



Local Plan Update

Leeds Local Plan

Development Plan Document

**Sustainability Appraisal Non-Technical Summary -
Pre-Submission Changes (Regulation 19)**

October 2023

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This document summarises the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the proposed update to the existing Local Plan (the 'Local Plan Update'; 'LPU'). For a full assessment including the application of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, please see the SA Report which is appended to the end of this Non-Technical Summary.
- 1.2. This non-technical summary includes the essential scoring components of the SA and summary of the results and significant effects of policy options on the SA objectives, including assessment of negative impacts and how they can be mitigated.

2.0 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

- 2.1. The SA Scoping Report was published and sent out for consultation in July 2021 to the three statutory SA consultees (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England). The consultation period ended in September 2021.
- 2.2. Comments were received from the statutory consultees suggesting amendments to the SA Framework, baseline information and additional plans and strategies relevant to the SA. These were considered and incorporated accordingly into the SA of the Publication Draft.
- 2.3. Following further public consultation in 2022, and taking into consideration comments made by the public, Members and statutory consultees, further changes have been made to Local Plan Update pre-submission to the Secretary of State. The SA has therefore been updated appropriately to reflect and consider these changes.

3.0 THE SA FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING SA OBJECTIVES, TARGETS, INDICATORS AND DECISION-MAKING CRITERIA

- 3.1. The SA Framework provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared. It consists of individual SA Objectives covering the significant sustainability issues for Leeds, which were determined at the SA scoping stage.
- 3.2. The SA Framework was originally developed by Leeds City Council in consultation with the statutory environmental consultation bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) and were updated in 2017 following the Core Strategy Selective Review. This was to recast the original objectives in order to improve the consistency and robustness of the scoring process, as well as a revised set of Decision-Making Criteria ('DMC') to better understand the type of impacts that need to be considered.
- 3.3. The SA Framework was updated further in 2022 during the SA scoping process, with further changes being made to the decision-making criteria of Objectives SA10, SA12, SA21 as well as amending inconsistencies within the SA Framework following consultation comments from Natural England. The SA Framework was updated once again in 2023 following further comments from Natural England, updating the decision-making criteria of SA9, SA19 and SA21.

- 3.4. The proposed SA framework is based upon 23 SA Objectives (under the three economic, social and environmental themes), each with their own Decision-Making Criteria (a total of 75) and Indicators (which link to the Best Council Plan 'BCP' and Local Authority Monitoring Report 'AMR').
- 3.5. The Decision-Making Criteria are a fundamental aspect of scoring the impact of plan proposals on the SA Objectives, and aims to do this in a simple way. The first step involves scoring each plan proposal against each of the DMCs, in which then the DMC scores are grouped together in association with relevant Composite Decision-Making Criteria (CDMC). The final step sets all relevant DMC and CDMC against the SA Objectives so that an informed judgement can be made on the SA Objective score.
- 3.6. To note, this process is explained in further detail within the SA Report, with the SA Objectives and DMC being summarised within Appendix 1 of this Non-Technical Summary.

4.0 LOCAL PLAN UPDATE POLICIES

- 4.1. This LPU proposes to amend the following policies:
 - Amended Policy EN1: (renumbered and split into:
 - EN1 Part A: Embodied Carbon; and
 - EN1 Part B: Operation Energy)
 - Amended Policy EN2: Sustainable Construction Standards
 - Amended Policy EN3: Renewable Energy Generation
 - Amended Policy EN4: District Heating
 - Amended Natural Resources and Waste Policy Water 1: Water Efficiency
 - Amended Natural Resources and Waste Policy Water 2: Protection of the Water Environment
 - Amended Natural Resources and Waste Policy Water 3: Functional Flood Plain Zone 3b
 - Amended Natural Resources and Waste Policy Water 4: Land at Increased Risk of Flooding
 - Amended Natural Resources and Waste Policy Water 5: Residual Risk
 - Amended Natural Resources and Waste Policy Water 6: Flood Risk Assessments
 - Amended Natural Resources and Waste Policy Water 7: Sustainable Drainage
 - Amended Spatial Policy 13: Protecting, Maintaining, Enhancing and Extending Strategic Green and Blue Infrastructure
 - Amended Policy G1: Protecting, Maintaining, Enhancing and Extending Green and Blue Infrastructure
 - Amended Policy G4 (renumbered as G4a): Green and Blue Space Improvement and New Green and Blue Space Provision
 - Amended Policy G6: Protection of Existing Green and Blue Space
 - Amended Policy G9: Biodiversity Net Gain
 - Amended Policy P10: Development principles for high-quality design and healthy place making

4.2. The LPU proposes the following new policies:

- Policy SP0: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Policy Water 6a: Safe access and escape
- Policy Water 8: Porous paving and loss of front gardens
- Policy G2A: Protection of Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows
- Policy G2B: Ancient Woodland, Ancient Trees and Veteran Trees
- Policy G2C: Long Established Woodland
- Policy G2D: Tree Replacement
- Policy G4B: High Quality and Beautiful of New Green and Blue Space
- Policy G4C: Maintenance of Green and Blue Space
- Policy G8A: Protection of Important Species and Habitats
- Policy G8B: Leeds Habitat Network
- Policy G10; Biodiversity Enhancements for Species
- Policy F1: Food System Resilience
- Policy SP1A: Achieving Complete, Compact, Connected Places
- Policy EN9: New Drive Thru' Development
- Policy SP1B: Achieving Well-designed Sustainable Places
- Policy P10A: The Health Impacts of Development
- Policy SP11a: Mass transit and rail infrastructure
- Policy SP11b: Leeds Station

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL RESULTS

5.1. Appendix 2A provides the summary SA scoring for each policy proposal option, and Appendix 2B provides the summary SA scoring for each proposed policy. The SA scores range from a major positive effect (++) , minor positive (+), neutral (N), minor negative (-) to major negative (--). Detailed commentary for these are provided in the SA Report.

6.0 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT AND CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF THE CSSR

6.1. The 2004 Regulations require that an assessment is made of the likely significant effects of the plan, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects. Collectively this is called an assessment of the cumulative impact.

6.2. This process considers the effects of the proposed policy changes of this LPU as a whole against the SA objectives. Appendix 3 provides the summary of the significant and cumulative effects and highlights some examples of policies where key issues were identified. The assessment does not consider the cumulative effects associated with the existing policies already adopted within the Local Plan which are not part of this LPU.

7.0 NEGATIVE EFFECTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

7.1. In accordance with the 2004 Regulations, the SA Report must include measures to prevent, reduce or offset significant adverse effects of implementing this LPU. These measures are usually referred to as 'mitigation measures'.

