



## Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Earl Shilton and Barwell Sustainable Urban Extensions  
Area Action Plan  
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council

November 2009

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# Quality Management

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# 1. Non Technical Summary

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 This document has been prepared by Capita Symonds on behalf of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) and forms the Scoping Report for a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC, of the Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan (AAP).

1.1.2 The East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS8) identifies the need for 9,000 new homes in Hinckley and Bosworth by 2026. An urban extension to the west of Barwell will provide 2,500 homes together with supporting community facilities and 15 hectares of employment; while an urban extension to the south of Earl Shilton will be expected to provide 2,000 homes, community facilities and 10 hectares of employment over the next 17 years. The decision to develop sustainable urban extensions at Earl Shilton and Barwell was therefore made in response to the 2004 Planning Compulsory Purchase Act and RSS8 policy priorities.

1.1.3 HBBC are of the opinion that the Earl Shilton and Barwell Sustainable Urban Extensions meet the requirements of Planning Policy Statement 12 – Local Spatial Planning (PPS12) with regards to Area Action Plans. These include that an Area Action Plan should deliver planned growth areas; stimulate regeneration; protect areas particularly sensitive to change; resolve conflicting objectives in areas subject to development pressures; and / or, focus on the delivery of area based regeneration initiatives. The incorporation of the SUEs into an AAP therefore appears to be the logical way to progress.

1.1.4 The vision for Earl Shilton and Barwell and their future growth and regeneration has been informed by the extensive stakeholder consultation exercise carried out by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) and the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) during 2008, and more recent AAP Inception Workshop undertaken in July 2009.

## 1.2 THE SA PROCESS

1.2.1 As a Development Plan Document (DPD), the AAP is subject to SA to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations, as stipulated in Planning Policy Statement 1 – Delivering Sustainable Communities (PPS1).

1.2.2 As such, a comprehensive SA of the AAP, including formal consultation with the statutory bodies; Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency will be undertaken in accordance with the Communities and Local Governments' guidance issued in September 2009.

1.2.3 As part of the appraisal process, the SA is also taking a long-term view of how and whether the area covered by the plan, in this case Earl Shilton and Barwell, is expected to develop, with regards to social, economic, and environmental aspects. The SA is therefore ensuring that the vision proposed by the AAP reflects global, national, regional and local concerns.

## 1.3 THE SA OBJECTIVES

1.3.1 The key sustainability issues and for Earl Shilton and Barwell have been identified, through a baseline review, and review of plans and policies. This has enabled development of a SA Framework against which the AAP will be assessed.

1.3.2 The proposed SA Objectives have been informed by the HBBC Core Strategy SA Objectives and are as follows:

1. To ensure the provision of decent and affordable housing that meets local needs and links into the provision of services.
2. To improve health and reduce health inequalities by promoting healthy lifestyles, protecting health and providing access to health services.
3. To improve community safety and social cohesion, reduce the fear of crime and reduce anti-social behaviour in Earl Shilton and Barwell.
4. To protect and enhance the natural environment (species and habitats) whilst contributing to the achievement of BAP targets.
5. To conserve and enhance the character, diversity and local distinctiveness of Earl Shilton and Barwell.
6. To preserve and enhance the character and appearance of archaeological sites, historic buildings, conservation sites, historic parks and other cultural assets in Earl Shilton and Barwell.
7. To conserve and enhance the character, diversity and local distinctiveness of the rural landscape in the area.
8. To manage water resources prudently, improve water quality and protect homes from surface water flooding.
9. To minimise energy use and develop renewable energy resources.
10. To improve access to education and training for children, young people and adult learners.
11. To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation whilst providing access to appropriate employment opportunities for the local population.
12. To optimise the use of previously developed land, buildings and existing infrastructure.
13. To promote and ensure high standards of sustainable design and construction.
14. To minimise waste and to increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials.
15. To improve access to services and facilities, particularly for the rural population, those without a car and for disabled, elderly and deprived people.
16. To encourage and develop the use of public transport, cycling and walking.

1.3.3 During the next stages of the SA process, a SA Report will be completed to support the selection of preferred actions to be set out in the AAP.

#### 1.4 KEY CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1.4.1 When commenting on this document, please use the following questions as a guide to the type and level of information we are requesting:

1. Do you agree with the proposed scope of the SA?
2. Are there any plans or policies implications that you consider important which have not been considered as part of this SA?
3. Are the key existing sustainability issues you are aware of in the area identified?
4. Do the objectives capture the key issues for Earl Shilton and Barwell?
5. Do you know of any other existing targets and indicators that would be useful for inclusion in the SA Framework?

- 1.4.2 The statutory period for consultation on this Scoping Report is 5 weeks, from the date of invitation. Please sent any comments by Friday January 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 to:
- 1.4.3 Any comments should be sent to:  
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Email: emily.hamilton2@capita.co.uk
- 1.4.4 The SA process will continue to offer opportunity for comment and feedback from consultees during the different stages; these will be fed into the process where appropriate and feasible.





## 2. Introduction

- 2.1.1 This document has been prepared by Capita Symonds on behalf of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) and forms the Scoping Report for a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC, of the Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan (AAP).
- 2.1.2 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (Section 39 (2)), the Government requires that an SA is mandatory for Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS), Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), to ensure that future policies and proposals will promote sustainable development.
- 2.1.3 This SA also incorporates a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The requirement for SEA derives from Directive 2001/42/EC on the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, of the European Parliament and Council, which stipulates that a systematic assessment and evaluation be undertaken of the impacts that certain plans and programmes are expected to have on the environment and that the findings be taken into account in the decision making process. It also takes into consideration sustainability issues in the strategic decision-making process.
- 2.1.4 HBBC is in the process of preparing its Local Development Framework (LDF) consisting of a number of DPDs which are being subject to Sustainability Appraisal. These include:
- Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy Preferred Options Consultation Responses (October 2008);
  - Proposed Submission Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan (October 2008); and,
  - Hinckley and Bosworth Site Allocations and Generic Development Control Policies – Preferred Options (February 2009).
- 2.1.5 The Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP will sit alongside these DPDs within the LDF and will guide the future development and regeneration of Earl Shilton and Barwell. As such, this SA is being undertaken to assess the likely impact of the AAP on the physical, social and economic environment within the area.
- 2.1.6 This SA Scoping Report presents the findings of the first stage in this SA process and forms a consultation document, designed to enable the statutory consultees with environmental responsibilities in England to comment on the proposed scope of the SA / SEA. This report will therefore be circulated for comment to Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency.
- 2.1.7 The SA Scoping Report is divided into the following chapters:
- Chapter 1 Introduction;
  - Chapter 2 Background – includes a description of the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP and outlines the principles, aims and objectives which it hopes to achieve;
  - Chapter 3 The Sustainability Appraisal Process – explains the purpose of the SA and provides an outline of the proposed SA methodology for assessing the sustainability of the AAP;

Chapter 4 Policy Context – includes a review of the objectives of relevant plans, programmes, policies and strategies that may interact with those of the AAP, focusing primarily on sustainability related objectives. Such objectives inform the development of SA objectives, and form the basis of the SA Framework;

Chapter 5 Socio-economic and Environmental Baseline – details the key baseline issues pertaining to the study area, in terms of social, economic and environmental issues;

Chapter 6 Sustainability Appraisal Framework – outlines the Objectives, Indicators and Targets which form the framework through which the SA will aim to make the AAP sustainable and robust; and,

Chapter 7 Next Steps – explains how to comment on this report and the way forward in the SA Process.

## 3. Background

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS8) identifies the need for 9,000 new homes in Hinckley and Bosworth by 2026. An urban extension to the west of Barwell will provide 2,500 homes together with supporting community facilities and 15 hectares of employment; while an urban extension to the south of Earl Shilton will be expected to provide 2,000 homes, community facilities and 10 hectares of employment over the next 17 years.

3.1.2 The decision to develop sustainable urban extensions at Earl Shilton and Barwell was therefore made in response to the 2004 Planning Compulsory Purchase Act and RSS8 policy priorities.

3.1.3 This response formulated within HBBC's Core Strategy sets out the general spatial vision and objectives for the delivery of Hinckley and Bosworth's Local Development Framework. The Core Strategy outlines the broad locations proposed for housing development, together with other strategic needs such as employment, retail and transport development.

3.1.4 Earl Shilton and Barwell contain pockets of significant deprivation, particularly relating to income, education skills and training, employment and health and their local centres are in need of regeneration. HBBC's vision for Earl Shilton and Barwell is to:

Provide thriving communities that have their own sense of identity and character;

Provide attractive environments and opportunities for residents to live and work and to meet their day-to-day needs;

Provide improved walking and cycling routes and public transport provision between Barwell, Earl Shilton and Hinckley as an alternative to car travel; and

Provide improved green infrastructure, parks and connections to the surrounding countryside.

3.1.5 HBBC are of the opinion that the Earl Shilton and Barwell Sustainable Urban Extensions meet the requirements of Planning Policy Statement 12 – Local Spatial Planning (PPS12) with regards to Area Action Plans. These include that an Area Action Plan should deliver planned growth areas; stimulate regeneration; protect areas particularly sensitive to change; resolve conflicting objectives in areas subject to development pressures; and / or, focus on the delivery of area based regeneration initiatives. The incorporation of the SUEs into an AAP therefore appears to be the logical way to progress.

### 3.2 STUDY AREA - EARL SHILTON, BARWELL AND THE WIDER AREA

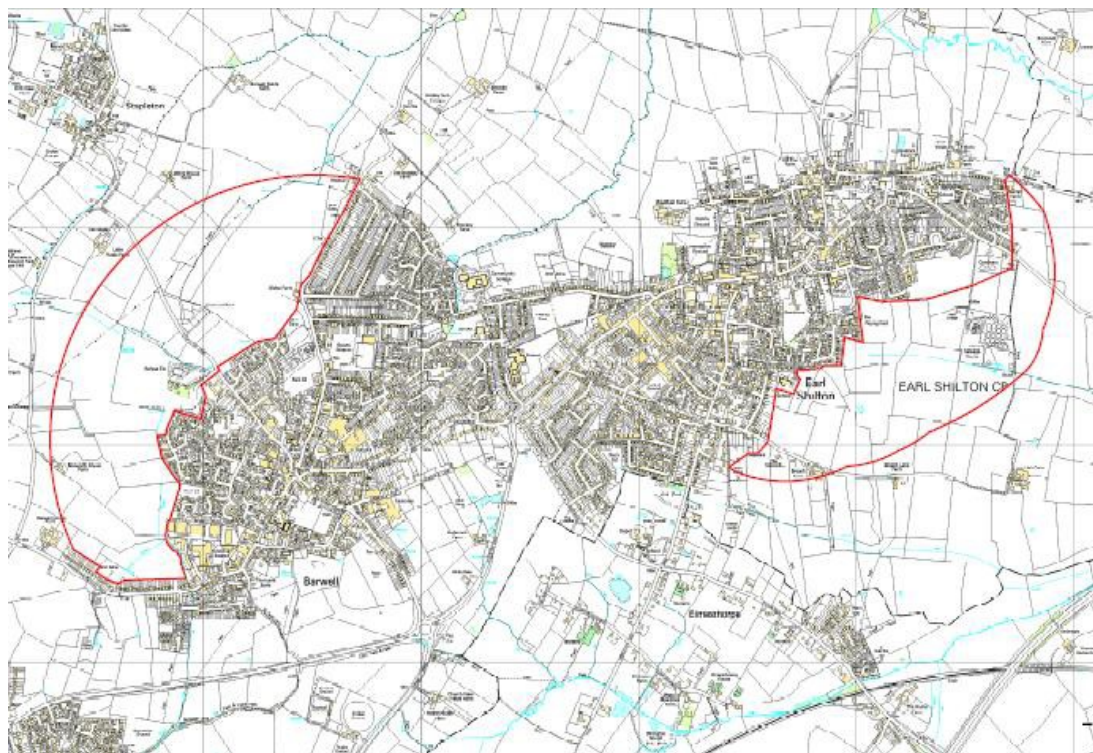
3.2.1 Earl Shilton and Barwell are located to the north east of Hinckley on elevated land above the Soar Valley, see Figure 3.1 below. The surrounding landscape is characterised by a number of smaller ridges and valleys which creates a 'rolling' landscape, particularly to the south, east and north of the settlement. The elevated location allows the settlement to be visible from a number of locations within the wider valley and from transport corridors such as the M69.

Figure 3.1 – Location of Earl Shilton and Barwell



- 3.2.2 The landscape to the south of the settlement is under a more urban influence than the north. This is partly a result of the settlement itself being visible, and also the presence of the A47 which passes through the landscape - including the recently completed Bypass. The A447 (Ashby Road) passes to the west of Barwell but is a less engineered and more rural road the A47. There are few notable road corridors to the north of the settlement and as a result the landscape has more undeveloped qualities.
- 3.2.3 The areas allocated for the SUEs in Earl Shilton and Barwell are bounded by the red lines illustrated in Figure 3.2 below. The Area Action Plan itself encompasses the SUEs and the settlements of Earl Shilton and Barwell.

Figure 3.2 – The Earl Shilton and Barwell Sustainable Urban Extensions Areas



### 3.3 EARL SHILTON SUE AREA

- 3.3.1 The study area is located to the east of Earl Shilton, directly adjacent to the existing edge of settlement. Its eastern and southern extents are broadly defined by the recently completed Earl Shilton Bypass (Clickers Way) which was opened in March 2009. Its western extents are effectively the existing edge of settlement, which is comprised predominantly of residential development (which is existing, recently constructed or undergoing construction) a cemetery and a school. The study area is not currently accessible from the bypass, although the bypass, Breach Lane, Mill Lane and Thurlaston Lane pass in close proximity to it. A number of footpaths and a bridleway (all public rights of way) cross the study area in a north-south direction.
- 3.3.2 Land-use within the study area is varied. It consists primarily of mixed arable and pasture landscape, a cemetery, a Sewage Treatment Works (STW) and a recreation ground. Two recent residential developments are ongoing at Breach Lane and Montgomery Gardens which either border the study area (Montgomery Gardens) or are within it – land at Breach Lane. The field pattern is mixed, with land given over to pasture generally comprising smaller compartments while arable fields are much larger by comparison. Field boundaries are mostly rectilinear and are well defined by mature hedgerows which contain trees. The boundaries of the Cemetery, the recreation ground and the STW are also well defined by mature trees and hedgerows. With the exception of the STW and residential development at Breach Lane (which includes recent development and existing dwellings), there are no other buildings present within the study area. The consultation Draft Development Plan shows an allocation for 'Residential Gypsy & Traveller Pitches'. The Recreation Ground is designated as being 'Open Space'.



### 3.4 BARWELL SUE AREA

- 3.4.1 The Barwell SUE Area is located to the west of Barwell, directly adjacent to the existing edge of settlement. Its western extent is broadly defined by the Ashby Road, although it is not expected that built development will eventually extend this far. The northern boundary extends approximately as far as White House Farm and Elwell Avenue. The southern boundary of the study area is situated around Bosworth House and the rear of dwellings on Hinckley Road. Stapleton Lane bisects the site into northern and southern sections and there are various farm access tracks crossing parts of the site. In addition, there are also a number of footpaths (including the Leicestershire Round) crossing the study area which are designated public rights of way. The majority of these routes are orientated in an east-west direction.
- 3.4.2 Land-use within the study area is varied. It consists primarily of mixed arable and pasture landscape, with some smaller areas of semi improved and rough grassland. The field pattern within this predominantly agricultural land is mixed, with smaller pastures and larger arable (ploughed) fields. Field boundaries are mostly rectilinear and are well defined by mature hedgerows which contain trees. There are also some larger belts of woodland. Farms present include Barwell House Farm, Bosworth House Farm, The Gables and White House Farm. Other significant development includes a household waste recycling centre, a Showman's site and a large recreation ground (reclaimed tip). The boundaries of these features are also well defined by mature trees and hedgerows.
- 3.4.3 Part of the site adjacent to the water course is designated as a Local Wildlife Site (SINC) and a much larger area to the north-west (which extends beyond the site) is designated as a Biodiversity Improvement Area. An overhead 33kv power line crosses the study area to the north-west.

### 3.5 VISION FOR THE FUTURE GROWTH OF EARL SHILTON & BARWELL

- 3.5.1 The vision for Earl Shilton and Barwell and their future growth and regeneration has been informed by the extensive stakeholder consultation exercise carried out by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) and the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) during 2008, and more recent AAP Inception Workshop undertaken in July 2009.
- 3.5.2 The settlements of Earl Shilton and Barwell will be thriving communities with their own sense of identity and character, providing attractive environments and opportunities for residents to live and work, and centres that meet the day-to-day needs of residents and workers alike. Hinckley Town Centre will remain the focal point of the area for comparison shopping, leisure provision and higher education, and so pedestrian and cycling routes and public transport provision will be improved between the settlements, to offer a realistic alternative to car travel. Green infrastructure, notably parks and green links to the surrounding countryside, will be key features of the settlements.
- 3.5.3 In this context, the planned urban extensions to Earl Shilton and Barwell will act as a catalyst for their regeneration, notably through the enhancement of the existing centres, improvement of the existing facilities, and provision of new facilities to assist the integration of the existing and new communities.

- 3.5.4 The urban extensions themselves will be attractive new places where people will want to live and work. They will be an integral part of the settlements to which they are connected. Residents and occupiers will have attractive, efficient and safe access to the settlement centres, particularly through excellent walking and cycling routes and public transport. The developments will reflect and build upon the distinctiveness and sense of place enjoyed by Earl Shilton and Barwell to form organic extensions to the places, while being memorable in their own right, and as such will be exemplars in sustainable design and development.
- 3.5.5 They will contain a range of housing types and tenures to meet local needs, as well as the necessary community infrastructure to support the day-to-day needs of residents including neighbourhood shops, primary schools and health facilities located within a community hub. They will also accommodate high quality employment provision to enable residents to work close to home should they choose to, while providing new employment opportunities for the wider population of both settlements. Green infrastructure in terms of new parks and green links will be a strong feature of these new communities, with a focus on links to existing networks in Earl Shilton and Barwell, and their rural hinterlands.
- 3.5.6 In short the vision and focus for both the urban extension and settlement masterplanning exercises to be undertaken in preparing the AAP can be summarised as:
- The development of thriving communities, with distinct identities and character, providing attractive and accessible living and working environments with thriving urban centres, supported by infrastructure that encourages sustainable living, and well connected to Hinckley and the surrounding countryside.*





## 4. The Sustainability Appraisal Process

### 4.1 THE PURPOSE OF THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

- 4.1.1 The Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP will be adopted by HBBC as part of its Local Development Framework (LDF).
- 4.1.2 As a Development Plan Document (DPD), the AAP is subject to SA to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations, as stipulated in Planning Policy Statement 1 – Delivering Sustainable Communities (PPS1).
- 4.1.3 As such, a comprehensive SA of the AAP, including formal consultation with the statutory bodies; Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency will be undertaken in accordance with the government guidance issued in September 2009, and will:

Be prepared with the level of detail, and resources, that is useful for its purpose and meets the requirements of relevant guidance;

Review the AAP's relationship with other local plans, policies and sustainability issues, and in the context of wider plans and policies;

Establish the existing 'baseline' environmental, economic and social scenarios, with particular regard to existing sustainability issues;

Help develop viable options and alternatives for the AAP; and

Review the sustainability impacts of the options, and the final Preferred Option.

### 4.2 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDANCE

- 4.2.1 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (Section 39 (2)), the Government requires that an SA is mandatory for Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS), Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), to ensure that future policies and proposals will promote sustainable development. As such, the SA process assesses the likely impact of a plan on the physical, social and economic environment within a given area.

- 4.2.2 The SA process also incorporates a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The requirement for SEA derives from Directive 2001/42/EC on the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, of the European Parliament and Council, which stipulates that a systematic assessment and evaluation be undertaken of the impacts that certain plans and programmes are expected to have on the environment and that the findings be taken into account in the decision making process. It also takes into consideration sustainability issues in the strategic decision-making process.

- 4.2.3 The approach to SA undertaken for the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP has been developed in accordance with the relevant national and European regulations and guidance as well as best practice, including the following:

Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Communities and Local Government (2009) Plan Making Manual.

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005) A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive.

Countryside Council for Wales, English Nature (now Natural England), RSPB and Environment Agency (2004) SEA and Biodiversity: Guidance for Practitioners.

EC (2001) SEA and Integration of the Environment into Strategic Decision Making.

Environment Agency Good Practice Advice.

#### 4.3 THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL PROCESS

4.3.1 The SA process will be completed in line with guidance on incorporating SA within the DPD process. This is comprised of five stages, as follows:

4.3.2 Stage A: setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the Scope;

Identifying the policies, plans and programmes of relevance to the AAP process.

Collating baseline data and identifying gaps.

Identifying key sustainability issues and problems.

Developing the SA objectives and framework for assessment.

Consulting on the scope of the SA.

