

SCOPING REPORT**COVER NOTE****PART 1**

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PART 2

An SEA Scoping Report is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan

The Responsible Authority is:

North Lanarkshire Council

PART 3

The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

PART 4

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PART 5

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Date	26 March 2015

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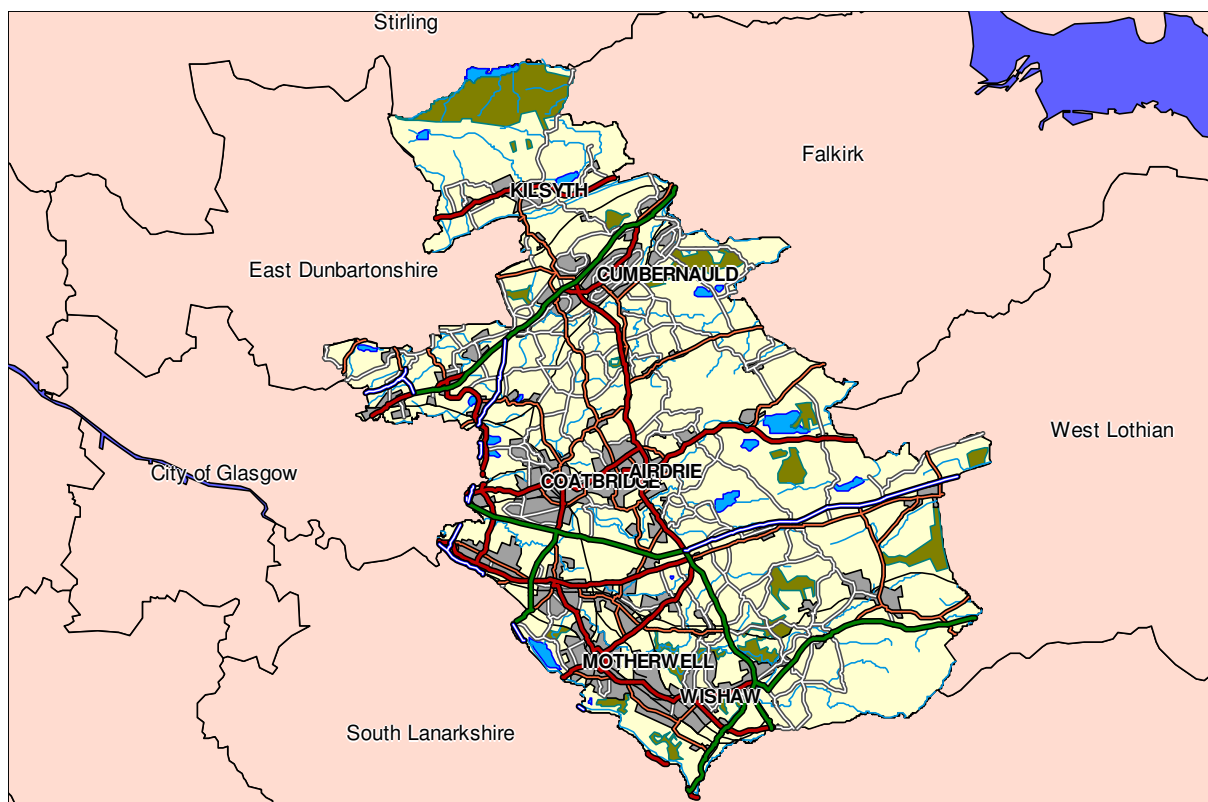
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SCOPING REPORT**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report is to set out sufficient information on the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan to enable the Consultation Authorities to form a view on the consultation period and scope/level of detail that will be appropriate for the Environmental Report.
- 1.2 This report has been prepared in accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The Act requires all qualifying policies, plans, programmes and Strategies to undergo Strategic Environmental Assessment. This provides a systematic process for identifying, reporting and mitigating the environmental impacts of the Local Development Plan. The Strategic Environmental Assessment process comprises:
- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Screening | determining whether Local development Plan requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment |
| Scoping | establishing significant environmental issues, developing appropriate Strategic Environmental Assessment objectives, establishing the environmental baseline and consulting through a Scoping Report |
| Environmental Assessment | assessing the potential environmental impact of the Local Development Plan and developing alternatives where necessary to achieve Strategic Environmental Assessment objectives and consulting on both the Local Development Plan and Environmental Report |
| Adoption | taking into consideration the Environmental Report and the results of the consultation in finalising the Local Development Plan and developing the monitoring strategy to assess progress once adopted through an Adoption Statement |
| Monitoring | providing information on the adopted Local Development Plan showing how the environmental objectives are being achieved and considering further improvement measures to address under performance of the Local Development Plan |
- 1.3 The Local Development Plan is a qualifying plan in accordance with Section 5(3) of the 2005 Act, and as such an SEA is required, therefore this Scoping Report has been prepared for consultation, with no Screening necessary.
- 1.4 The scoping process requires the Council (as the Responsible Authority) to consider in conjunction with the Consultation Authorities, the scope and level of detail of the environmental assessment. The purpose of this report is to set out sufficient information on the Local Development Plan and its environmental effects to enable the Consultation Authorities to form a view on the proposed scope and level of detail that will be appropriate for the Environmental Report and the proposed consultation periods, as set out by the Council.

SCOPING REPORT**2. KEY FACTS**

Name of Responsible Authority	North Lanarkshire Council
Title of PPS	North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan
What prompted the PPS	Legal requirement under the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006
Subject	Land use planning policy and guidance
Period covered by PPS	2017-2022
Frequency of updates	5 years
Area covered by PPS	North Lanarkshire Council area - 472 sq km



Purpose and/or objectives of PPS To guide the future development and use of land

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SCOPING REPORT**3. CONTEXT FOR THE PLAN****3.1 Description**

- 3.1.1 Development Plans set out policies and proposals for the future development and use of land in our towns and countryside; where development should, or should not, happen and how development affects its surroundings. They are the basis for decision making on planning applications. They consider a wide range of land use matters including economic development and infrastructure, retail and town centres, housing and community facilities and the natural and built environment with a view to creating high quality, sustainable places.
- 3.1.2 The current Development Plan for North Lanarkshire consists of the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan (July 2012), the North Lanarkshire Local Plan (September 2012) and a suite of Supplementary Planning Guidance notes.
- 3.1.3 The North Lanarkshire Local Plan is being replaced by the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan. It will contain a spatial strategy, proposals map, action programme for identified developments and schedule of the local authority's land interests affected by Plan policies or proposals. It will focus on specific proposals for the period up to year 10 from adoption.
- 3.1.4 The Local Development Plan will be integrated with Council and Partner statutory plans and strategies affecting the development of land. It will take account of the National Planning Framework and Scottish Planning Policy. The Local Development Plan will reflect the strategic vision and priorities of the Council and its established partners in the Strategic Development Plan Authority, Single Outcome Agreement and North Lanarkshire Community Plan, along with other council strategies e.g. Local Transport Strategy, Local Housing Strategy and those of partner organisations. The Single Outcome Agreement sets out joint commitments between the Scottish Government and the Council to the delivery of agreed outcomes reflecting the following themes:
- vibrant economy, open for business
 - a place with jobs and opportunities for all
 - lifelong learning is valued and encouraged
 - improved wellbeing adds years to life and life to years
 - quality environment

