

Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Main Report

July 2020

Broxtowe Borough Council
Erewash Borough Council
Gedling Borough Council
Nottingham City Council
Rushcliffe Borough Council

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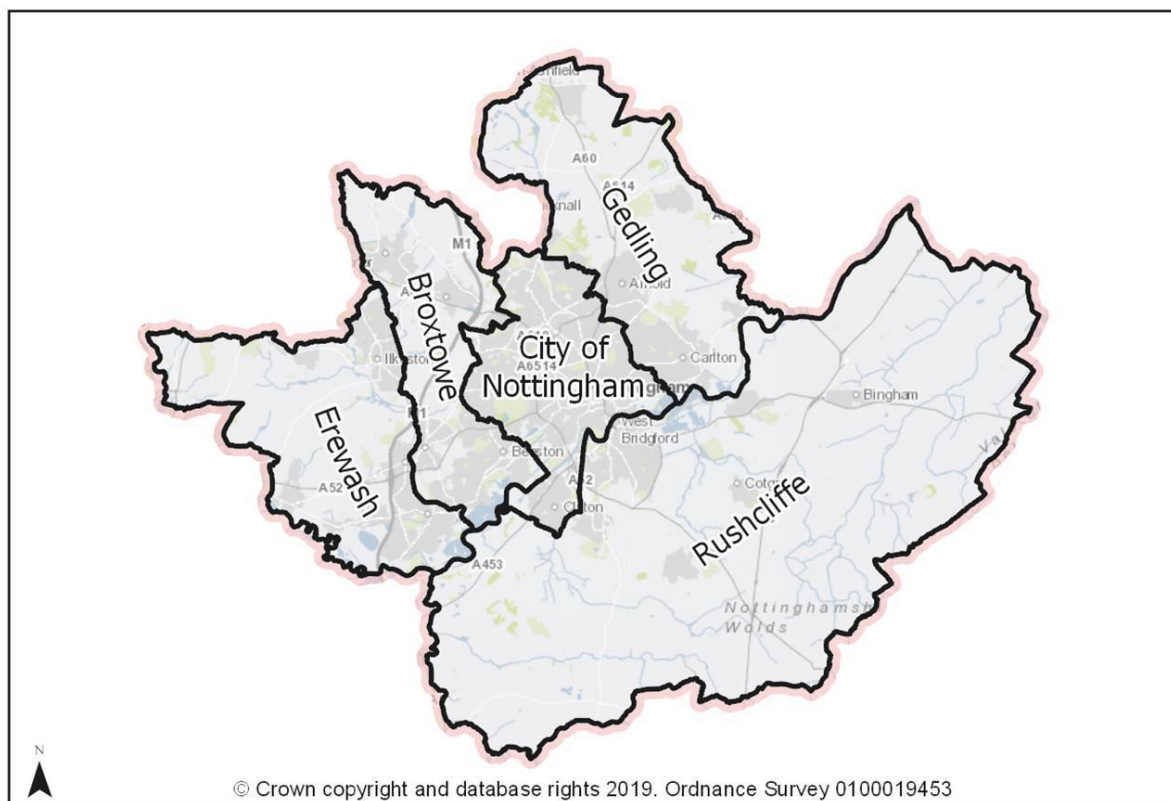
Section 1: Introduction

1.1 The Scoping Report comprises the first stage of the Sustainability Appraisal process for the following Greater Nottingham councils:-

- Broxtowe Borough Council,
- Erewash Borough Council,
- Gedling Borough Council,
- Nottingham City Council, and
- Rushcliffe Borough Council.

1.2 **Map 1** shows the council administrative areas as listed in the above paragraph.

Map 1: Council administrative areas



Purpose of this Scoping Report

- 1.3 The purpose of this report is to decide on the scope and level of detail of the Sustainability Appraisal.
- 1.4 The Scoping Report sets out the information required to determine the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal, suggests a list of sustainability issues and sets out the Sustainability Appraisal Framework against which the effects of the Local Plan will be assessed.

- 1.5 The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal is to assess the economic, social and environmental impacts of projects, strategies or plans, so that the preferred option promotes, rather than inhibits, sustainable development.

Sustainable development

- 1.6 The UK Government launched the UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy in 2005. The strategy defines sustainable development as to “enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations”.

- 1.7 The strategy contains a set of five guiding principles for sustainable development:

Living within Environmental Limits

Respecting the limits of the planet’s environment, resources and biodiversity, to improve our environment and ensure that natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations.

Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society

Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal well being, social cohesion and inclusion and creating equal opportunity for all.

Achieving a Sustainable Economy

Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is incentivised.

Using Sound Science Responsibly

Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.

Promoting Good Governance

Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society, engaging people’s creativity, energy, and diversity.

The Local Plan

- 1.8 The Local Plans for Broxtowe Borough Council, Gedling Borough Council, Nottingham City Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council have been prepared in two parts:-

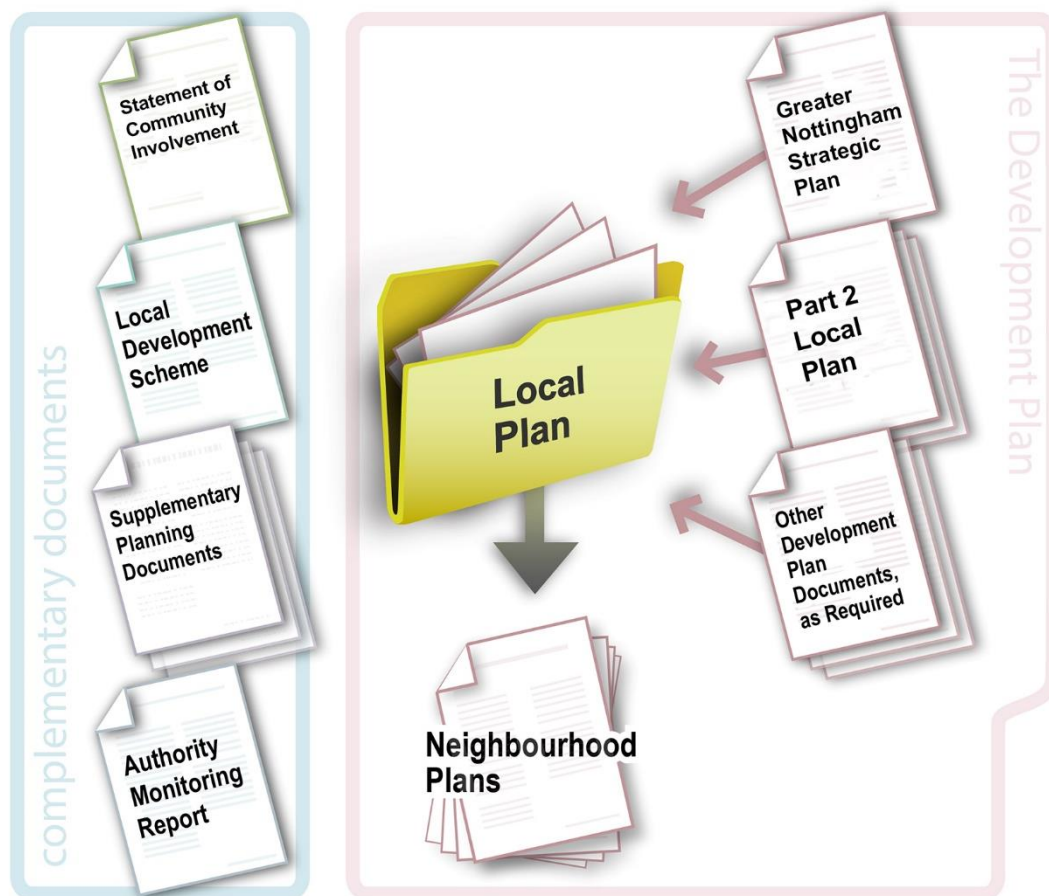
- Part 1 Local Plan, the Core Strategy, identifies strategic allocations and sets strategic planning policies to guide development; and

- Part 2 Local Plan sets out non-strategic allocations and detailed policies for new development in each council area.

- 1.9 Erewash Borough Council has a Part 1 Local Plan Core Strategy only.
- 1.10 Currently there are eight Neighbourhood Plans within the council areas. Broxtowe has one Neighbourhood Plan (Nuthall). There are no Neighbourhood Plans in Erewash and Nottingham City. For Gedling there are four Neighbourhood Plans (Burton Joyce, Calverton, Linby and Papplewick). Rushcliffe has five Neighbourhood Plans (East Leake, Gotham Keyworth, Radcliffe on Trent and Upper Broughton). Other Neighbourhood Plans are currently being prepared for Neighbourhood Areas designated in Broxtowe, Erewash and Rushcliffe.
- 1.11 The existing Core Strategies for Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City are contained in one single document with Erewash Borough and Rushcliffe Borough each producing aligned but separate Core Strategies. Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe Councils are working together to align their Core Strategies into a single Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan¹. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will form part 1 of the Local Plan and when adopted it will replace the Core Strategies for Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe Councils.
- 1.12 The Local Plan is illustrated in **Figure 1** and shows how the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will fit into the overall scheme for each of the participating councils.

¹ Erewash Borough Council has produced a separate Growth Options Document and Sustainability Appraisal as the first stage of their Core Strategy review. This was issued for consultation in January 2020. Nonetheless, work on a single joint evidence base spanning the whole of Greater Nottingham continues, and where necessary to give a Greater Nottingham-wide perspective, mention of Erewash is made within this main report and the accompanying appendices.

Figure 1: The Local Plan for each council



Consultation and next steps

- 1.13 A draft version of the Scoping Report was previously sent to the three statutory consultation bodies for England (the Environmental Agency, Historic England and Natural England) for informal comments and amendments have been made to reflect the comments received.
- 1.14 The councils are now seeking comments on the Scoping Report and consultation questions are set out in **Section 7** of this report. The responses from the consultation will help to shape the SA Framework before work starts on the next stages of the SA process.
- 1.15 Following the consultation period, the Sustainability Appraisal of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will take place over several stages (as identified in **Section 2** of this report).
- 1.16 A Sustainability Appraisal report will also be published detailing the assessment of reasonable alternative options put forward and the proposed policies and site allocations.

Section 2: Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment

- 2.1 This section explains the legal requirements for Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- 2.2 In addition to this process, the councils are also required to carry out a Habitats Regulations Assessment and an Equality Impact Assessment. Nottinghamshire County Council has prepared a Planning and Health engagement protocol setting out arrangements for how health partners including Nottinghamshire County Council should be consulted on local plans and planning applications.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 2.3 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced the requirement to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal as an integral part of the preparation of new or revised Local Plan.
- 2.4 Paragraph 32 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 states:-
- “Local plans and spatial development strategies should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets the relevant legal requirements. This should demonstrate how the plan has addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives (including opportunities for net gains). Significant adverse impacts on these objectives should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered)”.*
- 2.5 The SA is an ongoing process undertaken throughout the preparation of a plan or strategy. The purpose of the SA is to assess the economic, social and environmental impacts of plans or strategies so that the preferred option promotes, rather than inhibits, sustainable development. It also aims to minimise adverse impacts and resolve as far as possible conflicting or contradictory outcomes of the plan or strategy.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 2.6 European Directive 2001/42/EC (commonly referred to as Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA) which was translated into legislation² in the UK in July 2004, requires that local planning authorities undertake an

² The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/made>

'environmental assessment' of any plans and programmes they prepare that are likely to have a significant effect upon the environment.