4.3.3 Stage B: developing and refining options and assessing effects;

Testing the AAP objectives against the SA Framework.

Developing the AAP options.

Predicting the effects of the AAP.

Evaluating the effects of the AAP.

Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.

Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the AAP.

4.3.4 Stage C: preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report;

4.3.5 Stage D: consulting on the AAP and Sustainability Appraisal Report;

Public participation on the SA Report and the AAP.

Assessing significant changes resulting from the consultation process and examination.

Making decisions and providing information.

4.3.6 Stage E: monitoring the significant effects of implementing the AAP.

Finalising the aims and methods for monitoring.

Responding to adverse effects.

4.3.7 This SA Scoping Report forms the output of Stage A and has been prepared for statutory and public consultation for a period of five weeks.

4.3.8 This SA will be produced under the umbrella of the HBBC LDF SA. As such, in order to ensure this SA is appropriate in scale and resources, large elements of the SA will be based on the Sustainability Appraisal Report of the Hinckley and Bosworth Proposed Submission Core Strategy, October 2008 prepared by White Young Green on behalf of HBBC. Such elements include, for example, parts of the SA Framework, the plans and policy review and the baseline information collected.

## 5. Policy Context

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 As part of the appraisal process, an SA should take a long-term view of how and whether the area covered by the plan, in this case Earl Shilton and Barwell, is expected to develop, with regards to social, economic, and environmental aspects. In addition, the SA should ensure that the vision proposed by the AAP reflects global, national, regional and local concerns.

5.1.2 The purpose of the policy review is therefore to identify how existing plans, programmes, policies and strategies affect the AAP, allowing potential constraints to be identified. It also assists in the identification of suitable SA Objectives.

5.1.3 A comprehensive review of relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives was completed as part of the SA for the Hinckley and Bosworth Proposed Submission Core Strategy, October 2008, including international, national, regional and local documents. This review has been updated for the purposes of this SA.

5.1.4 Full details of the review can be found in Appendix A and includes the following plans, policies and programmes:

#### 5.1.5 National Level Plans, Policies and Programmes -

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 1: Delivering Sustainable Communities

PPS 1 Supplement: Planning and Climate Change

PPS 6: Planning for Town Centres

PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas

PPS 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

PPS 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management

Policy Planning Guidance (PPG) 13: Transport

PPG Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment

PPG Note 16: Archaeology and Planning

PPG 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

PPS 22: Renewable Energy

PPG 24: Planning and Noise

PPS 25: Planning and Flood Risk

Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy

#### Regional Level Plans, Policies and Programmes -

Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands (March, 2009)

East Midlands Regional Plan Proposed Changes (July, 2008)

East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy: Our Sustainable Development Framework (2008)

Sustainable Communities in the East Midlands: Building for the Future (2003)

Regional Economic Strategy

A Water Resources Strategy for the East Midlands (March, 2001)

East Midlands Biodiversity Strategy (May, 2006)

Towards a Regional Energy Strategy: A Sustainable Approach to Energy in the East Midlands (June, 2003)

English Heritage in the East Midlands 2006-2008

A Place of Choice – A Cultural Strategy for the East Midlands 2006-2011

County Level Plans, Policies and Programmes -

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Structure Plan 1996-2016

Leicestershire Local Strategic Partnership Sustainable Communities Strategy (2008)

Leicestershire Rural Strategy 2007-2014

Leicestershire and Leicester Waste Development Framework – Core Strategy Development Control Policies (Submission Draft) up to 2021

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Waste Local Plan 1996-2006

Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Landscape and Woodland Strategy (February, 2001)

Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2006-2011

Leicestershire Walking and Cycling Strategy

Leicestershire Cultural Strategy 2003-2008

Leicestershire Economic Regeneration Strategy 2003-2012

Leicestershire Community Strategy

Leicester & Leicestershire HMA Employment Land Study Final Report (2008)

Leicester & Leicestershire HMA Employment Land Study Executive Summary (2008)

Leicester & Leicestershire HMA Employment Land Study Appendices (2008)

Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2008)

Local Level Plans, Policies and Programmes -

Hinckley and Bosworth Proposed Submission Core Strategy (2008)

Hinckley and Bosworth Priority Neighbourhood Profile – Barwell (May, 2007)

Hinckley and Bosworth Priority Neighbourhood Profile – Earl Shilton (May, 2007)

Hinckley and Bosworth Home Energy Conservation Strategy

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Community Plan 2007-2012

Hinckley and Bosworth Crime and Disorder Strategy

Hinckley & Bosworth Community Plan (2007-2012)

HBBC Consultation Draft Economic Regeneration Strategy (2008 – 2012)

HBBC Green Infrastructure Strategy (2008)

HBBC Green Infrastructure Strategy – Executive Summary (2008)

Hinckley & Bosworth Landscape Character Assessment (2006)

Hinckley & Bosworth Green Space Strategy (2005- 2010)

Hinckley & Bosworth Green Space Strategy Audits of Provision (2005)

Hinckley & Bosworth Green Space Strategy Audits of Provision Update (2007)

Hinckley & Bosworth Open Space Quality Audit (2004)

IT Power Planning for Climate Change Study (2008)

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Draft Play Strategy (2007)

Hinckley & Bosworth Community Safety Partnership Plan (2008-2011)

Hinckley Area Cycling Network Plan (1999)

Hinckley Core Strategy Transport Review (2007)

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Cultural Strategy (2007-2012)

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Cultural Facilities Action Plan (2008-13)

Hinckley and Bosworth Employment Land and Premises Study (2004)

Hinckley and Bosworth Biodiversity Assessment (2009)

Hinckley and Bosworth, Blaby and Oadby and Wigston Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2007)

Communication Strategy for Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership Plan (2008- 2011)

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Retail Capacity Study (2007)

Earl Shilton Neighbourhood Action Plan (2008/9)

Barwell Neighbourhood Action Plan (2008/9)

## 5.2 ANALYSIS

5.2.1 The outcome of this review was a number of high level aims which the HBBC LDF should be aiming to achieve as part of the plan making process for the Core Strategy. The Council have also undertaken stakeholder consultation, with consultants Larnaca and key partners, through which the communities of Earl Shilton and Barwell have had an opportunity to discuss and put forward their views on future development proposals. These aims and the findings of stakeholder engagement have been incorporated into the plan making process as Development Objectives, as listed below.

## 5.3 DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

5.3.1 Following a review of the over-arching Strategies and the requirements of the Core Strategy, a number of key development and spatial objectives have been identified that reflect the vision and establish an agenda for the future development of Earl Shilton and Barwell. These can be summarised as follows:

Seek to diversify the economy providing local and better paid jobs;

Ensure that Hinckley remains a vibrant sub-regional centre, and Earl Shilton and Barwell urban centres providing local services for their resident population;

Address social inclusion and provide housing to meet everyone's needs;

Deliver new development sensitively integrated into stronger, safer, healthier communities, recognising their unique identity;

Provide the infrastructure needed to support the growth of the area;

Enhance the identity and distinctiveness of built and natural environment;



Address climate change and resource management;  
Protect natural and cultural assets;  
Reduce the need to travel and provide transport choice; and  
Exemplify green sustainable development.

## 6. Socio-Economic and Environmental Baseline

### 6.1 INTRODUCTION

6.1.1 This chapter provides a broad overview of the social, economic and environmental features of Earl Shilton and Barwell and defined AAP study area as well as the wider context, including baseline conditions and emerging trends.

6.1.2 The baseline has been established with reference to relevant websites and publicly-available information, much of which is available on the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) website. There are limitations to this approach, one of which is the relatively small scale of the AAP area. Although information is often available at the national, regional and even county and borough levels, deriving baseline data at the level of Earl Shilton and Barwell parish level is often more difficult.

6.1.3 A primary purpose of this Scoping Report is to consult with the relevant authorities and stakeholders to confirm the accuracy of this information and gather further data of value to the SA process. The key sustainability issues and problems emerging out of this baseline analysis will inform the development of the SA Framework and Objectives.

6.1.4 The following social, economic and environmental parameters have been considered:

- Air Quality;
- Noise and Vibration;
- Water Environment;
- Soil Conditions, Contamination and Waste;
- Built Heritage and Archaeology;
- Nature Conservation and Ecology;
- Landscape and Visual Amenity;
- Climate;
- Traffic and Transport;
- Population and Quality of Life;
- Economy and Employment; and
- Tourism and Recreation.

6.1.5 Key sustainability issues have been identified at the end of each section.

## 6.2 AIR QUALITY

Air Quality
<p><b>Baseline Conditions</b></p> <p>Hinckley and Bosworth have Air Quality Objectives for seven pollutants including benzene, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) and sulphur dioxide. The Air Quality Review and Assessment Progress Report, April 2008 found detailed assessment was not required for any of the objectives. There are three NO<sub>2</sub> monitoring stations in Earl Shilton, located on Wood Street and Station Road. NO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring station on High Street has now been moved onto the Earl Shilton Bypass adjacent Masefield Drive. There are currently no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in the Borough.</p> <p>There are several potential sources of odour nuisance in the area. These include the Sewage Treatment Works (STW) located east of Earl Shilton. The cordon sanitaire for this facility is currently unclear but the works inlet point on the northern boundary of the STW and the sludge tanks adjacent to the western boundary are the primary locations for odour nuisance. There is a waste and recycling facility located in the centre of the Barwell SUE area. However, there is currently no evidence of odour nuisance from this facility. However, the nearby , pumping station may be a potential source of odour</p>
<p><b>Likely Evolution of Baseline</b></p> <p>The Earl Shilton bypass opened in 2009 and may have implications for the NO<sub>2</sub> levels monitored in Earl Shilton. However, as there are Air Quality Objectives to obligate the Council to prevent exceedances in air pollutants, any such effects are likely to be relatively short term and / or temporary. If this were to occur, it is likely that an AQMA would be established in the area. HBBC have produced an Energy Policy which highlights the need to reduce the effects and causes of climate change through reducing emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> within the Borough. Shielding residential units from sewage works by commercial is advisable to mitigate impact from odour.</p>
<p><b>Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The need to maintain and improve air quality, particularly with the newly opened Earl Shilton Bypass and proposed Sustainable Urban Extensions.</li> <li>▪ The need to manage the causes and impacts of climate change.</li> </ul>

## 6.3 NOISE AND VIBRATION

Noise and Vibration
<p><b>Baseline Conditions</b></p> <p>There is no baseline data currently available relating to noise within the AAP area. The major sources of noise within the Earl Shilton and Barwell area are considered to be principally associated with the road corridors. There is however, a Show People's ground located in the Barwell SUE area which is used to maintain, store and transport fairground machinery and equipment and can cause occasional noise. The Civic Amenity Site at Barwell has Heavy Goods Vehicle movements and handling of containers on a regular basis, as do the industrial units on Moat Way Industrial Estate, Barwell.</p>
<p><b>Likely Evolution of Baseline</b></p> <p>Mixed use development of the agricultural land allocated for the Sustainable Urban Extensions is likely to lead to an increase in the baseline level of noise to sensitive receptors located close to the SUE boundaries as well as the future sensitive receptors within the SUEs themselves. Careful design</p>
<p><b>Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Noise pollution associated with road corridors.</li> <li>▪ Noise associated with the Show People's ground, industrial units on Moat Way Industrial Estate and Civic Amenity Site in Barwell.</li> </ul>

## 6.4 WATER ENVIRONMENT

**Water Environment****Baseline Conditions***Water Quality*

There are several small watercourses in the vicinity of Earl Shilton and Barwell, including the Earl Shilton, Thurlaston and Normanton Brooks which lie to the east and north of the settlements. The urbanised areas of Earl Shilton and Barwell form the upstream catchments of Thurlaston Brook, Earl Shilton Brook and other un-named watercourses. The River Tweed runs through the Barwell SUE area and the western edge of the existing conurbation.

The Earl Shilton Sewage Treatment Works (STW) is located to the east of the settlement and is operated by Severn Trent Water. There is a sensitive area associated with these works downstream on the River Soar to the south-east with a need to reduce phosphorus. Earl Shilton, Barwell and the surrounding area is also classified as a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone.

The quality of the watercourses is assessed in accordance with the Environment Agency's General Quality Assessment (GQA) and were recorded in 2007 are summarised in the following table:

Table 6.4.1 – General Quality Assessment of Watercourses 2007

	Earl Shilton Brook (Earl Shilton STW to Thurlaston Brook)	Normanton Brook (Newbold Verdon STW to Normanton Park)	Normanton Brook (Normanton Park to Thurlaston Brook)
Chemistry	C (fairly good)	B (good)	B (good)
Biology	E (poor)	C (fairly good)	A (very good)
Nitrates	6 (excessively high)	6 (excessively high)	5 (very high)
Phosphates	6 (excessively high)	6 (excessively high)	5 (very high)

These conditions have remained relatively constant for the last 10 years and are largely judged as compliant, with the high levels of phosphates and nitrates attributable to the STW. The Humber River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) currently classifies 'poor' ecological quality and 'pass' chemical quality for these watercourses, conditions that are not predicted to change up to 2015. GQA is not undertaken for the River Tweed.

In terms of groundwater, the RBMP process has found that the quantitative status (as affected by direct or indirect abstractions) of the area is 'good' and therefore compliant with the Water Framework Directive. The chemical status is also 'good' to the east up to the western edge of Barwell but 'poor' further westwards. These conditions are not predicted to change up to 2015.

*Flood Risk and Hydrology*

Inspection of the Environment Agency's flood zone mapping indicates that the Earl Shilton development area is located in flood risk zone 1 (i.e. probability of flooding less than 1 in 1000). Barwell also fall largely within flood zone 1 however a short section of the Tweed River runs through the site and together with its flood plain present a development constraint. Discussions with the Environment Agency confirm that building is not permitted within 8 metres of the flood plain and an easement strip should be accounted for when preparing master plans. There are no river level monitoring stations in the watercourses in or around Earl Shilton and Barwell. However, evidence does suggest that surface water flooding due to poor drainage is a chronic and at times severe problem in Earl Shilton and Barwell during heavy rainfall.

*Water Resources*

The Soar Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy, July 2006 shows the Soar and its tributaries to have 'water available' in terms of abstraction licensing with a target status in 2009 and 2015 for 'no water available' via abstraction.

The STW located at Earl Shilton serves both Barwell and Earl Shilton. Owing to topographical constraints waste water generated at Barwell needs to be pumped to the STW. A pumping station, located adjacent to the civic amenity site, conveys flows from large part of Barwell at present. There is a known problem of capacity within the Barwell pumping station under storm conditions.

**Likely Evolution of Baseline**

The UK Climate Impacts Plan (UKCIP) study shows that annual average rainfall in Leicestershire shows little change, although distribution and intensity will change with increases in winter rainfall and decreases in summer rainfall and an increase in 'deep depressions' which cause stormy weather. This shift in weather patterns is very likely to have an effect on water quality and resources, with possible declines

in both, and flood risk, which is likely to become more severe and unpredictable.

An increase in housing development will result in an increase in water consumption. The study has indicated that without delivery of the planned supply and demand measures in the water resources plans many parts of the East Midlands region will be in deficit within 10 years. However, if the planned supply and demand measures are delivered about a third of the region will remain in surplus and any deficits will be greatly reduced. Deficits will still occur in the East Midlands zone (Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire), Ruthamford zone and Lincolnshire Fens zone. Water efficiency measures such as greywater recycling and rainwater harvesting are likely to be incorporated into new and existing developments to meet demands.

Surface water flood risk is likely to become an increasing problem across the area, even accounting for mitigation measures incorporated into new and existing developments e.g sustainable drainage systems (SuDS).

In preparing plans for the future Severn Trent Water has identified the challenges it faces over the next 25 years and defined key strategic intentions (KSI) that it expects to deliver during the 2010 to 2035 period. These KSIs include providing continuous supplies of clean water, dealing effectively with waste water, and minimising its carbon footprint in response to climatic change. To achieve these intentions Severn Trent have identified a number of initiatives in its '*Strategic Direction Statement: Focus on water (December 2007)*'.

Severn Trent's draft '*Water Resources Management Plan 2009*' examines how projected growth in demand (determined through analysis of the East Midlands RSS) can be catered from resources available and what will be required to meet any shortfall. The Plan identified that the East Midlands zone, into which Earl Shilton and Barwell fall, is predicted to be have a negative supply demand balance in 2011/2012. It was clear from analysis that in the near term the majority of additional demand can be met through the release of available water and it proposes the duplication of the Derwent Valley Aqueduct (Kings Corner, Derby to Hallgates, Leicester) with the remaining shortfall taken up through a combination of the other initiatives. The Asset Management Plan (5) also identifies the need to provide this duplication scheme together with upgrading the STW at Earl Shilton. Approval for the AMP5 is awaited. There may be an additional issue of the capacity of the Barwell pumping station to cope with the new SUE developments.

#### Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems

- Concern has been raised during local consultation regarding the capacity of current drainage / sewage systems and future flood risks. The need to prevent increases in surface water run-off and flood risk is therefore an issue.
- Surface water flooding is an acute problem to areas along the River Tweed and associated watercourses in the Barwell SUE area and in the watercourse running through the Earl Shilton SUE area.
- The HBBC Core Strategy includes objectives to adopt drainage policies and strategies for new development which aim to minimise or avoid negative impact on the natural water environment, both within the study areas and beyond their boundaries, and thus be sustainable.

## 6.5 SOIL CONDITIONS, CONTAMINATION AND WASTE

### Soil Conditions, Contamination and Waste

#### Baseline Conditions

##### *Geology*

The predominant geology of HBB is Keuper Marl interspersed with beds of Triassic Sandstone. Soil drainage is impeded by the loamy clay soil which overlies the geology and therefore quite a high percentage of the rainfall that falls on the catchment runs off. HBB has a varied geology dominated by Mercia Mudstone and alluvium associated with the river valleys as well as areas of sandstone and coal measures. Small pockets of well drained coarse, loamy soils over gravel can be found around Earl Shilton. There is an igneous intrusion at Mill Lane (Earl Shilton) from which granite has been extracted.

As highlighted in Section 5.3.2, Environment Agency Groundwater Vulnerability Map Sheet Number 23 (Leicestershire) shows that the majority of the surrounding area is underlain by a Non Aquifer with soils of negligible permeability. Aquifers of negligible permeability have limited vulnerability to contaminants from the surface, and are therefore unlikely to transmit a wide range of pollutants.

##### *Land Contamination*

As stated in the Core Strategy SA, HBB has traditional connection with manufacturing industries, in particular the textile clothing, footwear and mechanical engineering sectors. Consequently, there are some areas of contaminated land within the Borough which have arisen as a result of industrial use or waste disposal. The extractive industries in particular have left a legacy of excavations, many of which have been

filled with a wide range of waste materials. Potentially contaminative land uses in the Borough include:

- Industrial areas (historical and current);
- 'Part A' processes;
- 'Part B' processes (petrol stations, coating processes etc);
- COMAH sites (sites with dangerous substances present);
- Landfill and waste processing sites;
- Closed landfill sites;
- Sewage works and land used for the disposal of sludge;
- Mines and mineral extraction sites;
- Waste or derelict land; and
- Previously developed sites.

It is unknown whether any contaminated land sites exist within the AAP area. There are, however, historic landfill sites located to the north-west fringe of Barwell and several more located in the area between Barwell and Earl Shilton. No active landfills are now in the vicinity.

Agricultural land is predominantly arable mixed with scrub / heath and classified as Grade 3 under the Agricultural Land Classification.

#### *Waste Management*

In 2003/04 around 4Mt of waste was produced in Leicestershire - municipal (household, civic amenity and some commercial) waste accounts for about 14% of the total waste arising and this is predicted to rise at an average yearly rate of 2%. 39,213 tonnes were produced in HBBC which was a 1.4% increase on the figures from 2002/03. Recycling rates for the same period were in the order of 18% for municipal waste, 30% for commercial and industrial waste and 50% for construction and demolition waste.

The waste management sites within Leicestershire include: a materials recycling facility at Whetstone; a sorting and transfer station at Melton; a mechanical biological treatment facility at Bursom; an anaerobic digestion facility at Wanlip; 7 composting sites; approximately 40 transfer stations; 32 construction and demolition recycling sites; approximately 40 scrap metal sites; 60 sewage treatment sites; 16 household waste recycling centres; 3 non-hazardous waste landfill sites; and several inert waste landfill sites. A household waste recycling centre is located within the study area on Stapleton Lane.

HBBC provide a fortnightly collection service – a 240L Wheeled Bin for Residuals, a blue bin for recycling of paper, cans and glass and a green waste collection. The majority of District, Borough and City Council collected household waste is exported out of the framework area via the transfer loading stations at Syston and Bursom MRF, Leicester. However, as stated in the Waste Needs Assessment (2006) there has been a decline in the quantity of waste exported to landfill largely due to the implementation of various recycling initiatives by each of the Collection Authorities. In HBBC, the levels of household recycling have increased from 13.4 in 2002/03 to 21.7% in 2003/04 and 45% in 2007/08.