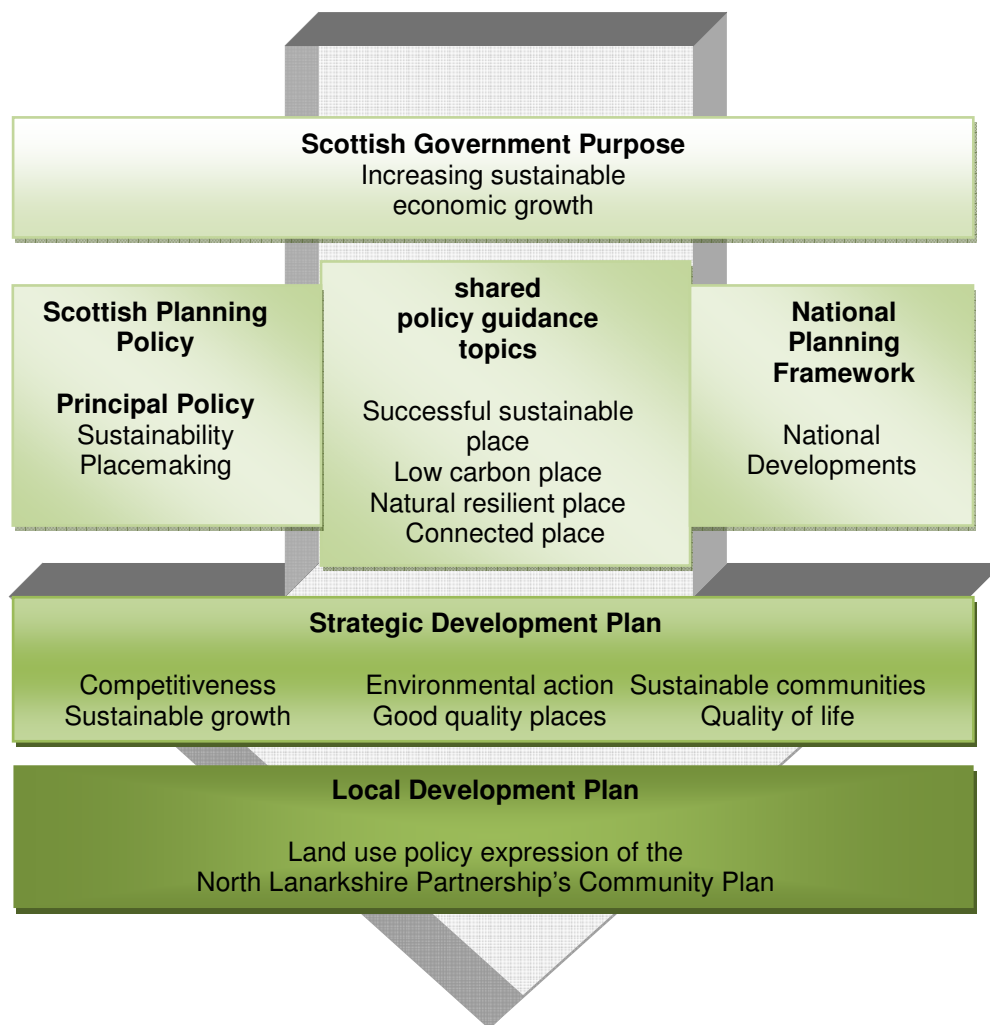
3.2 Content

- 3.2.1 The Plan will include all relevant land-use strategies, policies, development proposals and maps. It will be published on the Council Web pages viewable on line with the ability for comments to be lodged through the website. It will contain:
- a vision statement for North Lanarkshire setting out how development of the area could be undertaken and what it might look like.
 - a spatial strategy incorporating a detailed statement of policies and development proposals for the area to achieve the vision.
- 3.2.2 A long-term sustainable settlement strategy will be included that will meet Council needs, priorities and aspirations with details of Infrastructure requirements related to planned growth. New development proposals will be considered in terms of physical and social impact with details of required mitigation specified.
- 3.2.3 The Plan will focus on vision, spatial strategy, overarching and other key policies and proposals. Detailed material associated with the development strategy will be contained in supplementary guidance.
- 3.2.4 A Local Development Plan Action Programme will be prepared as a means of delivering the Plan's objectives. It will include:
- list of actions required to deliver each of the Plan's policies and proposals
 - names of responsible parties for each action
 - timescale for implementation
- 3.2.5 The Action Programme will be published with the Proposed Plan. Once approved it will be confirmed within 3 months of Plan Adoption reviewed and updated every 2 years.

3.3 Relationship with other plans, programmes or strategies

- 3.3.1 The Local Development Plan will link to existing plans, policies and strategies. As a land use planning strategy it will look to further the purpose of the Scottish Government, be consistent with national and regional planning policy and be the land use expression of the North Lanarkshire Partnership's Community Plan as illustrated in the following figure:

Figure 1 Policy background



- 3.3.2 The Scottish Government aims to ensure that the planning system is aligned to deliver its purpose of creating a more successful country, through increasing sustainable economic growth. The role of the planning system is to take a positive approach to enabling high quality development and making efficient use of land whilst protecting and enhancing natural and cultural resources.

- 3.3.3 Scottish Planning Policy looks to make Scotland more sustainable, connected and resilient through well-designed places with better transport and digital connectivity that reduce our carbon emissions and are better adapted to climate change. It does this through a combination of principal policies and subject policies. The principal policies of Sustainable Development and Placemaking introduce a presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development and encourage high quality places by taking a design-led approach.
- 3.3.4 National Planning Framework 3 is the Scottish Government's long term development and investment strategy. It sits alongside Scottish Planning Policy. Redevelopment of Ravenscraig is one of 14 National Developments. Other National Developments relevant to North Lanarkshire are the Central Scotland Green Network, the Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership, and National Long Distance Cycling and Walking Network. The framework offers planning guidance to further the government's goal of moving Scotland towards a sustainable, low carbon and resilient future.
- 3.3.5 North Lanarkshire's statutory development plan consists of The Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan and North Lanarkshire Local Plan. The Strategic Development Plan is a 20 year policy framework to help deliver sustainable economic growth, good quality places and enhance the quality of life in the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley city region.
- 3.3.6 The Local Development Plan needs to be consistent with the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan's 20 year policy for the city region. The Local Development Plan looks to achieve those aims over a 5 to 10-year period through development proposals and through policies for dealing with applications for planning permission in North Lanarkshire.
- 3.3.7 The Single Outcome Agreement between the Council and its Community Plan partners sets priorities for North Lanarkshire. The Community Plan sets out how the Council intends to create prosperity, achieve social justice, and meet local needs through themes including Regeneration. The Local Development Plan is the land use policy expression of the Community Plan.
- 3.3.8 Strategic Environmental Assessment requires identification of environmental objectives from a range of International and National policies. **Table 1** below lists the plans, programmes, strategies and environmental objectives that we propose to analyse for their relationship with North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan. This is based on the topics highlighted in the State of the Environment Report. For each topic the left hand side of the table is populated with relevant plans, policies and strategies that have environmental objectives. The right hand side of the table summarises the objectives. Each section concludes with environmental objectives from our State of the Environment Report, checked for how good a fit these are with the relevant plans, policies and strategies and their summaries for each topic.

Table 1 Plans, programmes, strategies and environmental objectives to be analysed in the Environmental Report for their relationship with North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan

Land Use	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ European Framework on Sustainable Development 2001 ▪ Meeting the Needs, Priorities, Actions and Targets for Sustainable Development in Scotland (2002) ▪ Getting the best from our land - A land use strategy for Scotland ▪ North Lanarkshire Local housing Strategy 2011-2016 ▪ North Lanarkshire Open Space Strategy ▪ North Lanarkshire Core Paths Plan ▪ North Lanarkshire Local transport Strategy 	<p>The aims of the policies relating to land use are to achieve sustainable land use through strategic planning to help land managers to increase and sustain their returns; communities to better understand and enjoy the land and its benefits and the natural environment to thrive and adapt to the changing world.</p>
<p>Objectives for Land Use</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To achieve sustainable land use through the regeneration of brownfield land, promotion of high quality development and protection of natural assets <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure a future supply of appropriate land ▪ To regenerate derelict, vacant and contaminated land and to bring back to commercial, residential and recreational use ▪ To optimise and promote development on Brownfield sites ▪ To provide a functional Green Belt having regard to long-term development needs and the need to promote a sustainable pattern of development ▪ To ensure development on Green Belt is appropriate ▪ To integrate land use with transportation and other infrastructure requirements ▪ To promote more sustainable patterns of development ▪ To protect and enhance natural land uses and assets ▪ To promote sustainable agricultural land uses ▪ To enhance the quality and availability of public open space (and access to it), within urban areas and on the urban fringe ▪ To secure a high quality of design in all new development ▪ To promote, protect and enhance woodland through planning policies 	

Table 1 continued

Ecology	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Birds Directive 2009/147/EC ▪ The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC ▪ Directive on the conservation of Natural habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) ▪ Council Directive 92/43/EEC the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora ▪ European Biodiversity Framework ▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 ▪ Conservation (Natural habitats &c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2007 ▪ Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2007 ▪ PAN 60: Planning for Natural Heritage ▪ UK Biodiversity Action Plan ▪ Scotland's Biodiversity – It's In Your Hands ▪ Scottish Forestry Strategy 2006 ▪ Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network ▪ North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan ▪ North Lanarkshire Woodland Action Plan 2008 	<p>The aims of the biodiversity policies are driven towards conserving habitats, species and ecosystems, whilst there is also a need to halt the decline of species through appropriate remedial or enhancement actions. The policies also highlight the importance of addressing biodiversity through an ecosystem approach, considering holistically the landscape approach to biodiversity conservation. The policies also promote the benefits of exposure and access to a rich environment which is diverse in its nature to enhance the health of the population.</p>
<p>Objectives for Ecology</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To promote biodiversity through protection, enhancement and management of habitats and species <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To safeguard all designated ecological sites ▪ Adopt design and practices which help maintain and enhance biological resources ▪ To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats ▪ To develop an effective management framework that ensures biodiversity is taken into account in all decision making ▪ Take practical steps to restore, enhance and manage protected and at risk species and habitats ▪ To protect and enhance wildlife corridors, links and urban greenspace and make them accessible to the population 	