- 7.2. Mitigation measures can be a combination of policies to prevent or reduce the severity of effects, such as requirements identified in the National Planning Policy Framework, the Core Strategy, UDP or other supporting policy documents.
- 7.3. Appendix 4 outlines the range of mitigation measures associated with each of the 23 SA objectives which could be used to off-set negative impacts for individual site allocations.

8.0 HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT

- 8.1. Under Part 6 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended), the Council is required by law to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in preparing its update to the Local Plan. The purpose of HRA is to assess the potential effects of a development plan on one or more European designated sites (Special Areas of Conservation 'SACs', Special Protection Areas 'SPAs', Ramsar sites) and test whether this could significantly harm the designated features of the site in question. This would then inform the conclusion as to whether or not to adopt the plan.
- 9.0 A Habitats Regulation Assessment has been carried out in the preparation for the update to the Leeds Local Plan due to the proximity of the Leeds district boundary to the European designated sites South Pennine Moors Phase II Special Protection Area (SPA), South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Kirk Deighton SAC. This can be viewed in the Draft SA Report.

**APPENDICES 1-4 TO SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL NON-TECHNICAL
SUMMARY REPORT:**

APPENDIX 1 – SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

The table below shows how the Baseline information topics and proposed indicator link to the SA Objectives:

APPENDIX 1: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK				
REF	NAME	DECISION MAKING CRITERIA	BASELINE	PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS
SA1	Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create more jobs (permanent and temporary) ▪ Improve physical access to jobs ▪ Improve skills & access to training 	1.1 – Employment 1.3 – Earnings	EC01: Number of jobs and employment rates EC04: Gross Weekly Pay – Full time workers
SA2	Business investment / economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote economic development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offices, industry & distribution - Retail & commercial leisure - Tourism & culture - Energy sector - Minerals & waste sectors - Construction sector (e.g. housebuilding) ▪ Increase/maintain vibrancy of centres ▪ Promote improved ICT networks & technological innovation ▪ Promote growth & diversity of rural economy 	1.2 – Business land & premises 1.4 – Retail and city, town & local centres 1.5 - Tourism 1.6 – Natural resources, minerals and quarries 1.7 – Digital connectivity 2.2 – Housing land supply & delivery	EC02: Change in stock of business floorspace EC03: Floorspace developed for business use EC05: Health of city, town and local centres EC06: Domestic & international visitors EC07: Visitor accommodation EC08: Aggregate production & landbanks EC10: Digital connectivity SC01: Housing approvals & completions
SA3	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase energy efficiency of dwellings and reduce energy bills & fuel poverty ▪ Increase quality of housing ▪ Increase access to employment ▪ Increase provision of and access to green infrastructure ▪ Encourage more physical exercise ▪ Promote safer streets ▪ Reduce poor air quality affecting residents ▪ Maintain amenity ▪ Increase/maintain access to health facilities 	2.6 – Health 1.1 - Employment 2.5 – Crime 2.8 – Fuel poverty 3.3 – Energy efficiency of buildings 3.4 – Green space 3.5 – Green infrastructure 3.15 – Air quality 3.16 - Transport 3.17 – Accessibility to employment & key services 3.20 – Noise	SC05: Public health EC01: Number of jobs & employment rates SC04: Crime rates SC07: Fuel poverty EN03: Building energy performance EN04: Quantity & accessibility of green space EN06: Access to natural green space EN14: Modes of travel to work EN15: Road casualties in Leeds EN16: Journey times to employment and key services by public transport/walk

APPENDIX 1: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK				
REF	NAME	DECISION MAKING CRITERIA	BASELINE	PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase/maintain access to fresh food 	3.22 – Odour	
SA4	Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce crime rates Reduce fear of crime Promote safer streets 	2.5 – Crime	SC04: Crime rates
SA5	Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase/maintain arts facilities (museums, galleries, theatres) Increase/maintain community facilities inc. religious buildings Promote tourism Promote sports, entertainment and cultural events Support university and further education sectors Support creative sector 	1.4 – Retail and city, town and local centres 1.5 – Tourism	EC05: Health of city, town and local centres EC06: Domestic & international arrivals EC07: Visitor accommodation
SA6	Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet housing delivery targets Provide appropriate mix of housing types & sizes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing Size of dwellings Specialist needs (older people / independent living) Improve quality/standard of housing 	2.2 – Housing land supply & delivery 2.3 – Older persons accommodation	SC01: Housing approvals & completions SC02: Older persons accommodation
SA7	Social inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide services & facilities appropriate for the needs of BME groups, older people, young people and disabled people Reduce economic & social deprivation Reduce disparities in levels of economic and social deprivation Create opportunities for people from different communities to have increased contact with each other 	1.1 – Employment 1.2 – Earnings 1.4 – Retail and city, town & local centres 2.3 – Older persons accommodation 2.4 – Education, skills & training 2.5 – Crime 2.6 – Health	EC01: Number of jobs & employment rates EC04: Gross Weekly Pay – Full time workers EC05: Health of city, town and local centres SC02: Older persons accommodation SC03: Educational attainment & attendance SC04: Crime rates SC05: Public health SC06: Deprivation and inequality SC07: Fuel poverty EN14: Journey times to employment and key services by public transport/walk

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REF	NAME	DECISION MAKING CRITERIA	BASELINE	PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase/maintain accessibility to employment and key services & facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment locations (define) - Centres and/or food stores - Schools - Health facilities 	2.7 – Deprivation and inequality 2.8 – Fuel poverty 2.9 – Neighbourhood Planning 3.17 – Accessibility to employment and key services	
SA8	Green space, sports and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase/maintain quantity of greenspace & indoor ▪ Increase/maintain indoor and outdoor sports facilities ▪ Increase quality of greenspace ▪ Improve accessibility to greenspace ▪ Increase/maintain the public rights of way network 	3.4 – Green space 3.5 – Green infrastructure	EN04: Quantity & accessibility of green space EN06: Access to natural green space
SA9	Efficient use of land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote brownfield development and minimise greenfield development ▪ Promote higher density development ▪ Minimise loss of Green Belt land ▪ Minimise loss of high-quality agricultural land Prevent unacceptable risk from land instability 	3.8 – Agriculture & soils 3.9 – Previously developed land 3.10 – Density of development	EN09: Housing development on previously developed land EN10: Housing densities Area covered by agricultural land in classifications 1 to 3a.
SA10	Biodiversity /Geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect & enhance existing habitats including long term management ▪ Protect & enhance protected & important species ▪ Protect & enhance designated nature conservation sites ▪ Increase green infrastructure provision ▪ Protect sites of geological interest ▪ Contributes to biodiversity net gain 	3.5 – Green infrastructure 3.6 – Geology 3.7 – Biodiversity 3.7 – Biodiversity net gain	EN05: Tree planting EN06: Access to natural green space EN07: Condition of SSSIs EN08: Biodiversity net gain

