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Rugby Borough Emerging Local Plan: The Preferred Option

Sustainability Appraisal Report: Non-Technical Summary

Prepared by LUC
December 2015

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Contents

Introduction	1
Sustainability Appraisal	1
Policy Context	4
Baseline Information and Key Sustainability Issues	5
Method and Sustainability Appraisal Framework	10
Likely Effects of the Site Options considered for the Local Plan	15
Likely effects of the Policy Options	21
Likely Effects of the Rugby Borough Local Plan: Preferred Option	25
Monitoring	33

Introduction

- 1.1 This Sustainability Appraisal Report: Non-Technical Summary relates to the Rugby Borough Local Plan, which is being prepared by Rugby Borough Council. The Local Plan will set out the long-term spatial vision and objectives for the Borough as well as the policies that are required to deliver that vision over the period up to 2031.
- 1.2 Rugby Borough Council adopted its Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy in 2011 and originally intended to produce another Development Plan Document (DPD) to sit alongside the Core Strategy. This would be known as the 'Rugby Borough Plan'. It would include policies to ensure that Rugby's development plan meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which was published in 2012, after the Core Strategy had been adopted. The Rugby Borough Plan would also replace the remaining saved policies from the 2006 Local Plan.
- 1.3 After consulting the public on the Discussion Document paper in 2013, which set out high level options for the policies to be included in the Rugby Borough Plan, the Council decided to instead produce a more comprehensive new-style Local Plan which would incorporate the development management-style policies that were previously going to be set out in the Rugby Borough Plan, as well as bringing forward and reviewing the strategic policies from the adopted Core Strategy. Once adopted, the new Local Plan will guide development in the Borough up to 2031 and will replace the adopted Core Strategy as well as the remaining saved policies from the 2006 Local Plan.
- 1.4 Plans and strategies such as the Rugby Borough Local Plan are subject to a process called Sustainability Appraisal (SA), which assesses the likely effects of a plan on social, economic, and environmental issues. Rugby Borough Council has commissioned independent consultants (LUC) to carry out SA of the Local Plan on its behalf. This Non-Technical Summary relates to the full SA Report for the Rugby Borough Emerging Local Plan: The Preferred Option which is being published for consultation between December 2015 and February 2016.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 1.5 Rugby Borough Council is required by law to carry out Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Local Plan, and it has appointed LUC to undertake this work on its behalf. The Government recommends that these two legal requirements are met through one integrated process, referred to as Sustainability Appraisal (or SA).
- 1.6 The purpose of SA is to promote sustainable development through the better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. It should be viewed as an integral part of good plan making, involving ongoing iterations to identify and report on the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the plan and the extent to which sustainable development is expected to be achieved through its implementation.
- 1.7 This Non-Technical Summary relates to the full SA Report for the Rugby Borough Emerging Local Plan: The Preferred Option (December 2015). The SA is being undertaken in stages alongside the preparation of the Local Plan in order to provide sustainability guidance as the plan is developed.
- 1.8 SA must be carried out in accordance with Government guidance and (as an integrated SA and SEA process is being undertaken) must meet the requirements of the European Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive¹. The approach that has been taken to the SA of the Rugby Borough Local Plan is described below.

¹ European Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'.

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on scope

- 1.9 The SA process started in March 2013 when LUC (working on behalf of Rugby Borough Council) produced a SA Scoping Report for the Rugby Borough Plan and the Traveller Sites DPD which the Council was also intending to produce at that time². The Scoping Report determined what the SA should cover by reviewing a wide range of relevant policy documents (including international, national and local policies) and by examining data to help identify what the key sustainability issues are in Rugby Borough as well as likely future trends.
- 1.10 The SA Scoping Report was issued in March 2013 for consultation with various stakeholders including the three statutory consultees that existed at the time - Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage (now Historic England). Comments received from those organisations were analysed by LUC and any necessary amendments were made to the Scoping Report (full details of the consultation comments received and the actions taken in response are listed in Appendix 1 of the full SA report).
- 1.11 Although the SA Scoping Report was originally prepared in relation to the Rugby Borough Plan and the Traveller Sites DPD, it is still relevant for setting the scope of the SA work that is now being undertaken for the new Local Plan. As some parts of the Scoping work have been updated throughout the SA process, they have also been refined to ensure that they are appropriate for the SA of a full new-style Local Plan. The baseline information for Rugby Borough and the review of relevant plans, policies and programmes have been updated most recently during the preparation of the full SA report and this Non-Technical Summary and are presented in Appendices 2 and 3 in the full SA Report. They are also summarised further ahead in this Non-Technical Summary.

Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing their effects

- 1.12 Developing options for a plan is an iterative process which usually involves a number of consultations with stakeholders and the public. The SA process can help to identify where there may be other 'reasonable alternatives' to the options being considered for the policies and site allocations to be included in a plan. The reasonable alternative options that have been considered for the Rugby Borough Local Plan have included potential sites for new housing and employment development, as well as alternative policy approaches, as described below.

Identification and appraisal of site options

- 1.13 Reasonable options for the residential sites to be allocated in the Local Plan were identified by Rugby Borough Council. Sites that were identified through a 'call for sites' exercise and the Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) were taken as the starting point. That original list of sites was then subject to a sieving exercise by Council officers to identify any that were considered not to be reasonable and so would not require SA. Those sites which were smaller than the SHLAA site threshold of 0.2ha or that were being promoted for another land use such as employment, retail or Gypsy and Traveller sites were not considered to be reasonable options and so were not taken forward for SA. All other SHLAA submission sites were selected as reasonable options for residential sites and were subject to SA. The starting point for selecting reasonable options for employment sites was also the SHLAA, through submissions to the 'call for sites' process. The only filter applied here was through the Employment Land Review, which filtered out a site due to inadequate access. All other SHLAA submission sites were selected as reasonable options for SA.
- 1.14 Once the Council had completed the site sieving exercise, 142 reasonable residential site options and five reasonable employment site options were identified and subject to SA by LUC in accordance with the methodology described further ahead in this Non-Technical Summary. The findings were presented in a summary SA document which was made available to the Rugby Borough Council officers preparing the Local Plan. This was a working document intended to inform the plan preparation process rather than a full SA report and was not made publicly available at the time (the findings of that stage of work are now presented in Chapter 4 of the full SA report and are summarised further ahead in this Non-Technical summary).