Table 1 continued

Aquatic Environment	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC ▪ Nitrate Directive 91/43/EC ▪ Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 (WEWS) Act ▪ Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005 ▪ Scotland River Basin Management Plan (2009) ▪ SEPA Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland: Environment Policy ▪ SEPA Clyde Area Action Plan ▪ PAN 61: Planning and sustainable Urban Drainage ▪ Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act (2009) ▪ SUDS for Roads (2009) 	<p>The water policies aim to protect water resources, achieving improvements in their ecological condition where appropriate. River Basin Management Plans sets out objectives for both the protection and improvement of water resources within each river basin.</p>
<p>Objectives for Aquatic Environment</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect and enhance freshwater supplies, waterbodies and their catchment. <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To take practical steps to restore, enhance and manage protected and at risk aquatic resources and species ▪ To establish links with neighbour Councils to ensure an integrated approach to aquatic habitats and species management ▪ To improve overall water quality and enhance riparian habitats ▪ To improve the ecological status of still and running waterbodies ▪ To maintain and where needed enhance storage capacity of floodplains ▪ To maintain urban drainage systems in a sustainable way ▪ To promote and adopt soft or combination Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems ▪ To adopt a strategic approach to flood risk assessment 	

Table 1 continued

Geology and Soils	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scottish Soil Framework (2009) ▪ Environment Act 1995 ▪ Part IIA Environmental Protection Act 1990 	<p>The aim of the soil policy and accompanying policies seek to protect soil as a resource. The ranges of impacts the policies protect against include soil sealing, susceptibility to erosion and soil pollution, whilst others promote soils as a source of carbon sequestration. Further statutory regimes are aimed at reducing the level of contaminated land through re-development and or remedial work.</p>
<p>Objectives for Geology and Soils</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect the geological resource and enhance the quality of soils <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To safeguard designated geological sites and encourage access for education, where appropriate ▪ To protect and enhance soil as a biological resource, e.g. through the use of Soil management Plans, where soil is affected by development ▪ To ensure that economically viable mineral resources may be exploited within environmentally sensitive parameters ▪ To minimise the use of primary aggregates and maximise re-use and recycling of aggregates and building materials ▪ To ensure agricultural practices and development protect and manage the soil resource, in particular prime agricultural land ▪ To prevent pollution of soils and promote remediation of contaminated and degraded soils ▪ To define, protect and restore peatland sites of highest value ▪ To protect areas outwith “Areas of Search” for aggregates from mineral exploitation 	

Table 1 continued

Waste and Resources	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC ▪ The Landfill Directive 99/31/EC ▪ Scotland's Zero Waste Plan ▪ The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 	<p>The aim of the waste policies is to reduce the production of waste and increase the recycling of waste generated.</p>
<p>Objectives for Waste and Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Main Objective(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce waste and to promote sustainable resource use, recycling and recovery ▪ Sub Objective(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To encourage prevention/reduction of waste ▪ To ensure progress towards sustainable management of waste and achievement of landfill reduction targets, e.g. by promoting suitable waste management facilities and developments ▪ To ensure waste is recovered/disposed of without harm to the environment and human health ▪ To ensure that the waste network facilities progress towards self-sufficiency in waste management ▪ To promote and facilitate waste awareness ▪ To stimulate alternative markets and technologies in waste management and resource use ▪ To maximise the utility of existing landfill facilities and void space and limit new sites. 	

Table 1 continued

Energy	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UK Climate Change Programme (2006) ▪ National Planning Framework for Scotland 2 (2009) ▪ Housing (Scotland) Act(s) ▪ Planning Scotland (Etc.) Act 2009 ▪ Glasgow and Clyde Valley Joint Structure Plan ▪ DTI (2007) Energy White Paper: Meeting the Energy Challenge ▪ UK Climate Change Act 2008 ▪ Changing our ways: Scottish Climate Change Programme ▪ Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 ▪ Climate Change Delivery Plan ▪ Scottish Government Climate Change Adaptation Framework ▪ UK Low Carbon Transition Plan (2009) ▪ Action Plan (2009) ▪ North Lanarkshire Local transport Strategy 	<p>The housing policies and the planning system highlight the need to develop high quality, well designed, energy efficient housing and the creation of more sustainable communities. Transport policies aim to reduce vehicle emissions through adopting efficiency measures and reducing the dependency on vehicle use. The policies on climate change focus on the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and progress towards a low carbon economy, whilst at the same time adapt to a changing climate. The Scottish Government national targets are set at an 80% reduction by 2050 (interim 42% reduction target by 2020), these National targets contribution to those set at the UK, EU and international levels. Energy policies highlight the importance of energy efficiency to reduce GHG emissions, whilst adaptation to future climates is important for improving the resilience of local communities and natural ecosystems as well as maintaining sustainable economic growth.</p>
<p>Objectives for Energy</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To encourage and facilitate sustainable energy use and supply <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To promote energy efficiency in all developments ▪ To reduce the need to travel and journey length ▪ To facilitate renewable energy generation in appropriate locations and developments ▪ To encourage the use of waste as an energy resource in ways that are consistent with the waste hierarchy ▪ To stimulate the development of alternative energy resources and technologies ▪ To enable innovative developments demonstrating high levels of energy efficiency 	

Table 1 continued

Landscape and Visual	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council of Europe, European Landscape Convention (2000) ▪ Scottish Landscape Forum (2007) ▪ Scotland's Living Landscapes ▪ SNH Natural Heritage Futures ▪ SNH National Scenic Areas Programme ▪ Pan 65: Planning and Open Space ▪ Land Reform (Scotland) Act 	<p>Landscape policies aim to safeguard protected areas and recognise and conserve the wider landscapes values. These landscapes may not be formally designated but may contribute to the quality of environment.</p>
<p>Objectives for Landscape and Visual</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect, enhance and where necessary restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect, manage and enhance designated and designed landscapes ▪ To upgrade the quality of urban form and encourage good quality urban design ▪ To protect and enhance local character and have regard to the setting of new development in the landscape ▪ To promote settlement patterns which respect the landscape character ▪ To enhance landscape within the urban fringe including wedges and corridors ▪ To ensure diversity of landscape types and their management, enhancement and community accessibility ▪ To provide opportunities to promote North Lanarkshire as an attractive place to live, work and visit 	

Table 1 continued

Cultural Heritage	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) 2009 ▪ Managing Change in the Historic Environment Guidance Notes ▪ Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) ▪ Managing Change in the Historic Environment Guidance Notes (consultation drafts) ▪ The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 ▪ Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 	<p>The historic environment policies are aimed at identifying and protecting historic buildings, the settings for conservation areas, wider townscapes and landscapes and specific historically important sites from inappropriate development and damage.</p>
<p>Objectives for Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To preserve and interpret cultural heritage resources <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To safeguard designated features ▪ Protect, enhance and where necessary restore building character and townscape ▪ To develop interpretation of industrial, built and archaeological resources 	

Table 1 continued

Air Quality and Noise	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental Protection Act 1990 ▪ The Environmental Noise Directive ▪ PAN 1/2011 Planning and Noise ▪ 2000 – Air Quality (Scotland) Regulations ▪ The Air Quality Standards (Scotland) Regulations 2010 ▪ 2008/50/EC Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe ▪ The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007) ▪ North Lanarkshire Council Air Quality Action Plan 2013-201 	<p>The air quality targets have been set at the European and UK levels, with specific air quality objectives set for Particulate Matter (PM), oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and ozone (O₃) amongst others. Local Authorities have a specific duty to monitor air quality within their administrative area and put in place management areas to reduce areas that exceed the national objectives.</p>
<p>Objectives for Air Quality and Noise</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To achieve good air quality and reduce disturbance from noise <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce emissions which contribute to climate change ▪ To promote sustainable forms of transport ▪ To reduce emissions from sources of air pollution, particularly from transport ▪ To identify and safeguard areas of low background noise and tranquillity ▪ To audit noisy areas and develop proposals for noise level reductions ▪ To improve air quality 	