APPENDIX 1: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

REF	NAME	DECISION MAKING CRITERIA	BASELINE	PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS
SA11	Climate Change mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transport infrastructure - Accessibility of services & facilities ▪ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings ▪ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy generation & distribution 	3.1 – Carbon dioxide emissions 3.2 – Renewable energy generation 3.3 – Energy efficiency of buildings 3.5 – Green infrastructure 3.16 – Transport 3.17 – Accessibility to employment and key services	EN01: Carbon dioxide emissions EN02: Renewable energy generation EN03: Building energy performance EN05: Tree planting EN13: Traffic levels in Leeds City Council EN14: Mode of travel to work EN16: Journey times to employment & key services by public transport/walk
SA12	Climate Change adaption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase green infrastructure provision ▪ Prepare for likelihood of increased flooding ▪ Build capacity for biodiversity to adapt to climate change 	3.4 – Green space 3.5 – Green infrastructure 3.7 – Biodiversity net gain 3.15 – Flood risk	EN04: Quantity and accessibility of green space EN05: Tree planting EN06: Access to natural green space EN08: Biodiversity net gain EN12: Planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice on flood risk
SA13	Flood risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce risk of flooding from rivers ▪ Reduce risk of surface water flooding 	3.15 – Flood risk	EN12: Planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice on flood risk
SA14	Transport network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase proportion of journeys by non-car modes ▪ Ease congestion on road network ▪ Make environment more attractive for non-car users ▪ Encourage freight transfer from road to rail/water ▪ Reduce transport-related accidents 	3.16 - Transport	EN13: Traffic levels in Leeds City Council EN14: Mode of travel to work EN15: Road casualties in Leeds

APPENDIX 1: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK				
REF	NAME	DECISION MAKING CRITERIA	BASELINE	PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS
SA15	Accessibility to jobs/facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appropriate provision of key services and facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools - Health facilities ▪ Increase/maintain accessibility to employment and key services & facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment locations - Centres and/or food stores - Schools - Health facilities 	1.4 – Retail and city, town & local centres 3.17 – Accessibility to employment and key services	EC05: Health of city, town and local centres EN16: Journey times to employment and key services by public transport/walk
SA16	Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide or safeguard facilities for waste management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - storage (at source) - recycling - recovery - processing 	3.23 – Waste	EN18: Municipal waste arising
SA17	Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Avoid exposure to air pollution ▪ Impact of policy/proposal on air quality 	3.15 – Air quality	Under consideration
SA18	Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the quality of water bodies (rivers, streams, lakes and groundwater) 	3.12 – Water quality	Water body classifications for Leeds
SA19	Land/soil Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote remediation of contaminated land ▪ Minimise loss of high-quality agricultural land ▪ Prevent unacceptable risk from land instability 	3.8 – Agriculture & soils 3.11 – Contaminated land	Area covered by agricultural land in classifications 1 to 3a.
SA20	Amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce/avoid exposure to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - noise pollution - light pollution - odour ▪ Avoid inappropriate development within HSE Major Hazard Zones 	3.20 – Noise 3.21 – Light pollution 3.22 - Odour	Under consideration

APPENDIX 1: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK				
REF	NAME	DECISION MAKING CRITERIA	BASELINE	PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS
SA21	Landscape & Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain/enhance special landscape areas ▪ Protect enhance landscape features e.g. trees, hedgerows ponds, dry stone walls ▪ Increase quality & quantity of woodland ▪ Maintain/enhance landscape character of the area ▪ Provide landscape features in new development ▪ Ensure development in urban areas is appropriate to its setting ▪ Encourage innovative and distinctive urban design ▪ Protects nationally important landscapes (including Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (OANB)) 	3.19 - Landscape	Under consideration
SA22	Historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conserve and enhance designated and non-designated heritage assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listed buildings - Conservation areas - Historic parks & gardens - Scheduled ancient monuments - Registered battlefields - Non-designated heritage assets (local list) ▪ Reduce no of heritage assets 'at risk' 	3.18 – Historic environment	EN17: Number of heritage buildings at risk
SA23	Energy / resource efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase energy and water efficiency of buildings/development ▪ Increase energy from renewable/low carbon sources ▪ Promote low carbon energy distribution such as heat networks ▪ Safeguard land designated for minerals use and promote prior extraction. 	1.6 – Natural resources, minerals & quarries 3.2 – Renewable energy generation 3.3 – Energy efficiency of buildings	EC09: Aggregate production & landbanks EN02: Renewable energy generation EN03: Building energy performance

APPENDIX 2A – RESULTS TABLES ASSESSING REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES AGAINST SA OBJECTIVES

APPENDIX 2A: Sustainability Appraisals of reasonable alternatives as part of the Local Plan Update																								
Topic / Policy Proposal	Option	SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
Climate Change Mitigation & Adaption Policy SP0	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: New policy setting net zero carbon reduction targets and how they will be achieved through new development	+	+	+	N	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	++
Sustainable Infrastructure / Leeds Station Policy SP11B	Option1: No new policy – rely on existing local and national policy	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: New policy addressing Leeds Station	+	++	++	+	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	-	-	++	++	N	++	N	N	N	++	++	N
	Option 3: New policy addressing strategic rail upgrades	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	+	N	N	N	+	+	N
	Option 4: New policy addressing outlying stations (i.e. new stops or improvements to existing stations)	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	+	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N
Sustainable Infrastructure / Mass Transit and Rail Infrastructure Policy SP11A	Option1: No new policy – rely on existing local and national policy	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2A: New policy addressing the development of Mass Transit in Leeds	+	++	++	++	N	N	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	N	++	+	N	N	++	++	N
	Option 2B: New policy addressing the development of Mass Transit and Rail Infrastructure in Leeds, including specific reference to bridge crossings and support for park & ride sites	+	++	++	++	N	N	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	N	++	N	N	N	++	++	N
	Option 3: New policy, focusing on sustainable transport more generally	+	++	++	++	N	N	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	N	++	N	N	N	++	N	N
Sustainable Infrastructure / Digital Connectivity No new policy	The need for the policy has been overtaken by changes in national legislation. Since the end of the consultation period changes have been made to the Building Regulations (2010) which require digital connectivity to be provided for all developments being equipped with gigabit-ready physical infrastructure. The updated Building Regulations are fairly comprehensive setting out a requirement for new dwellings and new buildings or when existing buildings are subject to major renovation works. Given the new Building Regulations came into immediate effect from the 26 December 2022 the proposed policy in LPU1 is no longer needed and will be withdrawn from LPU1. As such there are no reasonable alternatives to be assessed.																							
Green Infrastructure / Biodiversity: Delivery of BNG	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Presumption in favour of retaining existing and enhancing biodiversity on-site and scope for off-site delivery	N	+	++	N	+	N	+	+	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N