There are recycling points in the following locations:

- Stanley Street Car Park, Barwell (glass and plastic);
- Plough Inn Public House, Church Street, Earl Shilton (glass, plastic and textiles);
- Stonecroft Sports Club, New Street, Earl Shilton (glass and plastic);
- Constitutional Club, Station Road, Earl Shilton (glass, plastic and cans); and
- King William Public House, The Hollow, Earl Shilton (glass, plastic and cans).

Stapleton Lane, Barwell is also the location of the Borough's Recycling and Household Waste Site ('tip'). Kerbside collection includes card, mixed plastics, aluminium and steel cans, glass, garden waste, paper, textiles and household rubbish. Composting bins are provided free to schools in Leicestershire.

The Site Waste Management Plans Regulation 2008 has had a significant impact on the minimisation and management of waste from construction and demolition sites. There are no targets identified for C&D waste in national, regional or local plans however the Waste and Resources Action Programme has identified C&D as a priority waste stream and established the Halving Waste to Landfill Commitment which has over 60 signatories including the UK's major construction contractors.

Based on data from Leicestershire County Council (LCC) it is estimated that there are approximately 43,000 households within 5 miles of the Stapleton Lane site who therefore form the catchment of the facility. In 2007/08 the site handled approximately 12,000 tonnes of waste which equates to approximately 280kg of waste per household. Based on the proposed increases in the number of households in the catchment to 52,000 the site waste annual tonnage throughput is likely to increase to around 15,000 tonnes per annum. It is

anticipated by LCC that an area of at least 1ha would be required to manage the additional tonnages, providing space for additional storage and future waste separation.

Given the current surrounding land uses i.e. on the edge of a small industrial area and residential estate, the currently location of the Centre is suitable. However, should the number of residential properties surround the site increase the impact of traffic movements to and from the site on local residential roads and appropriate levels of access for heavy vehicles should be considered.

**Likely Evolution of Baseline**

The presence of the recycling centre within the Barwell SUE area and STW within the Earl Shilton SUE area are the major waste infrastructure issues identified. Should the sewage works increase in size in the medium term, the works may require sludge digestion which would present the option for a district heat and power scheme using the gas generated and the potential for food waste collection in the area to be co-digested to increase the gas yield. In addition, there is the potential for the recycling centre to take a larger role in waste management for the community, integrating with the waste management requirements of the employment zones and the maintenance requirements of green infrastructure (e.g. collection of materials for composting).

The Leicester and Leicestershire HMA Authorities Growth Infrastructure Assessment identifies a number of priorities for waste management if the current targets (EU, National and Local) are to be met – the provision of additional recycling and household waste centres and improved infrastructure for collection to meet the needs of new housing. Given that the site currently has a Recycling and Household Waste Centre, the extensions are well placed to manage the initial phases of waste management locally and to phase improvements in infrastructure for collection.

There is the potential for landfill gas associated with the former landfill site off Stapleton Lane (Adjacent to the current Civic Amenity Site) to impact on the development. This will need to be investigated and mitigation measures identified and implemented There is the potential for land loss if e.g. separation distances, trenches etc are required.

**Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems**

- The need to reduce waste produced and increase the proportion of waste recycled and composted.
- Pressure to develop on land that is not brownfield.

## 6.6 BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

## Archaeology

**Baseline Conditions**

The Archaeology Assessment of the Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) revealed a range of recorded archaeological sites within and in the vicinity of the urban extensions.

Whilst the proposed development areas contain no designated scheduled monuments, the earthwork remains of Earl Shilton castle (SM ref.: 17035), owned by the Earls of Leicester and demolished by the late 12th century, and the partial ruins of Elmesthorpe Church (SM ref.: LE96), lie in the immediate vicinity of the Earl Shilton SUE. Scheduled monuments are protected under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Consideration of the implication of development upon the 'setting' of a scheduled monument is a 'material consideration' in the planning process (PPG16, para.18).

The identification of archaeological remains is largely dependent upon confined to those areas where fieldwork has previously been carried out, the HER therefore should not be seen as definitive but does offer an indication of the potential for archaeological remains within the SUE sites.

Earl Shilton SUE: Recent archaeological fieldwork (geophysical survey) undertaken to the north of Mill Lane, has indicated the presence of potential archaeological features including a potential Later Neolithic hengi-form structure (MLE 9772) and a rectilinear feature (MLE17049) of uncertain date. Excavations carried out within the line of Earl Shilton bypass immediately to the east of this site have recorded evidence of an Early Bronze Age barrow cemetery located on the ridge between Thurlaston Lane and Mill Lane, together with later prehistoric land boundaries and evidence of early Roman occupation (MLE 16734). Whilst no other archaeological sites are recorded within the SUE area, other remains are known within the broader landscape and there is the likelihood that as yet unidentified remains are present within the area.

Analysis of the historic landscape character suggests that the area was enclosed in the post-medieval period. Documentary records of the early 17th century refer to the existence of common fields in Earl Shilton parish at this time. An Act of Enclosure dating from 1778, records the reorganisation of the open fields, meadows and 1,500 acres of heath land during the last quarter of the 18th century. Existing field boundaries within the SUE area are likely to date from this period. However, it is likely that they also, in part, reflect the earlier open, strip field system in existence from the medieval period. Further detailed landscape analysis may be appropriate to identify potential historic hedgerows.

Barwell SUE: No known statutorily designated sites are recorded within the development area. However, artefact scatters located on the western fringe of the development area suggests the presence of a substantial later prehistoric or Romano-British settlement site (MLE2822 & 9618). Former earthworks, indicative of a moated platform and associated fish ponds, probably of medieval date, were recorded on the 1st edition 1:10000 Ordnance Survey plans immediately north of the Hinckley Road (MLE2818-2819), but have since been flattened.

Evidence of the former medieval strip fields survive as ridge and furrow earthworks to the south of the SUE, however, historic records indicate the majority of the development area was enclosed from the medieval open field system during the 17th century. Elements of this enclosed landscape survive intact along Stapleton Lane. However, boundary loss and subsequent reorganisation has resulted in substantial erosion of the local historic landscape character, particularly in the north and centre of the SUE. A scatter of former farmsteads, notably in the south of the area bear testament to the era of planned enclosure and high farming during the later 18th and 19th centuries.

**Likely Evolution of Baseline**

Statutorily designated listed and scheduled heritage assets (buildings and monuments, etc) as well as the undesignated archaeological resource within Earl Shilton and Barwell will require continued protection and enhancement to ensure their future preservation, management and where appropriate, archaeological investigation.

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**Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems**

- The need to protect the historic townscape character of Earl Shilton and Barwell;
- The need to protect the historic landscape character of Earl Shilton and Barwell parishes;
- The need to protect and preserve both designated and undesignated historic, cultural and archaeological sites and their settings; and
- The need to protect and preserve the conservation areas that exist within the AAP area.

**6.7 NATURE CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY****Nature Conservation and Ecology****Baseline Conditions***Statutory and Non-Statutory Sites*

There are no statutory sites for nature conservation in Earl Shilton, Barwell or in the local vicinity of the SUEs. There are however a number of locally designated sites nearby which are of nature conservation value to Leicestershire and / or HBB and afforded some protection in Local Development Frameworks. These include:

- Several local Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)/ Wildlife Sites (WS) in and around the urban settlements which are significant to Leicestershire in terms of flora and fauna. The Little Fields Farm Meadow WS associated with the River Tweed watercourse is centrally located within the Barwell SUE area comprising a site of 2.63 hectares. This WS is designated for its habitat quality for its mesotrophic grassland and mixed grassland.
- The Hinckley Area Parkland Restoration Site (Biodiversity Improvement Area, BIA) lies to the south of Barwell and another BIA abuts the north-western fringe of the settlement incorporating much of Barwell Park. This BIA forms the central portion of the Barwell SUE area.
- There is a recreation ground and allotments located within the Barwell SUE area on the eastern boundary which are valuable assets for the settlement. There are also mature hedgerows and trees defining existing field boundaries and the valley corridor.

*Habitats and Species*

Recent studies have shown that Leicestershire is one of the poorest counties for biodiversity within the UK. The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) identifies local and national priority habitats and species present within the area, in which HBB falls. It also sets targets for their conservation and outlines plans for achieving these – Species Action Plans (SAPs) and Habitat Action Plans (HAPs).

Priority species for which SAPs have been prepared include:

- Water Vole;
- Barbastelle Bat;
- Otter;
- Dormouse;
- Pipistrelle Bat; and
- Greater Horseshoe Bat.

A number of other SAPs have been prepared for terrestrial mammals, birds, invertebrates and plants which do not appear on the UK BAP Priority Species list.

Priority Habitats for which HAPs have been prepared include:

- ancient and / or species-rich hedgerows;
- cereal field margins;
- lowland dry acid grassland;
- lowland heathland;
- lowland wood-pasture and parkland;
- mesotrophic lakes;
- reedbeds; and
- wet woodland.

There are also HAPs for a number of other broad and local habitats.

A Biodiversity Assessment has been carried out for the Borough (2009). Of particular note within the assessment are a number of potential semi improved/unimproved grassland areas surrounding the urban areas of Earl Shilton and Barwell. Such areas are considered priority habitats and are relatively uncommon within the Borough, providing varying levels of species within each of them. Occasional small areas of semi-natural woodland are also identified to the west of Barwell. More detailed work undertaken by Taylor Wimpey in respect of the southern part of the SUE areas identifies potential habitats for protected species water voles (stream), bats (mature trees, hedgerows and farm buildings), breeding birds (hedgerows, trees and scrub), reptile (rough grassland), badgers and great crested newts (ponds). Sightings of protected species and birds within and immediately adjacent to the urban and SUE areas include Pipistrelle bats and Green List bird species, being all bird species in the UK not included on the red or amber lists, whose conservation status is largely favourable.

#### **Likely Evolution of Baseline**

Although in general hedgerows and other valuable habitats are declining, the recent trend in European Agricultural Policy (marking a shift away from maximising subsidised food production towards Environmental Stewardship) should have longer term benefits for landscape character and biodiversity. It should arrest the historic erosion of the vegetation framework which was experienced in the latter half of the 20th century. Existing features will be stabilised and gradually enhanced through enhanced environmental management practices, such as protected headlands alongside hedgerows.

Similarly, the BAP will promote continual improvement and expansion of habitats for protected and locally important species. The populations of species for which SAPs have been prepared should stabilise and / or increase as should the habitats for which HAPs have been prepared. The BIA should also improve in terms of biodiversity in the future if recommendations for this designation are followed. However, shifts in climatic patterns pose a threat to sensitive species and the habitats on which they depend which may lead to declines.

#### **Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems**

- Currently very few open and green spaces or areas of wildlife value although in close proximity to the planned Green Infrastructure network. There could be an opportunity to tap into and assist this resource.
- The need to protect and enhance non statutory sites designated for nature conservation.
- The need to create new habitats (including those associated with the BIA).
- The need to protect and enhance habitats and protect species, in particular those listed within the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland BAP.

6.8 LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL AMENITY

Landscape and Visual Amenity

Baseline Conditions

Landscape Character

HBB falls within the Leicestershire Vales Landscape Character Area (LCA 94), which is characterised by clay ridges and valleys with little woodland, the distinctive river valley of Soar and associated floodplains, terraces and the city of Leicester, which dominates much of the landscape but also introduces diversity.

The south-eastern parts of Earl Shilton and Barwell fall within the Hinckley, Barwell and Burbage Fringe Landscape Character Area (LCA) and the north-western parts are in the Stoke Golding Vales LCA (see Figure 6.8.1). Some of the key characteristics of these landscape character areas, drawn from the local Council studies, are summarised in the table below.

Figure 6.8.1 – Landscape Character Plan



Table 6.8.1 – Landscape Character Description

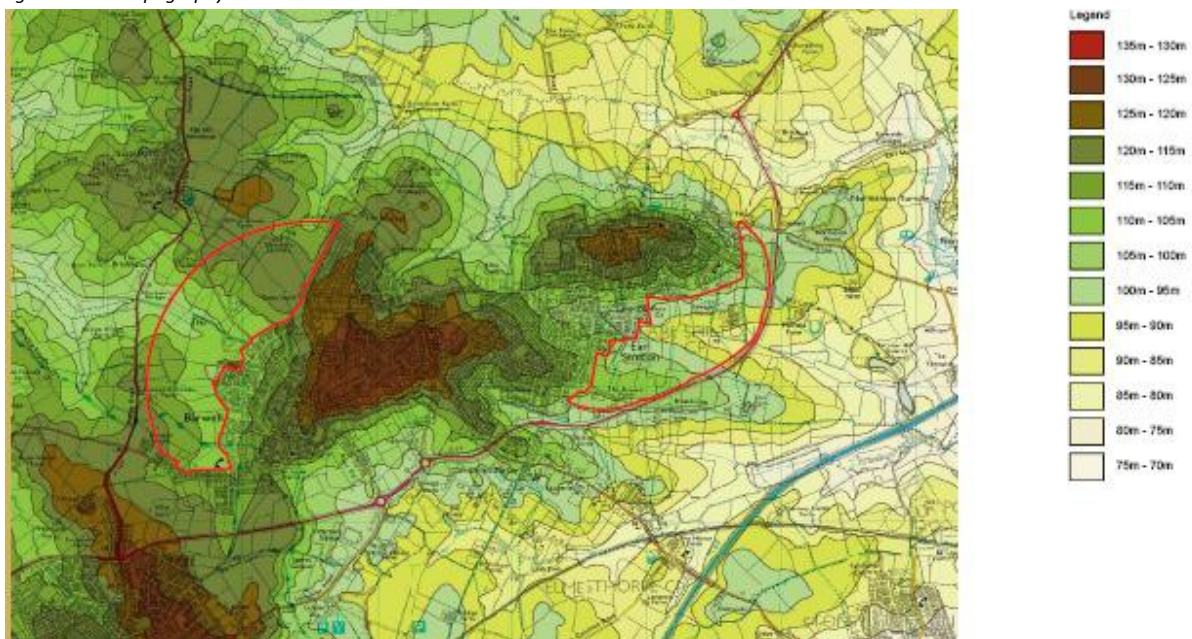
Landscape Area	Character	Key Characteristics
Stoke Golding Vales		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Predominantly fl at landform with only gentle undulations;</li> <li>Mix of arable and pasture frequent individual trees;</li> <li>Small rectilinear field pattern bounded by mixed hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees and small copses;</li> <li>Settlement visually associated with local high points;</li> <li>Bounded to the south by the A5. Otherwise area crossed by a network of small lanes and public footpaths. The Ashby Canal features numerous attractive canal bridges; and</li> <li>Area is semi-enclosed with glimpses of longer views possible but mainly limited by vegetation.</li> </ul>

### Hinckley, Barwell and Burbage Fringe

- Gently rolling land form with some areas of flat land such as Burbage Common;
- Mix of arable and pasture with isolated areas of woodland;
- Increasing industrial use around urban areas;
- Medium sized rectilinear field pattern bounded by mixed hedgerows and few hedgerow trees. Agricultural land provides open areas of separating landscape between Barwell and Hinckley; and
- Landscape heavily influenced by large urban developments on higher ground, with masts and poles prominent.

There are two ridge lines in Earl Shilton that approximately follow the paths of Thurlaston Lane and Breach Lane. The land to the north and south of the Sustainable Urban Extension area is therefore visually exposed. The land then falls gently from the two ridges towards the valley corridor that passes through the centre of the SUE area. In Barwell, the ridge line approximately follows Ashby Road with similarly exposed land to the north west of the Sustainable Urban Extension area. Land then falls gently towards the centre of the SUE area and follows the course of the River Tweed with the valley steepest in the west of the area and levelling out to the east. See Figure 6.8.2 for a topographical plan of the study area.

Figure 6.8.2 – Topography Plan



The areas between Earl Shilton and Barwell and Barwell and Hinckley are locally designated as a 'Green Wedges'. This local designation applies to areas of strategic open land which provides physical separation between settlements, therefore protecting the individual identities of these communities. The Green Wedges are protected from development and improved and enhanced where possible.

#### Townscape

The Hinckley and Bosworth Landscape Character Assessment identifies Earl Shilton's urban characteristics including its ridge top location distinguishing the settlement from the open countryside to the north and its complex matrix of architectural styles, ages and materials throughout. The townscape is of narrow, busy roads and properties fronting onto the streets. There is however, few focal points in terms of public realm and green spaces.

Barwell's key urban characteristics are cited as its elevated landform associated with the Earl Shilton ridge, the open countryside to the south and west which provides the settlement with its unique identity and a complex mix of residential terraces built around older industrial buildings. Again, the streetscape is dense with little coordinated public realm.

#### Likely Evolution of Baseline

The open spaces and areas of high landscape value in the area will likely continue to be protected from development in accordance with the policy context.

**Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems**

- The need to protect and enhance the Landscape Character Area.
- There is a lack of coordinated public realm and green spaces.
- The current urban / rural edge of Barwell is abrupt, especially to the north and southwest. However, expanding into this area will be problematic in terms of maintaining the settlement's distinct identity.
- New developments should have individual character, the style and layout of the streetscene and townscape have been raised in consultation.
- The development areas must not become 'bolt on' additions to the settlements, they should be fully integrated and strengthen the character of the existing separate settlements.
- The settlements need to be aesthetically desirable places to work in.
- Lack of sight lines and casual observation into and out of main parks, making them appear unsafe.
- 'Greening' the centres of the settlements including flowers in public realm.

**6.9 CLIMATE****Climate****Baseline Conditions**

Climate change is one of the greatest global environmental threats. It is likely that it will have significant impacts upon Hinckley and Bosworth borough particularly through increased rainfall intensity resulting in an increase in the number and severity of flooding events. HBBC have produced an Energy Policy and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan which highlights the need to reduce the effects and causes of climate change through reducing emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> within the Borough. HBBC have a commitment to work towards National Indicator (NI) 188 – Planning to Adapt to Climate Change Level 2. As such, climate change adaptation should be included in LDF documents, including the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP, as a key consideration.

Electricity supplies to Earl Shilton and Barwell are fed via a grid sub-station at Enderby. A series of high voltage distribution circuits are laid above and below ground throughout Earl Shilton and Barwell. An overhead 132kV system runs east/west across the Barwell SUE area.

**Likely Evolution of Baseline**

Global average temperatures are predicted to rise by between 1.4 degrees to 5.8 degrees over the course of the 21st Century (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)). For the East Midlands Region this could mean decreased summer precipitation, increases in winter precipitation, and more frequent extreme weather events. Consequently, such climate changes could have a marked effect on the management of wildlife, habitats and land-use, as well as on flood frequency and the management of flooding.

The UKCP09 Medium Emissions scenario study shows that the following changes are predicted for the East Midlands Region by the 2080s:

- An increase in winter mean temperature likely to be between 1.6 - 4.6°C with a central estimate of a 3°C increase;
- An increase in summer mean temperature likely to be between 1.8 – 5.8°C with a central estimate of a 3.5°C increase;
- A change in winter mean precipitation likely to be between 3 – 41% with a central estimate of 18%; and

A change in summer mean precipitation likely to be between -43 – 6% with a central estimate of -20%.

*Biodiversity*

Climate change presents constraints for some species and habitats whilst providing opportunities for others. It is believed that increased daily temperatures and a reduction in summer rainfall across the region may have implications for habitats within both terrestrial and freshwater environments. For freshwater habitats, impacts will depend on hydrology as well as temperature change.

*Land use change*

Alteration of land management practices in response to climate change will inevitably bring about changes in land use. Such changes may alter soil quality and susceptibility to erosion; surface run-off quality and quantity; groundwater recharge; high and low flows; river flooding regimes and extent; riverine and floodplain habitats; and recreational uses of and access to the floodplain/river corridor.

*Flood risk*

The data suggests that the following adverse effects could occur:

- A risk of less water available for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes, this could affect Leicestershire more than other places as the county has a greater reliance on river catchment as the source of the water; and



- A risk of more extensive and frequent flooding.

#### Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems

- The use of sustainable technologies in implementing new developments is considered important.
- The need to manage the causes and impacts of climate change.
- The need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Localised generation of energy.