² At the time of writing, the Traveller Sites DPD is no longer being progressed by Rugby Borough Council.

- 1.15 The Council took into account the findings of the SA as well as other relevant factors when deciding which residential and employment sites to include in the Preferred Option and which site options to reject. Appendix 7 in the full SA report lists the site options considered and provides the reasons for selecting or rejecting each one.

Identification and appraisal of policy options

- 1.16 High level options for the policies that were previously intended to be included in the Rugby Borough Plan were identified and presented in the Discussion Document in 2013. Those options were subject to SA at that time and the findings were described in the June 2013 SA Report for the Discussion Document. Reasonable alternative options for those policies were identified by the Council and were drawn from the most up-to-date evidence and guided by the national level planning policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 1.17 Once the Council had decided to produce a full new-style Local Plan instead of progressing the Rugby Borough Plan, it was necessary to identify and appraise options for the other policies that would be included in the Local Plan, i.e. the strategic policies relating to how much development would take place and where it would be located. This information was previously set out in the adopted Core Strategy but those policies would now be reviewed and updated as necessary as part of preparing a comprehensive new-style Local Plan. The Council therefore identified a further set of reasonable alternative policy options and these were subject to SA by LUC in May 2015. As with the site options, the SA matrices for these additional policy options were provided to the Council in the form of an internal SA document so that the findings could inform the preparation of the Local Plan Preferred Option. The SA findings relating to the options previously set out in the Discussion Document and presented in the June 2013 SA Report also informed the Council's decision making, along with other relevant factors.
- 1.18 The detailed SA matrices for the additional policy options that have been subject to SA since the Discussion Document stage in 2013 can be found in Appendix 8 of the full SA report and the findings are summarised in Chapter 5 of the full SA report and further ahead in this Non-Technical Summary.
- 1.19 Once the Council had produced the Local Plan Preferred Option the more detailed draft policies (including preferred site allocations) were also subject to SA. The detailed SA matrices for the draft policies and preferred site allocations can be found in Appendix 9 of the full SA report and the findings are summarised in Chapter 6 of the full SA report and further ahead in this Non-Technical Summary. The findings of this stage of the SA work will feed into the development of the next version of the Local Plan.

SA Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal report

- 1.20 The full SA report and this Non-Technical Summary describe the process that has been undertaken to date in carrying out the SA of the Rugby Borough Local Plan. They set out the findings of the appraisal of options and draft policies, highlighting any likely significant effects (both positive and negative, and taking into account the likely secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term and permanent and temporary effects). Recommendations are made for improvements and clarifications that may help to mitigate negative effects and maximise the benefits of the plan as the next version is prepared. The reasons for selecting or rejecting certain options during the preparation of the Local Plan are also described.

SA Stage D: Consultation on the Rugby Local Plan and the SA Report

- 1.21 Rugby Borough Council is inviting comments on the Local Plan Preferred Option and the full SA Report which this Non-Technical Summary relates to. Both documents are being published on the Council's website for consultation between December 2015 and February 2016.
- 1.22 Appendix 1 in the full SA report presents the consultation comments that were received in relation to the SA Scoping Report and explains how each one has been addressed in the SA work undertaken since then. None of the consultation comments that were received in relation to the Discussion Document related directly to the SA; therefore no comments from that round of consultation are listed in the full SA report.

Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan

- 1.23 Proposals for monitoring the sustainability effects of the Local Plan are set out Chapter 7 of the full SA report and are described further ahead in this Non-Technical Summary.

Policy Context

- 1.24 There are a large number of plans and programmes that could be relevant to the preparation of the Rugby Borough Local Plan. In particular, the Local Plan must adhere to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which replaced the suite of Planning Policy Statements and Planning Policy Guidance in 2012.
- 1.25 The Local Plan should provide a spatial expression of other plans and programmes where relevant, to assist in their implementation. It must also conform to environmental protection legislation and the sustainability objectives established at an international, national and regional level. In line with the requirements of the SEA Regulations, relevant international, national, regional, sub-regional and local plans have been reviewed in detail in relation to their objectives, targets and indicators and their implications for the Local Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal. The full review can be seen in Appendix 2 of the full SA Report.
- 1.26 The most significant development in terms of the policy context for the Local Plan has been the publication of the NPPF in 2012, which streamlined national planning policy. In addition, the removal of the regional tier of government and planning, including the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands, has meant that the regional level plans, policies and programmes are no longer relevant and have therefore been removed from the review in Appendix 2 of the full SA Report.
- 1.27 The Rugby Borough Local Plan must be consistent with the requirements of the NPPF, which sets out information about the purposes of local plan-making. It states that:
- “Local Plans must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. To this end, they should be consistent with the principles and policies set out in this Framework, including the presumption in favour of sustainable development.”*
- 1.28 The NPPF also requires Local Plans to be ‘*aspirational but realistic*’. This means that opportunities for appropriate development should be identified in order to achieve net gains in terms of sustainable social, environmental and economic development; however significant adverse impacts in any of those areas should not be allowed to occur.
- 1.29 The NPPF requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver:
- the homes and jobs needed in the area;
 - the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
 - the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
 - the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
 - climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.
- 1.30 In addition, Local Plans should:
- plan positively for the development and infrastructure required in the area to meet the objectives, principles and policies of this Framework;
 - be drawn up over an appropriate time scale, preferably a 15-year time horizon, take account of longer term requirements, and be kept up to date;
 - be based on co-operation with neighbouring authorities, public, voluntary and private sector organisations;