- 2.7 Regarding the planning (environmental) requirements when the UK leaves the European Union, the government has published statutory instruments in relation to environmental assessments and the planning regime in October 2018³. These instruments make no substantive changes of policy but now that the UK has left the European Union, these instruments ensure the continued smooth operation of the following regimes relating to the environment and the planning system. One of the instruments is the Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- 2.8 The objective of SEA is stated in Article 1 of the Directive: '[to] provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of development plans ... with a view to promoting sustainable development'.
- 2.9 The SEA should consider the key likely significant effects on the environment including on issues such as:- biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.

Relationship between SEA and SA

- 2.10 Both SEA and SA are similar processes that involve a comparable series of tasks. The main difference is that the SEA focuses on environmental effects whereas the SA covers environmental, social and economic matters.
- 2.11 For clarification, throughout this report the term Sustainability Appraisal and SA are used to encompass the requirement of UK planning guidance and European law.
- 2.12 **Table 1** shows how the requirements of SEA are met in the Sustainability Appraisal.

Table 1: How the requirements of SEA Directive are met in the SA

Requirements of the SEA Directive (As referred to in Article 5 (1))	Where requirement is met in the Sustainability Appraisal
(a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes	The main objectives of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will be described in the Sustainability Appraisal report.

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/continuity-of-planning-environmental-requirements-when-the-uk-leaves-the-european-union>

Requirements of the SEA Directive (As referred to in Article 5 (1))	Where requirement is met in the Sustainability Appraisal
(b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme	<p>Section 4 of the Scoping Report summarises the characteristics of the council areas. Appendix B contains the baseline data for each council.</p> <p>The likely evolution thereof without implementation of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will be assessed and reported in the Sustainability Appraisal report.</p>
(c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	<p>Section 4 of the Scoping Report summarises the characteristics of the council areas. Appendix B contains the baseline data for each council.</p>
(d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC	<p>Section 2 of the Scoping Report refers to the Appropriate Assessment (Habitats Regulations Assessment) as required by the European Directive 92/43/EEC.</p> <p>European Directive 79/409/EEC refers to Special Protection Areas.</p>
(e) The environmental protection objectives established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation	<p>Section 3 contains the key messages from the reviews of plans, policies and programmes. Section 5 of the Scoping Report describes the sustainability issues facing the council areas.</p>
(f) The key likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects.	<p>The likely significant effects will be assessed and reported in the Sustainability Appraisal report.</p>

Requirements of the SEA Directive (As referred to in Article 5 (1))	Where requirement is met in the Sustainability Appraisal
(g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme	The measures to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects will be reported in the Sustainability Appraisal report.
(h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information	The reasons for selecting the alternatives and a description of how the assessment was undertaken will be reported in the Sustainability Appraisal report.
(i) A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10	The monitoring framework will be reported in the Sustainability Appraisal report.
(j) A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	A non-technical summary will be produced alongside or included in the Sustainability Appraisal report.

Stages of Sustainability Appraisal

- 2.13 The councils' approach to undertaking Sustainability Appraisal is based on the government's planning practice guidance. The guidance is designed to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the SEA Directive.
- 2.14 The Government guidance identifies 5 stages of carrying out an SA. **Table 2** shows the main stages of a Sustainability Appraisal.
- 2.15 This scoping report covers Stage A of the SA process. The Sustainability Appraisal report will cover Stages B and C of the SA process. Stage D represents the consultation stage which the Sustainability Appraisal report will be published alongside the publication draft of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan in order to seek comments. The remaining Stage E will be completed at the adoption stage.

Table 2: Stages in Sustainability Appraisal

Stage A	Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	A1	Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
		A2	Collect baseline information
		A3	Identify sustainability issues and problems
		A4	Develop the sustainability appraisal framework
		A5	Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the sustainability appraisal report
Stage B		B1	Test the Local Plan objectives against the sustainability appraisal framework

	Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects	B2	Develop the Local Plan options including reasonable alternatives
		B3	Evaluate the likely effects of the Local Plan and alternatives
		B4	Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
		B5	Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
Stage C	Preparing the sustainability appraisal report		
Stage D	Seek representations on the sustainability appraisal report from consultation bodies and the public		
Stage E	Post adoption reporting and monitoring	E1	Prepare and publish post-adoption statement
		E2	Monitor significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
		E3	Response to adverse effects

Habitats Regulations Assessment (Appropriate Assessment)

- 2.16 The EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) requires that an Appropriate Assessment is made of the effects of land-use plans on sites of European importance for nature conservation.
- 2.17 The sites that are subject to Appropriate Assessment are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive, and/or as Special Protection Area (SPAs) designated under the EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC (Birds Directive).
- 2.18 Appropriate Assessments should be carried out on sites that are within and outside the plan area that could potentially be affected by the plan. During the previous Core Strategy's process, a potential significant effect on an area of land that may be designated in the future as a European site was identified. It found that there could be potentially significant effects of the Core Strategies on the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area. (The screening process followed a precautionary approach, as advised by Natural England, and assumed the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area is progressed through the normal classification process, via potential Special Protection Area and classified Special Protection Area status, but it is not known when a decision on its final status is expected).
- 2.19 Unlike Strategic Environmental Assessment that is incorporated with the Sustainability Appraisal, Appropriate Assessment (or Habitats Regulations Assessment) must be reported on separately to the Sustainability Appraisal.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 2.20 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan is required to be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment to ensure that it meets the needs of all members of the community. There are nine protected characteristics⁴:
- Age
 - Disability
 - Gender reassignment
 - Marriage and civil partnership
 - Pregnancy and maternity
 - Race
 - Religion or belief
 - Sex
 - Sexual orientation
- 2.21 Undertaking Equality Impact Assessments allows the councils to identify any potential discrimination caused by their policies or the way they work and take steps to make sure that it is removed.
- 2.22 During the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan process, an Equality Impact Assessment of the draft policies will be undertaken using a similar methodology to that used for the Equality Impact Assessment carried out on the Core Strategies.

Health Impact Assessment

- 2.23 Nottinghamshire County Council has prepared a Planning and Health engagement protocol setting out arrangements for how health partners including Nottinghamshire County Council should be consulted on local plans and planning applications. This initiative to improve engagement between the health partners and local planning authorities builds on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy previously produced by Nottinghamshire County Council which recommended the use of the Planning and Health checklist to assess development proposals. The councils agreed the use of the Health and Wellbeing Checklist in relation to local plan policy preparation.
- 2.24 During the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan process, the draft policies will be assessed against the Health and Wellbeing checklist.

⁴ <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/equality-act/protected-characteristics>

Section 3: Reviewing other relevant plans, policies and programmes (Stage A1)

- 3.1 This section looks at reviewing the relevant international, national and local plans, policies and programmes to identify their key requirements and assess their relationship to the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.
- 3.2 **Appendix A** sets out the review of all plans, policies and programmes considered relevant to the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. It contains issues and objectives, targets, the implications for the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan and the implications for the Sustainability Appraisal.
- 3.3 There is no definitive list of plans that must be reviewed. Reviews of the plans, policies and programmes that are deemed relevant to the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan have been included in Appendix A.
- 3.4 The list of relevant documents will be kept under review during the SA process.

Issues identified from review

- 3.5 The following list contains the key messages from the review of plans, policies and programmes included in Appendix A. The key messages are split into different themes as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (2019), Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015) and National Planning Policy for Waste (2014):
- Delivering a sufficient supply of homes
 - Building a strong, competitive economy
 - Ensuring the vitality of town centres
 - Promoting healthy and safe communities
 - Promoting sustainable transport
 - Supporting high quality communications
 - Making effective use of land
 - Achieving well-designed places
 - Protecting Green Belt land
 - Meeting the challenge of climate change and flooding
 - Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
 - Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
 - Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals
 - Planning and delivering traveller sites
 - Achieving sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and waste management
- 3.6 **Table 3** summarises the key messages from the reviews of plans, policies and programmes.

Table 3: Key messages

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
<p>Delivering a sufficient supply of homes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce homelessness • Reduce the number of empty homes • Improve affordability across the housing market • Increase the supply of homes • Promote self-build or custom build homes • Provide a supply of high quality, well designed, energy efficient housing appropriate to needs of the community including family homes, homes to meet the needs of the ageing population and social housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act (2015) • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • Technical Housing Standards – Nationally Described Space Standard (2015) • Appraisal of Sustainable Urban Extensions (2008) • The Relationship Between Household Size and Dwelling Size in Future Housing Provision (2010) • Greater Nottingham Sustainable Locations for Growth Study (2010) • Nottingham Core Affordable Housing Viability Study (2009) • Nottingham Core Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2007) • A Strategic Approach to Older Persons' Accommodation for Nottinghamshire and Erewash (2011) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Erewash Local Plan Saved Policies 2005 (2014) • Stanton Regeneration Site Supplementary Planning Document (2017) • Gedling Borough Affordable Housing 	<p>Requires objectives to ensure that the housing stock is of a high quality and meets the requirements of all sectors of the community.</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
	<p>Supplementary Planning Document (2009)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • Rushcliffe Housing Delivery Plan 2016-2021 (2016) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans • All councils' Housing Strategies • All councils' Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments • All councils' Five Year Housing Land Supply Assessments 	
<p>Building a strong, competitive economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the location of new business with regard to accessibility and the local environment • Ensure that the location of industry and commerce brings benefit and not harm to local communities • Regenerate deprived areas through business development • Ensure location of development makes efficient use of existing infrastructure • Understand future demands for business land • Develop economic capacity and expertise • Increase economic diversity • Maximise economic benefit from tourism • Encourage growth in high value, high growth, high knowledge economic activities • Ensure that economic growth goes hand-in-hand with high quality environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality Act 2010 • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • Industrial Strategy: building a Britain fit for the future (2017) • Employment Land Forecasting Study Nottingham Core HMA and Nottingham Outer HMA (2015) • Towards a one nation economy: A 10-point plan for boosting rural productivity (2015) • Greenwood Community Forest Strategic Plan (2000) • Derbyshire Local Economic Assessment (2018) • Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement • East Midlands Airport Sustainable Development Plan (2015) 	<p>Requires objectives to improve employment skills and levels; to ensure there is sufficient supply of land for business development; to ensure that businesses are located in the correct places and that local communities (especially deprived communities) benefit from them; to ensure that businesses do not cause harm to the communities in which they are situated; and to</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop flourishing local economies • Understand future demands for land including type of land and location • Encourage inward investment • Reduce worklessness • Improve skills to help reduce unemployment and deprivation • Ensure supply of employment land • Prevent decline in some rural communities • Promote rural renewal • Development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside • Connect to fast broadband services and communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible Settlements Study for Greater Nottingham (2010) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Erewash Local Plan Saved Policies 2005 (2014) • Ilkeston Gateway Supplementary Planning Document (2015) • Stanton Regeneration Site Supplementary Planning Document (2017) • The Nottingham Growth Plan (2012) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	<p>encourage diversity and high value, high growth, knowledge intensive economic activities, including tourism.</p> <p>Requires objectives to ensure sustainable communities in the countryside.</p>
<p>Ensuring the vitality of town centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure and other sectors • Promote the vitality of town centres by promoting and enhancing existing centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe Retail Study (2015) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	<p>Requires objectives to support the growth and diversity of town and local centres.</p>
<p>Promoting healthy and safe communities</p>		