## 6.10 TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

### Traffic and Transport

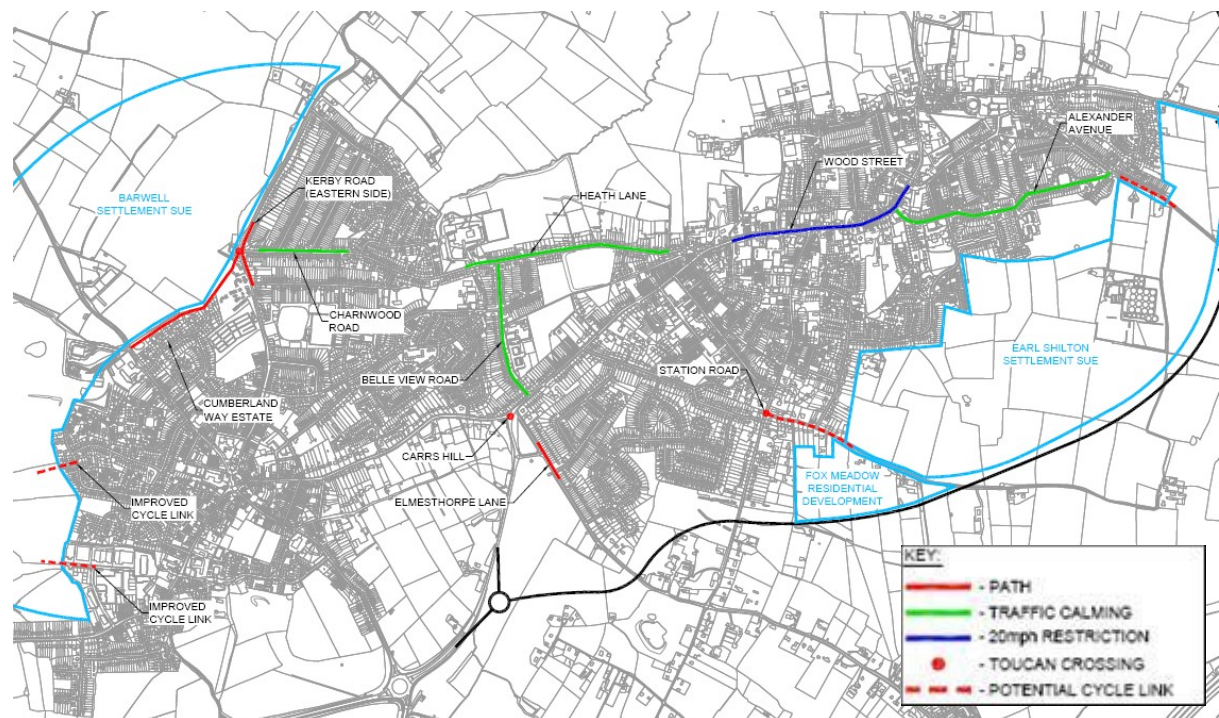
#### Baseline Conditions

##### Access and Circulation

The A47 Earl Shilton Bypass opened in March 2009 and is a 3 mile new route around the settlement, relieving the centre of current traffic nuisance and cutting journey times for drivers using the A47. As a result, Mill Lane, Elmesthorpe Lane, Wilkinson Lane and Breach Lane have all been stopped up. Thurlaston Lane, Mill Lane, Breach Lane and Station Road are the main thoroughfares through the Earl Shilton SUE area, as well as three footpaths and a bridleway connecting parts of Earl Shilton to the wider countryside.

The A447 skirts the Barwell SUE and is of a rural nature. Stapleton Lane, Kirkby Road and Hinckley Road are the main existing thoroughfares through the Barwell SUE area, both connecting to the A447. There are also six footpaths traversing the SUE area connecting the centre of the settlement with the wider countryside, one of which follows the River Tweed. There is a lack of car parking facilities in the centre of the settlement. The figure below depicts the main transport routes in the study area.

Figure 6.10.1 – Road Network



##### Public Transport

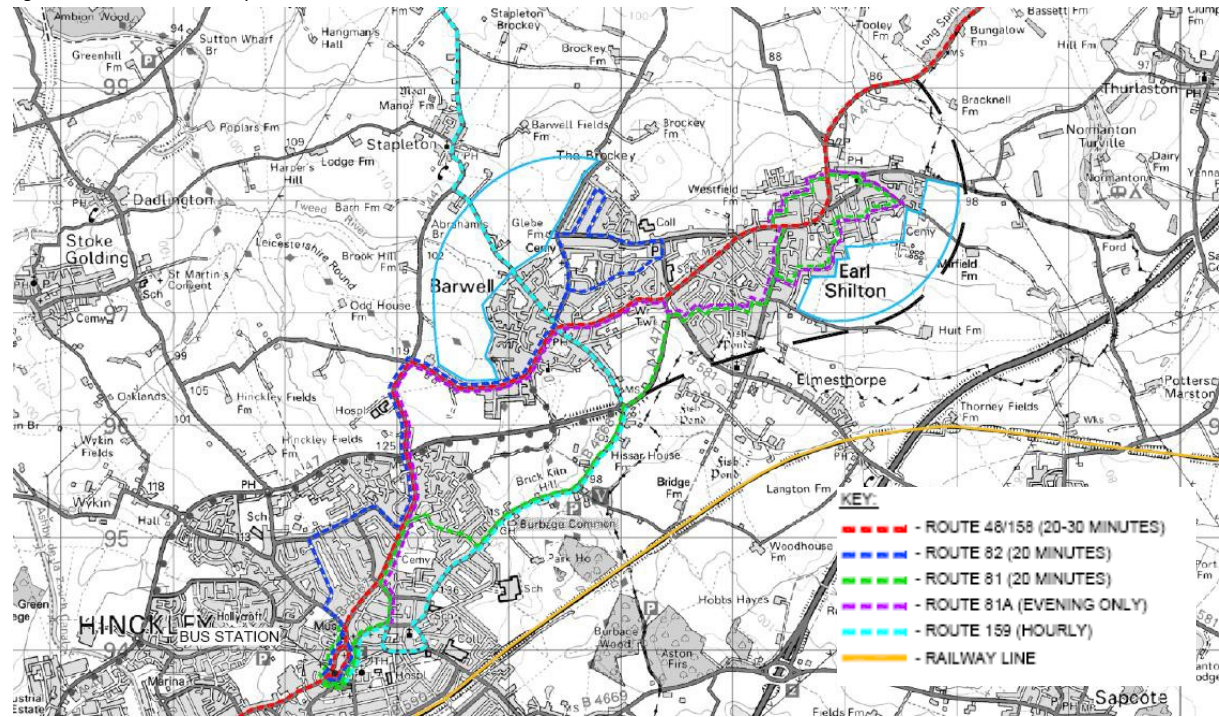
In Earl Shilton and Barwell, approximately 73% of people travel to work by car, van or motorcycle with only 5-6% using public transport. The average distance travelled to work is 11km. Car ownership averages 80% with 26-28% of households owning more than one car.

There are three railway lines passing through the Borough, one of which stops in Hinckley with connections to Nuneaton and Leicester and

five existing bus routes which serve Barwell and Earl Shilton providing connections to Hinckley and Leicester. The figure below depicts the main public transport links in the study area. A number of cycle and pedestrian linkage improvements have been identified by HBC and may be considered as part of the emerging SUE proposals, including:

- Traffic calming on Alexander Avenue in Earl Shilton, and Heath Lane, Belle Vue Road and Charnwood Road in Barwell;
- 20mph zone on Wood Street in Earl Shilton centre would have a 20mph speed restriction;
- Further traffic calming would be provided along The Common; and
- Toucan crossings are to be provided on Kirkby Road at the junction with Charnwood Road, the Carrs Hill/Hinckley Road junction, and the Station Road/Breach Lane junction.

Figure 6.10.2 – Public Transport Network



#### Likely Evolution of Baseline

Increasing populations in the urban areas of HBB and Leicestershire is likely to increase the flow of traffic on the 'A' roads near Earl Shilton and Barwell. Although the bypass is likely to see a reduction in traffic flows and congestion in Earl Shilton, localised problems are likely to remain without more sustainable transportation planning,

#### Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems

A number of traffic and transport related issues have been identified as part of early public consultation on the SUEs. These include:

- Bypass is a positive addition but may result in a loss of economic activity in High Street.
- M69 link road is a high priority for access and economic viability of the settlements.
- Need for improved links to the countryside through accessible footpaths, cycle routes and car parking.
- Parking associated with the school run is a problem, drop off points are needed that are away from the main gates.
- Entrance and exit to Earl Shilton is via a one way single road which is a weakness.
- Need to provide strong links to the industrial sites that will develop on the outskirts of the settlements.
- There is not enough existing car parking provision in the centre, residential areas and outside facilities.
- Local buses are inaccessible to most residents, do not run through the settlement, only run one way around the settlement local routes have not adjusted with the growth of the settlement.
- There is a lack of public transport that links the medical centre to residential areas.
- Some bus stops need to be relocated as they are in dangerous places or not convenient.
- On street parking is a problem creating congestion.
- Barwell has narrow streets and on street parking is not an option.

## 6.11 POPULATION AND QUALITY OF LIFE

**Population and Quality of Life****Baseline Conditions**

At the time of the 2001 Census, the demographics of the settlements of Earl Shilton and Barwell were as summarised in the table below.

Table 6.11.1 – Earl Shilton and Barwell 2001 Census Demographic Summary

	Earl Shilton	Barwell
Population size (approximate)	9,000	8,800
Population density (persons per sq km)	11	10
Population of working age (16-64)	64%	66%
Population aged 65+	17%	13%
Population in 'good' health	67%	68%
Population in 'not good' health	9%	8%
Population with limiting long-term illness	12%	16%
Ethnicity	99% White British	99% White British
Average household size (number of people)	2.4	2.4

*Population and Health*

East Midlands the third most rural region in England, with almost 30 percent of the population living in rural areas. A common feature throughout the region is the high incidence of market towns and the important 'stepping stones' that they provide as service centres for their outlying rural areas and as feeders to the region's larger towns and cities. The region is also characterised by a wide range of contrasting environmental, social and economic conditions.

The figures in the table above show the age structure and health of the populations of Earl Shilton and Barwell to be very close to the regional and national averages at that time. However, the population density is relatively high (compared to a regional density of 2.8 persons per sq km) and the ethnicity is notable by its lack of diversity.

There was also one Gypsy site in Barwell and another in Earl Shilton with estimated population sizes of 45 and 90 respectively.

*Housing*

In the 2001 Census, the mix of residential units in Earl Shilton was approximately 25% detached, 65% semi-detached/terraced and 10% flats with an average household size of 2.4. 15% of these housing units were local authority housing and 77% owner occupied. Similarly, the composition of housing in Barwell was approximately 26% detached, 66% semi-detached/terraced and 8% flats with an average household size of 2.4. Again, approximately 79% were owner occupied and 14% local authority housing.

*Education*

In the 2001 Census, approximately 66% of all people aged 16 to 74 had no formal qualifications and approximately 16% had 2+ A levels or higher qualifications. These figures were low compared to the national average.

*Crime*

Leicestershire Constabulary recorded 5,606 incidents of crime in Hinckley and Bosworth Borough in 2007/08 and 5,398 in 2008/09. Of these, 1,146 and 1,021 respectively occurred in Earl Shilton and Barwell. This level of crime is considered 'average' compared with the rest of Leicestershire. Fear of crime is relatively high.

*Deprivation*

In 2007, HBB ranked 275<sup>th</sup> out of 374 Local Authorities nationally in the Index of Multiple Deprivation (Rank of Average Score). The Index of Multiple Indices considers measures of income, employment, health, education, barriers to housing and services, crime and living environment. In comparison with other districts in Leicestershire, HBB ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> most deprived after North West Leicestershire (195<sup>th</sup>) and Charnwood (262<sup>nd</sup>), but higher than nearby Blaby (293<sup>rd</sup>) and Oadby and Wigston (304<sup>th</sup>). This indicates that the Borough as a whole is less deprived than the majority of other districts or boroughs in England. However, deprivation does vary across HBB and there are pockets of much higher deprivation in certain areas.

Parts of Earl Shilton ward are considered to be the most deprived in HBB with Barwell performing marginally better in the 2007 Indices of Multiple Deprivation. The areas experiencing multiple deprivation have been designated Local Strategic Partnership 'priority



neighbourhoods' with targeted actions to improve areas. These neighbourhoods are located in the north-east corner of Earl Shilton south of Mill Lane and in throughout much of central Barwell.

#### Likely Evolution of Baseline

The increasing population trend is likely to continue within Hinckley and Bosworth Borough, particularly as the homes committed to under the RSS are delivered. Without intervention, it is unlikely that the patterns of deprivation will improve and are likely to worsen as the population grows.

#### Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems

- Safe access to existing recreational and green open spaces is a local concern in the settlements.
- Current child attainment, levels of school provision, poor reputation of secondary schools and the perception of some local schools are concerns and are seen as having a negative effect on schools attracting new pupils. School performance is under the national average and residents and young people have low aspirations. Earl Shilton schools thought to be poorer quality than Hinckley. There are a limited number of pre-school places, particularly since Barwell infant school has reduced its capacity. There is currently no nursery, little access to affordable childcare.
- Drop in centres and health service facilities are required in more deprived areas.
- Drug use and crime have become a major issue in the area.
- Need better connections with Hinckley, particularly public transport in evenings and weekends.
- Both areas have large numbers of residents on low incomes.
- Large number of existing empty properties within Barwell.
- Concerns that Barwell's 'tip' will become the physical centre of the settlement with the sustainable urban extension.
- The use of sustainable technologies in implementing new developments is considered important.
- The current ration of housing types do not reflect the needs of the area, there is reported low occupancy in some recent provision.
- Provision of new housing is perceived as a very low priority although it is recognised that improvements can only be enabled by the development of new housing.
- Current provision of adult education opportunities is poor.
- Houses need to have garages, drives and gardens that cater for family requirements.
- Current building trends produce housing that is built at a high density with little or no garden space, no privacy and a lack of adequate parking spaces. The settlement needs a mix to include bungalows, two bed, semi-detached and large family homes with gardens and parking.
- There is currently a surplus of affordable housing, this could be better allocated. However, affordable and social housing should be built and maintained to a high standard. Social housing should be spread throughout the new development. At present there are social housing blackspots.
- Current health and education service provision will not cope with demand unless it is increased.
- Improvements are needed currently and in the future to raise awareness and support healthy lifestyle options, including increasing activity levels.
- It is essential to achieve integration of the new development areas within the existing community, of which there is currently little awareness and some are disjointed.
- There is a lack of public transport that links the medical centre to residential areas.
- Need to consolidate and centralise facilities.
- Community cohesion between the two populations of Earl Shilton and Barwell is low and community self-esteem is low.
- Elderly residents have accessibility issues.
- A risk that the new development areas will become a commuter belt to other towns and cities.

## 6.12 ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

Economy and Employment		
<b>Baseline Conditions</b>		
<p>In the 2001 Census, approximately 81% of the population of Earl Shilton were considered economically active (aged 16-74). Unemployment then was 3.5%. In Barwell, approximately 75% of the population were considered economically active with an unemployment rate of 2.8%.</p> <p>In the 2001 Census, the main industries of employment in the settlements are as summarised below:</p>		
<i>Table 6.12.1 – Earl Shilton and Barwell Employment by Sector, 2001</i>		
	Earl Shilton	Barwell
Employment in Manufacture	27%	27%
Employment in Construction	8%	7%
Employment in Wholesale and Retail trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles	20%	21%
Employment in Transport, Storage and Communication	8%	8%
Employment in Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	7%	9%
Employment in Education	5%	5%
Employment in Health and Social Work	8%	8%
Employment in Other Industries	17%	15%
<p>The numbers of people employed in Manufacture and Construction are significantly higher than the national and regional average although they are representative of the county average.</p> <p>Current unemployment rates for Earl Shilton and Barwell (as measured by total Job Seekers Allowance claimants in September 2009) stand at 5.7% and 4.5% respectively. These figures are higher than the HBB and national averages (3.2% and 4.2% respectively). In February 2009, the number of benefit claimants (including Job Seekers Allowance) totalled 15.5% in Earl Shilton and 14.3% in Barwell. Although these figures are closer to the national average of 15.7%, they are higher than the HBB average of 11%.</p>		
<b>Likely Evolution of Baseline</b>		
<p>The East Midlands is going through a significant period of change with the rural population growing faster than in any other region (and faster than the regional urban population), which is putting pressures on services and homes, and influencing the picture of employment and trends in the economy.</p> <p>Overall, the rural economy in the East Midlands has performed as well if not better than the urban economy. Both are diversifying from a reliance on manufacturing to a wider employment base, although manufacturing still remains more significant to the rural economy in this region than elsewhere in England the rural economy. The environment of the region is moving in a generally positive direction, however, with increasing numbers of people visiting the countryside and changes to farming, investment in a high quality environment is increasingly important.</p> <p>The current recession is likely to have caused a substantial decline in the level of employment and economic activity in settlements such as Earl Shilton and Barwell. These small communities are unlikely to recover particularly quickly.</p>		
<b>Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Earl Shilton town centre redevelopment is a high local priority and there is concern that the new bypass will divert from the High Street.</li> <li>▪ Supporting local jobs for local people is an issue, the regeneration should create new job.</li> <li>▪ The centres of the settlements require support to maintain viability and variety, particularly in the retail sector, to prevent shoppers and visitors travelling elsewhere.</li> <li>▪ 'Creative Industries' in Hinckley may be a good model to follow.</li> </ul>		

- Training and re-training those people who were employed in former industries is limited and a barrier to getting back into work.
- Young people leaving the area is a problem, need to provide employment and training opportunities.
- There is currently a poor business network – promote business forums.
- The loss of industrial areas has led to large numbers of unemployed people, industry needs to be relocated to the edge of Earl Shilton and Barwell.
- The impacts of the current recession on employment rates and economic activity.

## 6.13 TOURISM AND RECREATION

### Tourism and Recreation

#### Baseline Conditions

Although tourism provides a significant contribution to the economy of the Borough, Barwell and Earl Shilton have limited tourism potential even though the historic buildings and character of the centres, particularly Earl Shilton, do attract some visitors. The retail offering is also limited and there is little entertainment provision to attract visitors to the settlements.

Local residents have voiced concerns over the lack of recreation and entertainment facilities in the settlements, with people having to travel to Hinckley for such services. There are limited open spaces and informal and formal sports and play areas and although the countryside is within close proximity to all residents, access is highly constrained.

Furthermore, the 6Cs Green Infrastructure Strategy (Consultation Draft, Autumn 2009) has identified specific strategic green infrastructure needs for Hinckley, including Earl Shilton and Barwell, as follows:

- Deficiency of sites over 2ha (within 300m of inhabitants) for all of Hinckley, Barwell and Earl Shilton's populations;
- Deficiency of sites over 20ha (within 2km of inhabitants) for populations living in the western part of Hinckley, north Barwell and most of Earl Shilton;
- Deficiency of sites over 100ha (within 5km of inhabitants) for all of Hinckley, Barwell and Earl Shilton's populations;
- Deficiency of sites over 500ha (within 10km of inhabitants) for all of Hinckley, Barwell and Earl Shilton's populations; and
- Deficiency of 1.2 ha in the amount of equipped children's play space.

The Strategy also identifies this area as an Urban Fringe Green Infrastructure Enhancement Zone with the potential to deliver multiple economic, environmental and social benefits related to linking the countryside with services, facilities and transport networks to promote more sustainable living. There is some potential for combined multiple public benefits on the northern edge of Earl Shilton, southern edge of Barwell and on the southern edge of the boundary between the two settlements.

#### Likely Evolution of Baseline

The tourism potential of Earl Shilton and Barwell is unlikely to change over time. However, a wide range of policies and strategies have been implemented to improve the recreation and open space offering in the area which is likely to result in an improvement.

#### Environmental and Sustainability Issues and Problems

- There is a need for more publicly accessible green spaces and recreational spaces within the settlements.
- Safe access to existing provision is a concern.
- Need for improved links to the countryside through accessible footpaths, cycle routes and car parking.
- Provision of play facilities for under 5's close to home is poor.
- Current park regeneration needs to continue.
- Public toilet facilities are required in Earl Shilton.
- Better leisure facilities e.g. swimming pool and football fields are required.

## 6.14 SUMMARY

- 6.14.1 A masterplanning process is ongoing to support the development of the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP. As part of this process, environmental and socio-economic constraints and opportunities have been identified. These have been mapped and can be found in Appendix B.



# 7. Sustainability Appraisal Framework

## 7.1 NEED FOR FRAMEWORK

- 7.1.1 The SA Framework sets out the assessment criteria against which the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP will be considered. A set of environmental, social and economic SA Objectives are outlined and the Development Objectives of the AAP will be appraised against these in the next stage of the SA process.
- 7.1.2 The SA Objectives which comprise the SA Framework are derived from the objectives set at international, national, regional and local levels concerning the economic, social and environmental priorities which should be pursued and implemented by local authorities.
- 7.1.3 The objectives set by Central Government, which can be determined from the information presented in the review of policies, plans and programmes (see Appendix A). These objectives are then reiterated in the strategies produced by regional government which outline an interpretation of Central Government policy and how the policy will be implemented at a regional and local level.
- 7.1.4 In order to monitor the future performance of the AAP, Indicators have been developed together with a set of specific Targets that should be met in order to achieve the SA Objectives. These Targets have been developed with the current trends in Hinckley and Bosworth Borough and the study area in mind.
- 7.1.5 The baseline data presented in this report provides the foundation for prediction and monitoring of social, environmental and economic effects and helps to identify problems and alternatives.
- 7.1.6 The SA Framework for the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP is outlined in Table 7.1 overleaf.