- indicate broad locations for strategic development on a key diagram and land-use designations on a proposals map;
- allocate sites to promote development and flexible use of land, bringing forward new land where necessary, and provide detail on form, scale, access and quantum of development where appropriate;
- identify areas where it may be necessary to limit freedom to change the uses of buildings, and support such restrictions with a clear explanation;
- identify land where development would be inappropriate, for instance because of its environmental or historic significance; and
- contain a clear strategy for enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, and supporting Nature Improvement Areas where they have been identified.

Baseline Information and Key Sustainability Issues

- 1.31 In line with the requirements of the SEA Regulations, consideration has been given to the current state of the environment in Rugby Borough. Detailed baseline information for the Borough is presented in Appendix 3 of the full SA Report and it has been regularly updated by LUC throughout the SA process. As well as environmental issues, the baseline information includes a description of social and economic issues in the Borough.
- 1.32 The baseline information contributed to the identification of a set of key sustainability issues for Rugby Borough, which in turn helped to develop a locally appropriate SA framework (i.e. a set of SA objectives) that would be used for appraising the emerging Local Plan policies. **Table 1** below sets out the key sustainability issues for the Borough and in line with the requirements of the SEA Regulations, consideration is also given to the likely evolution of the environment in the Plan area (Rugby Borough) if the Local Plan were not to be implemented.

Table 1: Key sustainability issues for Rugby Borough and Likely Evolution without Implementation of the Local Plan

Key Issue	Likely Evolution without the Plan
Shortage of affordable housing.	Policy CS19 (Affordable Housing) of the adopted Core Strategy requires that a target affordable housing provision of 33.3% is delivered on sites between 0.5ha and 1ha in size, and that a target affordable housing provision of 40% is delivered on sites exceeding 1ha in size or capable of accommodating 30 or more dwellings. This is likely to improve the availability of affordable housing and the trend may therefore be addressed without the implementation of the plan.
Poor accessibility to services and facilities from rural areas, leading to high car dependency.	Policy CS13 (Local Services and Community Facilities) of the adopted Core Strategy seeks to protect existing services and allows for new provision of services, provided that it is accessible by sustainable transport. This may increase accessibility to services and facilities without creating a dependency on car travel; however the policy does not explicitly promote services in rural areas and without the adoption of the Rugby Borough Local Plan, it is uncertain whether the Core Strategy will improve this situation. Paragraph 28 of the NPPF states that local authorities should <i>“promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship”</i> . The policies in the NPPF will still apply without the implementation of the plan, which may provide further protection to accessible services in rural areas. However, the Rugby Borough Local Plan is intended to address the requirements of the NPPF, suggesting that it would not be as well addressed without implementation of that plan.
Social exclusion in some wards, particularly in relation to disparities in skill levels, job opportunities, and wage rates, and high levels of multiple deprivation in some parts of Rugby town.	Deprivation and social exclusion in the Borough may be addressed by the adopted Core Strategy through the provision of employment land (policy CS18) and affordable housing (policy CS19). However, if the Rugby Borough Local Plan were to include policies that supported the most deprived wards and addressed inequalities within the Borough through locating employment in these areas, providing community services and facilities including education facilities, the issue of social exclusion in the Borough may be better addressed.
Limited capacity for new development in the existing urban area, with associated issues related to the protection of environmental assets.	Policies CS3 (Gateway Rugby SUE) and CS4 (Rugby Radio SUE) in the adopted Core Strategy will create strategic developments that will provide capacity for new residential and employment developments. Policies in the adopted Core Strategy that seek to conserve and enhance the natural and historic environments aim to mitigate any adverse impacts on environmental assets. The Rugby Borough Local Plan is expected to include policies specifically relating to the protection of environmental assets, which will be in conformity with the requirements of the NPPF which has been published since the Core Strategy was adopted. This could provide more protection against the potential impacts of new development. Without the implementation of the plan, the trend is not expected to be addressed as successfully.
Issues related to crime, fear of crime, and anti-social behaviour.	There are no policies in the adopted Core Strategy that relate directly to crime; however the NPPF does require good design that creates <i>“safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion”</i> (paragraph 58). If the Rugby Borough Local Plan were to include policies specifically relating to