Table 1 continued

Communities	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ European Framework on Sustainable Development 2001 ▪ Meeting the Needs, Priorities, Actions and Targets for Sustainable Development in Scotland (2002) ▪ Choosing our Future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy ▪ Good Places, Better Health: A New Approach to Environment and Health in Scotland – Implementation Plan (2008) ▪ Meeting the Needs, Priorities, Actions and Targets for Sustainable Development in Scotland (2002) ▪ Improving Health in Scotland – the Challenge (2003) ▪ Getting it Right for Every Child ▪ Equally Well (Scottish Government 2008) ▪ Early Years Framework (Scottish Government 2008) ▪ Achieving our Potential: Framework for Tackling Poverty (Scottish Government 2008) ▪ Physical Activity Strategy ▪ PAN 77: Designing Safer Places ▪ North Lanarkshire Partnership Community Plan 2013-2018 	<p>The Policies outline the need to improve the health and quality of life for those in Scotland. They provide emphasis on the importance the local environment plays on improving the health and wellbeing of local communities. The policies also promote the need to live within a sustainable manor in order to utilise resources in a way that maintains them for future generations. There are areas of strong crossover between sustainable living and reducing our contributions towards climate change.</p>
<p>Objectives for Communities</p> <p>Main Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To develop sustainable communities through a healthy and inclusive population in a high quality built environment <p>Sub Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To develop attractive, safe and accessible public open spaces within and around communities ▪ To reduce health inequalities ▪ To safeguard existing community facilities and to encourage the provision of new ones ▪ To enhance and promote safe, integrated and accessible path networks and recreational facilities ▪ To encourage partnerships which deliver community and environmental benefits ▪ To ensure access to open space and countryside is enhanced to increase mental and physical wellbeing ▪ Improve physical fabric and ongoing management of town centres, suburbs and villages to reverse decline and sustain local communities ▪ To regenerate communities with mixed tenure housing ▪ To integrate existing and new housing with community facilities and services 	

3.4 Environmental baseline

State of the Environment Report

- 3.4.1 A State of the Environment Report (SoER) was prepared for North Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Natural Heritage to provide an overview of the status and health of the natural and built environment in North Lanarkshire. The report was commissioned in August 2005 and completed in December 2005 by WSP Environmental Ltd. The SoER is being updated to inform the ongoing development of the Local Development Plan. The update is planned for completion in May 2015 to facilitate assessment of the Proposed Plan by the end of 2015.
- 3.4.2 The SoER provides a baseline for that can be used and updated for all SEA work carried out in North Lanarkshire. The SoER report can be found [on the Council website](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=24242) at <http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=24242>. Below is a summary description of North Lanarkshire's environment.

Land use

- 3.4.3 There is a diverse range of land uses with the main urban settlements occupying the western part of the area and a predominance of pastoral farmland and woodland/ forestry across the remainder of the area. Historical development has resulted in a large amount of vacant and derelict land that represents both a detrimental impact and an opportunity for enhancement. North Lanarkshire is within the Central Belt of Scotland and contains major transport links including the M8, A8 and A80 trunk roads and a railway network. There is a wide variety of industrial activity associated with this central location. In addition to developed areas there are less managed areas of upland associated with the Kilsyth Hills in the north and the Central Scotland Plateau in the east.

Ecology

- 3.4.4 There is a diverse range of habitats with a series of designated sites of European, national and local importance. The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) identifies 7 habitats and 12 species of particular importance for conservation. The diversity of the ecological resource is influenced by the variety in the geography and topography of the area. There is an opportunity to protect, enhance and create habitats and ecological resources and to incorporate the ecological resource into new developments. Such improvements would not only provide a benefit to the ecological resource but also contribute to the local and area-wide landscape, the aquatic environment and to the community resource and well-being.

Aquatic Environment

- 3.4.5 North Lanarkshire lies predominately within the River Clyde catchment with only a small part of the area draining eastwards to the Firth of Forth. There are a range of aquatic environments including running water (rivers, streams, ditches and drains), standing water (lochs, reservoirs, ponds and canals) and groundwater. North Lanarkshire Council's flooding report of 2007 notes that there are approximately 89 rivers and burns, two main canals and 35 lochs and reservoirs. These watercourses and water bodies provide a resource and habitat for the ecology of North Lanarkshire but have also helped to shape cultural history through industrial activities and the locations of settlements. Watercourses and water bodies contribute to the environment through their ecological value and their human value, both aesthetically and recreationally.

Geology and Soils

- 3.4.6 North Lanarkshire is within the Central Belt of Scotland, to the south of the Southern Highland Fault, and is underlain predominately by Carboniferous age sedimentary bedrock comprising cyclic sequences of sandstones, mudstones, limestones, seat earths and coals. Localised igneous intrusions are present in the south eastern and northern areas. There are also two geological SSSIs designated within North Lanarkshire. The bedrock is overlain, in the majority of North Lanarkshire, by glacial till (generally stiff sandy clays) with peat in upland areas and alluvial sands and gravels in river valleys. These give rise to predominantly poorly drained soils with limited capability for arable agriculture although better drained soils are present in parts capable of arable farmland. Extensive industrial and mining activity has resulted in many potentially contaminated and minerally unstable sites with assessment, investigation and restoration of these sites underway.

Waste and Resources

- 3.4.7 Waste is an increasingly important issue legislatively, politically and practically. Historically waste has been landfilled although recycling and composting are increasing and now diverting waste away from landfills. There is a network of waste management facilities including three municipal landfill sites, six recycling centres and seventy-one recycling points and an extensive kerbside recycling scheme. These facilities, along with the waste awareness issues and strategies across both North Lanarkshire and Scotland as a whole are promoting the waste hierarchy. Changes are occurring within the waste environment and there are a number of opportunities for improving levels of waste reduction, reuse, recycling and promoting environmental technologies and industries.

Energy

- 3.4.8 The majority of North Lanarkshire's energy demand is imported. A small amount of energy is produced within the area through wind turbines, generation from landfill gas and biomass heat generation. There are opportunities to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy production. In particular, the predicted growth in households above the Scottish average provides the opportunity for increased energy efficiency measures within new developments. Parts of North Lanarkshire have been identified as having the potential for wind generation projects and there is a growing potential for biomass energy generation as demonstrated by an ongoing study into producing biomass crops from North Lanarkshire Council woodlands.

Landscape

- 3.4.9 The landscape is characterised by its diverse range of land uses and cover and is dominated by features such as the Kilsyth Hills in the north and the high ground in the eastern and southern parts of the area. Some areas have been designated for their landscape value and importance such as along the Clyde Valley near Wishaw and in the Kilsyth Hills. In addition to these designated areas, the diversity of the different landscapes is a key feature. Opportunities exist to enhance the local landscape, notably with regard to the urban fringe, and good quality developments and renovation could contribute to this.

Cultural Heritage

- 3.4.10 There has been a long history of settlement, leaving a considerable historical and archaeological resource. North Lanarkshire has supported an extensive industrial development and evidence of this heritage remains today. This history has resulted in a wide range of cultural heritage from Roman sites, such as the Antonine Wall to more recent such as the Forth and Clyde Canal and industrial remains of collieries and factories.

Air Quality and Noise

- 3.4.11 Air quality varies, with predicted background concentrations of the key air pollutants highest in the urban areas and key transport routes. Road traffic emissions play an important role in air quality and the Council has identified four locations as Air Quality Management Areas where further monitoring and action is required, these being parts of Coatbridge, Chapelhall, Motherwell and Harthill. Noise can be defined as unwanted sound and within North Lanarkshire there are key sources including road traffic and construction sites. Tranquil locations do exist in more rural locations.

Communities

- 3.4.12 Industrial heritage has largely shaped population distribution. Coal and steel have helped to dictate the settlement pattern and distribution of communities. In recent years a number of key indicators of the population dynamics, health and the built environment have been below the Scottish average. There is an ageing population, growing at a rate marginally lower than the national rate, but is subject to an on-going and predicted growth in the number of households in the areas which is in excess of the Scottish average. There are opportunities associated with the supply of land and geographical location to improve the built environment through the demand for new development. There are a range of community facilities including natural open spaces, footpaths and cycle paths such as the Forth and Clyde Canal towpath and the National Cycle Network, three Country Parks and a mixture of urban open space and built facilities. Accessibility is an important factor for the value of these resources to their local communities and many of the parks and paths are located in close proximity to key urban areas.

3.5 Environmental issues

- 3.5.1 Environmental issues that affect the PPS were identified through an analysis of the baseline data. Relevant environmental issues are summarised in **Table 2**.