## 7.2 THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK SA OBJECTIVES

- 7.2.1 As this SA will be produced under the umbrella of the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Local Development Framework SA, the following SA Framework is based on the SA for the Hinckley and Bosworth Proposed Submission Core Strategy, October 2008. However, the issues and problems to be addressed have been taken into account in fine-tuning these objectives to fit the scale and vision of the AAP.
- 7.2.2 Hinckley and Bosworth specific objectives have been derived from the East Midlands Integrated Regional Framework (IRF) and other sustainability objectives laid out in plans, policies and programmes relevant to the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP. These objectives have been fully consulted on with the public and statutory and other stakeholders

Table 7.1 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework

SA Objective	Indicator	Target	Sources
To ensure the provision of decent and affordable housing that meets local needs and links into the provision of services.	% homes meeting the decent homes standard	Increase	Audit Commission
	Net additional homes provided (NI 154)	Increase	HBBC
	Number of affordable homes delivered (NI 155)	Increase to 20% per annum	HBBC
To improve health and reduce health inequalities by promoting healthy lifestyles, protecting health and providing access to health services.	Mortality due to circulation disease per 100000 population of those under 75	Reduce	Office of National Statistics
	Mortality due to cancer per 100000 population of those under 75	Reduce	Office of National Statistics
	% population living with limiting long term illness	Reduce	Office of National Statistics
To improve community safety and social cohesion, reduce the fear of crime and reduce anti-social behaviour in Earl Shilton and Barwell.	Crime statistics (violence against a person, burglary, theft of vehicle, instances of shop lifting) per 1000 population	Reduce	Audit Commission
	% residents who have a fear of crime	Reduce	Household Survey
	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police (NI 021)	Reduce	HBBC

To protect and enhance the natural environment (species and habitats) whilst contributing to the achievement of BAP targets.	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (NI 195)	Increase	HBBC
	Civic participation in the local area (NI 003)	Increase	HBBC
	Indices of Multiple Deprivation rank of average score	Reduce	Office of National Statistics
	Number of planning applications involving a BAP habitat being created as a result of new development	Increase	HBBC
	Improved local biodiversity proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented (NI 197)	Increase	HBBC
	Area of BAP Priority habitat in the area	Maintain or increase	Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland BAP
To conserve and enhance the character, diversity and local distinctiveness of Earl Shilton and Barwell.	Area of designated Green Wedge between Earl Shilton and Barwell	Maintain	HBBC
	Qualitative townscape appraisal	Improve	HBBC
	Landscape Character Area results	Maintain or improve	HBBC
To preserve and enhance the character and appearance of archaeological sites, historic buildings, conservation sites, historic parks and other cultural assets in Earl Shilton and Barwell.	Number of watching briefs undertaken for new developments	Increase	HBBC
	Number of Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings at risk	Reduce	Leicestershire County Council
To conserve and enhance the character, diversity and local distinctiveness of the rural landscape in the area.	% new houses built on Greenfield land	Reduce	HBBC
	Landscape Character Assessment results	Maintain or improve	HBBC
	Area of designated Green Wedge between Earl Shilton and Barwell	Maintain	HBBC

To manage water resources prudently, improve water quality and protect homes from surface water flooding.	Length of watercourses falling within Grades A – C in GQA	Increase	Environment Agency
	Area of river basin complying with Water Framework Directive targets	Increase	Environment Agency
	Number of substantiated pollution incidents (water)	Reduce	Environment Agency
	Number of houses affected by surface water flooding events per annum	Reduce	Environment Agency
To minimise energy use and develop renewable energy resources.	Number of new homes achieving Code for Sustainable Homes Levels 5 and 6 per annum	Increase	HBBC
	Installed capacity of renewable energy sources in new development per annum	Increase	HBBC / Leicestershire County Council
	Number of new buildings achieving more than a BREEAM Very Good rating	Increase	HBBC
	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions per capita (NI 186)	Decrease	HBBC
To improve access to education and training for children, young people and adult learners.	% pupils achieving 5 GCSE A* to C grades	Increase	Audit Commission
	% population of working age with no qualifications	Reduce	Sustainable Development Indicators
	% 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training	Reduce	Department for Children, Schools and Families
	Number of adult education services in Earl Shilton and Barwell	Increase	HBBC
To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation whilst providing access to appropriate employment opportunities for the local population.	Unemployment rate: claimant count as % working age populations	Reduce	Nomisweb
	% population economically inactive (NI 152)	Reduce	HBBC
	% apprenticeships	Increase	Department for Children, Schools and Families



To optimise the use of previously developed land, buildings and existing infrastructure.	New business registration rate (NI 171)	Increase	HBBC
	% of land that is derelict	Reduce	DEFRA
To promote and ensure high standards of sustainable design and construction.	Number of new buildings achieving more than a BREEAM Very Good rating	Increase	HBBC
	Number of new homes achieving Code for Sustainable Homes Level 5 and 6 per annum	Increase	HBBC
To minimise waste and to increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials.	Adaptation of Climate Change (NI 188)	Improve	HBBC
	Residual household waste per household (NI 191)	Reduce	HBBC
	% total tonnage of household waste that has been recycled or composted	Increase	Audit Commission
	Amount of commercial and hazardous waste arisings per annum	Reduce	Leicestershire Waste Management Strategy
To improve access to services and facilities, particularly for the rural population, those without a car and for disabled, elderly and deprived people.	Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling (NI 175)	Increase	HBBC
	Number of bus passenger journeys per annum	Increase	Audit Commission
To encourage and develop the use of public transport, cycling and walking.	Length of cycle lanes and footpaths	Increase	Leicestershire County Council
	% new houses within 10 minutes of a bus stop with at least an hourly service	Increase	HBBC
	Children travelling to school mode of transport usually used (NI 198)	Increase in public transport	HBBC



## 8. Next Steps

### 8.1 THE WAY FORWARD

### 8.2 COMMENTING ON THIS REPORT

#### 8.2.1 The consultation on this SA Scoping Report will seek to:

Ensure the SA is adequately comprehensive and robust enough to support the Earl Shilton and Barwell AAP;

Ensure the baseline data is comprehensive;

Ensure the breadth of the SA Objectives is appropriate; and

Ensure the targets and indicators are suitable.

#### 8.2.2 The statutory period for consultation on this Scoping Report is 5 weeks, from the date of invitation. Please send any comments by Friday 15th January 2010 to:

#### 8.2.3 Any comments can be sent to:

Emily Hamilton

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Email: [Emily.hamilton2@capita.co.uk](mailto:Emily.hamilton2@capita.co.uk)

#### 8.2.4 The SA process will continue to offer opportunity for comment and feedback from consultees during the different stages; these will be fed into the process where appropriate and feasible.

#### 8.2.5 When commenting on this document, please use the following questions as a guide to the type and level of information we are requesting:

1. Do you agree with the proposed scope of the SA?
2. Are there any plans or policies implications that you consider important which have not been considered as part of this SA?
3. Are the key existing sustainability issues you are aware of in the area identified?
4. Do the objectives capture the key issues for Earl Shilton and Barwell?
5. Do you know of any other existing targets and indicators that would be useful for inclusion in the SA Framework?



# Appendix A – Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
<b>National Level Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<b>PPG 13: Transport</b>	PPG13's sets out the Government's policies to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic and local level and to promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and freight.	<p>The main aims of PPG13 are to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic &amp; local level to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight;</li> <li>Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling, and</li> <li>Reduce the need to travel, especially by car.</li> </ul> <p>The relevant objectives of PPG13 are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage urban growth to maximise use of public transport and focus generators of travel demand near to public transport interchanges;</li> <li>Increase accessibility by walking and cycling</li> <li>Encourage better transport provision in the countryside;</li> <li>Use parking policies to promote sustainable transport choices and reduce reliance on the car;</li> <li>Ensure that the needs of disabled people are taken into account; and</li> <li>Protect sites and routes which could be critical in</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To create places that connect with each other sustainably;</li> <li>To provide the right conditions (e.g. safety and security) to encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport;</li> <li>To maximise disabled people's access to public transport;</li> <li>To harness new technologies that encourage local employment and reduce the need for travel; and</li> <li>To manage and design traffic which reduces community severance, noise, air pollution and promotes safe travel.</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential challenge maximum levels of parking for new development.</li> </ul>
<b>PPG Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment</b>	PPG15 sets out the Government's policies on the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas, and other elements of the historic environment, and the role of the planning system in their protection. Local planning authorities must take their content into account in preparing their development plans.	<p>The aims of PPG15 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There should be effective protection for all aspects of the historic environment: individual listed buildings, conservation areas, parks and gardens, battlefields or the wider historic landscape;</li> <li>The objective should be to reconcile the need for economic growth with the need to protect the natural and historic environment; and</li> <li>We must ensure that the means are available to identify what is special in the historic environment; to define, through the development plan system its capacity for change; and, when proposals for new development come forward, to assess their impact on</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities to protect and enhance the historic environment; and</li> <li>Opportunities to ensure that conservation policies are co ordinate and integrated with other planning policies affecting the historic environment.</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that new developments are in keeping with the historic environment</li> </ul>

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PPG Note 16: Archeology and Planning	PPG 16 sets out the Secretary of State's policy on archaeological remains on land, and how they should be preserved or recorded both in an urban setting and in the countryside.	<p>the historic environment and give it full weight, alongside other considerations.</p> <p>The main aims of PPG 16 are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a background on the importance of archaeology ; and</li> <li>Provide advice on the handling of archaeological matters in the planning process;</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities to preserve known sites of archaeological interest;</li> <li>Opportunities to encourage pre-application assessments of the archaeological interest of potential development sites to reduce problems later on in the planning process; and</li> <li>Opportunity to encourage funding provisions for local archaeological investigations.</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential conflict between development needs and the desire to preserve features of archaeological</li> </ul>
PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation	PPG 17 guides local authorities on the use of their planning powers to optimise provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities.	<p>The objectives of PPG 17 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting an urban renaissance with local networks of high quality and well managed and maintained open spaces, sports and recreational facilities;</li> <li>Supporting a rural renewal by providing opportunities for recreation and for visitors to play a role in the regeneration of the economies;</li> <li>Promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion;</li> <li>Improving people's sense of health and well being in the place they live; and</li> <li>Promoting more sustainable development - by ensuring that spaces are easily accessible by walking and cycling with intensive uses accessible by public transport.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport;</li> <li>Provide intensive recreational uses in sites where they can contribute to vitality and viability;</li> <li>Avoid any significant loss of amenity to residents, neighbouring uses or biodiversity;</li> <li>Improve the quality of the public realm through good design;</li> <li>Provide areas of open space in commercial and industrial areas;</li> <li>Add to and enhance the range and quality of existing facilities;</li> <li>Consider security and personal safety; and</li> <li>Assess the impact of new facilities on social inclusion</li> </ul>

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<p>PPG24: Planning and Noise</p>	<p>PPG 24 guides local authorities on the use of their planning powers to minimise the adverse impact of noise.</p>	<p>The objectives of PPG24 are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines the considerations to be taken into account in determining planning applications both for noise-sensitive developments and for those activities which generate noise;</li> <li>Explain the concept of noise exposure categories for residential development;</li> <li>Recommend appropriate levels for exposure to different sources of noise; and</li> <li>Advise on the use of conditions to minimise the</li> </ul>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Challenges of safety, accessibility and social inclusion</p> <p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoiding loss of amenity for residents</li> <li>Achieving synergies between insulation for noise and energy efficiency</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Challenges of maintaining residential amenity across the site with the introduction of other categories of</p>
	<p>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development</p>	<p>PPS1 sets out the overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system.</p>	<p>The main aim of PPS1 is to establish that sustainable development is the core principle underpinning planning.</p> <p>The key objectives are that planning should facilitate and promote sustainable and inclusive patterns of urban and rural development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life;</li> <li>Contributing to sustainable economic development;</li> <li>Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities;</li> <li>Ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and</li> <li>Ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, livable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community.</li> </ul>



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<p><b>PPS1: Planning and Climate Change, Supplement to PPS1</b></p>	<p>The supplement to PPS1 sets out the overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system specifically how planning should contribute to reducing emissions and stabilising climate change.</p>	<p>The main objectives of the supplement are to guide planning bodies and authorities in developing spatial strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to the Government’s Climate Change Programme and energy policies</li> <li>Achieve energy efficiency and reduction in emissions;</li> <li>Deliver patterns of developments that secure use of sustainable transport;</li> <li>Secure new development and shape places that minimise vulnerability, and provide resilience, to climate change;</li> <li>Conserve and enhance biodiversity;</li> <li>Enable communities to contribute effectively to tackling climate change; and</li> <li>Respond to the concerns of business and encourage competitiveness and technological innovation in mitigating and adapting to climate change</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To engage the community in climate change adaptation and mitigation planning;</li> <li>To achieve energy efficiency in all new buildings and existing buildings where possible;</li> <li>To maximise accessibility of sustainable transport; and</li> <li>To conserve and enhance biodiversity in existing and new green spaces.</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential challenge to deliver sustainable communities and avoid the negative impacts of development upon social fabric; and</li> <li>Potential challenge to protect the environment and natural resources while making provision for</li> </ul>
<p><b>PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management</b></p>	<p>PPS10 provides decision making principles and guidance on the preparation of regional and local planning documents in the context of producing less waste and using it as a resource where possible.</p>	<p>Regional planning bodies and all planning authorities should, to the extent appropriate to their responsibilities, prepare and deliver planning strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option, but one which must be adequately catered for;</li> <li>Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities to meet the needs of their communities;</li> <li>Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and the environment, and enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations;</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify options for local waste management of appropriate waste streams e.g. organics;</li> <li>To identify opportunities for addressing waste over the life cycle of the site; and</li> <li>To plan for localised waste management through the masterplan design</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify suitable locations for local waste management with available capacity; and</li> <li>To address the needs and concerns of all stakeholders, particularly in regards to the existing</li> </ul>

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PPS22: Renewable Energy	PPS22 sets out the Government's policies for renewable energy, which covers those energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment – from the wind, the fall of water, the movement of the oceans, from the sun and also from biomass.	<p>Reflect the concerns and interests of all stakeholders and encourage competitiveness;</p> <p>Protect green belts but recognise the locational needs of waste management facilities when defining boundaries; and</p> <p>Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management</p> <p>Increased development of renewable energy resources is vital to facilitating the delivery of the Government's commitments on both climate change and renewable energy. The four elements/objectives of the Government's sustainable development strategy are:</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone – by contributing to the nation's energy needs, ensuring all homes are adequately and affordably heated; and providing new sources of energy in remote areas;</p> <p>Effective protection of the environment – by reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases and thereby reducing the potential for the environment to be affected by climate change;</p> <p>Prudent use of natural resources – by reducing the nation's reliance on fossil fuels; and</p> <p>Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment – through the creation of jobs related to renewable energy and new</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>To integrate small scale renewables with local fuel sources e.g. CHP</p> <p>To contribute to climate change adaptation/mitigation and reduction in carbon/GG emissions</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Possible site constraints e.g. wind speeds and availability of fuel sources locally.</p>
PPS25: Planning and Flood Risk	PPS25 sets out Government policy on development and flood risk. Its aims are to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk. Where new development is, exceptionally, necessary in such areas, policy aims to make it safe, without	<p>The main objectives of PPS25 are focused around the headings of appraising risk, managing risk, reducing risk and working in a partnership approach. Key actions identified include:</p> <p>Identifying land at risk and the degree of risk of flooding and preparing Regional Flood Risk Appraisals or Strategic Flood Risk Assessments;</p> <p>Framing policies for the location of development</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>To maximise the use of sustainable urban drainage systems and proposed green infrastructure; and</p> <p>To involve the community in climate change adaptation and mitigation as it relates to flood risk management</p>

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PPS6: Planning for Town Centres	<p>increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall.</p>	<p>which avoid flood risk to people and property where possible, and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change; Safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management Reducing flood risk to and from new development through location, layout and design, Incorporating sustainable drainage systems and maximising the benefits of green infrastructure (SUDS); and <i>Working effectively with stakeholders</i></p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>To address the challenges of existing land uses and drainage systems</p>
	<p>PPG6 sets out the Government’s policy on promoting growth and managing change in town centres with reference to planning considerations and an emphasis on retaining/creating viability and vitality.</p>	<p>PPS6 sets out the Government’s key objective for town centres, which is to promote their vitality and viability by:</p> <p>Planning for the growth and development of existing centres; Promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres; and Encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all.</p> <p>In regards to broader sustainability policy, PPG6 also addresses the following objectives:</p> <p>To improve accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be, accessible and well-served by a choice of means of transport; and To deliver more sustainable patterns of development, ensuring that locations are fully exploited through high-density, mixed-use development and promoting sustainable transport choices, including reducing the</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>To improve accessibility and promoting sustainable travel patterns such as walking, cycling and public transport; and To reduce the need to travel through sustainable patterns of development</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to reconcile sustainable patterns of development and development that is supported by the community and appropriate to the local context.</p>
PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas	<p>PPS7 sets out the Government’s policy in facilitating and promoting sustainable patterns of development and sustainable communities in rural areas.</p>	<p>The Government’s objectives for rural areas that are relevant to this Planning Policy Statement (PPS) are:</p> <p>To raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas through the promotion of thriving, inclusive and sustainable rural communities;</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>To promote sustainable development that enhances and draws on local distinctiveness, including the use of local materials;</p>

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		<p>To promote sustainable development that enhances local distinctiveness and intrinsic qualities of the qualities;</p> <p>To promote sustainable patterns of development which prevent urban sprawl;</p> <p>To discourage the development of ‘greenfield’ land, and, where such land must be used, ensuring it is not used wastefully;</p> <p>To provide appropriate leisure opportunities to enable urban and rural dwellers to enjoy the wider countryside;</p> <p>To develop competitive, diverse and thriving rural enterprise that provides a range of jobs and underpins strong economies; and</p> <p>To promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agriculture sectors where farming achieves high environmental standards, minimising impact on natural resources, and manages valued landscapes</p>	<p>To provide for sustainable patterns of development which consider the existing greenfield wedges; and</p> <p>To add to and enhance the range of formal and informal leisure opportunities.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential conflict between rural and urban land uses and interface.</p>
<p><b>PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservations</b></p>	<p>PPS9 sets out planning policies on protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system.</p>	<p>The Government’s objectives for planning are:</p> <p>To promote sustainable development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development, so that policies and decisions about the development and use of land integrate biodiversity and geological diversity with other considerations;</p> <p>To conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England’s wildlife and geology by sustaining, and where possible improving, the quality and extent of natural habitat and geological and geomorphological sites; the natural physical processes on which they depend; and the populations of naturally occurring species which they support; and</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>To conserve local biodiversity and geological diversity through the masterplan and to inform future development in the AAP; and</p> <p>To identify the opportunities for synergies between leisure and biodiversity objectives</p>

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Securing the Future- UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy	Securing the Future sets out the Government's principles, priorities and commitments for achieving sustainable development across the UK.	<p>by enhancing biodiversity in green spaces and among developments for people and wildlife, recognising their contribution to quality of life and their value in supporting economic diversification.</p> <p>The key objectives of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable Consumption and Production - achieving more with less across the lifecycle and increasing consumer awareness and reducing the inefficient use of resources and boosting business competitiveness;</li> <li>Climate Change and Energy- changing in the way we generate and use energy, and through this addressing climate change;</li> <li>Natural Resource Protection and Environmental Enhancement - understanding of environmental limits, environmental enhancement and achieving a more integrated policy framework; and</li> <li>Sustainable Communities - creating sustainable communities that embody the principles of sustainable development at the local level</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maximise renewable energy use and provision in the area;</li> <li>To involve the community in decision making around sustainable development;</li> <li>To achieve efficient use of resources across the lifecycle; and</li> <li>To encourage less travel by car through sustainable land use patterns</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To address the challenges of existing land uses and drainage systems</li> </ul>
<b>Regional Level Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
Regional Economic Strategy	'A Flourishing Region' for the East Midlands is the third Regional Economic Strategy. It follows the publication of 'Prosperity through People' in 1999 and 'Destination 2010' in 2003, which set the ambition for the East Midlands to become a 'Top 20' region in Europe.	<p>There are three themes in the Regional Economic Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raising productivity – priorities include employment, learning and skills, enterprise and business support, and innovation</li> <li>Ensuring sustainability – priorities include transport and logistics, energy and resources, environmental protection and land and development</li> <li>Achieving quality – priorities include cohesive communities, economic renewal and economic</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help the region to meet these aspirations by delivering against these priorities</li> </ul>