APPENDIX 2A: Sustainability Appraisals of reasonable alternatives as part of the Local Plan Update

Topic / Policy Proposal	Option	SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
(Policy G9)																								
Green Infrastructure / Biodiversity: Expansion of Network Policy G9	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Greater measures to specify delivery of off-site in specific locations included within and adjacent to nature conservation sites and the Leeds Habitat Network	N	N	++	N	+	N	+	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	++	N	N	++	N	N
Green Infrastructure / Biodiversity: Net gain level Policy G9	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Minimum of 10% - as required in the Environment Act with guidance on implementation	-	+	++	N	+	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	+	N
	Option 3: More than 10%	-	+	++	N	+	--	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	+	N
GBI / Biodiversity: Protection Policy G9	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Seek biodiversity net gain only	-	N	++	N	N	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / Biodiversity: Wider environmental net gain Policy G9	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Seek biodiversity net gain only	-	N	++	N	N	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 3: Seek broader environmental gain across all natural capital	-	N	++	N	++	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / Biodiversity: Enhancements for Species Policy G10	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Seek features that will benefit and support a range of species, including integral swift nesting features and bat roosting features.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
GBI / Green Space: Green Space	Option1: To remove Policy G5 and use the G4 Policy to apply to the whole City. Clarification on determination criteria for on/off site provision.	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	+	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N

APPENDIX 2A: Sustainability Appraisals of reasonable alternatives as part of the Local Plan Update

Topic / Policy Proposal	Option	SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	
Improvement and New Policy G4A Policy G4A,B,C	Option 2: To remove Policy G5 and use the G4 Policy to apply to the whole City.	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	+	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N	
	Option 3: To establish whether the City Centre needs a different approach and to change Policy accordingly if needed	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	+	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N	
	Option 4: As option1 but reduce (or eliminate) the dwelling threshold for requiring provision of green space.	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	+	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N	
	Option 5: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 6: Set requirements relating to the provision of specific green space typologies rather than one overall.	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	+	++	+	+	N	+	+	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / GBI: Definitions and Standards Policy SP13/G1	Option1: To ensure that a GI Spatial Policy aligns with National Policy objectives and provides a strong connection from the national policy aims to specific Policies	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	+	++	+	+	N	+	+	N	++	N	N	N	++	N	N	
	Option 2: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
GBI / Green Space: Green Walls and Roofs Policy G1	Option1: A blanket demand for Green Walls and Roofs on certain types of building with non-provision governed by exception.	N	+	+	N	+	+	+	+	N	N	+	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	+	
	Option 2: Support and Encouragement for appropriate Green Walls and Roofs.	N	+	+	N	+	+	+	+	N	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	+	
	Option 3: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
GBI / Green Space: Maintenance Policy G4C	Option1: Separate out Maintenance element of G4 and create a new Policy that clearly defines our expectations.	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	N	
	Option 2: Clear link between 5.5.18.1 and G4(b) to be made with supporting possible SPD defining what is in a maintenance agreement	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	N	
	Option 3: Changes to supporting text to strengthen maintenance arrangements	N	N	+	N	+	N	+	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	

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Topic / Policy Proposal	Option	SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
	Option 4: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 5: Reduce maintenance period for commuted sums from 15 years to 10 years	N	N	-	N	-	N	N	-	N	-	N	N	-	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
GBI / Green Space: Placemaking Native Flora Policy G4B	Option1: A policy demand that evidence of the use of native species is provided with exception criteria.	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 2: Recommend that certain native Species are use or encourage the use of Native species	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	++	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 3: Allow species selection to be agreed as part of planning process using design criteria in Policy G4B	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	++	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 4: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation. Policy has Quality design principles and uses latest best guidance.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
GBI / Green Space: Protection Policy G6	Option1: Clarify policy as to what is covered	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 2: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
GBI / Green Space: Protection – Sequential Approach Policy G6	Option1: A 4th test on G6 a) to c) where evidence needs to be supplied that other sites have been considered.	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 2: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
GBI / Green Space: Quality Policy G4B	Option1: Separate out Quality element of G4 and create a new Policy that clearly defines our expectations.	N	+	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 2: Explain the definition of quality and good design, possibly in an SPD.	N	+	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 3: Strengthen the current supporting text of 5.5.17.	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	++	N	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 4: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

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Topic / Policy Proposal	Option	SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
GBI / Identification, Protection, Enhancement and extension of GBI: Environmental Justice Policy SP13	Option1: Clearly define Council wide GI objectives based on strategic deficiency and ensure that the Policies creating Green Space show how they are to address this at a strategic level.	N	N	++	N	+	N	+	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 2: As Option 1 but without the option to combine s106 funding for strategic schemes.	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	++	N	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 3: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Green Infrastructure / Protection, Enhancement and Extension of Green and Blue Infrastructure Policy G1	Option 1A: To redefine Policy G1 so it clearly defines Green and Blue Infrastructure and asks for an assessment of the site.	N	+	++	N	++	N	++	++	+	+	+	++	N	+	+	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 1B: As Option 1A but apply a threshold of 150 units to trigger requirement to prepare an assessment.	N	+	+	N	+	N	++	+	+	+	+	+	N	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 2: To redefine Policy G1 so it clearly defines Green and Blue Infrastructure.	N	+	+	N	+	N	+	+	+	+	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 3: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Green Infrastructure / Local Food Production: Ability to Grow Food Locally Policy F1	Option1: Insist that all new Housing schemes above a certain level create growing facilities.	N	N	++	N	++	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	+	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 2: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Green Infrastructure / Local Food Production: Fruit Tree in Garden Policy F1	Option1: To create standards that allow for the planting of fruit trees for all new residential and commercial development. Immediately TPO the trees.	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 2: Encourage food growing as multi-functional Green Space provision on all housing schemes.	N	N	+	N	+	N	+	+	N	+	N	+	N	+	+	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	N

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	Option 3: To make the provision a request in policy but not to require it.	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 4: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
GBI / Nature Conservation: Biodiversity	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Stronger requirement and link to maximising biodiversity in nature conservation policy.	-	N	++	N	N	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Green Infrastructure / Nature Conservation: Protection and enhancement	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Increase protection and enhancement of specified habitats and sites.	-	N	++	N	N	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 3: Presumption in favour of retaining all natural capital.	--	N	++	N	N	--	N	++	+	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	++	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / Nature Conservation: Update	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Update terms, references, documents, wording of G8.	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	+	N	N
GBI / Trees: Increase canopy	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Seek additional tree planting.	-	N	++	N	+	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 3: Allocate sites for tree planting	-	N	++	N	+	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 4: CPO land for tree planting.	-	N	++	N	N	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / Trees: Protection	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