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote social cohesion and inclusion in both urban and rural communities • Support vulnerable groups • Reduce deprivation, focusing on most deprived areas • Tackle poverty in urban and rural areas • Increase social interaction • Improve social development of children • Improve quality of life • Create clean, attractive, quality, safe urban spaces • Access to quality health, education, housing, transport, shopping and leisure services • Ensure equality of opportunity in housing, employment and access to services • Recognise that different people have different needs • Improve the quality of educational facilities • Improve health and access to quality health facilities • More opportunities for walking and cycling • Improve access to open space and leisure opportunities • Understand the economic benefits of better health in the community • Encourage and support local food growing opportunities • Reduce crime and the fear of crime • Design out crime 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive 2008/50/EC (2008) • Equality Act 2010 • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • Accessible Settlements Study for Greater Nottingham (2010) • East Derbyshire Greenway Strategy (1998) • Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2023 • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Erewash Local Plan Saved Policies 2005 (2014) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • Gedling Borough Green Space Strategy 2012-2017 (2013) • Breathing Space – Revitalising Nottingham’s open and green spaces (2010-2020) (2010) • Nottingham Outdoor Sport Strategy (2010) • Nottingham Playing Pitch Strategy (2015) • Nottingham City Centre Urban Design Guide (2009) • Food Growing Framework 2012-2015 (2012) • All councils’ Part 2 Local Plans 	<p>Requires objectives to improve health by providing opportunities for walking, cycling, sport and leisure activities and local food growing opportunities.</p> <p>Requires objectives to create attractive, safe, sustainable communities.</p> <p>Requires objectives to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and change behaviour that is often linked with crime.</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All councils' Air Quality Action Plans and Annual Status Reports All councils' Sustainable Community Strategies 	
<p>Promoting sustainable transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed accessibility in decisions affecting provision, location, design and delivery of services in both urban and rural areas Improve social inclusion by making services more accessible Tackle crime and fear of crime on public transport Improve the quality and safety of pedestrian and cycling networks Improve public transport networks Encourage more people to walk and cycle Reduce impact of travel on the environment Maximise the use of existing roads infrastructure and avoid inappropriate development Reduce traffic and in particular journeys made by car Improve public transport Reduce traffic noise, pollution and congestion Improve the freight network to reduce amount of road freight Promote sustainable transport Ensure that the rights of way meet the present and future needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Planning Policy Framework (2019) Accessible Settlements Study for Greater Nottingham (2010) Derbyshire Highway Network Management Plan (2005) Rights of Way Improvement Plan for Derbyshire (2007-2012) (2007) Derbyshire Local Transport Plan Three (2011-2026) (2011) Nottinghamshire Third Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 (2011) East Midlands Airport Sustainable Development Plan (2015) Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) Erewash Core Strategy (2014) Erewash Local Plan Saved Policies 2005 (2014) Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) Green Lanes Action Plan 2012-2017 All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	<p>Requires objectives to enable the development of a sustainable transport infrastructure that reduces overall levels of travel and ensures accessibility to key services (e.g. health services, education, employment sites, and leisure facilities), the provision of safe walking and cycling routes, and safe accessible public transport.</p>
<p>Supporting high quality communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support expansion of electronic communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Planning Policy Framework (2019) 	

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
networks, including next generation mobile technology, and full fibre broadband connections to existing and new developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towards a one nation economy: A 10-point plan for boosting rural productivity (2015) 	Requires objectives to ensure electronic communications networks.
Making effective use of land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise the use of brownfield land for housing, business and commercial development • Prioritise the re-use of existing buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	Requires objectives to ensure that best use of land is made prioritising the re-use of land and buildings.
Achieving well-designed places <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure developments are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping, sympathetic to local character and history • Establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • Nottingham City Centre Urban Design Guide (2009) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	Requires objectives to ensure good design for new development to maintain a sense of place and to reflect local character.
Protecting Green Belt land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to maintain the openness and prevent coalescence between Nottingham, Derby and other settlements • Protect Green Belt from inappropriate development • Exceptional circumstances are required for the Green Belt boundaries to be altered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • Nottingham-Derby Green Belt Review (2006) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) 	Requires objectives to ensure that the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt maintain the openness and prevent coalescence between

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	Nottingham, Derby and other settlements.
<p>Meeting the challenge of climate change and flooding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage low or zero carbon communities • Minimise the effects of climate change on human health and on the environment • New homes to be energy efficient and able to cope with the effects of climate change • Ensure that new development is able to cope with climate change • Spatial planning should contribute to sustainable communities and the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions • Seek secure, clean affordable energy • Reduce amount of energy consumed • Generate energy at local levels • Increase energy efficiency of homes and businesses • Increase the amount of renewable energy produced • Invest in the energy infrastructure • Recover energy from waste • Reduce existing levels of flood risk • Safeguard land used to manage floodwater • Avoid inappropriate development on floodplains • Ensure new development does not afford flood risk elsewhere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (2000) • Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks (2007) • Flood and Water Management Act 2010 • Climate Change Act 2008 • Planning Act 2008 • Energy Act 2011 • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • The Clean Growth Strategy (2017) • Clean Air Strategy 2019 (2019) • Low Carbon Energy Opportunities and Heat Mapping for Local Planning Areas across the East Midlands (2011) • Towards a Sustainable Energy Policy for Nottinghamshire (2009) • Water for Life and Livelihoods – Humber River Basin District river basin management plan (2015) • Trent River Park Vision and Action Plan (2008) • River Leen and Daybrook Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) • Greater Nottingham Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2010) and Addendum (2017) 	<p>Requires objectives to reduce carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to climate change and to ensure that new development is able to cope with the effects of climate change.</p> <p>Requires objectives to improve energy efficiency of new development and to encourage alternative ways of generating energy.</p> <p>Requires objectives to minimise flood risk by considering where development should take place and by protecting floodplains.</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Nottingham and Ashfield Outline Water Cycle Study (2010) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Nottingham City Energy Strategy 2010-2020 (2010) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • Rushcliffe Climate Change Strategy 2009-2020 (updated 2013) • Melton and Rushcliffe Landscape Sensitivity Study: Wind Energy Development (2014) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	
<p>Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and promote biodiversity net gains • Conserve threatened species • Ensure that land uses (including agriculture) does not threaten biodiversity • Protect, restore and improve habitats including woodland and aquatic ecosystems • Create and integrate habitats in urban spaces and in the built environment • Protect and extend heathland • Protect, enhance and extend networks of green spaces and natural elements • Prevent loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land • Conserve and enhance the rural landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC (1979) • Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources (1991) • EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna 92/43/EEC (1992) • Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption (1999) • Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (2000) 	<p>Requires objectives to protect, enhance and improve biodiversity, habitats and green infrastructure.</p> <p>Requires objectives to protect and enhance the natural environment; and to encourage people to enjoy the countryside.</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve and enhance local landscape character • Protect, maintain and enhance geological diversity • Open up access to the countryside • Bring improvements to the physical environment through quality design • Promote the creation of a Sherwood Forest Regional Park • Protect geological heritage • Mitigation against harm to the landscape • Prevent and reduce the detrimental impact on human health, quality of life and the environment • Reduce pollution • Ensure that new development does not reduce air quality • Improve water efficiency • Reduce amount of water used by domestic properties • Lessen effects of flood and drought • Reduce water pollution • Enhance and protect aquatic water systems • Promote the use of SUDS where appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air For Europe Directive 2008/50/EC (2008) • Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control) (2010) • EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2011) • European Landscape Convention (2000) • Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) (1981) • Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) • Water for Life and Livelihoods – Humber River Basin District river basin management plan (2015) • Flood and Water Management Act 2010 • Biodiversity 2020 – A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services (2011) • The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations (2012) • National Planning Policy Framework (2019) • The Clean Growth Strategy (2017) • A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (2019) • Clean Air Strategy 2019 (2019) • Planning for a healthy environment – good practice for green 	<p>Requires objectives to prevent pollution and protect air quality.</p> <p>Requires objectives to improve water efficiency, protect water systems and to lessen the effects of flood and drought.</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
	<p>infrastructure and biodiversity (2012)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits of Green Infrastructure (2010) • The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007) • A Breath of Fresh Air for Nottinghamshire (2008) • Nottinghamshire Air Quality Strategy 2019-2028 (2019) • Nottinghamshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (1998) • Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2011-2020 (2011) • Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Strategic Plan 2015-2020 • Lower Trent & Erewash Abstraction Licensing Strategy (2013) • Greater Nottingham Landscape Character Assessment (2009) • Greenwood Community Forest Strategic Plan (2000) • Trent River Park Vision and Action Plan (2008) • 6Cs Green Infrastructure Study (2010) • National Character Area profiles (2014) • Natural England Corporate Plan (2014-2019) • Nottinghamshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project 1998-2000 • The Landscape Character of Derbyshire (2014) 	

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Nottingham and Ashfield Outline Water Cycle Study (2010) • Greater Nottingham Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2010) and Addendum (2017) • River Leen and Daybrook Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Erewash Local Plan Saved Policies 2005 (2014) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • Nottingham City Council Biodiversity Position Statement 2011-2020 – ‘Ambitious for Wildlife’ • Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy (2016-2020) (2015) • The Rushcliffe Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Report (2015) • All councils’ Part 2 Local Plans • All councils’ Air Quality Action Plans and Annual Status Reports 	
<p>Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance the townscape • Provide opportunities to value local heritage • Bring improvements to the physical environment through quality design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) (1992) • Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979) 	<p>Requires objectives to protect and enhance the built environment and to encourage</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 National Planning Policy Framework (2019) Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) Erewash Core Strategy (2014) Erewash Local Plan Saved Policies 2005 (2014) Nottingham City Centre Urban Design Guide (2009) City Centre Time & Place Plan (2013) Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) All councils' Part 2 Local Plans All councils' Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plans 	<p>people to enjoy their local heritage.</p>
<p>Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote development that minimises the use of resources Prevent soil loss Prevent contaminated land Safeguarding mineral resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC (2008) National Planning Policy Framework (2019) Broxtowe Borough Council Contaminated Land Strategy (2001) Contaminated Land Strategy for Gedling Borough Council (2014) Derby and Derbyshire Minerals Local Plan Part 1 & 2 (2002) Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (2005) 	<p>Requires objectives to promote development that minimises the use of resources and safeguarding minerals resources to meet future needs.</p>

Key messages	Source of message	Implications for the SA Framework
<p>Planning and delivering traveller sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide adequate amount of land for gypsies and travellers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015) • South Nottinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2014-2029 (2016) • Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough and Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategies (2014) • Erewash Core Strategy (2014) • Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) • All councils' Part 2 Local Plans 	<p>Requires objectives to ensure adequate amount of land for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.</p>
<p>Achieving sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and waste management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce amount of municipal and commercial waste produced • Recycle, compost or re-use waste • Minimise harm to the environment and human health from waste treatment and handling • Disposal of waste to be considered the last option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste (1999) • Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC (2008) • Waste Management Plan for England (2013) • National Planning Policy for Waste (2014) • Derby and Derbyshire Waste Local Plan (2005) • Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Core Strategy (2013) • A Waste-Less Nottingham – Waste Strategy 2010-2030 (2010) 	<p>Requires objectives to reduce or re-use waste, and to prevent harm to human health and the environment from waste.</p>

Section 4: Baseline Data and Characteristics (Stage A2)

- 4.1 This section looks at the baseline data and characteristics for each council area.
- 4.2 The SEA Directive requires the collection of baseline information on social, economic and environmental characteristics of the area and in order to provide the basis for predicting and monitoring effects of the policies in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. The baseline information will also help to identify sustainability issues and potential ways of dealing with them.
- 4.3 The baseline data collected is set out in **Appendix B**.