Key Issue	Likely Evolution without the Plan
	<p>crime, then there would be more certainty in relation to reducing crime and fear of crime in the Borough. Without the implementation of the plan, the trend is therefore likely to continue subject to other influences outside those of the planning system.</p>
<p>Competition from other centres affecting the vitality and viability of Rugby town centre.</p>	<p>Rugby town centre is supported through Policy CS6 (Development in Rugby Town Centre) in the adopted Core Strategy and the Rugby Town Centre Action Plan DPD. However, the development of two sustainable urban extensions (SUEs) through Policies CS3 (Gateway Rugby SUE) and CS4 (Rugby Radio SUE) in the adopted Core Strategy could create further competition that may affect the vitality and viability of the town centre in Rugby. The Rugby Borough Local Plan may provide more certainty regarding the relation between Rugby town centre and the SUEs as well as delivering further improvements to the town centre itself. Without the implementation of the plan, the trend is therefore more likely to continue.</p>
<p>Pressures on landscape and townscape quality from new development.</p>	<p>There are no policies in the adopted Core Strategy that specifically relate to the protection of the landscape in Rugby Borough; however, paragraph 109 in the NPPF seeks to protect and enhance valued landscapes, which may afford some protection to landscape quality in the Borough. If the Rugby Borough Local Plan were to include a policy that specifically protected the landscape and townscape of the Borough there would be more certainty in relation to their protection, particularly as the aim of the Rugby Borough Local Plan is to ensure that the requirements of the NPPF are addressed. Without implementation of the plan, landscape and townscape quality would therefore be more vulnerable to development pressures and the trend would be likely to continue.</p>
<p>Issues related to the vitality of the rural economy, including decline in agriculture.</p>	<p>Paragraph 28 of the NPPF supports the rural economy by supporting the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas, and promoting the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses. However, the adopted Core Strategy does not include any policies directly aiming to address the vitality of the rural economy. In addition, Policy CS1 (Development Strategy) in the adopted Core Strategy restricts developments in the countryside, which may have a further adverse impact on the rural economy, particularly if it would restrict developments associated with agriculture. It is not currently clear whether the Rugby Borough Local Plan will include policies that will directly affect this issue as it will include primarily development management policies; however without the implementation of the plan the trend is even more likely to continue.</p>
<p>Existence of designated biodiversity sites and protected species in the Borough, which are vulnerable to new development.</p>	<p>There are no policies in the adopted Core Strategy that specifically relate to the protection of biodiversity assets, although policy CS16 (Sustainable Design) requires developments to consider the conservation and enhancement of the built and natural environment. In addition, paragraph 109 of the NPPF seeks to minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity where possible, which may afford some protection to the SSSIs and local designations in the Borough. It is likely that the Rugby Borough Local Plan will include a policy that specifically aims to protect the biodiversity sites and protected species in the Borough, particularly as it is intended to ensure that Rugby's Local Plan meets the requirements of the NPPF. Without the</p>

Key Issue	Likely Evolution without the Plan
	implementation of this plan, therefore, the issue is likely to be much less well addressed and to remain valid.
Increases in traffic flows and levels of car use over the last decade.	Policy CS11 (Transport and New Development) in the adopted Core Strategy may contribute to reducing car use in the Borough by supporting new developments that prioritise sustainable modes of transport. However, Policy CS12 (Strategic Transport Improvements) identifies major road schemes that would be needed to accommodate strategic developments in the Borough, and so could be seen as likely to further increase levels of car use in those areas. The Rugby Borough Local Plan is likely to include policies relating to sustainable transport provision in new development. As such, without implementation of the plan, the trend is likely to be less well addressed although Core Strategy policy CS11 will address it to some extent.
Pressures on the greenbelt in the west of the Borough.	Policy CS1 (Development Strategy) in the adopted Core Strategy resists new development on Green Belt land and only allows for development when it is consistent with national policy on Green Belt. This issue is therefore likely to be addressed without the implementation of the Local Plan.
High flood risk issues at a number of locations across the Borough.	Policy CS16 (Sustainable Design) in the adopted Core Strategy requires Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to be incorporated in all new developments (of any scale). This should help to reduce the impact of new developments on flood risk across the Borough. As there is no policy in the Core Strategy that generally addresses flooding, there would be more certainty regarding the future evolution of this issue if the Rugby Borough Local Plan were to include a policy relating to flood risk. The NPPF would still apply without the implementation of the plan and states that <i>“inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk, but where development is necessary, making it safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere”</i> (paragraph 100). As the intention of the Rugby Borough Local Plan is to ensure that the requirements of the NPPF are addressed in, it is likely that this requirement will be reflected in a policy within the Rugby Borough Local Plan. Therefore without the implementation of that plan, this issue is likely to be less thoroughly addressed.
Pressures on water resources from new development.	Policy CS16 (Sustainable Design) in the adopted Core Strategy requires all new residential development to meet the water conservation standards in Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes, and non-residential development to demonstrate very good water efficiency. Therefore, even without the implementation of the plan, the issue relating to water resources is likely to be addressed through existing policies in the Borough, except through application of Building Regulations.
Sustainable waste management issues resulting from new development.	There are no policies in the adopted Core Strategy that specifically relate to waste management. Policies CS3 (Gateway Rugby SUE) and CS4 (Rugby Radio SUE) require sustainable waste management facilities to be included as part of those developments. If the Rugby Borough Local Plan were to include policies specifically relating to waste, then there would be more certainty in relation to how waste issues will be addressed in other areas of the Borough. Without the implementation of the plan, the trend is more likely to continue as at present in most areas,

Key Issue	Likely Evolution without the Plan
<p>High level of carbon emissions per capita in relation to other authorities in the area.</p>	<p>although waste planning and management is a County matter.</p> <p>Policies CS11 (which supports sustainable transport) and CS16 (sustainable design) in the adopted Core Strategy may contribute to encouraging generally more sustainable lifestyles in the Borough, but they do not explicitly address levels of carbon emissions. Policy CS17 (Sustainable Buildings) requires developments at the two SUEs to have high carbon efficiency, which will help reduce carbon emissions from those strategic developments. The NPPF requires local authorities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and actively support energy efficiency improvements (Chapter 10), and that requirement would still apply without the implementation of the DPDs. As the intention of the Rugby Borough Local Plan is to ensure that the requirements of the NPPF are addressed in Rugby, it is likely that this requirement will be reflected in a policy within the Rugby Borough Local Plan. Therefore without the implementation of that plan, this issue is likely to be less thoroughly addressed.</p>
<p>Historic environment assets (particularly non-designated assets which are not afforded the same degree of protection as designated sites and areas) are at risk from neglect or decay.</p>	<p>Policy CS16 (Sustainable Design) in the adopted Core Strategy requires all new residential development to complement, enhance and utilise the historic environment and must not have a significant impact on designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings.</p>

Method and Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 1.33 The review of relevant plans, policies and programmes and the collation of baseline data helped to identify key sustainability issues for Rugby Borough, as described above. These key sustainability issues fed into the identification of a set of SA objectives which are the main tool used at each stage of the SA for assessing the likely effects of the options and draft policies in the Local Plan. The SA objectives that had been used in the SA of the Core Strategy were reviewed and it was concluded that they remained appropriate for further SA work. The SA framework for the Rugby Borough Local Plan is presented in **Table 2** overleaf. The final column of the table shows how all of the topics that are specified in the SEA Regulations are addressed within the SA framework.