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Policies G2A, G2B & G2C	Option 2: Limit protection/the 'presumption to retain' to certain trees	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	+	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 3: Extend protection/the presumption to retain to all trees	-	N	++	N	+	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 4: Extend protection/the presumption to retain to trees and other natural features such as hedgerows	-	N	++	N	+	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 5: As Option 4 but also include a policy detailing protection of ancient woodland including a buffer area, veteran/ancient trees including buffer area and introduce a local designation for long established woodland with specific protection including a buffer.	-	N	++	N	+	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / Protection of Long Established Woodland Policy G2C	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing national guidance.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Introduce protection of Long Established Woodland.	-	N	++	N	+	-	++	+	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / Trees: Replacement Policy G2D	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Increase level of replacement based on numbers	N	+	++	N	N	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 3: Tree replacement based on carbon sequestration	N	+	++	N	N	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 4: Base replacement on more factors than just carbon sequestration	N	+	++	N	N	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
	Option 5: Replacement based on canopy cover	N	+	++	N	N	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
GBI / Trees: Specific species Policy G2D	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Seek the use of native and local species, fruit trees, those that attract wildlife.	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	+	N	N
Place Making	Option 1: No new policy – rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

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/ Strategic Placemaking Policies SP1A , SP1 & EN9	Option 2: Amended / new policy wording with text references (signposting) only to Climate Emergency and Health & Well Being.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Option 3: Amended/ new policy addressing criteria for complete, compact & connected places and presumption for asks if criteria not met.	+	++	+	N	+	N	++	+	++	N	+	N	N	+	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Option 4: Amended / new policy addressing presumption in favour of higher density (presumption in support of urban intensification within service centres / travel nodes and sustainable transport corridors)	N	+	N	N	N	+	+	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Option 5: Presumption against car-based development (drive thru's etc) + variations for geography & type of scheme and quantity of parking.	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	+	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 6: Presumption against all greenfield development (to protect carbon adaptation assets).	N	N	+	N	N	-	N	+	++	+	+	++	+	N	+	N	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	
Place Making / Design Policy SP1B, P10 and P10a	Option 1: No new policy – rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Option 2: New policy wording with text references only to climate change, high quality, resilient adaptable and healthy places	N	+	+	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	+	+	+	N	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	
	Option 3: New Policy providing overarching place making principles	N	+	++	+	N	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	N	+	++	+	+	
	Option 4: New Policy providing overarching place making principles and requirement for design codes	N	N	++	+	N	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	N	N	+	++	N	+	
	Option 5: New policy focused on requirement for Health Check (Health Impact Assessment)	N	N	++	+	N	+	+	+	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	+	N	N	++	+	N	+	
Carbon Reduction / Whole Life Carbon Assessment	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Option 2: Require a whole life-cycle carbon assessment to be submitted in support of all planning applications and adopt a benchmark target through future plan review	+	+	+	N	N	+	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	+	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	+	

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Policy EN1A	Option 3: Require a whole life-cycle carbon assessment that meets a Council benchmark figure to be submitted in support of all major planning applications	+	+	+	N	N	-	+	N	+	N	++	N	N	+	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	-	++
Carbon Reduction / Operational Carbon Policy EN1B	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Require all development to be built so that carbon emissions associated with the building's operational energy are zero or negative	+	+	++	N	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	++
	Option 3: Require all development to be built so that carbon emissions associated with the building's operational energy are zero or negative with a transition period introduced to delay implementation to 2027 and with specific exemption for type of development where it would not be feasible to achieve net zero.	+	+	++	N	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	++
	Option 4: Require all major development to be built so that carbon emissions associated with the building's operational energy are zero or negative	+	+	++	N	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	++
Carbon Reduction / Building Standards Policy EN2	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Require development to achieve a specific sustainable construction rating / standard.	+	+	++	N	N	-	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	-	++
Carbon Reduction / Renewable Energy Target Policy EN3	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Set a new target for renewable energy	+	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	+
	Option 3A: Set potential capacity for renewable energy generation in Leeds in policy	+	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	+
	Option 3B: Set potential capacity for renewable energy generation in Leeds as context within supporting text	+	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	+
Carbon Reduction /	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

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Renewable Energy Location	Option 2: New criteria based policy to guide locations for renewable energy	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	N	N	++
	Policy EN3 Option 3: Allocate areas for renewable energy	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	N	N	++
Carbon Reduction / Heat Network	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Review existing policies - require applications to connect to the heat network within identified district heat network development areas	+	+	+	N	N	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	++
	Policy EN4 Option 3: Review – Amend policy to include reference to other heating technology if not within an area suitable for a heat network	N	N	++	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	+	++	N	N	N	N	N	N
Carbon Reduction / Resilience to Heat	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	No policy Option 2: Introduce a policy to increase new development's resilience to heat beyond building regulations	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Carbon Reduction / Energy Storage Target	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Introduce an energy storage target	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+
	Policy EN3 Option 3A: Set potential capacity for energy storage in Leeds in policy	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+
	Option 3B: Set potential capacity for renewable energy storage in Leeds as context within supporting text	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+
Carbon Reduction / Energy Storage Location	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Introduce a criteria-based policy to guide the location of energy storage	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	+
	Policy EN3 Option 3: Allocate areas for energy storage	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	+
Flood Risk /	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	-	+	N	N	N	N	N	-	N	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

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Avoiding Development on the Floodplain Water 3 & 4	Option 2: Restrict all development other than water compatible and essential infrastructure in the functional flood plain	N	-	+	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 3: Restrict all development in high flood risk areas, regardless of whether a sequential test can be passed	-	--	+	N	N	--	N	N	--	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	N	+	-	N	+	N	N
	Option 4: Restrict accommodation for elderly and disabled people in high flood risk areas. This would be treating elderly and disabled accommodation as a highly vulnerable use because of potential mobility issues and their impact on safe evacuation	N	-	N	N	N	-	--	N	N	--	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Water Efficiency Water 1	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Water Efficiency (relocation of Policy from NRWP to CS)	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+
Flood Risk / Functional Floodplain in the Urban Area (Currently zone 3aii) Water 3	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	N	-	N	N	N	-	N	++	-	N	--	-	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Limitations on urban development in functional floodplain with a very high probability (1 in 30) of flooding, flood zone 3b (previously mapped as zone 3aii).	-	-	+	N	N	-	+	N	--	+	+	++	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	-	--	N
	Option 3: Limitations on urban development in functional floodplain with a very high probability (1 in 30) of flooding that are currently defined as zone 3aii so that only the footprint of existing buildings can be redeveloped.	N	-	+	N	N	N	N	N	-	+	+	++	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N
Flood Risk / Flood Risk Assessments Water 6	Option 1: No new policy – rely on existing local and national policy and legislation.	N	-	N	N	N	-	N	N	N	N	N	-	-	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Revise Policy Water 6 to reflect need to take account of climate change in flood risk assessments	N	N	+	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Flood Risk / Residual Risk Water 5	Option 1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	-	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	-	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