Characteristics of the council administrative areas

- 4.4 The Greater Nottingham Housing Market Area (referred to as the “HMA” throughout this section) includes the administrative areas of five councils. This consists of the city of Nottingham in the centre, surrounded by Broxtowe, Erewash (in Derbyshire), Gedling and Rushcliffe councils. The individual maps of the council administrative areas are provided in Appendix B.
- 4.5 Nottingham City is one of the designated Core Cities recognised as of national importance and consists of a very compact and a high-density urban area. The other councils consist of a mix of urban and rural areas.
- 4.6 Broxtowe is the most densely populated authority after Nottingham City and is typified by an urban south and a rural north with the M1 motorway (running in a north/south direction) acting as the divide between the main built up area of Nottingham and the remaining key settlements at Awsworth, Brinsley, Eastwood and Kimberley and other rural villages including Cossall, Babbington, Moorgreen, Strelley and Trowell.
- 4.7 Erewash lies between the cities of Derby and Nottingham. The majority of the residents living within three miles of the county boundary with Nottinghamshire in the two main built up areas of Ilkeston and Long Eaton. This contributes to a strongly urbanised eastern fringe supplemented by the settlements of Sandiacre and Sawley. The remainder of the Borough is predominantly rural with the larger settlements at Borrowash, West Hallam, Breaston and Draycott and a number of smaller villages including Breadsall, Dale Abbey, Little Eaton, Morley, Ockbrook, Risley, Stanley, Stanley Common and Stanton-by-Dale.
- 4.8 Gedling Borough is a mix of urban and rural areas with the majority of residents living within the suburbs of Arnold and Carlton. Part of the north west of the Borough adjoins Hucknall which is located in Ashfield District but has close links to Nottingham City. The remainder of the Borough is predominantly rural with key settlements at Bestwood Village, Calverton and

Ravenshead and a number of smaller villages including Burton Joyce, Lambley, Linby, Newstead, Papplewick, Stoke Bardolph and Woodborough.

- 4.9 Rushcliffe is the largest of the councils with the lowest population density with the majority of residents living in West Bridgford, a large suburb to the south of Nottingham City. The remainder of the Borough is predominantly rural with the six larger settlements (Bingham, Cotgrave, East Leake, Keyworth, Radcliffe on Trent and Ruddington) and a number of smaller villages including Aslockton, Bunny, Car Colston, Colston Bassett, Costock, Cropwell Bishop, East Bridgford, Flintham, Gotham, Granby, Hawksworth, Hickling, Langar, Kinoulton, Kneeton, Newton, Normanton on Soar, Orston, Rempstone, Shelford, Shelton, Sutton Bonington, Thrumpton, Tollerton, Upper Broughton, West Leake, Whatton, Willoughby on the Wolds and Wysall.

Population and demographics

- 4.10 The total population of the HMA has grown from 750,543 in 2011 to 790,300 in 2017 equating to an increase of 5.3% population growth (39,757 people) during that period.
- 4.11 Broxtowe has the smallest population of 112,700 people in 2017 with an increase of 2.7% (3,000 people) since 2011. Erewash and Gedling also saw relatively small increases in population during the same period with 2.8% growth (3,100 people) for Erewash and 3.1% growth (3,557 people) for Gedling. Rushcliffe's population has increased by 4.3% (4,800 people) since 2011. Nottingham City has the largest population of 329,200 people in 2017 (which makes up 42% of the total population for the council areas) with an increase of 8.3% (25,300 people) since 2011.
- 4.12 In 2011, Nottingham City is relatively ethnically diverse with 34.6% of the total population coming from Black and Minority ethnic groups (i.e. all categories except White British). This has increased from 18.9% in 2001. The total population coming from Black and Minority ethnic groups in 2011 in Broxtowe is 10.5% followed by 9.7% in Gedling and Rushcliffe and 4.8% in Erewash.
- 4.13 The population in Broxtowe, Erewash, Gedling and Rushcliffe is ageing and the proportion of the total population being 65 or over in these council areas increased by approximately 2% in 2017 since 2011. This trend is not replicated in Nottingham City where the proportion of the total population being 65 or over decreased slightly from 11.7% in 2011 to 11.5% in 2017. The population in Nottingham City has a larger proportion of residents in the 18-24 age range (20.1% of the City's population in 2017) compared to other councils primarily due to the number of students attending the two universities⁵.
- 4.14 Rushcliffe is the least deprived area ranking 314 out of 317 in England in the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019. Broxtowe, Erewash and Gedling are all

⁵ University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University

relatively stable in the middle of the ranking table in 2019 (ranking 220, 153 and 209 respectively). Nottingham City is the most deprived ranking 11th most disadvantaged out of 317 areas in England in 2019.

- 4.15 Broxtowe, Erewash, Gedling and Rushcliffe all have pockets of deprivation that sit alongside areas that are less deprived. In terms of the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation, Broxtowe has none in the most deprived 10%. Within Erewash there are four localised pockets of significant deprivation within Cotmanhay, Kirk Hallam and Long Eaton. Gedling has one significant pocket of deprivation within Killisick. Other areas of deprivation include Eastwood and Chilwell within Broxtowe, Ilkeston within Erewash and Netherfield, Colwick, Bestwood and Newstead Village within Gedling. For Nottingham City, 54 of the 182 super output areas (SOAs) in the area are in the 10% most deprived nationally and Rushcliffe has no areas within the worst 30%.

Homes

- 4.16 The HMA has delivered a total of 13,209 (net) new homes between 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2018. Nottingham City delivered 46% of the total (6,020 homes) at an average delivery rate of 860 homes per annum.
- 4.17 Nottingham has two world class universities (University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University) resulting in high demand for student accommodation in the City Centre over the last few years. To meet this demand Nottingham City has delivered 3,356 purpose-built student dwellings between 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2018. Broxtowe has also seen an increase in demand for student accommodation which is focused largely in Beeston (which is located close to the western entrance of the University of Nottingham).
- 4.18 Between 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2018 there were 2,365 new affordable dwellings delivered in total. Nottingham City delivered the vast majority of these (1,158 affordable dwellings) which equates to 28% of their total gross completions (excluding student accommodation). The proportion of affordable dwellings (compared to the total delivered) is relatively consistent across the other council areas with Broxtowe, Erewash and Gedling all achieving 17% of their total gross completions. Rushcliffe has achieved the lowest proportion of affordable dwellings compared to the total dwellings delivered (15%).
- 4.19 The 2011 Census shows that Nottingham City has a largest proportion of terraced dwellings and flats, maisonettes and apartments and the smallest proportion of detached dwellings compared to other councils. 62% of all flats, maisonettes and apartments across the HMA fall within Nottingham City and 24% of detached houses across the HMA fall within Rushcliffe which reflects the deprivation trends.
- 4.20 Average house prices have increased across the HMA. Reflecting the deprivation trends, Rushcliffe has the highest average house price (£273,957) with Nottingham City having the lowest average (£141,976).

Property prices in Broxtowe, Erewash and Gedling are fairly moderate with prices around £184,288, £162,726 and £183,758 respectively. The average house prices for Broxtowe and Gedling are higher than the average for Nottinghamshire (£174,500). Erewash's average house price is lower than the average for Derbyshire (£177,332).

- 4.21 Across the HMA the total number of homelessness acceptances has decreased from 753 in 2011 to 705 in 2017. However Broxtowe and Gedling have both seen an increase in the number of homelessness acceptances during this period.
- 4.22 The total number of vacant dwellings fell by 1,503 dwellings between 2011 and 2018 with all councils seeing a respective decrease. Broxtowe and Nottingham City were the only two councils that had local authority owned vacant dwellings in their areas in 2011 and these fell by 57% from 916 dwellings in 2011 to 390 dwellings in 2018. The number of private registered provider vacant dwellings also fell by 49% from 331 dwellings in 2011 to 169 dwellings in 2018.

Economy

- 4.23 As a regional economic hub, Nottingham City is the main work destination for the majority of residents living within the city and surrounding areas. The latest data shows a 4.6% increase in the number of jobs in Nottingham City from 216,000 in 2015 to 226,000 in 2017. In the HMA there was a 4.7% increase from 359,000 in 2015 to 376,000 in 2017.
- 4.24 The top 25 employers (ranked by turnover) in the HMA by the lists of Top 200 Businesses in Derby and Derbyshire for 2018 and Nottinghamshire's Top 200 Companies for 2018 are shown in Appendix B. This shows a strong local focus for pharmaceuticals and optical goods, manufacturing, ICT technology and finance and banking. Boots UK Limited (which spans the Broxtowe and Nottingham City boundary) is the largest employer in the HMA employing in excess of 40,000 people.
- 4.25 The proportion of economically active residents (the working age population) for all councils has increased by 7.6% from 335,000 in 2011 to 360,300 in 2018. On average 74.8% of the total working age population across the HMA was economically active in 2018 with Erewash achieving 85.8%.
- 4.26 The unemployment rate fell by 38% across the HMA for the same period with the most significant fall of 42.5% in Nottingham City. Erewash, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe all performed favourably whereas Broxtowe has performed less well with unemployment increasing from 2,700 in 2011 to 3,300 in 2018.
- 4.27 The weekly pay of full time employees working in the HMA has increased by an average of £50.30 between 2011 and 2018. However, there is a clear contrast between the average change in weekly earnings for full time employees working in Erewash and Nottingham City during this period (-

£95.50 and -£48.00 respectively) compared to Gedling (+£214.10). For full time employees living in the HMA, weekly pay earnings have increased by an average of £80.30 between 2011 and 2018. However, there is a clear contrast between the average change in weekly earnings for full time employees living in Nottingham City during this period (£30.30) compared to Gedling (£104.40). In 2018, total weekly earnings for full time employees living in Nottingham City remain lower than in the HMA with full time employees living in Rushcliffe earning £236 more.