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<p><b>A Water Resources Strategy for the East Midlands (March, 2001)</b></p>	<p>The Environment Agency has developed a suite of National and Regional Water Resources Strategies that will protect the environment while encouraging sustainable development. The strategies look 25 years ahead, considering the needs for water both of the environment and of society, and examining the uncertainties about future water demand and availability. The Strategy is intended to inform plans and documents, including Development Plans at local level.</p>	<p>inclusion</p> <p>The vision for the Strategy is - enough water for all human uses with an improved water environment and the key objectives is to influence the location, timing, and water management of new developments, encouraging social and economic improvements in the region without threatening environmental damage.</p> <p>The Strategy indicates that parts of the East Midlands are among the driest areas of England and Wales (Figure 2) with annual totals in places less than 600 mms on average and that the largest use of water is for public supply.</p> <p>One of the key considerations is that new developments should take account of the present limited surplus of supply availability over water demand in the East Midlands. New development should also consider the provision of a sustainable supply of water at the feasibility or planning stage and incorporate efficiency measures and sustainable drainage systems at the planning stage, this should address:</p> <p>water demand (water efficient devices and rainwater harvesting); water abstraction; treatment and supply; and water disposal (sewerage and sustainable urban drainage systems).</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities for encouraging the use of SUDS; and Opportunities for encouraging water efficiency in new developments.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Addressing the challenges of existing land uses and drainage systems;</p> <p>Potential constraint to development is the limited water availability in the region; and</p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure that development does not have a negative impact upon water quality and the availability of water resources.</p>
<p><b>Towards a Regional Energy Strategy: A Sustainable Approach to Energy in the East Midlands (June, 2003)</b></p>	<p>Sets out how energy issues including climate change are to be dealt within the East Midlands.</p>	<p>Overriding Aims:</p> <p>To eradicate fuel poverty by 2015 and to facilitate minimum energy efficiency improvements by 2010 in the domestic sector by 10%; the office, retail, public sector and other non-industrial sector by 12.5%; and the industrial sector by 20%;</p> <p>To increase substantially the appropriate deployment of renewable energy and coal mine methane systems in the East Midlands;</p> <p>Meet the regional targets for electricity generation</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Promotion of sustainable energy development through the masterplan design and AAP;</p> <p>Opportunities for delivering energy efficient design in new developments;</p> <p>Opportunities for reducing the need to travel, through sustainable land patterns;</p> <p>Opportunities for providing land for CHP plants and other renewable energy sources, wind farms and biomass</p>

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		<p>from renewable sources of 10.6 % by 2010 and 20% by 2020, and also to increase the use of heat pumps, wood heat systems and solar water heating systems; and</p> <p>To use fossil fuels efficiently - by encouraging a switch to generating plant which minimise CO2 emissions, including increasing the capacity of CHP plants in the region by adding over 100 MWe of new CHP plant by 2010, and trebling capacity by 2020.</p> <p>Key Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To foster greater awareness, understanding and appreciation of the need for, and benefits of, a sustainable approach to energy generation, in the context of climate change;</li> <li>To encourage greater community involvement in the planning, design and delivery of sustainable energy projects;</li> <li>To promote sustainable energy development through the land use planning process; and</li> <li>To influence non-land use strategies, plans and programmes in the region to ensure that they integrate the principles of the 'energy hierarchy'; and</li> </ul>	<p>projects</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure that new developments do not significantly increase energy consumption.</p>
<p>English Heritage in the East Midlands 2006-2008</p>	<p>Sets out plans for conserving and promoting the historic environment in the East Midlands.</p>	<p>Urban Regeneration e.g. 'Fund further Heritage Economic Regeneration Schemes (HERS)';</p> <p>Rural Revival e.g. 'Follow up on our Scheduled Monuments at Risk project', 'Play a key role in the Entry Level Agri-Environment Scheme', 'Support the Market Towns Initiative (MTI)';</p> <p>Sustainable Tourism e.g. Stimulate interest in the historic environment and in regional tourism;</p> <p>Investing in the Heritage e.g. 'Protect the archaeology of the Witham and Trent valleys through the</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to encourage future tourism developments which focus on the historic environment;</p> <p>Opportunities to enhance local character through development planning, taking into account historic landscape / urban townscape characterization; and</p> <p>Opportunities to work with English Heritage in production and future development of the AAP.</p>

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<p>East Midlands Biodiversity Strategy (May, 2006)</p>		<p>Managing Change e.g. ‘Effective maintenance and repair of historic buildings’, ‘Better regeneration and enhancement of historic areas’;</p> <p>Learning, Access and Citizenship e.g. ‘Explore means of raising awareness of the potential of scheduled monuments as an educational resource’;</p> <p>Skills and Training e.g. ‘Map regional labour and skills needs following the Foresight Planning protocol of the Department for Education and Skills’; and</p> <p>Working in Partnership e.g. ‘Engage extensively with the major decision-making processes within the East</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Challenge to ensure conservation of the historic environment (including buildings at risk) when planning new developments;</p> <p>Challenge to ensure protection of scheduled monuments and archaeological sites when planning new developments; and</p> <p>Challenge to ensure that new developments do not compromise the historic setting of an area.</p>
	<p>The Regional Biodiversity Strategy identifies the main issues affecting the region’s wildlife and outlines opportunities and activities which will ensure its protection and enhancement, whilst increasing people’s enjoyment and understanding of biodiversity.</p>	<p>The Strategy’s vision is for a region where wild spaces and habitats are part of healthy functioning ecosystems and where biodiversity is a natural consideration of policies and decisions.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>To manage or restore threatened habitats, promote the recovery of rare and vulnerable species and to address the needs of widespread and characteristic wildlife;</p> <p>To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of rivers and wetlands and ensure that water resources are used wisely;</p> <p>To protect and conserve the biodiversity of all woodland types and enhance the remaining urban and post-industrial biodiversity resource through effective planning and close community involvement; and</p> <p>To ensure that the region’s businesses develop in a way that respects the natural environment and become actively involved with the conservation of the region’s biodiversity.</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to manage or restore threatened habitats through the AAP;</p> <p>Opportunities to protect, conserve and enhance habitats and biodiversity through the AAP; and</p> <p>Opportunities for the new developments to incorporate the creation of green infrastructure with provision for its long-term management.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to conserve habitats and biodiversity when planning new developments.</p>



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<p>The place of choice - A cultural strategy for the East Midlands 2006 - 2011</p>	<p>‘Through the Regional Cultural Strategy, the cultural sector can share its priorities, improve what it does, and help raise the cultural aspirations of everyone in the region.’</p>	<p>The vision of the strategy is for the East Midlands to be the place of choice for people to enjoy, create, work, and take part in, culture</p> <p>The Strategy has four key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting cultural opportunities for people and communities;</li> <li>Fulfilling the potential of culture;</li> <li>Getting culture valued in regional policy and planning;</li> <li>Achieving sector sustainability</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Synergies between the Environmental and Cultural Sector in advocacy and open space projects</p>
<p>Sustainable Communities in the East Midlands: Building for the Future (2003)</p>	<p>A regional plan setting out the proposals for building sustainable communities in the East Midlands.</p>	<p>The Strategy’s main aim is to create successful, thriving and inclusive communities in which people want to live and which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are economically prosperous;</li> <li>have decent homes at a price people can afford;</li> <li>safeguard the countryside;</li> <li>enjoy a well-designed, accessible and pleasant living and working environment; and</li> <li>are effectively and fairly governed with a strong sense of community.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>The Strategy identifies regional opportunities for achieving livability, affordable housing and sustainable development</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Addressing the cross-regional challenges such as affordability and safeguarding of the countryside</p>
<p>Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands</p>	<p>This Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) provides a broad development strategy for the East Midlands up to 2021.</p> <p>The Strategy has five themes: Housing; Economy and Regeneration; Natural and Cultural Resources; Regional Transport Strategy; and Monitoring and Review</p>	<p>The aim of the Strategy is to establish a spatial planning framework that will contribute to improving the quality of life for current and future citizens of the East Midlands by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>achieving social inclusion to combat inequality by providing choices and opportunities (including in employment, housing and transport) for all;</li> <li>safeguarding and improving the quality of the regional, and thereby the global environment and prudently using natural resources both within and beyond the region; and</li> <li>creating conditions for economic prosperity and competitiveness.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities to regenerate disadvantaged areas and improve access to jobs, services and facilities;</li> <li>Opportunities to protect / enhance the quality of the environment;</li> <li>Opportunities to improve availability of high quality housing and access to leisure recreation facilities;</li> <li>Opportunities to provide space for employment sites / business parks which could improve economic prosperity, employment opportunities and regional competitiveness.</li> </ul>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
<p>East Midlands Regional Plan Proposed changes July 2008</p>		<p>Relevant objectives of the Strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>addressing social exclusion, through the regeneration of disadvantaged areas;</li> <li>protecting and enhancing the quality of the environment to make them safe and attractive places to live and work;</li> <li>improving the health of the region’s residents, for example through improved air quality,</li> <li>promoting and improving economic prosperity;</li> <li>improving accessibility by developing integrated transport and the opportunities for walking, cycling and the use of high quality public transport;</li> <li>promoting the conservation, enhancement sensitive use and management of the region’s natural and cultural assets;</li> <li>adopting the principle of no net loss of priority habitats;</li> <li>promoting the prudent use of resources that make efficient and effective use of existing infrastructure, optimise waste as a resource, reduce overall energy use and maximise the role of renewable energy generation;</li> <li>taking action to reduce the scale and impact of future climate change;</li> <li>promoting good design in development so as to achieve high environmental standards and optimum</li> </ul>	<p>footpaths and cycle ways;</p> <p>Opportunities to encourage patterns of development which make the most of existing infrastructure; and</p> <p>Opportunities for policies to encourage good design in development.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure the environment is protected while providing land for development;</p> <p>Potential challenge to avoid development in areas at risk of flooding;</p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure that development does not exacerbate problems of social exclusion;</p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure that new developments do not result in loss of priority habitats.</p>
	<p>The proposed changes extend the life of the Regional Spatial for the East Midlands up to 2026.</p>	<p>The Plan has the same aims and objectives but includes additional guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting better design to a reduction in CO2 emissions and provide resilience to climate change;</li> <li>Identifies regional priorities for affordable housing;</li> <li>Regional priorities for waste management including the focus on proposals which result in zero growth in all forms of controlled waste by 2016; and</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities for addressing carbon management through design; and</p> <p>Working with the community to develop adaptation and mitigation strategies for climate change and waste management;</p>

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<p>East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy: Our Sustainable Development Framework</p>		<p>Encouraging the development of sustainable travel patterns by reducing the need to travel by car, improving opportunities for walking and cycling and making better use of existing networks.</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Making better use of existing transport networks and achieving zero growth in all forms of controlled waste by 2016</p>
	<p>The Framework ensures that sustainability policies and strategies are not prepared in isolation but in a compatible and integrated way.</p>	<p>Key objectives of the Framework are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure existing and future housing stock meets the housing needs of all communities in the region;</li> <li>To improve health and reduce health inequalities by promoting healthy lifestyles, protecting health and providing health services;</li> <li>To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy the region’s heritage and participate in cultural and recreational activities;</li> <li>To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime;</li> <li>To promote and support the development and growth of social capital across the communities of the region;</li> <li>To protect, enhance and manage the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the region;</li> <li>To enhance and conserve the environmental quality of the region by increasing the environmental infrastructure;</li> <li>To manage prudently the natural resources of the region including water, air quality, soil and minerals;</li> <li>To minimise energy usage and to develop the region’s renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable resources;</li> <li>To involve people, through changes to lifestyle and at work, in preventing and minimising adverse local, regional and global environmental impacts;</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities for planning new housing developments so that they meet the needs of all communities;</li> <li>Opportunities for the provision of land for new leisure and recreational facilities;</li> <li>Opportunities for reducing crime through design and regeneration;</li> <li>Opportunities for conserving and enhancing the environmental infrastructure and natural resources;</li> <li>Opportunities for promoting sustainable energy usage through design;</li> <li>Opportunities for reducing the need to travel through sustainable land patterns;</li> <li>Opportunities for the promotion of sustainable design and construction;</li> <li>Opportunities for promoting the use of previously developed land and buildings; and</li> <li>Opportunities to protect and improve public footpaths and cycle ways.</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure that new housing developments are appropriate to the needs of local communities; and</p>

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		<p>excellence in learning and skills, giving the region a competitive edge in how we acquire and exploit knowledge;</p> <p>To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation, creating a climate within which entrepreneurs and world-class business can flourish;</p> <p>To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure, including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies;</p> <p>To ensure that the location of development makes efficient use of existing physical infrastructure and helps to reduce the need to travel;</p> <p>To promote and ensure high standards of sustainable design and construction, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings;</p> <p>To minimise waste and to increase the re-use and recycling of waste materials;</p> <p>To improve accessibility to jobs and services by increasing the use of public transport, cycling and walking and reducing traffic growth and congestion.</p>	<p>development.</p>
<p><b>6Cs Growth Point Green Infrastructure Strategy, Consultation Draft Autumn 2009</b></p>	<p>The Strategy's long term vision is to protect, enhance and extend networks of green spaces and natural elements in and around the three cities of Leicester, Nottingham and Derby, connecting with their surrounding towns and villages which include Earl Shilton and Barwell.</p>	<p>The Strategy has identified deficiencies in strategic green infrastructure in Hinckley, including Earl Shilton and Barwell. The aim of the Strategy is to facilitate a major step-change in the scale, quality and connectivity of green infrastructure assets to match the scale of new growth proposed and provide a focus for attracting and retaining sustainable development and investment.</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to contribute to the Strategy's objectives by addressing the deficiencies highlighted in the Hinckley area, including Earl Shilton and Barwell as well as promoting the proposed Greenway network through the settlements.</p>
<p><b>County Level Plans, Policies and Programmes</b></p>			
<p><b>Leicestershire Rural Strategy 2007-2014</b></p>	<p>The vision is that rural Leicestershire will be made up of thriving and inclusive rural communities where:</p> <p>There is access for all to a range of services and facilities and the opportunity to develop both</p>	<p>Empower local communities and parish councils to create and implement solutions that meet their needs, focusing particularly on the young, elderly and deprived;</p> <p>Tackle crime and the causes of crime. and improve</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to improve rural transport;</p> <p>Opportunities to increase the provision of affordable housing in rural areas;</p>

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	<p>existing and new facilities;                      The prosperity and competitiveness of the rural economy is strengthened and poverty tackled; and                      The natural environment is protected and enhanced.</p>	<p>community safety in rural areas;                      Deliver innovative, affordable and accessible opportunities for training, particularly through the provision of ICT training in the workplace and in the community;                      Provide improved opportunities for employment by developing a culture of innovation and enterprise within the rural economy with a focus on the agricultural sector;                      Improve public transport, focusing on improving access to key service centres for groups;                      Maintain and enhance the vitality, viability and environmental quality of market towns and rural centres, focusing particularly on providing services for the wider rural hinterland;                      Develop affordable housing initiatives in market towns, rural centres and villages that meet identified local needs and which link into the provision of other services and facilities;                      Protect and enhance the rural landscape and environment of Leicestershire; and                      Maintain and enhance rural services and facilities and</p>	<p>Ensure that the planning process encourages sustainable business growth, whilst protecting the rural environment</p>
<p>Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2007/2008</p>	<p>The Strategy Housing Market Assessment highlights the extensive housing need within the county, typical of the country, arising from problems of affordability caused by high property prices and housing costs. The assessment has, therefore, informed the development of the Core Strategy policies relating to affordable housing and housing mix.</p>	<p>To make recommendations in terms of the level of affordable housing provision that should be sought, the split between intermediate and socially rented provision, and the types and sizes of housing required to meet the identified need.</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>A relatively high level of affordable housing and socially rented housing should be provided in all new developments</p>

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Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area Employment Land Study (2008)	The Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA) Employment Land Study reviews the existing supply and demand forecasts, estimates the gap between supply and demand, reviews the existing allocations and advises on delivery.	The study aims to establish the regional and local markets for distribution and a local market to meet demand from local businesses. It concludes that in allocating land for employment it is important that markets are provided with sufficient employment land to meet their growing needs.	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>It specially recommends the allocation of 20 to 25 hectares of employment land within the SUE sites, to ensure that there are local employment opportunities for the new residents. It suggests that the development should be zero carbon to meet needs beyond 2019.</p>
Leicestershire Leicester and Rutland Waste Local Plan 1995 - 2006	<p>The Waste Local Plan sets out detailed policies and guidance on waste development in the Plan Area between 1995 and 2006. It provides a greater element of certainty regarding the extent and location of future waste development to both industry and local residents in the Plan Area.</p> <p>The Waste Plan will be superseded by the Development Framework (above).</p>	<p>The main objectives of the plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify existing waste disposal sites with capacity;</li> <li>To calculate waste disposal requirements in the plan area during the plan period for all types of controlled waste;</li> <li>To identify where appropriate the amount and location of waste management facilities required to meet the waste disposal requirements during the plan period;</li> <li>To have regard to the priorities for managing waste set out in the Leicestershire waste disposal (management) plan in the formulation of land-use planning policies;</li> <li>The setting out of criteria against which planning applications for waste management will be assessed;</li> <li>The plan embraces waste minimisation at source and re-use, recycling, composting, and energy recovery from household waste by the process of anaerobic digestion;</li> <li>In combination these elements of the plan will limit the quantity of waste taken to final disposal;</li> <li>Landfill, with energy recovery where appropriate, will remain as the final disposal element which allows the growth of the higher priority objectives of the</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities to encourage the re-use and recycling of materials in new developments.</li> <li>Opportunities to ensure provision of recycling / energy recovery sites.</li> </ul> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to locate waste recovery / disposal sites so that they do not cause environmental / social problems.</p>

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Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020	The Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Leicestershire provides a framework in which new collection, treatment and disposal infrastructure can be developed. It enables the Leicestershire authorities to work together in partnership to achieve common goals and targets and gain benefit from joint working arrangements.	<p>Reduce waste growth;</p> <p>Raise awareness of waste issues and the importance of waste reduction in order to slow the future growth in waste arisings;</p> <p>Meet the Statutory Recycling Targets that all partner authorities to strive to meet their individual performance targets in 2003/04 and 2005/06;</p> <p>Meet the Landfill Directive Targets of diverting waste from landfill by focusing initially on increasing recycling and composting whilst keeping under review alternative treatment technologies that will enable the longer term targets to be met;</p> <p>Ensure the delivery of services to a high standard consistent with the principles of best value whilst considering the best practicable environmental solution;</p> <p>Local sustainability issues will be considered, including opportunities to enhance the local economy and employment and minimise environmental and traffic impacts; and</p> <p>Develop a waste management awareness campaign to support the provision of new services and investment in new facilities and to ensure public involvement at</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunity to encourage provision of recycling ‘bring’ sites.</p> <p>Opportunity to encourage provision of recycling processing and treatment facilities.</p>
Planning for Climate Change (2008)	The Planning for Climate Change report was prepared to provide evidence to underpin the preparing of future planning policy relating to climate change in seven local authority areas including HBBC. The report is divided into three sections: a climate change assessment of Core Strategy Strategic Options, a renewable energy opportunities assessment and quantification, and the provision of energy efficiency recommendations for new developments.	<p>The Climate Change Assessment provides an assessment of the impacts of new development options for each Local Authority Area, in terms of both numbers of homes and non-domestic development against the thematic areas of:</p> <p>Energy use in buildings and associated emissions;</p> <p>Emissions associated with personal transport;</p> <p>Water use;</p> <p>Effect on water runoff;</p> <p>Potential for renewable energy generation and enhanced energy efficiency; and</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities for encouraging the use of SUDS, renewable energy sources, water efficiency measures and sustainable waste management.</p>



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<p><b>Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan</b></p>		<p>Waste generated and associated emissions.</p> <p>The assessment provides quantified results against each of the areas, in terms of tonnes of carbon, cubic metres of water, over a design life of 60 years.</p>	
	<p>Each Local Biodiversity Action Plan works on the basis of partnership to identify local priorities and to determine the contribution they can make to the delivery of the national Species and Habitat Action Plan targets.</p>	<p>Action Plans for the following habitats and species:</p> <p>Heath-grassland;                      Hedgerows; Mature Trees; Calcareous grassland; Neutral grassland; Field margins; Floodplain wetland; Reedbed; Mesotrophic Lakes; Fast-flowing streams; Sphagnum Ponds; Springs and flushes; Field ponds; Rocks and built structures; Wet woodland; Sessile oakwood; Roadside verges; Lowland wood-pasture and parkland; Otter; Dormouse; Water Vole; Bats; Barn Owl; Redstart; Nightingale; Sand Martin; Black Hairstreak Butterfly; White-clawed Crayfish;</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to promote the protection of good examples of priority habitat features.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Challenge to ensure that development can proceed without compromising BAP habitats and areas containing known populations of BAP species.</p>