APPENDIX 2A: Sustainability Appraisals of reasonable alternatives as part of the Local Plan Update

Topic / Policy Proposal	Option	SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
	Option 2: Revise Policy Water 5 to remove reference to defined Zones of Rapid Inundation and base policy on updated SFRA	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	N	-	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Flood Risk / Managing Surface Water - increasing SuDs Water 7	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 2: New policy to increase the use of sustainable drainage measures	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	-	++	++	++	++	N	N	N	+	++	+	+	++	N	N
Flood Risk / Managing Surface Water - source locations Not progressed	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy, no requirement for measures at source locations	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Implementing natural flood risk management measures at source locations to manage surface water run off	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	-	+	+	+	++	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	N
Flood Risk / Resilience Water 6A	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	-	-	-	N	N	-	-	N	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Set new standards for flood resilience in new development, eg define what is meant by safe access and egress, evacuation routes and resilient construction	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Flood Risk / PD rights and porous paving Water 8	Option1: No new policy - rely on existing local and national policy and legislation	N	+	-	N	N	N	N	N	N	-	N	--	--	N	N	N	N	-	N	N	--	-	N
	Option 2: Limit permitted development rights for new developments to ensure open areas that are needed for flood risk management are retained	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	++	++	++	N	N	N	+	++	N	N	+	N	N
	Option 3: Set requirements to use permeable materials in new development to include use of permeable material and inclusion of soft landscaped area in front gardens	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	++	++	++	N	N	N	+	+	N	+	+	+	N
Flood Risk / Increased Flood Risk in Future Water 4	Option1: Rely on existing flood risk zones to undertake flood risk sequential and guide future allocation documents and windfall documents	N	+	-	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	-	-	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Option 2: Revised policy to require that future flood zones identified through climate change modelling in	N	-	++	N	N	N	N	+	-	+	++	++	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	+	N	N

APPENDIX 2A: Sustainability Appraisals of reasonable alternatives as part of the Local Plan Update

Topic / Policy Proposal	Option	SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
	the SFRA are taken account of in the application of the sequential test																							
Water Quality	Option1: Retain existing Policy wording.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Water 2	Option 2: Ask for a water framework assessment	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	+	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	++	+	++	N	N	N

TABLE KEY

Major Positive	Minor Positive	Neutral / No Effect	Minor Negative	Major Negative
++	+	N	-	--

APPENDIX 2B – RESULTS TABLES ASSESSING POLICIES AGAINST SA OBJECTIVES

APPENDIX 2B: Sustainability Appraisals of policies revised as part of the Local Plan Update		SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
Policy SP0	Climate change mitigation and adaptation	+	+	+	N	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	N	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	++
Policy SP1a	Achieving complete, compact and connected places	+	++	++	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	++	+	N	++	+	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N
Policy SP1b	Achieving Well-Designed Places	N	+	++	+	N	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	+	++	+	+
Policy SP11a	Mass Transit and Rail Infrastructure	+	++	++	++	N	N	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	N	++	N	N	N	++	+	N
Policy SP11b	Leeds Station	+	++	++	+	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	-	-	++	++	N	++	N	N	N	++	++	N
Policy SP13	Protecting, maintaining, enhancing and extending Green and Blue Infrastructure	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	+	++	+	++	N	+	+	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy EN1A	Embodied Carbon	+	+	+	N	N	+	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	+	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	+
Policy EN1B	Operational Energy	+	+	++	N	N	-	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	-	++
Policy EN2	Sustainable Construction Standards	+	+	++	N	N	-	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	-	++
Policy EN3	Renewable Energy Generation	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	++	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	-	N	N	N	+
Policy EN4	District Heating	N	N	++	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	N	+	++	N	N	N	N	N	++
Policy EN9	New Drive thru' Development	N	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	+	+	N	+	N	N	+	N	N	N
Policy G1	Protecting, maintaining, enhancing and extending Green and Blue Infrastructure within outside areas of GBI	N	+	++	N	++	N	++	++	+	+	+	++	N	+	+	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G2a	Protection Of Trees, Woodland And Hedgerows	-	N	++	N	+	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G2b	Ancient Woodland, Ancient Trees & Veteran Trees	-	N	++	N	+	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G2c	Long Established Woodland	-	N	++	N	+	-	++	+	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G2d	Tree replacement	N	+	++	N	N	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	+	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G4a	Green Space Improvement And New Green Space Provision	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	+	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G4b	Quality of Green And Blue Space	N	+	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	+	N	+	+	N	N	++	N	N

APPENDIX 2B: Sustainability Appraisals of policies revised as part of the Local Plan Update

Policy		SA01	SA02	SA03	SA04	SA05	SA06	SA07	SA08	SA09	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23
Policy G4c	Maintenance of Green Space	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G6	Protection of existing Green Space	N	N	++	N	++	N	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	N	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G8a	Protection Of Important Species And Habitats	-	N	++	N	N	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G8b	Leeds Habitat Network	-	N	++	N	N	-	+	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	N	N
Policy G9	Biodiversity Net Gain	-	+	++	N	+	-	++	++	N	++	N	++	N	N	N	N	++	+	N	N	++	+	N
Policy G10	Biodiversity Enhancement for Species	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	++	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Policy F1	Food System Resilience	N	+	++	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+
Policy P10	Development Principles for High-Quality Design & Healthy Place Making	N	+	++	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+
Policy P10a	The Health Impacts of Development	N	N	++	N	N	+	+	+	N	+	+	+	+	N	+	N	+	N	+	++	+	N	+
Water Policy 1	Water Efficiency (<i>relocation of Policy from NRWP to CS</i>)	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+
Water Policy 2	Protection of Water Quality	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	+	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	++	+	++	N	N	N
Water Policy 3	Functional Flood Plain	N	-	+	N	N	N	N	N	-	N	+	++	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N
Water Policy 5	Residual Risk	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	N	-	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Water Policy 6	Flood Risk Assessments	N	N	+	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	++	++	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Water Policy 6a	Safe access and egress	N	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	++	++	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Water Policy 7	Sustainable Drainage	+	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	-	+	+	+	++	N	N	N	+	+	N	N	+	N	N
Water Policy 4	Land at increased risk of flooding	N	-	++	N	N	N	N	+	-	+	++	++	++	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	+	N	N
Water Policy 8	Porous paving and loss of front gardens	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	++	++	++	N	N	N	+	+	N	+	+	+	N

TABLE KEY

Major Positive	Minor Positive	Neutral / No Effect	Minor Negative	Major Negative
++	+	N	-	--

APPENDIX 3 – SIGNIFICANT AND CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF THE PLAN PROPOSALS

Significant Effects:

The significant effects of the proposed Local Plan Update policies and modifications have already been discussed as part of the commentary provided within the SA Scoring Table in Appendix 7A of the SA Report.

