhoods</li> <li>Sustainable scale</li> <li>Well-designed places</li> <li>Great homes</li> <li>Strong local vision and engagement</li> <li>Legacy and stewardship arrangements</li> </ul>
2. Improve health and well-being and reduce inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect human health</li> <li>Support healthy and active lifestyles</li> <li>Improve accessibility to the countryside</li> <li>Improve access to healthcare and other services, particularly in rural areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguard key public rights of way and deliver new and enhanced provision as appropriate including multi-use transport networks that are accessible to pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and mobility scooter users to increase opportunities for physical activity.</li> <li>Ensure the early delivery of health-promoting infrastructure including a network of high-quality green infrastructure to benefit new and existing residents and workers.</li> <li>Ensure the availability and accessibility of adequate capacity for primary healthcare.</li> <li>Support strong, vibrant and healthy communities.</li> <li>Ensure proximity and good access to the provision/production of healthy food environments supported by community activities including space for people to grow their own food.</li> <li>Meet the needs of a range of different age groups including children and young people and older people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautifully and imaginatively designed homes with gardens, combining the best of town and country to create healthy communities, and including opportunities to grow food</li> <li>Strong cultural, recreational and shopping facilities in walkable, vibrant, sociable neighbourhood</li> <li>Strong local vision and engagement</li> <li>Healthy places</li> <li>Green space</li> <li>Legacy and stewardship arrangements</li> </ul>
3. Promote thriving and inclusive communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackle social exclusion wherever it exists</li> <li>Maintain or increase the vitality of town and village centres and communities</li> <li>Provide opportunities for cultural, leisure and recreational activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that new development is supported by appropriate and timely investment in infrastructure.</li> <li>Ensure that new development does not have a harmful impact on the vitality and vibrancy of Eynsham and instead, integrates in an effective, complementary and mutually-beneficial manner.</li> <li>Promote effective and meaningful interactions between different age groups to promote social cohesion and well-being (e.g. inter-generational spaces and mix of uses).</li> <li>Provide new cultural, leisure and recreational opportunities including improved access to the countryside to help increase rates of physical activity.</li> <li>Support strong, vibrant and healthy communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautifully and imaginatively designed homes with gardens, combining the best of town and country to create healthy communities, and including opportunities to grow food</li> <li>Strong cultural, recreational and shopping facilities in walkable, vibrant, sociable neighbourhood</li> <li>Clear identity</li> <li>Sustainable scale</li> <li>Well-designed places</li> <li>Great homes</li> <li>Strong local vision and engagement</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objectives	Existing sub-objectives	Proposed sub-objectives for the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SDA SPD	SEA topic(s)	Relevant Garden Village Principles/Qualities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide for the needs of an ageing community</li> <li>• Meet the needs of a range of different age groups including children and young people and older people.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Healthy places</li> <li>• Legacy and stewardship arrangements</li> </ul>
4. Improve education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek to provide infrastructure to improve education and skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the availability of and accessibility to adequate capacity of primary and secondary education.</li> <li>• Provide new and enhanced opportunities to increase educational attainment, skills and training.</li> <li>• Provide new high-quality business land in an attractive setting thereby helping to attract inward investment, generate new jobs and skills, and reduce the propensity to travel to work elsewhere.</li> <li>• Promote high levels of home-working.</li> <li>• Support innovation-led growth, underpinned by the strength of Oxfordshire's research, business collaboration and supply chain potential.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population &amp; Human Health</li> <li>• Material Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of a wide range of jobs within easy commuting distance of homes</li> <li>• Strong local vision and engagement</li> <li>• Future proofed</li> </ul>
5. Maintain a low level of crime and fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek to ensure safe and supportive communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To minimise both the fear of crime and opportunities for/incidences of crime through appropriate design, layout and mix of uses.</li> <li>• Promote high quality design that protects and enriches the character of the District;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong cultural, recreational and shopping facilities in walkable, vibrant, sociable neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Strong vision, leadership and community engagement</li> <li>• Well-designed places</li> <li>• Strong local vision and engagement</li> <li>• Healthy places</li> <li>• Legacy and stewardship arrangements</li> </ul>