Table 2: SA Framework for the Rugby Borough Local Plan

SA objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant topic(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
1. Reduce/eliminate poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it promote or support employment opportunities across the Borough for the most deprived wards? • Will it encourage active involvement of local people in community activities? • Will it maximise opportunities for all members of society? • Will it reduce fuel poverty? • Will it maintain and enhance rural facilities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population • Human health
2. Provide good quality local services, leisure and cultural opportunities with good access for all sections of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it promote good quality local services with good access for all sections of the community? • Will it promote mixed-use development with good accessibility to local services that will reduce the need to travel? • Will it provide a range of leisure and cultural opportunities for all? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population • Human health • Material assets
3. Promote/improve health of the population and reduce health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it promote healthy, active lifestyles through the protection and provision of facilities and locations of sporting/recreational activities (e.g. playing fields, sports facilities, cycleways, footpaths etc.)? • Will it reduce obesity? • Will it improve access for all to health facilities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population • Human health
4. Provide affordable and decent housing, which meets the needs of the Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it provide an adequate supply of affordable housing? Will it support the provision of a range of house types and sizes to meet the needs of all sectors of the community? • Will it reduce homelessness? • Will it provide a decent home for all? • Will it ensure that all new development contributes to local distinctiveness and improve the local environment? • Will it meet the building specification guidance in the Code for Sustainable Homes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets
5. Reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour? • Will it promote design of buildings and public spaces to reduce the potential of crime? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population
6. Promote/enable a strong, stable and sustainable local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it provide employment opportunities for all? • Will it improve business development and enhance competitiveness? • Will it assist businesses in finding appropriate land and premises? • Will it support the rural economy and farm diversification? • Will it promote sustainable tourism opportunities? • Will it support or encourage social enterprise and the development of new environmental technologies? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population • Material assets
7. Promote the vitality and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it promote Rugby as a destination of choice of shopping? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets

SA objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant topic(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
viability of the town centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve the quality of the public realm? • Will it make land and property available for a range of different business needs within the town centre? 	
8. Promote the regeneration of urban areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it provide affordable housing and decent homes? • Will it allow access for all? • Will it assist businesses in finding appropriate land and premises? • Will it provide employment opportunities for all? • Will it promote design of buildings and public spaces to reduce the potential of crime? • Will it ensure the provision of new development, including conversions, on previously developed land as opposed to greenfield sites and through conversion of existing buildings? • Will it require good design to create attractive, high quality environments where people will choose to live, work and/or spend leisure time? • Will it improve people's satisfaction with their neighbourhood? • Will it ensure development is co-ordinated with essential infrastructure to support future sustainable growth? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets
9. Use and manage land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently, and increase energy generated from renewables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it exacerbate water abstraction levels? • Will it increase water consumption? • Will it include energy efficiency measures? • Will it encourage energy production from sustainable sources? • Will it safeguard Rugby's material resources for future use? • Will it utilise derelict, degraded and under-used land and buildings? • Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources? • Will it lead to higher density development? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil • Water • Material assets
10. Minimise waste and manage it sustainably	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce the amount of waste produced? • Will it maximise the recovery, re-use and recycling of waste? • Will it promote 'on-site' sustainable waste management facilities within new developments? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets
11. Reduce the Borough's contribution to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce non-renewable energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions? • Will it help reduce Rugby's carbon footprint? • Will it reduce the rate of increase in transport-related carbon and greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the need for private car use? • Will it require that development proposals are guided by 'climate proofing' principles (to allow an increase in use of renewable energies in the future)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climatic factors
12. Avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property? • Will it reduce the risk of damage to property from storm events? • Will it increase the number of new developments that incorporate sustainable drainage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water

SA objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant topic(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
13. Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	<p>techniques including SuDS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it preserve buildings of architectural or historic interest and, where necessary, encourage their conservation and renewal? • Will it preserve or enhance archaeological sites/remains? • Will it improve and broaden access to, understanding and enjoyment of the historic environment? • Will it support heritage-led regeneration and capitalise on the social and economic contribution of the historic environment to the regeneration of the Borough? • Will it preserve or enhance the setting of cultural heritage assets? • Will it safeguard and enhance the character of the landscape/townscape and local distinctiveness and identity? • Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and under-used land? • Will it increase the economic benefit derived from the historic environment (e.g. promoting heritage based tourism)? • Will it support the sustainable use of historic farmsteads? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage
14. Promote a sustainable and accessible transport network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it promote the use of sustainable modes of transport? • Will it promote mixed-use development that reduces reliance on the private car? • Will it provide good access to services/facilities for all? • Will it promote travel plans, carshare schemes? • Will it promote the development of park and ride schemes? • Will it reduce traffic volumes? • Will it reduce the negative environmental impacts of transport? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets
15. Reduce all forms of pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it maintain and improve local air quality? • Will it improve levels of noise, light pollution, odour and vibration? • Will it maintain and improve the biological and chemical water quality of water bodies in the Borough? • Will it minimise soil contamination and improve soil quality? • Will it minimise diffuse as well as point source pollution? • Will it promote more sustainable transport patterns, particularly in areas of low air quality (e.g. AQMAs)? • Will it separate polluting development away from sensitive receptors? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil • Water • Air
16. Conserve and where possible enhance the Borough's biodiversity, flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it lead to habitat creation, matching BAP priorities? • Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species? • Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest? • Will it maintain and enhance woodland/hedgerow cover and management? • Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their geodiversity interest? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna • Flora