Table 2 Environmental issues relevant to Local Development Plan

Issue	Implications
Land Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> some land uses are sensitive and vulnerable to development pressures (e.g. those near settlements and transport corridors) mix of developments has created a lack of identity in some towns and urban fringe locations the green belt helps to maintain settlement boundaries and protect open space, particularly that which is immediately accessible to communities restoration of mineral workings and landfill sites will need to be pursued 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> need to be aware that addressing increased housing and infrastructure demands will have an impact on the local areas and existing communities opportunity to enhance the sense of place through good quality appropriate development it is important that policies protect valuable green network and other community assets in urban fringe locations opportunity to maintain the progress of addressing dereliction
Ecology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is an increasing network of European, national and locally designated sites which require protection and management extent of priority habitats has remained steady or increased over recent years habitats and species are vulnerable from development pressures through direct and indirect impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> need to have appropriate policy protection and promotion for all valuable natural heritage assets maintain the progress secured in recent years need to address the issue of protecting natural heritage assets that can not be identified spatially
Aquatic Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> significant stretches of watercourse have been classified as having poor water quality undeveloped flood plains are vulnerable to development and there are associated flooding issues urban drainage problems have been identified as a key source of localised flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> seek to ensure that future development does not exacerbate water quality issues use floodplains as a negative locational criteria for assessing potential development suitability continue to integrate sustainable drainage criteria in assessing the quality of development proposals
Geology and Soils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> soils are vulnerable to development pressures and land management practices (such as agriculture and forestry) issues of contaminated land and land stability across North Lanarkshire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue to require site survey and maintenance arrangements in assessing the quality of development maintain regeneration as the plan aim and a promotion priority

Waste and Resources	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase in the number of households may sustain trend in increased MSW arisings European and national targets for diversion of waste from landfill will drive waste management development importation of waste from neighbouring local authorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> encourage waste minimisation, re-use and recycling encourage and facilitate waste infrastructure utilities development locations treatment of existing landfill sites and their restoration
Energy	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing number of households will affect future energy demand making energy efficiency particularly important increasing number of renewable energy generation projects likely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider energy efficiency and low carbon development criteria in assessing quality of development encourage and facilitate renewable utility infrastructure
Landscape and Visual	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> local and area-wide landscapes are vulnerable to inappropriate development open upland areas particularly sensitive to development urban and urban fringe landscape / townscape are of poor quality in some areas and there is a need to stimulate economies of town centres to help in enhancing the quality and vibrancy of the built environment and townscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> landscape criterion for assessing locational suitability of development operate criteria for controlling appropriate development in rural areas opportunity to develop a placemaking approach addressing the appropriate uses and forms of development depending in the typology of place - to enhance good places and improve poorer places for communities
Cultural heritage	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> network of protected sites through designated status some sites nationally important (e.g. Forth and Clyde Canal, Antonine Wall) and their interpretation and focus as 'destinations' could be developed sites are vulnerable to direct and indirect development pressures, this particularly relevant for designated sites of 'lower level' cultural heritage sites play an important role in the townscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue to protect and encourage enhancement of assets reconcile the protection imperative with the potential for social and economic contribution to communities through sensitive development development not permitted if harm occurs, or can not be mitigated in environmental terms continue to protect and encourage enhancement of assets
Air Quality and Noise	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> air quality generally within national guidelines however levels of nitrogen dioxide are above these levels in several locations and Air Quality Management Areas where measures will be needed to meet air quality objectives road traffic is the primary cause of air quality issues background noise varies with higher levels in urban areas and tranquil areas guidance now emerged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue criterion relating to air quality in assessing quality of development and consider requirements of development in sensitive receptor locations that mitigate the effects of poor quality issues promote improvements to traffic infrastructure consider mitigation measures in sensitive receptor locations and address tranquil areas guidance

Communities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ North Lanarkshire has a recovering population driven by migration and a level of economically active proportion of the population close to the national average▪ the increase in the number of households will place a pressure on land for new developments▪ population health and well-being is linked to the quality of the built environment, housing and open space▪ provision of and access to community resources and facilities is an issue in areas▪ facilities subject to viability, vandalism and quality considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ policy should facilitate the level of living accommodation and opportunities for business and industry to support the population▪ locational criteria are necessary to ensure the identification of appropriate sites for development▪ ensure criteria for assessing the quality of development address built form and connectivity issues▪ both protect and promote community assets▪ develop good design quality criteria for new development

SCOPING REPORT**4. SCOPE AND DETAIL PROPOSED FOR ASSESSMENT****4.1 Scoping in/out of SEA issues**

- 4.1.1 In accordance with Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 North Lanarkshire Council has considered whether the environmental effects (positive and negative) of North Lanarkshire Local Plan are likely to be significant. A summary of the conclusions is given in Table 2.

Table 3 Scoping of SEA issues

SEA issues	Scoped in	Scoped out	If scoped out, why
Land Use	✓		
Ecology	✓		
Aquatic Environment	✓		
Geology and Soils	✓		
Waste and Resources	✓		
Energy	✓		
Landscape and Visual	✓		
Cultural Heritage	✓		
Air Quality and Noise	✓		
Communities	✓		

- 5.1.2 The Council has taken the precautionary approach and not prematurely scoped out SEA issues. The full interactions between the environmental issues, including the potential cumulative and synergistic effects will be presented within the Environment Report. A parallel Health Impact Assessment is being considered to inform the potential effects on the population and human health.

4.2 SEA objectives

- 4.2.1 The council has adopted high level Strategic Environmental Assessment objectives and sub-objectives objectives for ten themes in its State of the Environment Report. These are set out below.

Land use

- 4.2.2 Land use high level objectives:

- To achieve balanced, sustainable land use
- Respect land form, natural processes and systems

- 4.2.3 Land use sub-objectives:

- To regenerate derelict, vacant and contaminated land and to bring back to commercial, residential and recreational use
- To improve quality, accessibility and biodiversity of open spaces
- To identify contaminated sites and establish remediation plans
- To create vibrant, attractive and functional woodland environments
- To prioritise sub-areas by land that has the highest potential to be contaminated where there is a pollutant linkage existing or likely to exist
- To overcome land access constraints and promote more sustainable forms of transport
- To ensure future supply of quality land
- To increase development on brownfield sites
- To integrate land use with transportation and other infrastructure requirements
- To identify and promote land use development opportunities
- To promote more environmentally friendly patterns of development and land uses
- To protect valued environmental resources

Ecology

- 4.2.4 Ecology high level objectives:

- Safeguard and enhance the environment through the protection of biodiversity
- Protect, enhance and where necessary restore species and habitat

- 4.2.5 Ecology sub-objectives:

- Adopt practices which help maintain and enhance biological resources
- To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats
- To restore and enhance biodiversity in urban, rural and aquatic environments through better planning, design and practice
- To develop an effective management framework that ensures biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making
- Take practical steps to restore, enhance and manage protected and at risk species and habitats
- Identify new sites, monitor confirmed sites and create new sites for Action Plan species and habitats
- To protect and promote the greenbelt, SINC, natural heritage and other locations of environmental significance
- To prevent development which will adversely affect a SSSI or other conservation designation

Aquatic environment

4.2.6 Aquatic environment high-level objectives:

- To ensure the importance of aquatic habitats and resources is recognised and protected
- To protect and enhance the water environment
- Protect and enhance the water environment including coastal and river systems

4.2.7 Aquatic environment sub-objectives:

- To take practical steps to restore, enhance and manage protected and at risk aquatic resources and species
- To establish links with neighbour councils to ensure an integrated approach to aquatic habitats and species management
- Identify new sites, monitor confirmed sites and create new sites for Action Plan species and habitats
- To improve overall water quality and enhance riparian habitat

Geology and soils

4.2.8 Geology and soils high level objectives:

- To protect the geological resource
- To protect the most valuable soils
- Protect and use soils in a sustainable way

4.2.9 Geology and soils sub-objectives:

- To protect and enhance soil as a biological resource
- To ensure sustainable use and management of geology and soils
- To ensure agricultural practices and development protect and manage the soil resource
- To ensure that economically viable mineral resources may be exploited within environmentally sensitive parameters

4.2.10 Waste and resources high level objectives:

- To reduce waste
- To promote sustainable resource use
- To promote recycling and recovery

4.2.11 Waste and resources sub-objectives:

- To ensure progress towards sustainable management of waste and achievement of landfill reduction targets
- To ensure waste is recovered/disposed of without harm to the environment and human health
- To establish integrated networks of waste disposal installations
- To encourage prevention/reduction of waste production
- To ensure that the waste network facilitates progress towards self sufficiency in waste disposal
- To develop principles and plans for progress in the medium/long term to meet current and future legislative requirements and objectives of the National Waste Strategy
- To improve recycling rates/expand existing recycling programmes

- 4.2.12 Energy high level objectives:
- To promote energy efficiency
 - Assist in the sustainable development of renewable energies
- 4.2.13 Energy sub-objectives:
- Reduce the need to travel and journey length
 - Reduce energy consumption
 - Facilitate renewable energy
 - To encourage the use of waste as an energy source
- 4.2.14 Landscape high level objectives:
- To improve the quality of the urban and rural landscape
 - Protect the landform of the area as defined in planning designations and Landscape Character Assessment for GCV
 - Protect and where necessary restore, landscape character, especially those designated as having particular worth
 - Protect, enhance and where necessary restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value
- 4.2.15 Landscape sub-objectives:
- To promote development which enhances urban form and function
 - To improve the quality of open space
 - To improve links within and between the open space network elements
 - Improve streets and open spaces, upgrade access routes and develop landscapes, improve the quality of buildings and their surroundings
 - Regenerate derelict and vacant land
 - To reinforce sense of place and enhance amenity by improving the quality of design in new development, by protecting and enhancing local character and by having regard to the setting of new development in the landscape
 - To upgrade the quality of urban form and encourage good quality urban design
- 4.2.16 Cultural heritage high level objectives:
- Protect, enhance and where necessary restore building character, and townscape
- 4.2.17 Air quality and noise high level objectives:
- To ensure air quality meets all legislative and regulatory requirements
 - Protect the environment from pollution (this includes air, water and land pollution)
- 4.2.18 Air quality and noise sub-objectives:
- To reduce emissions which contribute to climate change
 - To reduce the harmful effects of poor air quality
 - Encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport
 - To promote environmentally friendly development
 - To develop Air Quality Management Plans where required
 - To promote sustainable forms of transport
 - To discourage private car use
 - To promote energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies
 - To promote more environmentally sound patterns of development and activity and encourage reductions in energy consumption