6. Improve accessibility to all services and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the need to travel</li> <li>• Improve accessibility by public transport, walking and cycling access</li> <li>• Maintain and improve accessibility by car</li> <li>• Reduce traffic congestion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise the opportunities to improve and better connect to existing public transport in the area including links to Oxford and Hanborough Station.</li> <li>• Effectively integrate with proposed improvements to the A40 including park and ride and bus priority.</li> <li>• Maximise opportunities for non-car travel including improved pedestrian, cycling and riding connections across the A40 and between the OCGV, West Eynsham SDA, Eynsham village, Hanborough Station and Oxford City.</li> <li>• Develop a high quality, innovative and resilient integrated transport system;</li> <li>• Reflect the 'compact' and 'walkable' nature of Eynsham in new development.</li> <li>• Meet the needs of a range of different age groups including children and young people and older people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population &amp; Human Health</li> <li>• Material Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong cultural, recreational and shopping facilities in walkable, vibrant, sociable neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Providing integrated and accessible transport systems, with walking, cycling and public transport designed to be the most attractive forms of local transport</li> <li>• Sustainable scale</li> <li>• Well-designed places</li> <li>• Strong local vision and engagement</li> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Healthy places</li> <li>• Legacy and stewardship arrangements</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objectives	Existing sub-objectives	Proposed sub-objectives for the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SDA SPD	SEA topic(s)	Relevant Garden Village Principles/Qualities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the protection and enhancement of village centre.</li> <li>Promote the provision of new and the protection of existing services and facilities at sustainable locations including as part of mixed-use development.</li> </ul>		
7. Improve the efficiency of land use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise the use of previously developed land provided it is not of high environmental value</li> <li>Use land efficiently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure land use meets identified community needs.</li> <li>Ensure development is of a suitable density or range of densities to minimise the extent of any 'developable' land-take and maximise opportunities for greenspace provision.</li> <li>Explore opportunities for sustainable waste management to ensure a sufficient supply of aggregate materials is available to meet identified development needs with priority given to secondary and recycled aggregate materials (where practicable);</li> <li>Safeguard mineral resources</li> <li>Minimise impact on the soil resource</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Water &amp; Soil</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong vision, leadership and community engagement</li> <li>Community ownership of land and long term stewardship of assets</li> <li>Sustainable scale</li> <li>Future proofed</li> </ul>
8. Reduce waste generation and disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate the reuse, recycling and recovery of waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the amount of waste generated both initially during construction and in the longer-term, post-occupation.</li> <li>Maximise opportunities to re-use, recycle and recover waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water &amp; Soil</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> <li>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</li> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development that enhances the natural environment, providing a comprehensive green infrastructure network and net biodiversity gains, and seeks to minimise carbon use and achieve energy-positive technology to ensure climate resilience</li> <li>Future proofed</li> </ul>
9. Reduce air pollution and improve air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce road congestion and negative impacts on air quality, to ensure all areas meet air quality objectives</li> <li>Limit exposure to poor air quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure new development does not have a harmful effect on air quality, especially with regards to the Oxford Meadows Special Conservation Area (SAC).</li> <li>Improve multi-use transport networks that are accessible to pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and mobility scooter users to decrease dependency on the private car.</li> <li>Avoid, minimise and mitigate the effects of poor air quality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air</li> <li>Climatic Factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing integrated and accessible transport systems, with walking, cycling and public transport designed to be the most attractive forms of local transport</li> <li>Transport</li> <li>Healthy places</li> <li>Green space</li> </ul>
10. Address the causes of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and be prepared for its impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the need to travel</li> <li>Promote the development of renewable, low-carbon, and local energy sources</li> <li>Seek to increase the energy and water efficiency of buildings through sustainable design and construction</li> <li>Take into account the likely impacts of climate change and use sustainable drainage solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise opportunities for the use of renewable, low-carbon and local energy sources.</li> <li>Minimise the use-of non-renewable energy sources.</li> <li>Develop a high quality, innovative and resilient integrated transport system.</li> <li>Minimise the need to travel and promote travel by sustainable means.</li> <li>Promote the use of designs and materials which will promote energy efficiency at new development.</li> <li>Promote increased levels of home working, facilitated by</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air</li> <li>Climatic Factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing integrated and accessible transport systems, with walking, cycling and public transport designed to be the most attractive forms of local transport</li> <li>Sustainable scale</li> <li>Transport</li> <li>Green space</li> <li>Future proofed</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objectives	Existing sub-objectives	Proposed sub-objectives for the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SDA SPD	SEA topic(s)	Relevant Garden Village Principles/Qualities
		improved broadband provision, to reduce out-commuting and increase the self-containment of communities.		