SA objectives	Decision-making criteria	Relevant topic(s) as set out in the SEA Regulations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it increase awareness of biodiversity and geodiversity issues? • Will it encourage the development of new biodiversity assets and linkages to existing habitats within/alongside development? • Will it increase the provision of and access to green infrastructure? 	
17. Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it safeguard and enhance the character of the landscape and local distinctiveness and identity? • Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and under-used land? • Will it preserve distinctive historic landscapes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape
18. Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of townscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it maintain and enhance the character of the townscape and local distinctiveness and sense of place? • Will it reduce the number of derelict, under-used and vacant buildings? <p>Will it achieve high quality and sustainable design for the built environment sensitive to the locality?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets • Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage

Use of the SA Framework

- 1.34 Within the assessment matrices showing the potential sustainability effects of the Local Plan policies, symbols and colour-coding have been used against each SA objective to show whether an effect is likely to be minor or significant, positive or negative, or uncertain, as follows:

Figure 1: Key to symbols and colour coding used in the SA of the Rugby Local Plan

++	The option or policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the SA objective(s).
+	The option or policy is likely to have a positive impact on the SA objective(s).
0	The option or policy is likely to have a negligible or no impact on the SA objective(s).
-	The option or policy is likely to have a negative impact on the SA objective(s).
--	The option or policy is likely to have a significant negative impact on the SA objective(s).
?	It is uncertain what effect the option or policy will have on the SA objective(s), due to a lack of data.
+/-	The option or policy is likely to have a mixture of positive and negative impacts on the SA objective(s).

- 1.35 The potential effects of the Local Plan need to be determined and their significance assessed, which requires a series of judgments to be made. Attempts have been made to differentiate between the most significant effects and other more minor effects through the use of the symbols shown above. The dividing line in making a decision about the significance of an effect is often quite small. Where either ++ or -- has been used to distinguish significant effects from more minor effects (+ or -) this is because the effect of the policy in question on an SA objective is considered to be of such magnitude that it will have a noticeable and measurable effect taking into account other factors that may influence the achievement of that SA objective.
- 1.36 The SEA Regulations require consideration of whether the potential effects predicted are likely to be secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium or long-term, permanent or temporary. Where relevant, reference has been made to effects being either direct or indirect (the latter is taken to cover 'secondary' effects). Cumulative effects refer to the potential to increase overall effects as a result of one effect being added to another. The likely cumulative effects of the Local Plan policies are considered in Chapter 6 of the full SA Report and are summarised further ahead in this Non-Technical Summary. Consideration has also been given to the timescales over which effects are likely to occur, i.e. whether they will be short, medium or long-term.

Likely Effects of the Site Options considered for the Local Plan

- 1.37 As described earlier in this Non-Technical Summary, the reasonable residential and employment site options were subject to SA by LUC earlier in 2015 and the findings were provided to the Council in the form of an internal SA document, so that the SA findings (along with other factors) could help the Council decide which sites should and shouldn't be included in the Local Plan as preferred allocations.
- 1.38 This section provides a summary of the SA findings for the residential and employment site options and reflects the information set out in the internal SA document. A total of 142 reasonable alternative residential site options and five reasonable alternative employment site options have been subject to SA by LUC on behalf of the Council. A set of assumptions relating to each type of site option was devised to ensure that this number of reasonable site options could be appraised consistently – these assumptions are presented in Appendix 4 in the full SA report.
- 1.39 The detailed SA matrices for the residential and employment site options can be found in Appendices 5 and 6 in the full SA report and the findings are summarised below in **Tables 3** and **4** respectively.

Table 3: Summary of SA Scores for Residential Site Options

Site option	1) Poverty and social exclusion	2) Leisure and culture	3) Health	4) Housing	5) Crime	6) Economy	7) Town centre vitality and viability	8) Urban regeneration	9) Efficient use of land and energy	10) Waste	11) Climate change	12) Flood risk	13) Historic environment	14) Sustainable transport	15) Pollution	16) Biodiversity	17) Landscapes	18) Townscapes
S14/003	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S14/004	0	++	++	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S14/005	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	--?	0
S14/007	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	+	--	--?	--?	0
S14/008_S14/020	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/009	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S14/011	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	+	0	-?	--?	0
S14/012_S14/013	0	++	++	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	0/--	--?	--?	0
S14/016	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/017	0	++	+	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/018	0	++	-	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	0/--	-?	-?	0
S14/019	0	++	++	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	--	0?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S14/021	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/023	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	+
S14/024	0	++	-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0?	+	0/--	-?	-?	-?	+
S14/025	0	++	+/-	++	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/026	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/027	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	--	-?	0?	0
S14/028	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--	0?	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/029	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0?	++	0	-?	-?	+	+
S14/030	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	+	+
S14/031	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0?	+	0	-?	-?	+	+
S14/032	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	0?	0
S14/033	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	+	0	-?	--?	0
S14/034	0	+	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	-?	++	--	--?	--?	0
S14/035	0	--	-	+	0	-	0	-	-	0	--	-	0?	-	--	--?	-?	0
S14/036	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/037	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/038	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/039	0	-	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	0	--?	-?	0?
S14/040	0	++	+	++	0	+	0	-	--	0	+	-	--?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/041	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	-?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/042	0	++	+/-	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	--	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/043	0	++	-	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	--	0?	++	0/--	-?	-?	0
S14/044	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	0	-?	-?	0
S14/045	0	+	+	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/046	0	++	+/-	++	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	--	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/047b	0	-	+	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	+	0	--?	-?	0
S14/049	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S14/050	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	+	+
S14/051	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0?	++	0	--?	-?	+	+
S14/053	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S14/054	0	++	+	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0