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<p>Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Landscape and Woodland Strategy (February, 2001)</p>	<p>The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Landscape and Woodland Strategy identifies eighteen distinctive character areas within the two counties and provides guidelines for conserving and enhancing these distinctive landscapes. The LDF should take this strategy into account and use it as guidance for setting policies relating to landscape protection.</p>	<p>Black Poplar; Violet Helleborine; Wood Vetch; and Purple Small-reed.</p> <p>To conserve and enhance the character, diversity and local distinctiveness of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland’s landscapes; To identify appropriate opportunities for new woodland planting to increase the woodland cover of the Strategy area; and To encourage the sustainable management of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland’s existing woodland resources to produce timber and provide environmental and social benefits.</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to maintain and enhance the landscapes in the Borough; and Opportunities to maintain and enhance the woodland resource in the Borough;</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential conflict between protection of landscapes and woodland resources and the planning of new</p>
<p>Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2006 - 2011</p>	<p>The Plan has been prepared to: Set out our vision and longer-term strategy Identify six priorities and related objectives to help deliver the vision Set the initial aspirational targets for each objective; Develop the most cost-effective strategies and measures; Identify a range of performance indicators; Show how the delivery of the measures will also improve other aspects of quality of life in Leicestershire communities.</p>	<p>The aim of the Plan is “to achieve a transport system for Leicestershire which meets our requirements for access and economic development in a way which seeks continuous improvement in sustainability and people’s quality of life”.</p> <p>The key objectives of the Plan are to: Provide the right transport conditions to help economic growth; Improve access to facilities for all; Reduce transport’s impact on the environment; Keep transport safe; and Make sure that our highway assets are properly maintained and renewed for the long-term</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunity to use the land use planning system to influence to need to travel and mode used; Opportunity to influence travel behaviour, particularly for work related travel.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>70-75% of residents currently travel by private vehicle to work</p>

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<p><b>Leicestershire Economic Regeneration Strategy 2003-2012</b></p>	<p>Sets out the vision and priorities for economic regeneration in Leicestershire for the next 10 years. The LDF needs to take account of what these priorities are and how they relate to development planning in the district</p>	<p>Achieving economic growth which can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help to reduce present inequalities between differing parts of our area;</li> <li>Improve the quality of our built and natural environment;</li> <li>Create economic advantage using the sub-region's great diversity;</li> </ul> <p>Want to see a sub-region which promotes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People and Skills;</li> <li>Land and Buildings; and</li> <li>Sustainable Communities.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to encourage the set up of new businesses and enterprises;</li> <li>Opportunity to promote the re-use and revitalisation of derelict and underused land and buildings;</li> <li>Opportunity to regenerate the area and thus improve the image and profile, and reduce the gap between the more deprived and wealthy communities;</li> <li>Opportunity to encourage the development of high quality services;</li> <li>Opportunity to promote high quality, sensitive design in new developments; and</li> <li>Opportunity to improve the quality of the environment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leicestershire Community Strategy</b></p>	<p>The Community Strategy sets out a number of objectives related to improving the quality of life in Leicestershire and outlines actions that can be taken to achieve them. Some of these actions are related to development and will only be implemented in the long term if supported by planning policies.</p>	<p>The members of Leicestershire Local Strategic Partnership are committed to developing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A vibrant and thriving County in which to live, work and play;</li> <li>A County where all have access to quality services; and</li> <li>A County which looks to the future by maximising opportunities for its young people.</li> </ul> <p>The people of Leicestershire want:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A positive image for Leicestershire and the promotion of what is best about the County;</li> <li>A strong economy, with quality job opportunities and skills for the future;</li> <li>A safe, clean and green environment;</li> <li>Thriving market towns and village centres and high quality built areas;</li> <li>Strong communities where people feel that they have a say in their future.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities for improving and maximizing access to services for everyone including disabled people, older people, teenage parents, people who are vulnerable and people who live in deprived areas;</li> <li>Opportunities to provide access to good quality affordable and energy efficient homes helping to ensure a reduction in homelessness;</li> <li>Opportunities to encourage all sections of society to participate in sports, leisure, arts and culture, heritage, the economy, learning and other aspects of life;</li> <li>Opportunities for supporting and developing young people encouraging them to participate fully in society and to maximise the opportunities open to them;</li> </ul>

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<p>Leicestershire Cultural Strategy 2003 – 2008</p>		<p>Agencies to work together to deliver improved and more accessible services and facilities for all;</p> <p>Safe roads, with a strong transport system that enables people to access key services when they want and wherever they are;</p> <p>Communities safe from crime and disorder where people feel safe as individuals - at home and within their own community; and</p> <p>The needs and aspirations of young people to be identified and addressed.</p>	<p>by improving the rights of way network and to make the countryside more interesting and attractive by conserving and enhancing its natural and historic heritage.</p> <p>Potential to contribute to a network of community parks; and</p> <p>Opportunities to provide an environment in which enterprises can start develop.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure that all of the community issues are addressed within the AAP; and</p> <p>Some aims may be hard to achieve, for example, participation in leisure activities</p>
	<p>Leicestershire is a diverse, predominantly rural county, with attractive market towns and other urban centres. The county has established traditions surrounding sport, cuisine, equestrianism and industries such as textiles, coal mining, quarrying and engineering. Libraries, community centres, educational organisations and museums play an important part in the delivery of lifelong learning and capturing the essence of Leicestershire’s rich and diverse heritage. Culturally, more can be achieved through a partnership approach to the provision of activities and the promotion of what Leicestershire has to offer its residents, investors visitors. The Cultural Strategy identifies a range of strategic aims</p>	<p>To ensure culture is seen as an essential component in Local Authority practices;</p> <p>To emphasize the importance of culture as a binding force that develops communities and encourages a sense of citizenship;</p> <p>To build healthy cultural partnerships at local, regional, national and international levels to secure a sustainable cultural future for Leicestershire;</p> <p>To strive for everyone to participate in cultural life of the county and for cultural provision to embrace issues of equality and access;</p> <p>To contribute to a vibrant regional economy based on culture and creativity and to work towards creating vital market towns and local communities;</p> <p>To enable cultural talent to shine; and</p> <p>To engender respect and mutual understanding of global and local communities through culture.</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to develop more community and cultural use of public spaces;</p> <p>Develop accessibility to the widest possible range of cultural opportunities;</p> <p>Seek opportunities for lively local centres through a diverse range of activities that are based on local needs, knowledge and expertise;</p> <p>Conserve, enhance and promote Leicestershire’s unique archive and object based history, landscape, ecology, built heritage and innovative architecture;</p> <p>Involve local people in identifying and preserving and what is special and important;</p> <p>Develop opportunities for local people to benefit from and help conserve the natural environment and green spaces – including playing fields especially around towns;</p> <p>Improve rights of way and access in rural areas for</p>

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<p>Leicestershire Sustainable Communities Strategy 2008</p>	<p>Leicestershire Together is the Local Strategic Partnership for Leicestershire and includes all of the organisations and partnerships that deliver public services in the County. Their aim is to ‘improve the quality of life for the people of Leicestershire and make Leicestershire the best possible place to live and work for everyone.’ The strategy sets out what they want the County to be like in 2026.</p>	<p>The aim of the strategy is - in 2026, Leicestershire will be made up of thriving, sustainable, safe and secure communities and be recognised locally, regionally and nationally, for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The strength of social capital in its towns, villages and suburbs;</li> <li>Its engaged, informed and optimistic people;</li> <li>A strong economy that plays to its strengths including its location, culture, specialist products and services, tourism and environment;</li> <li>Its attractiveness as a place to live and work;</li> <li>Making a full contribution to a sustainable future for the world; and</li> <li>High quality, responsive, efficient and accessible public services.</li> </ul>	<p>Consider ways, and work with others, to address the danger, noise and intrusion of traffic in tranquil areas;</p> <p>Preserve ambience within the built environment, providing spaces for quiet contemplation and for recreation and play; and</p> <p>Support the growth of cultural businesses in the area</p> <p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunity to link with the broader regional objectives around social capital and sustainability through community engagement and stakeholder workshops over the development of the master plan and AAP</p>
<p>Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Structure Plan 1996 - 2016</p>	<p>The Structure Plan sets out the proposed strategic framework for the use and development of land in Leicestershire and Rutland and looks forward to 2016</p>	<p>The vision for Leicestershire, Leicester City and Rutland is to create a vibrant and attractive area with a rich cultural and natural environment, enabling residents to enjoy environmental, social and economic well-being.</p> <p>Overall Strategic Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximising people's ability and equity in accessing facilities, services, opportunities and resources;</li> <li>Ensuring the provision of appropriate housing and jobs to meet the needs of the plan area;</li> <li>Ensuring that development is of a high quality design and where appropriate, contributes toward encouraging a sense of community;</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to improve access to services and facilities;</p> <p>Opportunities to ensure provision of housing and jobs to meet needs;</p> <p>Opportunities to ensure that development is of a high quality;</p> <p>Opportunities to encourage development that will benefit the community;</p> <p>Opportunities to protect and enhance the built and natural environment and environmental resources; and</p>

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		<p>features and assets of the natural and built environment;</p> <p>Ensuring that replaceable features of the natural and built environment are identified, and replaced if lost through development, or increased where there is a deficiency;</p> <p>Managing and enhancing the quality of the air, water and land environment, and other resources upon which people depend for basic needs or raw materials to improve their quality of life; and</p> <p>Integrating land uses and transportation provision to reduce the need to travel and the dependency on the private car.</p>	<p>dependency upon the private car.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure protection of the built and natural environment while planning new developments;</p> <p>Potential challenge to ensure protection of natural resources while planning new developments; and</p> <p>Potential challenge to reduce the need to travel and the use of the private car while planning new developments.</p>
<b>Local Level Plans, Policies and Programmes</b>			
<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Proposed Submission Core Strategy (2008)</p>	<p>The Core Strategy sets out the general spatial vision and objectives for the delivery of Hinckley and Bosworth's Local Development Framework. The document outlines the broad locations proposed for housing development, together with other strategic needs such as employment, retail and transport development. The Core Strategy will also draw on those national and regional strategies that have implications for the future of the borough, most notably the effect of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RRS8). The Core Strategy is the principal development plan document for the borough and all other documents within the LDF must conform to it.</p>	<p>Policy 2 of the HBCS specifically relates to development in Earl Shilton and seeks to provide 2000 environmentally sustainable homes, 10ha of employment, supporting community facilities and green space within the area of land allocated for this mixed use SUE. A central element of the development will be a new 'community hub', with community services centred around a new primary school and children's centre, also providing neighbourhood shops, GPs and Neighbourhood Policing.</p> <p>In the same way, Policy 3 relates to development in Barwell, identifying core development criteria for the Barwell mixed use SUE. Specifically this includes the development of 2500 new homes and 15ha of employment, with further provision for the same 'hub' of community services and facilities as identified above for Earl Shilton.</p> <p>Policy 5 requires specific transport infrastructure to be implemented to support development of the SUEs (as identified in the Infrastructure Plan at Section 5) to include bus, cycle, pedestrian and local traffic links to the existing urban areas, new and/or improved public transport</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Critically any development must meet the aspirations of HBBC as articulated in the Core Strategy, which sets out the vision and spatial objectives for future development in the Borough;</p> <p>The Core Strategy identifies Barwell and Earl Shilton as local urban centres that focus on providing services and facilities for their local populations; and</p> <p>Within both urban areas are pockets of significant deprivation and as such they have been identified as areas in need of physical and economic rejuvenation, with a strong focus on community development.</p> <p>Development via the two mixed-use SUEs is therefore intended to support this objective and prompt the overall regeneration of the two areas.</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
		<p>linkages between the SUEs and Hinckley town centre, HNPR employment areas and railway station, and traffic calming measures. The Council will investigate the potential of providing a link between the Earl Shilton bypass and M69 through the development of the Earl Shilton and Barwell SUEs.</p> <p>Within the Hinckley/Barwell/Earl Shilton Green Wedge, Policy 6 encourages uses that provide appropriate recreational facilities within easy reach of urban residents. Acceptable uses include agriculture (including allotments/horticulture), outdoor recreation, forestry, footpaths, bridleways and cycleways, burial grounds and nature conservation. Any such use should retain the open and undeveloped character of the Green Wedge, retain/create green networks and public access, as well as retain the visual appearance of the area.</p> <p>Policy 15 seeks to secure (by negotiation) a target of 40% affordable housing units within all urban developments of 15+ dwellings or 0.5ha, with a tenure split of 75% social rented and 25% intermediate housing. The policy specifies a mix of dwelling types for both general needs and the elderly, but may be negotiated on a site by site basis.</p> <p>In accordance with Policy 16, all housing developments of 10+ dwellings must provide an appropriate mix of housing that is informed by the most up to date Housing Market Assessment, housing needs survey or parish plan, and meet a 'very good' rating against the Building for Life criteria (or demonstrate that it is not possible on the particular site).</p> <p>To ensure all residents have access to sufficient, high quality, accessible green spaces and play areas, Policy 19 sets out the criteria for the minimum amount of space to be provided per 1000 population (or on a pro rata approach) as follows: Equipped Children's Play Space = 0.15 ha (excluding buffer zones); Casual/Informal Play Space = 0.7 ha; Outdoor Sports Provision = 1.6 ha; and Accessible Natural Green Space = 2 ha.</p>	

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
		<p>Accessibility to these spaces is also defined under Policy 19 as follows: <i>District Parks and Green Spaces: all households should be within 5km of an open space of at least 10ha which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting; Neighbourhood Parks and Green Spaces: all households should be within 600m of an open space of between 1ha and 10ha which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting; Local Parks and Green Space: all households should be within 400m of an open space of between 0.2 and 1ha which provide facilities for recreation within a localised area, catering for the specific informal needs of the local community; and Incidental/Amenity Green Space: all households should be within 300m of a small formal or informal area of open space.</i></p> <p>Policy 20 seeks to ensure the delivery of the Green Infrastructure Network through a series of key strategic interventions. These include: protection of strategic footpath routes; retention of River Tweed corridor as an open watercourse and strategic route for recreation; maintaining access between Barwell and the open countryside; maximising the environmental/landscape benefits of the Green Wedge that separates Hinckley and Barwell, and maximising its recreational offer to residents; protection of existing access to Burbage Common and provision of a recreational corridor to the Common and beyond; ensure retention of suitable crossing points over the Earl Shilton bypass; and address deficit of open space provision in Earl Shilton.</p> <p>Under the terms of Policy 24, all residential developments must meet minimum Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 (to 2010), Level 4 (2010-2013), Level 5 (2013-2016) and Level 6 from 2016 onwards.</p>	



Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Priority Neighbourhood Profile Barwell May 2007</p>	<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership launched its Neighbourhood Management and Stronger Communities Partnership in June 2007.</p> <p>The project involves working in six priority areas of the borough with specific needs, based on the Government's 'Indices of Deprivation' and other evidence.</p>	<p>The is a baseline report which reviews the information available about the Barwell area as a starting point to help those residents, community representatives and service providers who will be discussing how the area and local services can be improved.</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>The most popular mode of transport used to get to work by both resident and workplace populations is private car or van (74% and 60% respectively)</p>
<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Priority Neighbourhood Profile Earl Shilton May 2007</p>	<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership launched its Neighbourhood Management and Stronger Communities Partnership in June 2007.</p> <p>The project involves working in six priority areas of the borough with specific needs, based on the Government's 'Indices of Deprivation' and other evidence.</p>	<p>The is a baseline report which reviews the information available about the Earl Shilton area as a starting point to help those residents, community representatives and service providers who will be discussing how the area and local services can be improved.</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>The most popular mode of transport used to get to work by both resident and workplace populations is private car or van (71% and 56% respectively); and Earl Shilton ward has the second largest net outflow of persons travelling to work in the Borough (2,334 persons) which is attributable to its rural locality</p>
<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Cultural Strategy 2007-1012 and Cultural Facilities Action Plan 2008-2013</p>	<p>Prepared by HBBC, the Cultural Strategy and Action Plan sets out the Council's vision for the provision of cultural services, particularly in light of the provision of the Community Strategies highlighted above, the Local Development Framework and Green Space Strategy.</p>	<p>Ensure that new development includes appropriate open space and associated community infrastructure provision, seeking to address the needs of those areas that are currently suffering from limited provision;</p> <p>Improved provision of equipped play areas and multi-use games areas, and protection and enhancement of outdoor sports facilities; and</p> <p>Protect and improve parks, open space and countryside areas</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>The AAP can ensure that the SUEs include open space and community infrastructure in accordance with this strategy</p>
<p>Hinckley And Bosworth Green Space Strategy (2005-2010) and Quality, Quantity And Accessibility Audit (several)</p>	<p>The Hinckley and Bosworth Green Space Strategy (and the accompanying Quality, Quantity and Accessibility Audit) sets out the Council's vision for green space provision, including parks and public gardens, natural green spaces and corridors, outdoors sports facilities, children and youth play areas, allotments, community gardens, cemeteries and burial grounds. It identifies local needs, audits local provision, sets provision standards (in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility) and applies those</p>	<p>The Strategy sets out a series of long term aims which are direct relevance to the Masterplans and AAP, including the following:</p> <p>Provide safe, clean and interesting play areas no more than 600m or a 15 minute walk from every child's home;</p> <p>Address the needs of young people by developing a variety of outdoor leisure facilities and crime diversion activities specifically for teenagers;</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>The AAP can ensure that the SUEs include green open space and informal and formal sports and play facilities in accordance with this strategy</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Draft Play Strategy (2007)	<p>standards to determine where deficits and surpluses exist.</p> <p>The Strategy provides an action plan to improve play provision.</p>	<p>in sport and physical recreation by ensuring the availability of high quality sports pitches and ancillary facilities; and</p> <p>Manage and maintain green space to ensure the sustainability and diversity of wildlife habitats.</p> <p>To improve play provision throughout the Borough, including in new developments.</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>This Strategy highlights that there is a deficiency of both equipped play space and informal play space in Earl Shilton, but identifies a small supply of equipped play space and a more significant surplus of informal play space in Barwell. Earl Shilton is, therefore, identified as the highest priority settlements for action to improve both children and teenage provision (of which there is none). The SUEs have the potential to improve this situation.</p>
Hinckley and Bosworth Economic Regeneration Strategy 2008-2012	The Hinckley & Bosworth Economic Regeneration Strategy establishes key economic objectives for the anticipated employment development elements at Earl Shilton and Barwell.	Of particular relevance to the AAP are the intention to develop an effective portfolio of sites and premises, to meet the demands of existing and new business, increase the vitality and viability of the urban centres, and address the identified structural weaknesses in the local economy by creating local well paid jobs.	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>The AAP has the potential to deliver these aspirations and demands through the SUEs.</p>
Hinckley and Bosworth Employment Land and Premises Study (2004) and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Retail Capacity Study (2007)	<p>The Employment Land and Premises Study assessed whether existing employment sites needed to be retained or whether alternative uses could be allowed. The existing portfolio of employment sites in the District was reviewed.</p> <p>The Retail Capacity Study focuses on Hinckley Town Centre, performing a health check and considering its future role.</p>	To plan for a sustainable economy in the future.	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>The study recommends the retention of the significant existing employment sites in Earl Shilton and Barwell, most notably the large Mill Road site in Barwell immediately adjacent to the urban extension site.</p> <p>It also suggests that redevelopment of some of the smaller (predominately individual) premises close to the settlement centres might be acceptable.</p> <p>It is intended that the proposed development in Earl Shilton and Barwell supports the further development of Hinckley Town Centre, but the future role of their</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Green Infrastructure Strategy (2008)</p>	<p>The Green Infrastructure Strategy examines existing green infrastructure resources and assets, and identifies key issues that could affect its provision, protection or delivery within the Borough. An assessment was undertaken to identify where green infrastructure could deliver the greatest public benefit, and from that a Borough-wide strategic green infrastructure plan was developed to provide an overall spatial framework. This framework included the definition of green infrastructure zones, which address the particular needs, characteristics and functions of three distinct areas of the Borough in detail.</p>	<p>Earl Shilton and Barwell are included in the Southern Zone, where it is suggested that the need for green space is higher, both to serve the recreation needs of residents and to combat climate change most notably felt in the urban areas. With specific reference to the urban extensions, the strategy states <i>“the protection and provision of access and green space will have quality of life implications for these new communities and in an area where there is currently a shortfall.”</i></p>	<p>own centres is not considered.</p> <p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>In respect of Barwell, the Strategy highlights that the issues to be addressed in the planning of the development are the strategic footpath routes, watercourses and floodplain, and lack of public accessible green space.</p> <p>In terms of major interventions, it refers to the retention of the River Tweed corridor as an open watercourse that may become a strategic route for recreation from Barwell to the open countryside and to the creation of a larger green space between Hinckley and Barwell to improve the recreational offer;</p> <p>In respect of Earl Shilton, the Strategy highlights that the key issues that need to be addressed in the planning of the development is the protection and provision of appropriate recreational routes, within and beyond the development, notably to Burbage Common. It recognises that the bypass may present a perceived barrier to that, but advocates the use of creative landscaping and suitable crossing points to retain visual and physical connections; and</p> <p>The Strategy also refers to the deficiency in open space provision in Earl Shilton and Barwell that development could help to address through <i>developer contributions</i>.</p>
<p>Hinckley and Bosworth Landscape Character Assessment (2006)</p>	<p>HBBC’s Landscape Character Assessment defines areas with consistent and distinctive characteristics resulting from the interaction of geology landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement.</p>	<p>To preserve and enhance the landscape character of the Borough and highlight areas sensitive to visual impact.</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>To deliver the SUEs within the constraints of the landscape, in particular to protect the character of visually sensitive areas.</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
Hinckley and Bosworth Biodiversity Assessment (2009)	<p>HBBC's Biodiversity Assessment Final Report outlines their nature conservation and biodiversity requirements against which potential new or re-development will be assessed and, as such, forms an integral part of the LDF process. The document describes all habitats and species found across the Borough, as identified through a mix of desk-based research and field study and indicated on a series of GIS maps.</p>	<p>To provide an inventory of the existing biodiversity and nature conservation value within the Borough and set out requirements for new developments.</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Of particular note within the assessment are a number of potential semi improved/unimproved grassland areas surrounding the urban areas of Earl Shilton and Barwell. Such areas are considered priority habitats and are relatively uncommon within the Borough, providing varying levels of species within each of them. Occasional small areas of semi-natural woodland are also identified to the west of Barwell; and</p> <p>Sightings of protected species and birds within and immediately adjacent to the urban and SUE areas include Pipistrelle bats and Green List bird species, being all bird species in the UK not included on the red or amber lists, whose conservation status is largely favourable.</p>
Hinckley and Bosworth, Blaby and Oadby and Wigston Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2007)	<p>A joint Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been carried out for Hinckley &amp; Bosworth Borough, Blaby District and Oadby &amp; Wigston Borough Councils, the Final Report of which was issued in November 2007 (Version 2).</p>	<p>The SFRA identifies those areas within the Borough that are subject to risk of flood and used as a planning tool to assist in directing development to the most sustainable locations away from high risk areas, or, where this is unavoidable, identifying the necessary procedure to be followed for site specific Flood Risk Assessments (FRA), when considering additional sites for development for specific uses.</p>	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>Within the Joint SFRA, Earl Shilton SUE is identified as Area 6 and Barwell SUE as Area 8. Only those areas of land falling within Flood Zones 2 and 3 are specifically identified within the SFRA and, as such, only Area 8 (Barwell) encompasses a small area of land categorised as Flood Zone 3. This specifically relates to land subject to fluvial flooding from the Tweed River. All development within this area will require a site specific FRA to assess surface water run-off and potential impact on flash flooding currently occurring on land adjacent to the River.</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
Hinckley Core Strategy Transport Review (2007)	This study examines the assessment of highways and transportation implications of the development of the proposed urban extensions in Earl Shilton and Barwell, considering how their impact can be mitigated through public transport and encouraging walking and cycling. It builds on the earlier work undertaken by the County Council (Further Assessment of Highways and Transportation Implications of Sustainable Urban Extensions at Selected Broad Locations in Leicestershire).	To inform the LDF to ensure the vision for the Borough can be accommodated in transport terms.	<p><i>Constraints/Challenges</i></p> <p>The assessment and the earlier assessment work undertaken by LCC conclude that the proposed development can be accommodated in transport terms, but require a package of measures to mitigate the impact of the proposed development.</p>
Hinckley Area Cycling Network Plan (1999)	The Cycle Network Plan covers Hinckley, Burbage, Earl Shilton and Barwell and focuses upon safe cycle routes to schools, radial routes leading into and linking the settlement centres, cycle routes to employment, residential and community areas and public transport interchanges, and links to the countryside.	The Cycle Network Plan aims to secure the provision and promotion of cycling infrastructure.	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Notably the Plan includes a series of improvements to routes to Earl Shilton Community College and Heathfield High School, and the radial routes to Hinckley town centre, and the introduction of a 20mph zone in the centre of Barwell.</p>
Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2011 and associated Communication Strategy	Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership has been working since 1998 to reduce crime and disorder and make the Borough of Hinckley and Bosworth a safe and secure place to live, work and visit.	<p>The Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership has identified the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and the fear of such including criminal damage and arson;</li> <li>Reducing Violent Crime including Domestic Violence and Hate Crime;</li> <li>Reducing the harm caused by Substance misuse (drugs and alcohol);</li> <li>Reducing Crime and Disorder in the priority area of Earl Shilton and Barwell;</li> <li>Reducing crime and disorder in Hinckley Town Centre especially that related to the night time economy; and</li> <li>Engaging with the County Road Safety partnership to improve road safety in the borough especially where our communities complain of anti-social behaviour caused by speeding and illegal parking</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>To contribute to achieving these priorities, in particular by reducing crime and disorder in the priority area of Earl Shilton and Barwell.</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
Hinckley and Bosworth Home Energy Conservation Strategy	Sets out work to be undertaken to improve the energy efficiency of the borough’s housing stock. Needs to be considered as part of the LDF, especially in the Housing DPD.	<p>To pursue effective energy management in the Borough Council’s own housing stock;</p> <p>To improve and modernise the Borough Council’s housing stock;</p> <p>To encourage and improve tenant participation at all levels;</p> <p>To promote energy efficiency within the private sector, and to incorporate energy efficiency as an important component of the Council’s overall housing strategy; and</p> <p>To continue to support the Care and Repair Agency, to deal with elderly clients, and to investigate the</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to encourage new housing developments which are energy efficient.</p>
HBBC Community Plan 2007-2012 including the Earl Shilton and Barwell Neighbourhood Action Plans (2008/2009)	<p>The purpose of the Community Plan is to achieve tangible improvements in the quality of life for people in the Borough today, and also to build the foundations for continued improvement in the future. It sets priorities for improvements over a five-year period, but puts these in the context of a longer term vision for what the Borough could be like in 2026. The Plan has been prepared by the Local Strategy Partnership.</p> <p>The Earl Shilton Neighbourhood Profile provides a picture of the socio-economic make up of the neighbourhood monitoring area that lies to the north of the SUE site. It highlights pockets of high deprivation relating to education, skills and training, crime and employment. Specific issues flagged include access to community services and amenities, notably secondary and higher education, a high crime rate, unhealthy lifestyles and a low average household income. The Earl Shilton Neighbourhood Action Plan refers to five key priorities that include “a cleaner and greener Earl</p>	<p>The priorities and themes of the Plan are:</p> <p><b>Thriving Communities</b></p> <p>Strengthening communities – through support for community activity, volunteering and learning. Increasing the positive role of, and opportunities for, young people and older people in their communities;</p> <p>Improving the provision and use of community and cultural facilities; and</p> <p>Reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime – and improving confidence in the Police and criminal justice system.</p> <p><b>A vibrant Economy</b></p> <p>Revitalising town and village centres. Developing the role of selected ‘growth sectors’ – through tailored programmes of support; Better access to services; Improving physical access to services and reducing congestion; and Improving electronic access to services.</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities for improving accessibility and achieving health objectives through increased walking and cycling;</p> <p>Opportunities for linking green infrastructure objectives, environment and urban character objectives.</p> <p><i>Challenges/Constraints</i></p> <p>Diminishing space for landfill of waste</p> <p>The Masterplans and AAP for Earl Shilton and Barwell have a critical role to play in these respects. There is a wealth of information available and the development of Priority Neighbourhood Profiles by Leicestershire County Council (LCC) and the LSP, and Neighbourhood Action Plans by the LSP provide a detailed understanding of the settlements and a clear focus on the specific issues that development in Earl Shilton and Barwell should aim to address.</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
	<p>Shilton”, and seeks the enhancements of existing green spaces in the community.</p> <p>The Barwell Neighbourhood Profile’s picture of the socio-economic make up of the neighbourhood monitoring area, to the east of the urban extension site, again highlights pockets of high deprivation, but relating to income, education, skills and training, employment and health. Specific issues flagged include access to community services and amenities (notably health facilities), higher education, public convenience services and certain sports facilities, a high crime rate, unhealthy lifestyles and a low average household income. The Barwell Neighbourhood Action Plan refers to six key priorities, one of which is “Environmental and Housing” and seeks community involvements in the environmental enhancement of the existing urban area and green spaces.</p>	<p>Improved Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preventing ill health by increasing participation in healthier lifestyles and through support for individuals – targeting communities with poorest health; and</li> <li>Improving sexual health and reducing teenage pregnancy.</li> </ul> <p>A high quality environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieving a cleaner Borough, targeting: litter, dog fouling, fly tipping and graffiti;</li> <li>Protecting and enhancing wildlife, heritage and rural and urban character;</li> <li>More efficient use of resources: and</li> <li>Reducing waste going to landfill.</li> </ul> <p>Housing for everyone’s needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secure decent, well-managed and affordable housing across the Borough – increasing its availability to meet expected needs.</li> </ul>	
<p>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth Crime, Disorder and Drug Strategy (2001-2007)</p>	<p>This strategy highlights the areas of concern which relate to crime and disorder issues. The LDF will have to take these into account</p>	<p>There are five Key Strategic Objectives and these are further subdivided into component features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hate Crimes – e.g. actively work toward and promote a racially just and fair society;</li> <li>National Priorities – Vehicle crime, burglary from homes and burglary other, re-offending and robbery and violent crime- e.g. reduce the number of robberies and violent crimes across the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough;</li> <li>Neighbourhood Nuisance – Antisocial behaviour, youth issues and criminal damage and vandalism- e.g. improving the range and accessibility of leisure facilities for young people;</li> <li>Specific Geographic Locations – Earl Shilton, Town Centre and Road Safety e.g. to make the town centre</li> </ul>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>There are opportunities for the AAP to incorporate crime prevention and reduction measures into the SUE developments and wider AAP area.</p>

Plan, policy or programme	Description	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevant Opportunities/Synergies and Constraints/Challenges
Climate Change Strategy 2008 – 2011	A strategy for HBBC to prepare future planning policy relating to climate change adaptation and mitigation.	<p>a safer place to work, shop, visit and live; and</p> <p>Drugs and Alcohol – Focusing on the Communities Against Drugs (CAD) plan e.g. increasing the safety of communities from drug related crime.</p> <p>Raise awareness of the potential impact of climate change across the Borough;</p> <p>Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy conservation and use of renewable energy and to reduce water use in the Council’s own activities;</p> <p>Propose measures to help prevent the causes of climate change by aiming to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from activities in the Borough using the Council’s power and influence with other organisations;</p> <p>Encourage everyone in the Borough, individuals, organisations and businesses to take measures to adapt to the predicted effects of climate change;</p> <p>Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as a result of energy efficiency measures implemented to alleviate fuel poverty within the Borough; and</p> <p>HBBC to install in-house means of energy production (excluding Community Housing) 10% of electrical requirements from renewal installations (NI 185) up to 2010 all new homes code level 3, 2010 onwards Code</p>	<p><i>Opportunities/Synergies</i></p> <p>Opportunities to assist the local authority in meeting targets with regards to NI 185, NI 188 and CSH..</p>



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**CAPITA SYMONDS**

# Appendix B – Opportunities and Constraints Mapping

Level Seven, 52 Grosvenor Gardens,  
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Tel 020 7808 4520

**CAPITA SYMONDS**

# Barwell SUE - Opportunities

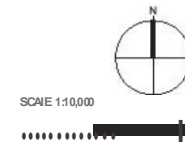


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Legend

- B** Study Boundary
- Town Centres
- School / Community Facility
- Recreation Area
- Employment
- @ Potential Access Points
- D Potential Waypoints
- @ Potential / F-Connections
- D Route Enhancement
- m Highway Enhancement
- E3 Connection
- la Green



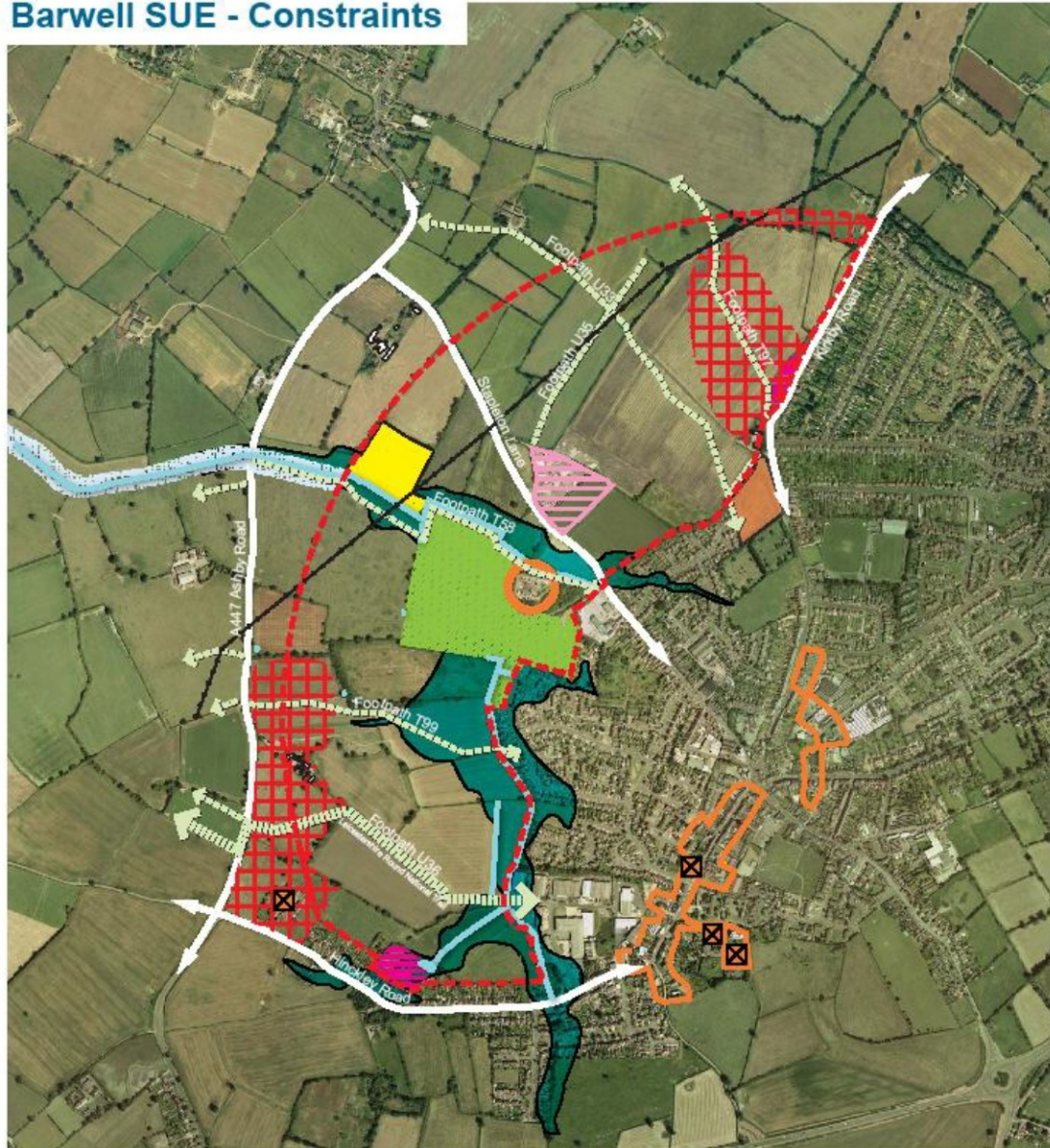
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Level Seven, 52 Grosvenor Gardens,  
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**CAPITA SYMONDS**



# Barwell SUE - Constraints



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10000 - 1:10000

Legend

- Study hu llcKnlary
- Significant Vogelation
- Site(SINC)
- UsR<IBuiding
- Conse<valon Anla
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- RllCtll8tionGrowld
- Alloiments
- Flood Risk<hu (FiuWol)
- S..taceW'''''' Flows (Rood)
- Vi...lyS...sitMIAnlas
- Show PtllISOftS-  
(existing — propcl5ed)
- Recent Deveklpment  
(existing — Lnder conslruction)
- Electricly P)ions
- Footpalth PROW
- Bridleway PROW
- Umiled Vehicular Access

SCALE 1:10,000



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Earl Shilton & Barwell

1:10,000  
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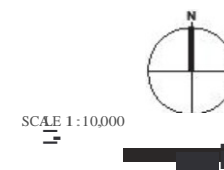
# Earl Shilton SUE -Opportunities



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- Legal
- B** Study Area Boundary
- T** Cerim
- S** School / Community Facility
- R** Recreation Area
- E** Employment Area
- @** Potential Vehicle Access Points
- D** Public Right of Way
- R** Potential Footpath Conn
- D** Cycle Route Enhancement
- m** Highway Enhancement
- E3** Bus Connection
- !;;]** Green

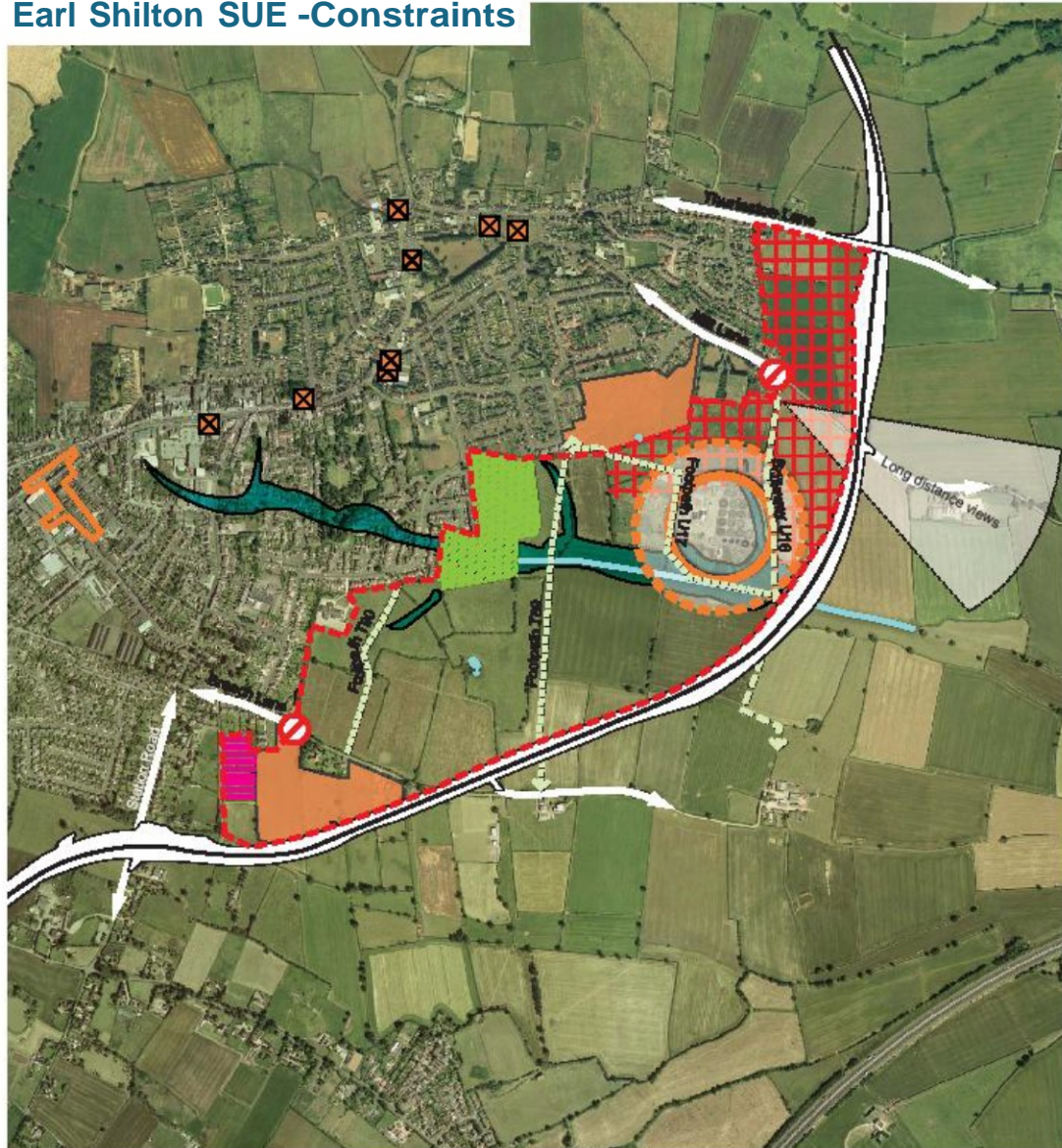


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On: October 2009  
Checked: MR DvMI: JP



# Earl Shilton SUE -Constraints



CAPITA LOVEJOY

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Legend

- B** Study Area Boundary
- III** Significant Vegetation
- Listed Building
- EI** Conservation Area
- O** Built Form
- Infrastructure
- D** Recreation Ground
- Alto4ments
- D** Watercourse
- D** Flood Risk Area (fluvial)
- D** Surface Water Flows (Flood)
- EEE** Visually Sensitive Areas
- D** Recent (existing and under construction) Development
- B** Electricity Pylons
- !III** Footpath PROW
- Bri-chway PROW
- O** Limited Vehicular Access

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1:10,000

Date: October 2009  
Checked: MR Drawn: JP

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