- 4.28 More than half (56.7%) of all persons in employment in the HMA are employed in management, professional, technical and skilled trades. Nottingham City has a high proportion of the working age population employed in professional occupations (18.2% in 2018).
- 4.29 The majority of the working age population in the HMA are qualified to NVQ2 or above⁶. Rushcliffe has a high proportion of the working age population qualified to NVQ2 or above (88.4%) compared to other councils. 10.2% of the working age population in Nottingham City does not have any qualifications.
- 4.30 The HMA has four designated Enterprise Zones⁷ which benefit from financial incentives and government support to boost economic growth and attract investment. These are:-
- The Alliance Boots site which spans the boundary between Broxtowe and Nottingham City (designated in 2011);
 - Beeston Business Park in Broxtowe (designated in 2016);
 - MediPark in Nottingham City (designated in 2013); and
 - Nottingham Science Park in Nottingham City (designated in 2011).
- 4.31 The Alliance Boots site has gained outline consent to deliver up to 82,000 sqm employment floorspace (B1a, B1b, B1c, B2 and B8), up to 2,500 sqm retail & food/drink (A1, A2, A3, A4 and A5), non-residential institutions (D1), residential institutions and up to 675 residential units (C2 & C3) in 2014. Boots have recently completed a separate scheme to deliver the highways infrastructure required to support the development. Beeston Business Park has gained consent for industrial, storage and distribution buildings (use classes B1(c), B2 and B8) and 310 dwellings. No planning application has been submitted for MediPark. Nottingham Science Park has planning consent granted in January 2019 for a three storey B1 office building with undercroft parking, cafe, conference and meeting space at ground floor (17/02866/PFUL3).
- 4.32 Since 2011, 38.93 hectares of employment land across the HMA was lost to housing or other uses. Nottingham City has the highest proportion of employment land lost to housing or other uses (23.79 hectares) compared to

⁶ NVQ2 equivalent e.g. 5 or more GCSEs at grades A-C, intermediate GNVQ, NVQ 2, intermediate 2 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent.

⁷ Enterprise Zones are designated areas with incentives to encourage the creation of new businesses which will contribute to the growth of local and national economies.

other councils. 77,264 sqm of offices and 17,994 sqm of industry and warehousing within Nottingham were lost to housing or other uses.

Town centres

- 4.33 Within the HMA there is 1 city centre, 5 town centres, 7 district centres, 28 local centres and 55 centres of neighbourhood importance.
- 4.34 Nottingham City is the primary centre in the HMA hierarchy. It is a leading City in the East Midlands with its shopping facilities ranked as amongst the best in England. Within the Nottingham City area there is also a town centre at Bulwell, three district centres (Clifton, Hyson Green and Sherwood) and 12 local centres. There are also 42 centres of neighbourhood importance.
- 4.35 Broxtowe has a town centre located in Beeston with three district centres (Eastwood, Kimberley and Stapleford) and a centre of neighbourhood importance. Erewash has two town centres at Ilkeston and Long Eaton in addition to two local centres (Borrowash and Sandiacre) and a centre of neighbourhood importance which is at the Stanton Regeneration Site. For Gedling, Arnold town centre is the largest centre in the Borough. There are eight local centres including village centres at Burton Joyce, Calverton and Ravenshead. Rushcliffe has two district centres (Bingham and West Bridgford) in addition to six local centres and 11 centres of neighbourhood importance.
- 4.36 A City Council survey revealed that in May 2018 there were 12% vacant units (159 units) out of 1,319 units in the City Centre. Broxtowe's shopping centre surveys revealed that in June 2019 there were 5% vacant units out of 185 units in Beeston. Three districts centres had an average of 12.5% vacant units (Eastwood 12.5%, Kimberley 12% and Stapleford 13%). Erewash's shopping centre surveys revealed that in February 2018 there were 13.5% vacant units out of 297 units in Ilkeston and 7% vacant units out of 253 units in Long Eaton. Gedling's shopping centre surveys revealed that in February/March 2019 there were 6% vacant units out of 210 units in Arnold. Rushcliffe's shopping surveys revealed that in April/June 2019 there were 8% vacant units out of 90 units in Bingham and 1.5% vacant units out of 133 units in West Bridgford.

Healthy and safe communities

- 4.37 Life expectancy at birth has increased for both males (by an average of 1.1 years) and females (by an average of 0.5 years) across the HMA since 2008. Life expectancy for females remains higher than for males. Life expectancy in Nottingham City is lower than the surrounding council areas with life expectancy in Rushcliffe being higher than surrounding council areas.
- 4.38 Crime statistics for each council area are provided in Appendix B. The highest proportion of crimes reported to Nottinghamshire Police (for

Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe) and Derbyshire Police (for Erewash) were violence against the person⁸.

- 4.39 The Sport England Active Lives Survey shows that the respondents in the HMA are being active. Respondents in Rushcliffe were more active than respondents in other council areas, with 70.5% playing sport for 150+ minutes at moderate intensity at least once a week. The survey also reveals that at least 75% of the respondents in the HMA had taken part in sport and physical activity in the last 28 days prior to the survey being undertaken.

Transport

- 4.40 The HMA area is connected to the M1 and the national motorway network via the A453 to junction 24, the A52 to junction 25 and the A610 to junction 26. The major upgrade of the M1 between junctions 23a to 25 has been completed and is now operating as a smart motorway. The A453 linking Nottingham with junction 24 of the M1 has been upgraded to a dual carriageway. The A52 provides a trunk road connection from Derby to Nottingham including to the A46 which runs between the M1 north of Leicester to the A1 at Newark. Orbital movements in Nottingham are less well accommodated with there being only a partial ring road (A52 and A6514). Construction work is underway for a new Gedling Access Road which will provide a link between the B684 Mapperley Plains and the A612 Trent Valley Road / Nottingham Road, thereby extending (but not completing) the ring road.
- 4.41 There are a number of other major transport routes that run through the HMA such as the A60 which runs from Loughborough to Mansfield via Nottingham, the A612 from Nottingham towards Southwell, the A614 which is the main northern route from Nottingham towards the A1 and the A38 which runs from Derby to Sutton-in-Ashfield and junction 28 of the M1.
- 4.42 There are 15 railway stations in the HMA. The primary station in Nottingham City, which hosted in excess of 7,800,000 journeys in 2017/18, is on the national London St Pancras to Sheffield/Leeds rail line. The national rail line also stops at East Midlands Parkway in Rushcliffe. The Nottingham-Leeds rail line runs through Nottingham City and Erewash stopping at Ilkeston. The Matlock-Newark rail line runs through Erewash, Broxtowe, Nottingham City and Gedling stopping at Long Eaton, Attenborough, Beeston, Nottingham and Carlton. The Nottingham-Lincoln rail line runs through Gedling stopping at Carlton and Burton Joyce. The Nottingham-Skegness rail line runs through Nottingham City, Gedling and Rushcliffe stopping at Netherfield, Radcliffe, Bingham, Aslockton, Elton and Orston. The Nottingham-Mansfield Woodhouse rail line runs through Nottingham City and Gedling stopping at Bulwell and Newstead. The new train station in Ilkeston, situated on the south eastern border of Derbyshire, in Erewash was opened in 2017 and has provided additional rail network access to neighbouring cities and further

⁸ Includes a range of offences from minor offences such as harassment and common assault to serious offences such as murder, actual bodily harm and grievous bodily harm.

afield. All stations in Gedling (Burton Joyce, Carlton, Netherfield and Newstead) and Nottingham City (Nottingham and Bulwell) have seen an increase of station usage since 2011. Both stations in Broxtowe (Attenborough and Beeston) have seen marginal decreases in station usage since 2015/16 and Long Eaton Station in Erewash has seen a significant drop in station usage possibly as a result of the new Ilkeston station (which has seen a total of 252,772 entries and exits from the station during 2017/18 since opening in April 2017).

- 4.43 In January 2013, the Secretary of State for Transport announced the preferred route for the second stage of High Speed Two (HS2) rail network (extending north of the first stage of the High Speed (HS1) railway line between Birmingham and London) with a hub station at Toton, a former huge freight yard between Nottingham and Derby, to serve the East Midlands⁹. High Speed Two will link London and Birmingham to Manchester, the East Midlands and Leeds. This will significantly reduce journey times from the HMA to other areas and will improve connections to stations in Europe via HS1. The full HS2 services are expected to be operational by 2033.
- 4.44 Derby and Nottingham have been allocated £161 million from the Transforming Cities Fund to deliver a range of schemes focusing on city centre connectivity, better connecting Derby, Nottingham and East Midlands Airport and Nottingham/Derby growth corridors. It is intended that all schemes will be completed by 2022/23.
- 4.45 There are five Park and Ride sites with the HMA where people park and take public transport into Nottingham and Derby; three sites surrounding Nottingham City, one just off the A52 in Broxtowe and one at Clifton in Rushcliffe.
- 4.46 In 2018/19 the combined number of passenger journeys by bus and tram in the HMA was 82.75 million of which 17.73 million passenger journeys were by tram only. In 2011/12, the figures were 76.21 million passenger journeys and 9.02 million passenger journeys were by tram only.
- 4.47 The traffic growth in 2017 has decreased by an average of 0.8% in Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe since the 2010 base¹⁰. Since 2010, the traffic growth in Nottingham City has dropped by 4.5% and the traffic growth in Gedling has increased by 4.3%.
- 4.48 For the cycle growth in 2017, the number of cycling trips in Nottingham City and Rushcliffe increased by 36.8% and 20.8% respectively since the 2010 base. It should be noted that major works can impact on cycle numbers and therefore the overall growth factor for each council area.
- 4.49 Erewash Canal runs from the River Trent to Langley Mill (located outside the HMA), going through Long Eaton and running roughly parallel to the River

⁹ <http://www.rail.co.uk/rail-news/2013/hs2-phase-2>

¹⁰ No data is available for Erewash as Derbyshire County Council does not measure traffic growth and cycle growth using the same methodology as Nottinghamshire County Council.

Erewash. It also passes through or nearby villages at Eastwood, Ilkeston, Awsworth, Cossall, Trowell, Stapleford and Sandiacre (in Broxtowe and Erewash).

High quality communications

4.50 There is no baseline data relating to high quality communications.

Effective use of land

4.51 In total, 11,218 homes delivered between 2011 and 2018 were built on previously developed land. For Nottingham City, 7,077 homes were built on previously developed land and this equated to 95.5% of their total dwellings.

4.52 In order to increase the number of houses built the Government requires local authorities to prepare and maintain a register of brownfield land that is suitable for residential development. Brownfield land registers will provide up-to-date and consistent information on sites that the councils consider to be appropriate for residential development. In total there are currently 275 sites on the councils' brownfield registers which consists of 483.22 hectares of brownfield land across the HMA. It should be noted that most sites on the brownfield registers have planning consent for residential development.

Well-designed places

4.53 There is no baseline data relating to well-designed places.

Green Belt

4.54 Green Belt designation covers approximately 39,092 hectares (49%) of the HMA.

Climate change and flooding

4.55 There are seven Air Quality Management Areas within the HMA all declared to control the pollutant Nitrogen dioxide NO². The whole of Nottingham City is covered by an Air Quality Management Area. Broxtowe has one Air Quality Management Area encompassing twenty properties on parts of Iona Drive and Tiree Close next to the M1 motorway in Trowell. Erewash has two Air Quality Management Areas, one which encompasses five dwellings situated immediately to the east of the M1 motorway (either side of Derby Road Sandiacre to the north of junction 25 of the M1 motorway) and one which encompasses approximately 130 dwellings situated to the south of junction 25 in Long Eaton. Gedling has one Air Quality Management Area incorporating land adjacent to a stretch of the A60 Mansfield Road from its junction with Oxclose Lane and Cross Street south to its junction with Egerton Road. Rushcliffe has two Air Quality Management Areas, one which encompasses the Lady Bay Bridge/Radcliffe Road junction, the Trent Bridge/Loughborough Road/Radcliffe Road junction and the Wilford

Lane/Loughborough Road/Melton Road junction in West Bridgford and one covering land adjacent to the A52 at Stragglethorpe Junction.