4.2.19 Communities high level objectives:

- To promote community regeneration
- To promote sustainable communities
- To improve quality of life
- To create a prosperous society where regeneration supports long term sustainable growth
- Protect and enhance green spaces for recreation and biodiversity
- Regenerate degraded environments, both urban and rural
- Respect urban form, settlement pattern and identity
- Reduce the need to travel and journey length
- Protect, enhance and create green spaces important for recreation and biodiversity

4.2.20 Communities sub-objectives:

- Improve design quality in new development
- To ensure development promotes greater social inclusion
- To regenerate derelict, vacant and contaminated land and to bring back to commercial, residential and recreational use
- To make communities more environmentally responsible
- To improve accessibility and sustainability of housing development by increasing brownfield development
- To increase role of cycling and walking
- To create sustainable and safe green spaces
- To develop open spaces which promote the importance of design in creating safe, accessible and inclusive places
- To create an integrated and sustainable transport network
- To ensure access to open space and countryside is enhanced to increase mental and physical wellbeing
- To improve physical fabric and ongoing management of town centres, suburbs and villages to reverse decline and sustain local communities
- To improve poor environments which contribute to ill health
- To create vibrant, attractive and functional woodland environments

4.3 Developing strategic alternatives

The first stage - Main Issues Report

- 4.3.1 The Main Issues Report will be a significant stage in the statutory process of replacing the current North Lanarkshire Local Plan with a Local Development Plan. The Main Issues Report will not be a draft Local Development Plan. A Main Issues Report is more of a progress report than a plan. It concentrates on the change from Local Plan to Local Development Plan.
- 4.3.2 The Main Issues Report will identify issues. These will set out as questions about which elements of the current planning strategy should continue and what opportunities there are to improve. There will be preferred options for addressing these issues that, if taken together, will result in a spatial strategy for the proposed plan that the Council will seek to endorse.
- 4.3.3 The Council will use the Main issues report engagement to seek views on the spatial strategy by asking if people agree with the preferred options that will be identified to address each issue. If people do not agree with the preferred options they will be asked what alternatives they would support and the reasons for this.

Preferred sites

- 4.3.4 A call for Sites has already taken place during which over 170 proposed development sites were put to the Council. The details of these sites will be available as a background report to the Main Issues Report. The Council will not choose from this Call for Sites to populate its preferred sites for the Proposed Plan at Main Issues Report stage.
- 4.3.5 The preferred sites identified at the Main Issues Report stage will only be those that have previously been identified and do not require further assessment for their appropriateness and suitability for development (existing Housing Land Supply and Industrial Land Supply sites, and town centre network). During the Main issues Report engagement the Council will be asking if there are any other issues or sites people would like us to consider as we prepare the Local Development Plan.
- 4.3.6 The Main Issues Report will be asking if the Local Development Plan should include additional sites and, if so, how those additional sites should be identified from the range of sites already proposed during the Call for Sites and from any additional potential sites proposed during the main Issues report engagement. The Main Issues Report SEA assessment will focus on the potential impacts of the issues identified in moving from Local Plan just over two years old to a Local Development Plan. It will assess the preferred options and alternatives. The preferred options for addressing the issues will define the prospective spatial strategy for the Proposed Plan.

The next stage - Proposed Plan

- 4.3.7 Once the Council has considered representations to the Main Issues Report it will publish a Proposed Plan addressing the spatial implications of economic, social and environmental change for North Lanarkshire. The Proposed Plan will be the Council's settled view as to what the Local Development Plan will be. It will identify opportunities for development and set out policies for the development and use of land. It will be at that next stage of Proposed Plan that sites additional to the Call for Sites will be assessed and recommended.

SCOPING REPORT**5. FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSING EFFECTS****5.1 Assessment methodology**

5.1.1 The State of the Environment Report provides a baseline that can be used and updated for all SEA work carried out in North Lanarkshire. The SoER identifies high level objectives and sub-objectives for 10 SEA topics. These form the basis of SEA assessment criteria for policies and sites.

5.1.2 The full SEA topic high level objectives and sub-objectives are listed in section 4.2 above. The high level objectives are summarised here as follows:

Land Use	To achieve sustainable land use through the regeneration of brownfield land, promotion of high quality development and protection of natural assets
Ecology	To promote biodiversity through protection, enhancement and management of habitats and species
Aquatic Environment	To protect and enhance freshwater supplies, waterbodies and their catchments
Geology and Soils	To protect the geological resource and enhance the quality of soils
Waste and Resources	To reduce waste and to promote sustainable resource use, recycling and recovery
Energy	To encourage and facilitate sustainable energy use and supply
Landscape and Visual	To protect, enhance and where necessary restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value
Cultural Heritage	To preserve and interpret cultural heritage resources
Air Quality and Noise	To achieve good air quality and reduce disturbance from noise
Communities	To develop sustainable communities through a healthy and inclusive population in a high quality built environment

5.1.3 The Main Issues Report for the Local Development Plan will not propose final site selections. That will take place at the next stage of Proposed plan. In terms of sites, the Main Issues Report will include as preferred sites those locations and development proposals that already feature in approved land supplies and policy designations. The Draft Environmental Report accompanying the Main Issues Report will therefore assess the preferred options and alternatives that the Council identifies for its spatial strategy. The sample assessment sheet indicated below in Figure 2 illustrates how preferred options and alternatives for spatial strategy will be assessed against strategic environmental assessment objectives.

Figure 2 Sample assessment sheet

Left blank if no significant environmental effects
A tick if positive effects
A cross if negative effects

Summarising the reasons for the predicted effect

[Name/reference of policy or proposal here]

Objectives	Impact	Justification for predicted impact
Land Use	✓ x	
Ecology	✓ x	
Aquatic Environment	✓ x	
Geology and Soils	✓ x	
Waste and Resources	✓ x	
Energy	✓ x	
Landscape and Visual	✓ x	
Cultural Heritage	✓ x	
Air Quality and Noise	✓ x	
Communities	✓ x	
Summary		
Mitigation		

Summarising the overall impact of the policy or proposal across all State of the Environment SEA Objectives

Depending on the outcome of the above assessment this section will identify what, if any, mitigation measures are needed to address the environmental impacts of the proposed policy or proposal

- 5.1.4 It is only through engagement on the issues in the Main issues report that the approach to identifying sites will be determined. It is at this stage that site assessments will be completed using the same methodology and the likely environmental impacts identified, including any mitigation measures that may be appropriate.

5.2 Selecting against the alternatives

- 5.2.1 The assessment sheet methodology will be used to consider the impacts of the preferred options and alternatives for spatial strategy at the Main Issues Report stage of Draft Environmental Report.
- 5.2.2 The assessment sheet methodology will be used to consider the impacts of the alternatives to the spatial strategy at the Proposed Plan stage of Environmental Report.

5.3 Site selection for development

- 5.3.1 The Proposed Plan will be the stage at which potential developments sites will be assessed. It is only at that stage that the need for any additional sites will be established, as a result of engagement on issues in the Main Issues Report. In undertaking the assessment of each potential site the same assessment sheet methodology will be used to assess the potential impact of sites against strategic environmental assessment objectives.
- 5.3.2 The strategic environmental assessment objectives consideration will be additional to the site assessment activities to date as set out below.