Cumulative Effects:

The cumulative effects of the plans against each SA objectives is set out in the table below:

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF THE PLAN PROPOSALS

The cumulative effects of the proposed Local Plan Update policies and modifications are set out for each of the SA Objectives below.

SA1 - Employment

The policies regarding place-making and design tend to bring some benefits for employment, although it is noted that a fair amount of the green infrastructure policies would bring a negative effect on employment, albeit only minor. This is likely due to less developable areas being available as well as greater restrictions being placed on site (e.g. BNG).

SA2 - Business Investment / Economic Growth

None of the policies are to cause negative effects on this Objective. Spatial policies on transport in Leeds have been assessed to bring major positive benefits for business investment / economic growth which is likely due to improved transport networks and accessibility across the City Region and beyond, allowing for increased opportunities for growth.

SA3 - Health

A significant portion of the policies are to bring major benefits for health with no negative effects being scored, indicating that the Local Plan Update would contribute greatly for this SA Objective in Leeds. All of the green infrastructure policies have unsurprisingly scored major positives which is likely down to the well-noted benefits that good access to high quality green spaces has on physical wellbeing and mental health. Spatial transport policies have also scored major benefits for health, which is likely due to the emphasis on availability and access to local services. Design and place-making policies have also scored major benefits which is a likely result of the anticipated benefits that good design would bring to the Leeds population and the holistic approach which is being sought (i.e. inclusion of green infrastructure).

SA4 - Crime

None of the policies are to result in negative effects on crime in Leeds. Design and place-making policies have scored major positives for this Objective as a likely result of the emphasis on 'designing out crime' by promoting safer and more inclusive streets through crime prevention design principles.

SA5 - CULTURE

None of the policies are to result in negative effects on Leeds' local and regional culture. A substantial of the green infrastructure policies have scored positively for this Objective which may be a result of the increased opportunities for spaces for sports and recreation

and the ability to hold larger outdoor events, as well as green spaces being able to act as a focal point / centre for communities to strengthen a sense of local character and identity.

SA6 - HOUSING

It is noted that a substantial amount of the green infrastructure policies are to bring negative effects on housing, albeit these have been scored to be minor. It is expected that these policies would have some impact upon the delivery of housing and on viability due to less area on site being developable, as well as greater restrictions being placed on developers (such as BNG and increased planting). However, it is likely that these have not been scored as major negatives due to the opportunities that good design encompassing green and blue infrastructure in the early stages of schemes can bring and not totally hinder development. The design and place-making policies score major positive benefits as these would improve the quality of housing developments.

SA7 - SOCIAL INCLUSION & COMMUNITY COHESION

None of the policies are to result in a negative effect on this Objective. In fact, nearly all of these policies are to bring either a minor or major positive benefit in terms of social inclusion and community cohesion. It is anticipated that the spatial transport policies would allow for increased accessibility between areas in Leeds, but also a greater emphasis on local areas through the development of 20-minute neighbourhoods and delivery of mass transit allows for key local services and employment sites to be available within reach without the need of private transport. It is also anticipated that an increased provision of well-designed places and the delivery of good green infrastructure would help local areas by providing places people want to live, work and enjoy and bringing the well-noted social benefits which good design expects to bring.

SA8 - GREEN SPACE, SPORTS & RECREATION

None of the policies are to result in any negative effects on this Objective. It is unsurprising that all of the green infrastructure policies are to bring a major positive benefit for this Objective given the increased requirements in provision, delivery and quality of green spaces and biodiversity which subsequently allows for greater opportunity for participation in sports and recreation. Transport policies have also resulted in positive benefits as a likely result of the emphasis on locality and for key services (such as green space) being easily accessible and within reach.

SA9 - EFFICIENT & PRUDENT USE OF LAND

The provision of renewable energy generation has been scored to result in a minor negative for this Objective, as this would typically involve greenfield / Green Belt / agricultural sites due to the requirements of such energy production (e.g. wind turbines, solar farms) and does not play a positive role in encouraging high density development. In fact, if brownfield sites would be available for renewable energy production, this would result in less land being available for other uses (i.e. housing, employment) which are typically not compatible together due to issues on amenity etc. However, this has only scored minor negatives which may be a result of these uses not requiring a significant amount of land for the geographical range these would serve, and thus the harm on the Region as a whole would not be significantly detrimental. In addition, mitigation measures could be explored and imposed, such as the use of steel piles rather than concrete bases for the installation of solar panels on agricultural land and ensuring good soil handling. Elsewhere, place-making and design policies would provide major positives as these encourage high density and well designed development which make good use of land.

SA10 - BIODIVERSITY & GEODIVERSITY

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on this Objective. All of the green infrastructure policies are to score positively, which is unsurprising given the

emphasis and increased requirements in provision, delivery and quality of green spaces as well as biodiversity and species / habitats protection and improvements including for the need of biodiversity net gain. In addition, Policy G8A provides the policy basis for protecting national nature conservation designations and there is no identify adverse impacts on SSSIs or the Nidderdale AONB note as a result of the plan.

SA11 - CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION (GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS)

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on this Objective for Climate Change mitigation. Spatial transport policies have scored major positively as a likely result as this would result in less emissions with a reduced need to travel generally through services being more accessible through 20-min neighbourhoods (i.e. walkability and cycling) and the increased emphasis on public transport. Climate change policies have also provided a major benefit for this policy due to improved construction standards and requirements and a general aim of carbon dioxide reduction in the City.

SA12 - CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

The policy on addressing Leeds Station scores negatively for this Objective, likely as a result of this falling within a Flood Risk Zone and thus this policy would be encouraging development in this and would be contrary to adapting to climate change. However, it is likely that this has been scored as a minor due to the opportunities of this being addressed and mitigated through other policies and preventative measures. Green infrastructure policies have all scored positively toward this Objective due to the emphasis on providing, expanding and protecting green infrastructure which plays a critical role in adapting to climate change (e.g. less water run-off, increase of water capacity, SUDs etc). Design and place-making policies also are to bring a positive benefit due to the role in which good design can bring in the same way as green infrastructure provision.