Site option

	1) Poverty and social exclusion	2) Leisure and culture	3) Health	4) Housing	5) Crime	6) Economy	7) Town centre vitality and viability	8) Urban regeneration	9) Efficient use of land and energy	10) Waste	11) Climate change	12) Flood risk	13) Historic environment	14) Sustainable transport	15) Pollution	16) Biodiversity	17) Landscapes	18) Townscapes
S14/055	0	+	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	--?	0
S14/057	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	+	0	-?	-?	+
S14/059	0	++	-	+	0	-	0	-	--?	0	--	-	0?	-	0	-?	-?	0
S14/060	0	--	-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	-	--	-?	-?	+
S14/061	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	+	--	0?	--?	+
S14/062	0	++	+	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/063	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/064	0	++	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S14/065A (S14/097)	0	++	++	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/065B (S14/097)	0	++	++	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	--	-?	+	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/065C (S14/097)	0	++	++	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	--?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S14/065D	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S14/065E (S14/072)	0	++	++	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S14/066	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	--?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/067	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/068	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/069	0	+	+/-	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	--?	0
S14/070	0	+	+/-	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	--?	0
S14/071	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	++	--	--?	--?	+
S14/073	0	++	-	+	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	-?	+	--	0?	-?	0
S14/074	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	--?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/075	0	-	+	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	--?	+	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/076	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	-?	+	0	-?	-?	0
S14/077	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/078	0	++	-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/079	0	++	-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	-?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/080	0	++	+/-	+	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/081	0	--	-	+	0	-	0	-	-	0	--	-	0?	-	0	--?	-?	0
S14/082	0	++	-	+	0	-	0	-	--?	0	--	-	0?	-	0	-?	-?	0
S14/083	0	++	+/-	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/084	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	-?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/085	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	++	0/--	-?	-?	0
S14/086	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	-?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/087	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	-?	+	--	--?	-?	+
S14/088	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	-?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/089	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/090	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	++	0	+	0	-?	++	0	--?	-?	+	
S14/091	0	-	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/092	0	++	+/-	+	0	++	0	-	-	0	+	-	-?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/093	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S14/094	0	+	+/-	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/096	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	-?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/098	0	++	+/-	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/099	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	--?	+	0	-?	--?	0

Site option

	1) Poverty and social exclusion	2) Leisure and culture	3) Health	4) Housing	5) Crime	6) Economy	7) Town centre vitality and viability	8) Urban regeneration	9) Efficient use of land and energy	10) Waste	11) Climate change	12) Flood risk	13) Historic environment	14) Sustainable transport	15) Pollution	16) Biodiversity	17) Landscapes	18) Townscapes
S14/100	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	++	0/--	--?	--?	+
S14/101	0	++	-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	++	0	-?	-?	+
S14/102	0	++	++/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/106	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	++	0	+	++	0	0?	++	--	-?	0?	+
S14/108	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	++	0	+	+	0	--?	++	--	-?	0?	+
S14/111	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	++	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/112	0	-	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	--?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/113	0	+	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/114	0	++	-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	+	0/--	-?	-?	0
S14/115	0	++	++	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S14/116	0	++	++/-	+	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	-?	0
S14/117	0	++	++/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/118	0	++	-	++	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/119	0	++	-	++	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	--?	0
S14/120	0	++	+	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S14/121	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/122	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?	++	0/--	-?	-?	0
S14/125	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	++	--	-?	0?	+
S14/129	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/130	0	-	-	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	--	--?	-?	0
S14/134	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/135	0	++	+/-	++	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/137	0	++	+/-	+	0	++	0	-	-	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	0?	0
S14/143	0	++	+/-	++	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/145	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	++	--	--?	0?	+
S14/146	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	++	0	+	0	0?	++	--	-?	0?	+	
S14/148	0	+	+	++	0	+	0	-	--?		0	-	0?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S14/151	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	++	0	+	0	0	0?	++	--	-?	0?	+
S14/152	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/153	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	-?	++	--	-?	--?	0
S14/154	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/155	0	--	+/-	++	0	-	0	-	--?	0	--	-	0?	-	--	--?	-?	0
S14/156	0	-	-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	--	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S14/157	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S14/158	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	0/--	-?	--?	0
S14/159	0	++	+/-	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S003	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	++	0	+	+	0	-?	++	--	-?	0?	+
S033	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S035	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	++	--	--?	0?	0
S039	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S042	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S043	0	-	+	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S046	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	0?	+	0	--?	-?	0
S052	0	++	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	-	0	0	-	-?	+	--	--?	--?	0

Site option

	1) Poverty and social exclusion	2) Leisure and culture	3) Health	4) Housing	5) Crime	6) Economy	7) Town centre vitality and viability	8) Urban regeneration	9) Efficient use of land and energy	10) Waste	11) Climate change	12) Flood risk	13) Historic environment	14) Sustainable transport	15) Pollution	16) Biodiversity	17) Landscapes	18) Townscapes
S056	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	+	0	-?	-?	0
S057	0	++	++	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	-?	++	0	-?	-?	0
S058	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	-?	++	--	-?	--?	0
S059	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	++	--	--?	-?	0
S061	0	++	+	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	+	-	0?	++	0	--?	-?	0
S064	0	++	+	+	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	+	0/--	--?	--?	0
S123	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	--	-?	--?	0?
S124	0	+	+	++	0	+	0	-	--?	0	0	-	0?	++	0/--	--?	-?	0
S129	0	++	++	++	0	++	0	-	--?	0	++	-	0?	++	0/--	-?	-?	0
S133	0	++	++/-	+	0	++	0	++	0	+?	+	0	0?	++	--	--?	-?	+