28 Sept 2012	NLLP Adopted (including Development Strategy Policy 2 Location of Development criteria for assessing the sustainable locational characteristics of proposed development sites)
12-14 March 2013	<p>South Wishaw Mini-Charrette took place. The requirements of the mini-charrette process were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify clear parameters and criteria to identify genuinely effective housing sites • review current housing site allocations in the South Wishaw area • identify which type of sites in the current allocation are (un)likely to be developed soon, or are (un)suitable for development in terms of sustainability or design issues • consider the characteristics of other potential sites being put forward by developers and others • consider what would be an appropriate type of development for sites currently allocated in the North Lanarkshire Local Plan or other potential sites • develop spatial strategy options for housing development in the South Wishaw area
12 June 2013	Call for Sites criteria and parameters approved at Planning & Transportation Committee (see Appendix 1). The criteria and parameters for the CfS developed based on the findings of the South Wishaw Mini-Charrette and North Lanarkshire Local Plan Policy DSP 2.
22 July 2013	The Call for Sites opened
27 September 2013	The Call for Sites closed

21 November 2013	The Call for Sites was reported to Planning & Transportation Committee. 179 Sites were submitted during this process.
February/March 2014	<p>Consultation regarding the potential deliverability of the Call for Site submission took place with:</p> <p>Key Agencies: SNH, SEPA, Scottish Water, Scottish Enterprise, SPT, NHS Lanarkshire, Historic Scotland, Transport Scotland. Forestry Commission and Scottish Wildlife Trust</p> <p>Infrastructure Providers: Network Rail, Scottish Power Energy Networks, Scotland Gas Networks, Coal Authority, Homes for Scotland and National Grid</p> <p>NLC Service Providers: Corporate Communications and Marketing, Legal Services, Design Services, Human Resources, Facility Support Services, Protective Services, Biodiversity, Access, Waste Management, Revenue Services, Financial Services, E-Government & Service Development, Social Work Services, Housing Services, Standards and Inclusion, Education Resources, Community Information & Learning, Roads & Transportation and Geotechnical</p> <p>Responses were included within the Site Sustainability and Deliverability Matrix (see Appendix 2). Responses were not received from all of those consulted. Letters were sent to all Call for Sites Submitters requesting confirmation that they continue to wish that these sites are considered as part of the Main Issues Report - 30 October 2014. As a result of this 4 sites were withdrawn from the Call for Sites process and will not be considered as part of the Main Issues Report.</p>
21 January 2015	The site sustainability and deliverability matrices for all 175 sites were approved at Planning & Transportation Committee for public engagement at the Main Issues Report stage.

SCOPING REPORT**6. NEXT STEPS****6.1 Anticipated milestones**

Timescale	Local Development Plan	SEA
March - May 2015	Consultation on Main Issues Report	Consult on Draft Environment Report
June - December 2015	Prepare Proposed Plan	Analyse responses to Draft Environmental Report
January - February 2016	Formal deposit of Proposed Plan	Final Environmental Report
February - August 2016	Assessment of representations	Consider comments and revise environmental report as appropriate
Autumn 2016	Submit Plan for examination, publication of Consultation Report	
Autumn 2017	Adoption and publication of North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan	Post-Adoption Report
Annually	Monitor and review	Monitor and review

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Call for Sites Criteria

Appendix 2

**Site Sustainability and
Deliverability Matrix**

Appendix 1 - Call for Sites Criteria

CALL FOR SITES CRITERIA

CRITERIA	PARAMETERS
ENHANCING PLACE (Contribution to low carbon placemaking)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting National and Strategic Locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does your proposal support a designated national priority or a site located in the Strategic Development Plan? • Location supports NLC Community Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Which key themes within the NLC Community Plan does the proposal support? • Meeting Identified Need and Land Supply Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does your proposal need an identified need or land supply issue? • Strengthening Existing Places <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the proposed site within or next to an existing settlement area? - Is the site located within the Green Belt or Rural Investment Area? - Will development of sites within these areas create robust and defensible boundaries? • Re-use of Previously Developed Land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has the site been developed before? • Will development of this site re-use any existing buildings? • Landuse Compatability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the proposal compatible with neighbouring uses? - Is the proposal compatible with the existing character of the surrounding area? • Supporting Local Communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does the proposal support local communities? - Will the proposal enhance or create new local community facilities? • Employment Creation and Using Workforce Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will the proposal create any permanent employment within North Lanarkshire? - Will the proposal result in a loss of employment? - Can local workforce and skills be utilised? • Promote the use of Sustainable Transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does the site's location promote the principles of mode hierarchy?
INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY (Contribution to low carbon placemaking)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site Service Provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the site serviced by existing utilities Infrastructure? (water, sewerage, electricity, gas, telecommunications/digital) - Does capacity exist within networks for the proposal? • Proximity to Existing Networks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the site within proximity to road and rail networks? - Does capacity exist within the road/ rail network for the proposal?
SITE TECHNICAL CONSTRAINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free from Physical Site Constraints <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are there any known physical constraints which affect the site? (i.e. ground/underground conditions, exclusion zones, coal, slope, aspect, transport infrastructure or any other known constraints). - Can the known physical constraints be overcome?
SAFEGUARDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Changes in Landscape Character <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What affect will the proposal have on landscape character? • Enhancing the Green Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will the development contribute to the green network? • Safeguarding Country, Town and Community Parks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would development of the site affect a designated Country, Town or Community Park? • Safeguarding Natura 2000 Sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the site located within 2km or likely to have an effect on a designated Natura 2000 site? • Safeguarding National, Regional or Local Designated Sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will development of the site have an adverse impact on a national, regional or local designated site? (for example, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Regional Scenic Areas, Areas of Great Landscape Value, Regional Parks, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, Local Nature Reserves, Tree Preservation Orders).
DELIVERABILITY IN THE PLAN PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowner Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does site ownership make development of the site deliverable? • Development Programme & Marketability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When is development proposed to take place on the site? • Effective Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the site effective?

Appendix 2 - Site Sustainability and Deliverability Matrix

Below is a sample sheet of a site's consideration against the Site Sustainability and Deliverability Matrix.

Economic Capital – The economy, assets and viability		
E1 – Business Employment and skill levels/ opportunities	Proposal is for residential, existing use is Business and Industry and would result in loss of business allocation.	✗
E2 – Sustainable Transport opportunities	Distance to the nearest bus stop is 391m. There is 1 bus stop within a 5 minute walk. Distance to a core path is 9m. Distance to the nearest cycle route is 9.6km. Distance to green network is 3.4km. Strathclyde Partnership for Transport states that As the site falls within 400m of any bus stop location, direct and attractive pedestrian links to these facilities are essential.	✓
E3 – Existing and new Transport Links	The site is 2.7km to a railway station. The nearest road is 41m. Strathclyde Partnership for Transport states that the site falls within 800m of a rail station and where sites fall within 800m of a rail station, direct and attractive pedestrian links to these facilities are essential. Although this site has an existing connection onto Excelsior Street which is historical it would no longer be allowed at the location shown as it would not be able to meet junction spacing requirements. NLC Roads & Transportation state that existing junctions of Excelsior Street/Shields Road and Range Road/Shields Road are experiencing difficulties due to the volume of traffic already utilizing them. Although this site has an existing connection onto Excelsior Street which is historical it would no longer be allowed at the location shown as it would not be able to meet junction spacing requirements.	✗✗
E4 – Service Provision	Scottish Water states that the Sewer - Carbars currently has capacity. Surface water should discharge to watercourse with appropriate permissions in place. They also state that Water flow & pressure test may be required.	±
E5 – Site Constraints	There is a 16% overlap with a medium probability of Surface flooding in the next 200 years. There is a 34% overlap with a low probability of Surface flooding within the next 200 years + climate change. The site is located at a distance of 4.5km to an open cast coal extraction area. The site is 10.67km to the existing mineral extraction site. 87% of the site overlaps with a Coal Authority standing advice area. 13% of the site overlaps with Coal Authority referral area. Approximate number of mine entries within the site is 1. The site is 635m from a waste site. All of the site contains potentially contaminated land therefore potentially remediation will be required. Site investigations required. The site is 1.3km from an AQMA. The site is adjacent to industrial estate therefore a Noise Impact Site Investigation and potentially remediation will be required. Assessment will be required. Odour or other PH Constraints may be an issue if nearby industrial estate has malodorous emissions. Development is closer to the industrial estate than any existing housing. There is potential that noise assessment may show that this site is very difficult to develop and provide adequate noise levels for residents. Contaminated Land Constraint Report Available.	✗
E6 – Deliverability	Flood prevention measures may be required. Mine entry may require capping. Site investigations required, potentially contaminated land requiring remediation. Noise prevention may be required due to neighbouring industrial estate. May be suitable for residential development.	✓
Natural Capital – The Land and its Ecosystems		
N1 – Planning Designations and Policy	The site is currently designated as an area for existing Business and Industry (policy ED1 1 A1).	✗
N2 – Site Characteristics (incl. current use and management of land)	78% of the site overlaps vacant/delict land. The site is predominately derelict (with some storage) with a strong tree belt to the east and north. 100% of the site falls with non-agricultural land.	✓
N3- Neighbouring Land Uses	There is an existing residential area to the west and an existing industrial and business area to the east.	±
N4 – Landscape/ Open Space Designations	The site is 954m to green infrastructure. Distance to a town or community park is 581m. Distance to a regional scenic area is 23.9km. Distance to Area of Great Landscape Value is 490m. Distance to nearest country park is 3.4km. The site is 7.5km to canal corridors.	±
N5 – Ecological Designations	The site is approximately 3.7km from a Natura 2000 site (SAC). The site is 3.4km to the nearest SSSI. The nearest LNR is 1.3km from the site. The site is 871m from the nearest GINC. The site is 3.4km from the nearest country park. There is an ancient woodland within 557m of the site. There are no TPOs within the site the nearest TPO is 1.2km from the site. NLC Biodiversity state that site can progress with retention of ecological features and appropriate buffers. Ecological surveys should be included with planning application. Retain ecological features. include appropriate buffer in site design.	±
N6 – Historical Designations	Site is 590m to a listed building. Distance to nearest G&M is 4.2km. The nearest garden/designated landscape is 964m from the site. The site is 5.2km to the nearest battlefield. The site is 2.9km to the nearest conservation area. The site is 21.6km from the Antonine Wall.	✓✓
Social Capital – The People and their lives		
S1 – Proximity of sensitive receptors (e.g. key neighbourhood institutions)	Motherwell Town Centre is 2360m by car or 2304m by foot. The nearest commercial centre (Motherwell - Airties Road RTL Warehouse) is 2243m by car or 2154m by foot. The nearest neighbourhood/local centre (Wishaw - Netherton) is 757m by car or by foot. The nearest district general hospital is Wishaw General Hospital which is 2174m by car. Primary School - St Brendan's (denominational) is 828m by foot and by car. Muirhouse (non-denominational) is 679m by foot or by car. Secondary School - Our Lady's High School (denominational) is 2620m by car and 2078m by foot. Clyde Valley High School (non-denominational) is 3638m by car or by foot.	✓
S2 – Strengthening existing places	100% of the site overlaps a settlement (Netherton/Wishaw). The site is 6192m from a rural investment area.	✓✓
S3 – Community Facilities	Walking distance to sports facility (Wishaw Sports Centre) is 2045m. Driving distance to sports facility (Wishaw Sports Centre) is 1938m. Walking distance to community centre/hall or community education centre (Isa Money Community Centre) is 1240m. Driving distance to community centre/hall or community education centre (Isa Money Community Centre) is 1240m. Walking distance to library (Craigneuk Library) is 2866m. Driving distance to library (Craigneuk Library) is 2925m.	✓✓
	Within Wishaw built up area and adjacent to residential neighbourhoods, close to community facilities in various directions.	