SA13 - FLOOD RISK

As with Objective SA12 above, the policy on Leeds Station scores a minor negative due to encouraging development in a Flood Risk Zone and which would place it at natural risk from flooding. However, due to the established location of the station and the impracticality of relocating the Station, other preventative and defence measures can be utilised and designed in to reduce the risk of flooding and thus can be mitigated by other policies. Unsurprisingly, policies on flood risk provide major benefits for this Objective due to the general aims of such policies discouraging development in flood risk areas and encouraging for sustainable drainage methods and design. In fact, a positive scoring has been provided in policy on mass transit on the basis of policy wording which integrates flood alleviation and drainage measures, and seeks to minimise flooding to nearby areas.

SA14 - TRANSPORT NETWORK (INFRASTRUCTURE)

None of the proposed policies are to bring negative effects on this Objective. Spatial transport policies seek to provide major positive benefits, which is unsurprising given the general aims of such policies seek to expand the provision of public transport and to expand the capacity of Leeds Station, as well as an emphasis on 20 minute neighbourhoods which encourages walkability and better access to local key services. It is also anticipated that such policies would encourage non-car travel through the provision of better designed streets, which works intrinsically with design and place-making policies which also score positively for this Objective.

SA15 - ACCESSIBILITY TO EMPLOYMENT, SERVICES & FACILITIES

None of the proposed policies are to bring negative effects on this Objective.

SA16 - WASTE

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on this Objective, although no policies are to provide any major positive effects either. It is likely that this is a result of waste management falling outside of the remit of the Local Plan Update in this instance, although some minor positives have been scored on climate change policies which may encourage more sustainable methods of waste management.

SA17 - AIR QUALITY

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on air quality. Spatial transport policies are to bring a major positive benefit on this Objective as a likely result of an emphasis on reduced need of travel and increased use of public transport and an anticipated reduced gas emissions which impact air pollution. Numerous green infrastructure policies also score positively which is a likely result of the increased requirements of planting and tree coverage which would naturally improve air quality through absorbing carbon dioxide.

SA18 - WATER QUALITY

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on water quality.

SA19 - LAND AND SOILS QUALITY

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on land quality.

SA20 - AMENITY

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on amenity, with few bringing major positive benefits. Policies on the Health Impacts of development and design have been scored to provide major positive benefits, which is unsurprising given the aims and principles of these policies seeking to promote and enable healthy living environments and places and seeks to address adverse health impacts, which is intrinsic to ensuring adequate amenity.

SA21 - LANDSCAPE & TOWNSCAPE QUALITY

None of the proposed policies have been scored to provide negative effects on this Objective, and with a substantial amount of the policies being scored to provide a positive benefit. All green infrastructure policies are to provide a major positive benefit for the landscape quality of Leeds, which is unsurprising given the scope of such policies which seek to deliver, protect and enhance green space and species of various types and of high quality which would add significant value and character to local areas feeding in and contributing to a wider green space network. This is also similar to place-making and design policies as well as policy on sustainable drainage which also have an emphasis on providing green space and natural features as a key design principle, further enhancing this.

SA22 - HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Policies on carbon dioxide reduction and sustainable construction methods have been scored a minor negative on this Objective, and is likely a result of the challenges and implications such restrictive policies have on having historic meeting these requirements. The complexity and nature of these historic assets might mean that standard retrofitting or refurbishments practices to achieve net zero carbon operational energy might not be possible or more difficult to implement, which in turn would impact upon viability and the 'attractiveness' of re-using Listed Buildings, particularly those that are more at risk. Mass transit and Leeds Station policies have been scored major positives, although this is on the basis of policy wording which emphasises the protection and enhancement of historic assets in the delivery of these. Design policies have also scored major

positives, which is a likely result of the significant impact historic assets have on the character and identity of places.

SA23 - ENERGY & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

None of the proposed policies are to bring any negative effects on this Objective. It is unsurprising that sustainability policies which seek to address climate change mitigation and adaption through an emphasis on reduced emissions, sustainable construction standards and the roll-out of district heating score major positives given the direct correlation with the aims of this Objective.

APPENDIX 4 - PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

A number of potential negative effects were identified at the reasonable alternatives assessment stage for the options that were selected and developed into detailed policies. Where possible, potential negative effects identified at the options stage were mitigated through the wording of the specific requirements of policies or were reassessed when further evidence became available. As a result, very few of the proposed policies assessed at Appendix 7 are identified as having negative effects against the SA Framework. Examples of approaches taken to mitigate the potential negative effects of policies are set out below:

Development viability and reduced land take

It is noted that many of the policy requirements being proposed in the Local Plan Update could impose additional costs or burdens on development which could in turn impact on its viability. Thus, potential negative effects were noted against sustainability objectives SA2 (economic development) and SA6 (housing delivery). This scoring reflected the potential for the requirements to make some development unviable and thus reduce the level of commercial or residential development activity compared to an option to not include the policy requirement.

However, the cumulative impact on development viability has been robustly assessed as part of the strategic Economic Viability Statement (EVS) (August 2022). This concludes that the cumulative requirements of the Local Plan Update can be delivered as part of viable schemes taking into consideration all policy requirements. As a result the impact of all specific requirements set out in amended or new policies (which have a cost), have been tested at an individual policy level and at a cumulative strategic level in the Local Plan Update and are considered to not impact the viability of development to the extent that it would inhibit the amount of development taking place at the strategic level. The strategic viability of developments will also be tested at Examination by an Inspector and this could potentially impact the wording of policies at later stages of the process.

Whilst viable, some policy requirements such as biodiversity net gain (Policy G9) are likely to reduce the proportion of development sites available for built development. This has been assessed as a negative effect in relation to economic development (SA2) and housing delivery (SA6) where the policy will increase the land take over existing policy requirements. This effect has not been mitigated, as any negative effects must be balanced against the significant positive effects resulting from the policy. Overall, these policies are considered to have net sustainability benefits.

Scale and type of development

The potential impact of some requirements on the delivery of smaller development, such as householder, other minor development or changes of use have been considered in the preparation of policies. Smaller development has been specifically excluded from a number of policy requirements. For example, proposed revised Policy EN1 (Part B) specifically excludes a list of types of development such as changes of use and smaller extensions from the operational energy requirements. It was recognised that the requirements in the policy were likely to be unfeasible and/or unviable for these types of development. To have included all development in the policy requirement would have likely result in less development or more vacant properties than the existing baseline position and as such a more proportionate approach was taken with such policies.