- 4.56 The latest estimates of end-user carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions for the council areas show that between 2011 and 2017 the CO₂ emissions decreased as shown in a table in Appendix B. Nottingham City has a larger decrease compared to the other councils from 5.1 in 2011 to 3.5 in 2017.
- 4.57 The River Derwent, River Erewash, River Leen and River Trent run through the HMA. The River Trent borders the southern parts of the Borough and forms the boundary between Gedling and Rushcliffe. There are 102,932 properties in the HMA that are affected by flooding, 60,709 in Flood Zone 2 and 42,223 in Flood Zone 3.

Natural environment

- 4.58 The national Green Flag Award recognises and rewards well managed parks and green space, not only for reaching high environmental standards, but also for ensuring access to quality green space and involving local communities in their upkeep, development and use. In 2018 there were 49 open spaces managed to Green Flag Award standard in the HMA.
- 4.59 The number of Green Flag Award open spaces in Nottingham City has increased from 16 in 2011 to 36 in 2018, as well as 21 Green Flag Community Awards and 4 Green Heritage Awards.
- 4.60 There are 18 designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest, including a site that covers both Broxtowe and Nottingham City (Seller's Wood), covering 374 hectares within the HMA. These have been designated for a range of different reasons (many of which are important because of their wetness and acidity) including species rich grasslands, woodlands and marsh land. Many of the SSSI's in the HMA are as a result of the restoration of former minerals extraction sites (including gravel, clay, plaster and brick pits and quarries) and disused railway cuttings as shown in a table in Appendix B.
- 4.61 There are no National Nature Reserves within the HMA. There are 51 Local Nature Reserves in the HMA covering 764.38 hectares. Broxtowe and Nottingham City have the greatest number of Local Nature Reserves (15 sites and 14 sites respectively), however Nottingham has the greatest area covered by Local Nature Reserves with 40% of the total area (302.97 hectares).
- 4.62 The HMA has a diverse range of natural habitats, which includes a number of valuable sites for nature conservation and biodiversity. Within the HMA there are 614 Local Wildlife Sites covering 5,427.83 hectares and there are 49 Local Geological Sites covering 119.49 hectares.
- 4.63 There are 5,333.5 hectares of woodland area within the HMA. Much of the woodland included in the National Forest Inventory is located within Gedling (1,764.4 ha), which includes large amounts of Broadleaved and Conifer

woodland to the north of the borough and Ruchcliffe (1,979.1 ha), which also includes large amount of Broadleaved and Conifer woodland. In addition, there are 447.7 hectares of ancient woodland within the HMA area. The majority of this (159.6 hectares) is located in Broxtowe where High Park Wood (located to the north of the Borough) forms ancient and semi-natural woodland.

Historic environment

- 4.64 Nottingham City and many areas within the surrounding councils have a strong sense of heritage. The HMA has a strong literary heritage including Newstead Abbey Park (once home to Lord Byron) which is a major feature in the north of the Gedling. Most of the north of Broxtowe, in particularly Eastwood and Brinsley, are associated with DH Lawrence who grew up in the area and used this as the focus for many of his famous novels. There is textile and industrial heritage legacy including the lace mills in Erewash and Nottingham areas, the canal network and the Nottingham caves network.
- 4.65 In 2019 there were 2,230 heritage assets within the HMA. There were 67 Grade I Listed Buildings, 105 Grade II* Listed Buildings and 1,876 Grade II Listed Buildings. In addition there were also 58 Scheduled Monuments, 18 Registered Parks and Gardens (covering 747 hectares) and 106 Conservation Areas (covering 3,749 hectares). Nottingham City and Rushcliffe have 71% designated heritage assets with more than half of the Grade I Listed Buildings located within Rushcliffe. In 2018 there were 12 Listed Buildings (1% of the total in the HMA), 20 Conservation Areas (19% of the total in the HMA) and 6 Scheduled Monuments (10% of the total in the HMA) included on the national Heritage at Risk Register.
- 4.66 There are 13 accredited museums in the HMA, including a museum on DH Lawrence in Broxtowe, Newstead Abbey in Gedling and Nottingham Castle in Nottingham City. It should be noted that this does not include non-accredited museums such as Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre/Great Central Railway, Ruddington Framework Knitters Museum and Ruddington Village Museum in Rushcliffe.

Sustainable use of materials

- 4.67 Nottinghamshire County Council and Derbyshire County Council (in the case of Erewash) are responsible for the production of their own Minerals Local Plans.
- 4.68 The type and area of mineral resources in the HMA is summarised in Appendix B. The majority of surface coal falls within Broxtowe and the majority of brick clay falls within Gedling. There are 3 hectares of single hard rock limestone quarry at Linby (in Gedling). There are 11,041 hectares of gypsum in Rushcliffe. There are sand and gravel deposits across the HMA with the Rushcliffe having the majority (3,627 hectares).

Traveller sites

- 4.69 There are no known gypsy and traveller pitches in Broxtowe, Erewash and Gedling. For Nottingham City, there are 60 permanent pitches, including 20 for travelling show people. Rushcliffe has 10 pitches.

Waste

- 4.70 Nottinghamshire County Council and Derbyshire County Council (in the case of Erewash) are responsible for the production of their own Waste Local Plans.

Section 5: Identifying Key Sustainability Issues (Stage A3)

- 5.1 This section looks at the key sustainability issues which have been identified from the review of other relevant plans, policies and programmes (stage A1) and the baseline data (stage A2).
- 5.2 **Table 4** sets out the role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan in tackling identified key sustainability issues. For clarification, the issues are listed in no particular order of importance.

Table 4: Key sustainability issues identified

Key sustainability issue	Possible role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan
Social Issues	
<p>Further population growth is projected.</p> <p>Different areas would require specific types of housing.</p>	<p>The impacts of the projected population increases for each council are likely to be significant.</p> <p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that an appropriate number of new dwellings are developed in appropriate locations.</p> <p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring the right types of housing are delivered.</p> <p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can also make provision for appropriate employment opportunities and deliver adequate infrastructure for existing and future residents.</p>
<p>There is a need to ensure that adequate amount of land is provided for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.</p>	<p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring that the right pitches and plots are delivered for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.</p>
<p>Some of the rural settlements are very isolated and suffer from poor transport links. The access to facilities is vital.</p>	<p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can help reduce the need to travel by allocating strategic sites in areas well served by public transport and ensure that they benefit from a range of services and employment.</p>
<p>There is a need to reduce the reliance on the private car and increase the use of alternative transport modes, including public transport.</p>	<p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can help reduce the need to travel by allocating sites in areas well served by public transport.</p>

Key sustainability issue	Possible role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan
There are different areas that have relatively high deprivation.	The provision of new allocations for housing and employment with improved linkages to existing communities alongside improvements to facilities and the local environment can help to address deprivation.
The house prices are high and there is a significant need for affordable housing provision.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that new affordable dwellings are provided in appropriate locations.
The population is ageing.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring the right type of new homes, services and facilities are delivered to suit the needs of the ageing population.
Economic Issues	
There is a need to maintain the employment base.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that an appropriate supply of good quality employment land is provided in appropriate locations to serve projected demands and ensure a range and choice of employment locations.
The proportion of the workforce employed in the service sector is very large.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can provide for different types of employment to ensure that the economic base does not continue to narrow as this could have a detrimental effect on the economy as a whole.
There is a need to support the growth and diversity of town and local centres.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring that the vitality and viability of centres is protected.
Environment Issues	
<p>A high proportion of land within Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough, Erewash Borough and Rushcliffe Borough areas is Green Belt.</p> <p>There is therefore potential for conflict between the need to protect Green Belt from inappropriate development and the need to provide sufficient land for new homes in line with the housing requirement.</p>	<p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan needs to balance the need to provide sufficient land for housing growth with the need to protect the Green Belt where possible.</p> <p>The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can address a revision of the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt.</p> <p>For clarification, the Green Belt is a policy tool and not an environmental protection designation. As such it will not be included as part of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework to be used to test the sustainability of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. However, careful consideration will be given to the impact of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan on the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt based on the Green Belt assessment and through the site selection process.</p>

Key sustainability issue	Possible role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan
There is a need to maintain high rates of brownfield development.	There will be limited scope for the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan to locate strategic sites on brownfield land due to the need to locate the large proportion of the housing requirement within the urban area where the number of brownfield sites is very limited. Consequently the provision of new allocations to meet projected population increases is likely to involve significant releases of greenfield land.
There are a large number of sites, including isolated sites, which are important in landscape and biodiversity terms and should be conserved and enhanced where possible. There is also a need to conserve and enhance connectivity corridors.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can look to protect and enhance green infrastructure, landscape and biodiversity.
There are a large number of heritage assets which have historic or architectural significance and should be conserved and enhanced where possible.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can look to conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting and identify opportunities to enhance or better reveal these assets. Consideration of different levels of harm and mitigation would be taken into account.
There is a need to conserve and enhance the distinctive character and contribute towards creating a sense of place within new developments.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can examine the function of existing settlements and set out an approach on the design of new developments.
There is a need to enhance and protect water systems.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can look to protect and enhance blue infrastructure.
There are significant areas which are at risk from flooding.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that sites at risk from flooding are protected from development. Where development is deemed necessary within flood risk areas, the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will help by including policies to ensure that development will be safe from flood risk over the lifetime of the development without increasing flood risk to third parties.
There is a need to improve energy efficiency and reduce contributions to climate change.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can set out an approach to reduce carbon emissions.

Key sustainability issue	Possible role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan
There are a number of Air Quality Management Areas within the council areas.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can help to reduce pollutants arising from traffic through reducing the need to travel by locating strategic sites in areas well served by public transport and close to local services and facilities. It will also help by locating potentially polluting strategic level development away from sensitive locations.
There is a need to safeguard minerals resources to meet future requirements.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that there are sufficient minerals resources available to meet future development requirements.

Section 6: The Sustainability Appraisal Framework (Stage A4)

- 6.1 This section looks at developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework which contains a list of objectives based on the review of other relevant plans, policies and programmes (stage A1), the analysis of the baseline data (stage A2) and the identification of key sustainability issues (stage A3).
- 6.2 The SA Framework will be used to test the sustainability of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. The SA Framework will be used to assess the reasonable alternative options for the policies and the strategic site allocations.
- 6.3 As explained in the previous section, consideration of the Green Belt will not be included as part of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework because it is a policy tool and not an environmental protection designation. However, careful consideration will be given to the impact of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan on the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt based on the Green Belt assessment and through the site selection process.

SA Framework

- 6.4 **Table 5** provides a list of SA objectives for the SA Framework. The table also shows the relationship between SA objectives and SEA Directive topics (as mentioned in paragraph 2.9 in this report).