The following three pages set out the matrix criteria.

Economic Capital	✓✓	✓		✗	✗✗
E1 – Business Employment and skill levels/ opportunities	If <u>large</u> numbers of jobs will be created by development	If <u>limited</u> number of permanent jobs will be created by development	If <u>limited</u> number of construction jobs will be created only	If <u>limited</u> number of existing jobs likely to be lost or have to be relocated	If <u>large</u> number of jobs likely to be lost or relocated (for example due to closure of major business)
E2 – Sustainable Transport opportunities (distances calculated along existing transport network)	If bus stop is within 200m of site <u>and</u> core path/cycleway etc is within 400m .	If bus stop within 400m of site <u>and</u> core path/cycleway etc within 400m .	If bus stop is within 400m of site but core path/cycleway is NOT within 500m	If bus stop is over 400m from site <u>and</u> core path/cycleway is within 400m .	If bus stop is over 400m from site <u>and</u> core path/cycleway is NOT within 400m .
E3 – Existing and new Transport Links	If train station within 400m of site <u>and</u> NO issues identified by NLC Roads & Transportation	If train station within 800m of site <u>and</u> NO issues identified by NLC Roads & Transportation	If train station within 800m of site <u>but</u> NETWORK issues identified by NLC Roads & Transportation.	If train station NOT within 800m of site <u>and</u> NO issues identified by NLC Roads & Transportation	If train station NOT within 800m of site <u>and</u> NETWORK issues identified by NLC Roads & Transportation.
E4 – Service Provision	N/A	If no issues identified by Scottish Water	If Scottish Water identify need for Drainage Impact Assessment only	If Scottish Water identify need for Drainage Impact Assessment and water main/ pipes within site boundary or directly adjacent	If Scottish water identify significant constraints (that would undermine deliverability for example)
E5 – Site Constraints	N/A	If no site constraints identified.	If constraints identified but NO further assessments highlighted at this stage	If constraints identified <u>and</u> further assessments highlighted (e.g. SI/ Noise/Air/FRA) <u>or</u> potential flooding and/or contamination constraints identified	If any consultation responses indicated significant issues (that would undermine the deliverability of the site)
E6 – Deliverability	Subjective scoring provided by Land surveyor based on information provided within matrix.				

Environmental Capital	✓✓	✓		✗	✗✗
N1 – Planning Designations and Policy	If proposed use matches North Lanarkshire Local Plan (NLLP) Designation (for example a proposal for housing on an existing housing site)	If proposed use mostly matches NLLP designation (for example a housing proposal in a generally residential area)	If proposed use partially matches NLLP designation (for example if the proposal is for housing and part of the site is allocated for housing)	If proposal would be on site allocated for housing or industry and propose use would not match NLLP allocation. (i.e. it would incur a loss of land supply)	N/A
N2 – Site Characteristics (incl. current use and management of land)	If site is Vacant, Derelict or currently developed (i.e. on the register or in use)	If site is partly Vacant, Derelict or currently developed. (i.e. large hospital site with undeveloped grounds)	If no part of site is Vacant, Derelict or developed	If no part of site is Vacant, Derelict or developed <u>and</u> agricultural grade 3.2 - 6.3	If no part of site is Vacant, Derelict or developed <u>and</u> site is rural <u>and</u> agricultural grade 3.1 or better
N3- Neighbouring Land Uses	Consistent with surrounding land uses (i.e. housing proposal for a generally residential area)	Within core of settlement <u>and</u> not consistent with surrounding uses	Sites at edge of settlement <u>and</u> not consistent with surrounding uses	Sites isolated from settlements <u>and</u> not consistent with surrounding uses	Greenfield/agri cultural area <u>and</u> not consistent with surrounding uses
N4 – Landscape/ Open Space Designations	If site is within 250m of green network/comm unity park/canal etc. <u>and</u> the site is NOT within 500m of Area of Great Landscape Value/ Regional Scenic Area.	If site is between 250- 500m of green network/comm unity park/canal etc. <u>and</u> The site is NOT within 500m of Area of Great Landscape Value/ Regional Scenic Area.	If site is over 500m from green network/comm unity park/canal etc. <u>OR</u> If site is between 250-500m of Area of Great Landscape Value/ Regional Scenic Area.	If within 250m of Garden and Designed Landscape/ Area of Great Landscape Value <u>regardless of</u> distance from green network/comm unity park/canal etc.	Within Area of Great Landscape Value/ Garden and Designed Landscape <u>regardless of</u> distance from green network/comm unity park/canal etc.

N5 – Ecological Designations	If site over 2km from any designation (i.e. SAC/SPA/SSSI /ancient woodland/TPO etc) <u>and</u> NO constraints identified by consultations.	If site between 1-2km from any designation (i.e. SAC/SPA/SSSI /ancient woodland/TPO etc) <u>and</u> NO constraints identified by consultations.	If site does NOT include any designation (i.e. SAC/SPA/SSSI /ancient woodland/TPO etc) within it <u>and</u> limited constraints have been identified by consultees	If any local designation (i.e. SSSI/ancient woodland/TPO etc) is within site <u>and</u> limited constraints identified by consultations.	If any international designation (i.e. SAC, SPA) is within the site <u>or</u> if consultees identify significant issues.
N6 – Historical Designations	If any historical designations (scheduled monument/ listed building/conser vation area etc) over 1500m away	If any historical designations (scheduled monument/ listed building/conser vation area etc) are between 500-1500m away.	If any historical designations (scheduled monument/ listed building/conser vation area etc) are between 250- 500m of any designation	If any historical designations (scheduled monument/ listed building/conser vation area etc) are within 0- 250m of any designation	If site is within any historical designations (scheduled monument/ listed building/conser vation area etc).
Social Capital	✓✓	✓		x	xx
Key social infrastructure <i>Distances to nearest hospitals and town centres provided for information only.</i>	If both denominational and non-denominational primary schools are within 1.6km <u>and</u> denominational and non-denominational secondary schools are within 3.2km.	If both denominational and non-denominational primary schools are within 1.6km <u>but</u> either one or both secondary's are NOT within 3.2km	If site is not a housing proposal site and will not impact on school capacity.	If either one or both denominational and non-denominational primary schools are NOT within 1.6km <u>and</u> both non-denomination and denominational secondary's school distances are within 3.2km	If neither denominational and non-denominational primary schools are NOT within 1.6km <u>and</u> neither secondary's are NOT within 3.2km
S2 – Strengthening existing places	If site is within existing settlement	Site is mostly within settlement <u>and /or</u> a Rural Investment area	Site is partially within settlement <u>and /or</u> a Rural Investment area	Site is on the edge of a settlement or rural investment area. Site is NOT in settlement <u>and</u>	Site is neither within a settlement or a Rural Investment Area.
S3 – Community Facilities	Subjective scoring provided on distance to community facilities and whether proposal would contribute to reinforcement of local centres and would strengthen existing places				