11. Protect and improve water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to maintain and improve water quality</li> <li>Ensure that new development has the necessary water (including water efficiency, waste water and sewerage infrastructure)</li> <li>Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land</li> <li>Seek to bring contaminated land back into beneficial use through remediation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise resource efficiency including water</li> <li>Ensure no deterioration in water quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water &amp; Soil</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development that enhances the natural environment, providing a comprehensive green infrastructure network and net biodiversity gains, and seeks to minimise carbon use and achieve energy-positive technology to ensure climate resilience</li> <li>Green space</li> <li>Future proofed</li> </ul>
12. Reduce the risk from all sources of flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to avoid development in flood risk areas</li> <li>Take into account the potential impacts on climate change</li> <li>Promote the use of sustainable drainage solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise the risk of flooding from all sources both directly (on-site) and indirectly (off-site) taking account of the potential impacts of climate change.</li> <li>Increase the provision of sustainable drainage at new developments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Material Assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development that enhances the natural environment, providing a comprehensive green infrastructure network and net biodiversity gains, and seeks to minimise carbon use and achieve energy-positive technology to ensure climate resilience.</li> <li>Green space</li> <li>Future proofed</li> </ul>
13. Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid loss or damage to biodiversity or geodiversity</li> <li>Maintain or enhance areas protected or managed for nature conservation and seek to extend such areas having regard to the 'target area' approach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take all available opportunities to protect and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity of the site or locality including biodiversity and geodiversity designations.</li> <li>Contribute to wider biodiversity and green infrastructure networks where appropriate.</li> <li>Demonstrate a net gain in biodiversity where possible.</li> <li>Provide and manage opportunities for people to come into contact with resilient wildlife places whilst encouraging respect for and raising awareness of the sensitivity of such locations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development that enhances the natural environment, providing a comprehensive green infrastructure network and net biodiversity gains, and seeks to minimise carbon use and achieve energy-positive technology to ensure climate resilience.</li> <li>Sustainable scale</li> <li>Green space</li> <li>Future proofed</li> </ul>
14. Conserve and enhance landscape character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve and enhance areas, sites and buildings that contribute to the natural and cultural (including archaeological and architectural) heritage of the District</li> <li>Maintain or enhance landscape character as defined by the character assessments and appraisals</li> <li>Promote access to and enjoyment of the District's historic environment and countryside.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and where possible enhance the intrinsic character, quality and distinctive natural and man-made features of the local landscape.</li> <li>To identify, safeguard and enhance key views.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultural Heritage &amp; Landscape</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development that enhances the natural environment, providing a comprehensive green infrastructure network and net biodiversity gains, and seeks to minimise carbon use and achieve energy-positive technology to ensure climate resilience</li> <li>Sustainable scale</li> <li>Well-designed places</li> <li>Strong local vision and engagement</li> <li>Green space</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objectives	Existing sub-objectives	Proposed sub-objectives for the OCGV AAP and West Eynsham SDA SPD	SEA topic(s)	Relevant Garden Village Principles/Qualities
15. Conserve and enhance the historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve and enhance areas, sites and buildings that contribute to the natural and cultural (including archaeological and architectural) heritage of the District</li> <li>Maintain or enhance landscape character as defined by the character assessments and appraisals</li> <li>Promote access to and enjoyment of the District's historic environment and countryside.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve and/or enhance the historic environment including identified heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance.</li> <li>Mitigate any potential impacts on any heritage assets 'at risk'</li> <li>Ensure no harmful impact on the existing historic core of Eynsham as a result of new development.</li> <li>To maximise opportunities to better reveal heritage assets and improve education and understanding of their significance.</li> <li>Promote sustainable and appropriately managed access to as well as enjoyment and understanding of the local historic environment for Eynsham's residents and visitors.</li> <li>Ensure archaeological features are preserved and recorded.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultural Heritage &amp; Landscape</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community ownership of land and long term stewardship of assets</li> <li>Legacy and stewardship arrangements</li> <li>Strong local vision and engagement</li> </ul>
16. Maintain high and stable levels of employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to provide a range of employment opportunities appropriate to the skills of the community</li> <li>Support vibrant market towns and a sustainable rural economy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide new high-quality business land in an attractive setting thereby helping to attract inward investment, generate new jobs and skills, and reduce the propensity to travel to work elsewhere.</li> <li>Provide for accessible employment opportunities.</li> <li>To address the current demographic imbalance and help increase rates of economic activity.</li> <li>Promote high levels of home-working.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of a wide range of jobs within easy commuting distance of homes</li> <li>Well-designed places</li> </ul>
17. Promote sustainable economic growth and competitiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support, develop and attract competitive business sectors</li> <li>Seek to enable enterprise and innovation</li> <li>Promote a sustainable tourism sector</li> <li>Promote rural diversification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide new high-quality business land in an attractive setting thereby helping to attract inward investment, generate new jobs and skills, and reduce the propensity to travel to work elsewhere.</li> <li>Address the current demographic imbalance and help increase rates of economic activity.</li> <li>Promote increased levels of home working, facilitated by improved broadband provision, to reduce out-commuting and increase the self-containment of communities.</li> <li>Maintain and improve transport connections to support economic growth and vitality.</li> <li>Ensure a strong link between jobs and housing growth.</li> <li>Promote innovation-led growth, underpinned by the strength of Oxfordshire's research, business collaboration and supply chain potential.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of a wide range of jobs within easy commuting distance of homes</li> <li>Clear identity</li> <li>Transport</li> <li>Future proofed</li> </ul>