Table 5: SA Framework

SA objectives	SEA Directive topic
1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs, including gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.	Population Material assets
2. Employment and Jobs To create employment opportunities.	Population Material assets
3. Economic Structure and Innovation To provide the physical conditions for a high quality modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies.	Population Material assets
4. Shopping Centres Increase the vitality and viability of existing shopping centres.	Population Human health
5. Health and Well Being To improve health and well being and reduce health inequalities.	Population Human health
6. Community Safety To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Population Human health

SA objectives	SEA Directive topic
7. Social Inclusion To promote and support the development and growth of social capital and to improve social inclusion and to close the gap between the most deprived areas within the plan area.	Population Human health
8. Transport To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to improve travel choice and accessibility.	Air Climatic factors
9. Brownfield Land To make efficient use of brownfield land and recognise biodiversity value where appropriate.	Soil Material assets
10. Energy and Climate Change To minimise energy usage and to develop low carbon energy resource and encourage nature-based solutions to climate change.	Climatic factors
11. Pollution and Air Quality To manage air quality and minimise the risk posed by air, noise and other types of pollution.	Air Climatic factors Human health
12. Flooding and Water Quality To minimise the risk of flooding and to conserve and improve water quality.	Water Climatic factors
13. Natural Environment, Biodiversity, Green and Blue Infrastructure To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance Green and Blue Infrastructure and the natural environment.	Biodiversity Fauna Flora
14. Landscape To protect and enhance the landscape character.	Landscape
15. Built and Historic Environment To protect and enhance the townscape character and enhancing the place through good design. To conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting and provide better opportunities for people to enjoy culture and heritage.	Cultural heritage
16. Natural Resources and Waste Management To prudently manage the natural resources of the area including soils, safeguarding minerals and waste.	Soil Material assets

6.5 When assessing the options for the policies and the strategic site allocations a score would need to be given to each SA objective to indicate whether the effect was likely to be positive, negative, uncertain or no impact. The score includes a colour coding system which should help to provide a visual summary of the overall results against the SA objectives. **Table 6** provides the SA scoring.

Table 6: SA scoring

Major positive	Minor positive	Uncertain or no impact	Minor negative	Major negative
++	+	? or 0	-	--

- 6.6 When assessing the options for the policies and the strategic site allocations, the SA Framework was split into two tables as both policies and site allocations require different criteria questions.

SA Framework 1 – Policy Criteria

- 6.7 For the policies, the SA Framework has been matched with policy criteria questions and includes a generic scoring system as shown in **Table 7**. These criteria comprise the key questions that will be asked to ascertain whether or not a reasonable alternative option or a proposed policy works towards the SA objective.
- 6.8 These criteria will be used to assess the policy options for the policies in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. The criteria will also be used for the assessment of the draft version of Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.

SA Framework 2 – Site Allocation Criteria

- 6.9 For the site allocations, the SA Framework has been matched with site allocation criteria questions and includes a matrix scoring system as shown in **Table 8** (on page 47). These criteria comprise the key questions that will be asked to ascertain whether or not a reasonable alternative option or a proposed site allocation works towards the SA objective.
- 6.10 These criteria will be used to assess the site options for the site allocations in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. The criteria will also be used for the assessment of the proposed sites allocated in the draft version of Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.

Table 7: SA Framework 1 – Policy Criteria

Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
The policy would have a significant positive impact on one or more of the policy criteria questions or a minor positive impact on a significant number of the questions	The policy would have a minor positive impact on at least one of the policy criteria questions	Unknown effect or the policy has no implications for the objective	The policy would have a minor negative impact on at least one of the policy criteria questions	The policy would have a significant negative impact on one or more of the policy criteria questions or a minor negative impact on a significant number of the questions

SA objectives	Policy criteria questions
<p>1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs, including gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups? • Will it provide sufficient pitches and plots for gypsies and travellers and travelling showpeople? • Will it reduce homelessness? • Will it reduce the number of unfit/vacant homes? • Will it provide the required infrastructure?
<p>2. Employment and Jobs To create employment opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve the diversity and quality of jobs? • Will it reduce unemployment? • Will it improve rural productivity in terms of employment opportunities?
<p>3. Economic Structure and Innovation To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it provide land and buildings of a type required by businesses? • Will it provide business/university clusters? • Will it create jobs in high knowledge sectors? • Will it encourage graduates to live and work within the plan area? • Will it provide the required infrastructure?
<p>4. Shopping Centres Increase the vitality and viability of existing shopping centres.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it encourage the vitality of the city centre, town centre, district centre or local centre?
<p>5. Health and Well Being To improve health and well being and reduce health inequalities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce health inequalities? • Will it improve access to health services? • Will it increase the opportunities for recreational physical activity? • Will it provide new open space or improve the quality of existing open space? • Will it improve access to local food growing opportunities?
<p>6. Community Safety To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce crime and the fear of crime? • Will it contribute to a safe secure built environment?
<p>7. Social Inclusion To promote and support the development and growth of social capital and to improve social inclusion and to close the gap between the most deprived areas within the plan area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect and enhance existing cultural assets? • Will it improve access to, encourage engagement with and residents' satisfaction in community activities? • Will it increase the number of facilities e.g. shops, community centres? • Will it provide for the educational needs?

SA objectives	Policy criteria questions
<p>8. Transport To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to improve travel choice and accessibility.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it use and enhance existing transport infrastructure? • Will it help to develop a transport network that minimise the impact on the environment? • Will it reduce journeys undertaken by private car by encouraging alternative modes of transport? • Will it increase accessibility to services and facilities?
<p>9. Brownfield Land To make efficient use of brownfield land and recognise biodiversity value where appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it make efficient use of brownfield land? • Will the development minimise the impact on the biodiversity interests of the site?
<p>10. Energy and Climate Change To minimise energy usage and to develop low carbon energy resource and encourage nature-based solutions to climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it result in additional energy use? • Will it improve energy efficiency of new buildings? • Will it support the generation and use of renewable energy? • Will it support the development of community energy systems? • Will it ensure that buildings are able to deal with future changes in climate? • Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions or promote sequestration of carbon? • Will it increase the resilience of biodiversity to climate change? • Will it help people adapt to climate change? • Will it maintain or increase the provision of ecosystem services on which local people depend, including water, food, and materials, now and under future climates? • Will it lead to the displacement of emissions to another location?
<p>11. Pollution and Air Quality To manage air quality and minimise the risk posed by air, noise and other types of pollution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it increase levels of air, noise and other types of pollution?
<p>12. Flooding and Water Quality To minimise the risk of flooding and to conserve and improve water quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it minimise or mitigate flood risk? • Will it reduce existing levels of flood risk? • Will it improve water quality? • Will it conserve water? • Will it improve or help to promote water efficiency? • Will it cause a deterioration of Water Framework Directive (WFD) status or potential of onsite watercourses?

SA objectives	Policy criteria questions
<p>13. Natural Environment, Biodiversity, Green and Blue Infrastructure To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance Green and Blue Infrastructure and the natural environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it help protect and improve biodiversity and avoid harm to protected species? • Will it allow for biodiversity net gains? • Will it conserve and enhance the geological environment? • Will it maintain and enhance woodland cover and management? • Will it provide new open space or green space? • Will it improve the quality of existing open space? • Will it encourage and protect or improve Green and/or Blue Infrastructure networks?
<p>14. Landscape To protect and enhance the landscape character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it respect or preserve identified landscape character? • Does it have a positive impact on visual amenity?
<p>15. Built and Historic Environment To protect and enhance the townscape character and enhancing the place through good design. To conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting and provide better opportunities for people to enjoy culture and heritage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it respect, maintain and strengthen the local character and distinctiveness of the townscape or settlement character? • Will it conserve and enhance designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting¹¹? • Will it provide better opportunities for people to access and understand local heritage and to participate in cultural activities? • Will it protect or improve access and enjoyment of the historic environment?
<p>16. Natural Resources and Waste Management To prudently manage the natural resources of the area including soils, safeguarding minerals and waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it lead to reduced consumption of raw materials? • Will it promote the use of sustainable design, materials and construction techniques? • Will it result in additional waste? • Will it reduce hazardous waste? • Will it protect the best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land? • Will it prevent the loss of greenfield land to development?

¹¹ Designated assets include Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Parks and Gardens. Non-designated assets include locally listed buildings and unknown archaeology.

Table 8: SA Framework 2 – Site Allocation Criteria

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs, including gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.	Is the site allocated for housing? Will the site include provision for gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople?	Provides a strategic level of housing in and adjoining the built up area or key settlement Provides for gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople	Provides a strategic level of housing in conjunction with one or more smaller sites in and adjoining the built up area or key settlement	Unknown effect or No impact as the site would not provide housing		Results in the loss of a strategic level of housing Results in the loss of a site for gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
2. Employment and Jobs To create employment opportunities.	Will the site provide jobs for unemployed people? Will the site provide new job opportunities in areas of deprivation?	Provides a strategic level of jobs in and adjoining the built up area or key settlement Provides local labour agreements on projects (over 50 jobs) Provides new job opportunities in areas of deprivation	Provides a strategic level of jobs in conjunction with one or more smaller sites in and adjoining the built up area or key settlement Provides local labour agreements on projects (up to 50 jobs)	Unknown effect or No impact as the site would not provide new jobs	Results in the loss of jobs on a partially occupied site	Results in the loss of a strategic level of jobs Results in the loss of jobs on a fully occupied site

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
<p>3. Economic Structure and Innovation To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies.</p>	<p>Is the site allocated for employment, retail or mixed use?</p> <p>Is the site allocated for specific employment uses e.g. office-based?</p> <p>Will the site involve the loss of employment, retail or mixed use land?</p> <p>Is the proposal for new educational buildings?</p> <p>Does the proposal involve new high quality employment opportunities? E.g. centres of excellence?</p> <p>Is the site allocated for mixed live-work units?</p>	<p>Provides a strategic level of employment in and adjoining the built up area or key settlement</p> <p>Provides opportunity for training and / or high knowledge sectors (i.e. office based)</p> <p>Provides live-work units</p>	<p>Provides a strategic level of employment in conjunction with one or more smaller sites in and adjoining the built up area or key settlement</p>	<p>Unknown effect</p> <p>or</p> <p>No impact as the site is not currently used for employment/ retail/mixed use purposes and is proposed solely for housing development. Assumes all housing sites make appropriate education provision</p>	<p>Results in the loss of part of land for employment, retail or mixed use</p>	<p>Results in the loss of a strategic level of employment</p> <p>Results in the loss of land for employment, retail or mixed use</p> <p>Results in the loss of opportunity for training and / or high knowledge sectors (i.e. office based)</p> <p>Results in the loss of live-work units</p>

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
4. Shopping Centres Increase the vitality and viability of existing shopping centres.	Is the site allocated for town centres uses or mixed use?	Provides new town centre uses or mixed use in the existing centre	Provides new mixed use (including non-town centre uses) in the existing centre	Unknown effect or No impact on the vitality and viability of the existing centre	Results in the loss of mixed use (including non-town centre uses) in the existing centre	Results in the loss of town centre uses in the existing centre
5. Health and Well Being To improve health and well being and reduce health inequalities.	Is the site within 30 minutes travel time of a health facility? Is the site within 400 metres walking distance of a recreational area? Will the site result in a loss of accessible Green Infrastructure e.g. parks, open spaces, playing fields, allotments, watercourses?	Within 400 metres walking distance of health facilities	Access to health facilities within 30 minutes travel time of public transport, walking or cycling Within 400 metres walking distance of recreational open space	Unknown effect or No impact	Not within 400 metres walking distance of health facilities	Access to health facilities not within 30 minutes travel time of public transport, walking or cycling Results in the loss of accessible Green Infrastructure

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
6. Community Safety To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Will the site be designed to a safe secure built environment through designing out crime?			No impact as all sites considered neutral as the impact of development upon crime is dependent upon design and a series of secondary factors not related to site allocation		
7. Social Inclusion To promote and support the development and growth of social capital and to improve social inclusion and to close the gap between the most deprived areas within the plan area.	Will the site improve access to community facilities e.g. post office, community centres, leisure centres, libraries, schools etc.? Will the site result in a loss of a community facility?	Within 400 metres walking distance of at least two community facilities	Access to community facilities by public transport, walking and cycling within 30 minutes travel time of public transport, walking or cycling	Unknown effect or No impact	Not within 400 metres walking distance of any community facilities	Access to community facilities not within 30 minutes travel time of public transport, walking or cycling Results in the loss of existing community facilities

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
<p>8. Transport To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to improve travel choice and accessibility.</p>	<p>Is the site accessible by public transport?</p> <p>Is the site located in or adjoining the main built up area?</p> <p>Is the site within 30 minutes public transport time of community facilities, schools, retail centres and employment areas?</p> <p>Is there direct route(s) from the site to existing businesses and shopping centres?</p>	<p>Located within or adjoining the main built up area with existing transport infrastructure</p> <p>Within 400 metres walking distance to a bus/rail/tram stop</p> <p>Site is accessible by public transport and has good direct route(s) to work</p> <p>Within 400 metres of designated cycle route</p>	<p>Approx or at least 400 metres walking distance to a bus/rail/tram stop.</p> <p>Within 400 metres walking distance to a bus stop with bus service at least half/hourly</p> <p>Within 400 metres of designated cycle route</p>	<p>Unknown effect</p> <p>or</p> <p>No impact</p> <p>Assumes site will not affect the continuity of Rights of Way</p>	<p>Majority of the site not within 400 metres walking distance to a bus/rail/tram stop</p>	<p>Not within 800 metres walking distance to a bus/rail/tram stop</p> <p>Site is not accessible by public transport</p> <p>Not within 400 metres of designated cycle route</p>

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
9. Brownfield Land To make efficient use of brownfield land and recognise biodiversity value where appropriate.	Is the site a brownfield site?	Site is on brownfield land	Site is on predominantly brownfield land	Unknown effect or No impact	Site is on predominantly greenfield land	Site is on greenfield land
10. Energy and Climate Change To minimise energy usage and to develop low carbon energy resource and encourage nature-based solutions to climate change.	Will the site include provision of renewable technology? Is the site for a specific renewable energy? Is the site for the development of community energy systems?			Unknown effect as the impact of development is dependent upon opportunities for either renewable energy provision or energy efficiency measures or nature-based solutions		

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
<p>11. Pollution and Air Quality To manage air quality and minimise the risk posed by air, noise and other types of pollution.</p>	<p>Will the site cause additional harm to an existing Air Quality Management Area? Is it likely to create a new Air Quality Management Area?</p>			<p>Unknown effect or No impact as the site will not impinge on existing an Air Quality Management Area</p>	<p>Site will impinge on an existing Air Quality Management Area</p>	<p>Site falls within an existing Air Quality Management Area Site is likely to impact an area of poor air quality (and creating an Air Quality Management Area)</p>

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
<p>12. Flooding and Water Quality To minimise the risk of flooding and to conserve and improve water quality.</p>	<p>Is the site within or adjacent EA Flood Zone:- - 1 (Low Probability); - 2 (Medium Probability); - 3a (High Probability); or - 3b (The Functional Floodplain)?</p> <p>Will it deteriorate river habitat in-stream and the riparian zone adjacent floodplain habitats?</p> <p>Will the site cause any harm to the Source Protection Zone or the water environment?</p> <p>Can surface water run-off be appropriately managed without increasing flood risk elsewhere?</p>	<p>Site located within EA Flood Zone 1</p>		<p>Site within area likely to be impacted as a result of scheduled flood prevention infrastructure</p> <p>Within area of very low risk of surface water run-off</p> <p>Source Protection Zone not relevant for housing sites</p> <p>Employment sites may lead to harm to Source Protection Zone</p>	<p>Part of site located within EA Flood Zone 2 or 3</p> <p>Within area of low to medium risk of surface water run-off</p>	<p>Majority of site or whole site located within EA Flood Zone 2 or 3</p> <p>Within area of high risk of surface water run-off</p>

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
<p>13. Natural Environment, Biodiversity, Green and Blue Infrastructure To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance Green and Blue Infrastructure and the natural environment.</p>	<p>Will it create net biodiversity gain?</p> <p>Will it result in a loss of all or part of or impact of a designated site of nature conservation interest?</p> <p>Is the site adjacent to a designated site of nature conservation interest?</p> <p>Will it involve the loss of existing habitats or trees/hedgerows/woodland or loss of connectivity?</p> <p>Will the site include the provision on-site or off-site open space?</p> <p>Will the site involve the loss of existing open space?</p> <p>Will the site improve the underused or undervalued open space?</p>	Creates net increase in biodiversity or existing habitats	<p>Improves underused or undervalued open space</p> <p>Provide 10% open space on existing brownfield land</p>	<p>Unknown effect</p> <p>or</p> <p>No impact</p>	<p>Site adjacent open space, biodiversity or designated site of nature conservation interest</p> <p>Results in the loss of hedgerows and trees</p>	Results in partial or complete loss of open space, biodiversity, existing habitats, Tree Preservation Orders, woodland or designated site of nature conservation interest

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
14. Landscape To protect and enhance the landscape character.	Will it have an adverse impact on local landscape character? Will it conserve, enhance or restore the features and characteristics of the landscape in the present form? Will it create a new landscape character?	A new landscape character would be created Would not have an adverse impact on local landscape character	Would conserve, enhance or restore the features and characteristics of the landscape in the present form	Unknown effect or No impact	Would not conserve, enhance or restore the features and characteristics of the landscape in the present form	Would have an adverse impact on local landscape character

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
15. Built and Historic Environment To protect and enhance the townscape character and enhancing the place through good design. To conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting and provide better opportunities for people to enjoy culture and heritage.	Will it result in development that is sympathetic to its surrounding in terms of design, layout and scale? Will it result in a loss of or harm to a designated or non-designated heritage asset(s) or its setting ¹² ? Will it harm the significance of designated or non-designated heritage asset(s) or its setting? Will it enhance or better reveal the significance of the heritage asset? Will it promote heritage based tourism or heritage led regeneration? Will it lead to the adaptive reuse of a heritage asset?	Would not have an adverse impact on local townscape character Site promotes major opportunity to enhance or better reveal the significance of a heritage asset including its setting Provides major opportunities for heritage based tourism or heritage led regeneration	Would conserve, enhance or restore the features and characteristics of the townscape in the present form Site promotes opportunity to enhance or better reveal the significance of a heritage asset including its setting Provides opportunities for heritage based tourism or heritage led regeneration	Unknown effect or No impact as no heritage assets or their setting are likely to be affected	Would not conserve, enhance or restore the features and characteristics of the townscape in the present form The setting and significance of designated heritage assets may be harmed by the site. There may be opportunities for mitigation The setting and significance of non-designated heritage assets may be harmed by the site	Would have an adverse impact on local townscape character The setting and significance of designated heritage assets will be harmed by the site. There are no opportunities for mitigation Results in the loss of opportunities for heritage based tourism or heritage led regeneration

¹² Designated assets include Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Parks and Gardens. Non-designated assets include locally listed buildings and unknown archaeology.

SA objectives	Site allocation criteria questions	Major positive ++	Minor positive +	Uncertain (?) or No impact (0)	Minor negative -	Major negative --
<p>16. Natural Resources and Waste Management To prudently manage the natural resources of the area including soils, safeguarding minerals and waste.</p>	<p>Is the site on high grade agricultural land:- - Grade 1 (excellent) - Grade 2 (very good) - Grade 3a (good) - Grade 3b (moderate) - Grade 4 (poor) - Grade 5 (very poor)?</p> <p>Will it lead to a loss of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land (agricultural soil grades 1, 2 and 3a)?</p> <p>Will the site reduce household and commercial waste per head?</p> <p>Will it sterilise mineral resources?</p>	<p>It would not sterilise existing mineral resources</p>		<p>Unknown effect or No impact as the site is not on best and most versatile land (agricultural soil grade 1, 2 or 3a) and on moderate, poor or very poor soil (agricultural soil grade 3b, 4 or 5)</p>	<p>All sites will result in increased household and commercial waste</p>	<p>Site is on best and most versatile land (agricultural soil grade 1, 2 or 3a)</p> <p>It would sterilise existing mineral resources</p>

Section 7: Consultation on the Scoping Report (Stage A5)

- 7.1 This section looks at the consultation questions on the Scoping Report.
- 7.2 In accordance with the SEA Directive, the Scoping Report will be sent to the three statutory consultation bodies for England (the Environmental Agency, Historic England and Natural England). A draft version of the Scoping Report was previously sent to the three statutory consultation bodies for informal comments and amendments have been made to reflect the comments received.
- 7.3 The councils are now seeking comments on the Scoping Report and consultation questions are set out below.

Consultation questions

1. Plans, policies and programmes

- 1a. Have all plans, policies and programmes that affect the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan been included in Section 3 and Appendix A of the Scoping Report?
- Yes
 - No (please identify any proposed changes)
- 1b. Please provide any comments regarding the plans, policies and programmes included in the Scoping Report.

2. Baseline data

- 2a. Does Appendix B of the Scoping Report identify an appropriate and accurate range of relevant baseline data?
- Yes
 - No (please identify any proposed changes)
- 2b. Please provide any comments regarding the baseline data used in the Scoping Report.

3. Key sustainability issues

- 3a. Are the key sustainability issues identified in Section 5 of the Scoping Report correct for the council areas?
- Yes
 - No (please identify any proposed changes)
- 3b. Please identify any other sustainability issues that should be included and how these are likely to impact upon the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.

4. SA Framework – SA objectives

- 4a. Do the SA objectives in the SA Framework in Section 6 of the Scoping Report adequately cover the key sustainability issues facing the council areas?
- Yes
 - No (please identify any proposed changes)
- 4b. Please identify how the objectives should be amended, bearing in mind that the number of objectives should be manageable.

5. SA Framework 1 – Policy Criteria

- 5a. Are the policy criteria questions in the SA Framework 1 in Section 6 of the Scoping Report appropriate?
- Yes
 - No (please identify any proposed changes)
- 5b. Please identify how the policy criteria questions should be amended.

6. SA Framework 2 – Site Allocation Criteria

- 6a. Are the site allocation criteria questions in the SA Framework 2 in Section 6 of the Scoping Report appropriate?
- Yes
 - No (please identify any proposed changes)
- 6b. Please identify how the site allocation criteria questions should be amended.

7. SEA Directive requirements

- 7a. Does the the SA Framework meet the requirements of the SEA Directive?
- Yes
 - No (please specify why)
- 7b. Please identify why the SA Framework does not meet the requirements of the SEA Directive and how this can be rectified.

8. Other comments

- 8a. Do you have any other comments to make about the Scoping Report?

Section 8: Next steps

- 8.1 The responses from the consultation will help to shape the SA Framework before work starts on the next stages of the SA process.
- 8.2 When the draft Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan is published, a Sustainability Appraisal report will also be published detailing the assessment of reasonable alternative options put forward and the proposed policies and site allocations. It will detail how the options were refined as part of the Sustainability Appraisal process.