Table 4: Summary of SA Scores for Employment Site Options

Site option	1) Poverty and social exclusion	2) Leisure and culture	3) Health	4) Housing	5) Crime	6) Economy	7) Town centre vitality and viability	8) Urban regeneration	9) Efficient use of land and energy	10) Waste	11) Climate change	12) Flood risk	13) Historic environment	14) Sustainable transport	15) Pollution	16) Biodiversity	17) Landscapes	18) Townscapes
S14_006	0	0	+/-	0	0	+	0	-	-?	0	-	-	0?	-	-	-?	-?	0
S14_007	0	0	+/-	0	0	+	0	-	-	0	++	-	-?	+	-	-?	-?	0
S14_034	+	0	+/-	0	0	++	0	-	-	0	++	-	0?	++	-	-?	-?	0
S14_047	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	-	-?	0	-	-	-?	-	0	-?	-?	0
S14_111	0	0	+/-	0	0	+	0	-	-?	0	++	-	0?	++	-	-?	-?	0

Likely effects of the Policy Options

- 1.41 As described earlier in this Non-Technical Summary, options for the policies that the Council originally intended to present in a Rugby Borough Plan DPD (to sit alongside the adopted Core Strategy) were identified and subject to SA in 2013 at the Discussion Document stage. The SA findings for those policy options were presented in the SA Report for the Discussion Document (June 2013) and the accompanying Non-Technical summary.
- 1.42 Once the Council decided to revise the strategic policies in the adopted Core Strategy and prepare a comprehensive new-style Local Plan, a further set of policy options was identified and subject to SA by LUC. As with the site options in the previous section, the SA work for those additional policy options was presented to the Council in an internal SA document in May 2015 so that the findings could help the Council to decide which policy approaches to take forward in the Preferred Option. The internal SA document did not comprise a full SA report and was not made publicly available at the time. Therefore, the SA findings for the additional policy options (i.e. those that were identified and appraised after the Discussion Document consultation in 2013) are now presented in the full SA report and in this Non-Technical Summary. The detailed SA matrices for the policy options can be found in Appendix 8 in the full SA report and the findings are summarised in **Tables 5-8** below.
- 1.43 In most cases the options identified by the Council were to either include a policy in the Local Plan addressing the issue in question, or to not include a policy in the Local Plan and to rely on national policy instead. Information about what each option (preferred approaches (PA) and reasonable alternatives (RA)) means can be found in the detailed SA matrices in Appendix 8 of the full SA report.

Table 5: Summary of SA scores for the options for growth and options for the development strategy

SA objectives	SA1: Poverty and social exclusion	SA2: Services and facilities	SA3: Health	SA4: Housing	SA5: Crime	SA6: Economy	SA7: Town centre	SA8: Regeneration	SA9: Resources	SA10: Waste	SA11: Climate change	SA12: Flooding	SA13: Heritage	SA14: Sustainable transport	SA15: Pollution	SA16: Biodiversity	SA17: Landscape	SA18: Townscape
Options for Growth																		
1: Existing balance	0	+/-	?	++	0	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+	?	+/-	+/-	?	+/-?	+
2: Urban and urban edge focus	0	+/-	?	++	0	+	+	++	++?	++?	+/-	+	?	+/-	+/-	?	-?	+
3: Wider focus	+	+/-	?	++	0	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+	?	+/-	+/-	?	-?	+
4: Intensified urban focus	0	++/-	?	++/-	0	+	++	++	++?	++?	++	++/-?	?	++	++/--	?	+	++?
5: New town	0	+/-?	?	++	0	+	+	+	+	+	+/-?	+/-?	?	+/-?	+/-	?	--?	+
Options for Development Strategy																		
1: As current CS1	0	+/-	?	++	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+/-	?	+	+
2: As current CS1 but development permitted within existing boundaries at Local Needs Settlements	+	+/-	?	++	0	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+	?	+/-	+/-	?	+	+
3: As current CS1 but some development permitted at Main Rural Settlements including boundary alterations as necessary	0	+/-	?	++	0	+	+	+	+/-?	+	+/-	+	?	+/-	+/-	?	-?	+

Table 6: Summary of SA scores for the options relating to saved Local Plan policies

SA objectives	SA1: Poverty and social exclusion	SA2: Services and facilities	SA3: Health	SA4: Housing	SA5: Crime	SA6: Economy	SA7: Town centre	SA8: Regeneration	SA9: Resources	SA10: Waste	SA11: Climate change	SA12: Flooding	SA13: Heritage	SA14: Sustainable transport	SA15: Pollution	SA16: Biodiversity	SA17: Landscape	SA18: Townscape
Landscaping (PA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	++	++
Landscaping (RA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-?	0	0	-	-	-
Safeguarding development potential (PA)	0	0	0	+/-	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+
Safeguarding development potential (RA)	0	0	0	+/-	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	0	0	0	-	-
Development affecting parks & gardens and other elements of historic landscape (PA)	0	0	0	-?	0	-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	++	0
Development affecting parks & gardens and other elements of historic landscape (RA)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Airport flight paths (PA)	0	0	+	-?	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0
Airport flight paths (RA)	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Retention of existing strategically significant employment sites (PA)	+	-?	0	-	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retention of existing strategically significant employment sites (RA)	-	+	0	+	0	-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retention of other employment land (PA)	+	-?	0	-?	0	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retention of other employment land (RA)	-	+	0	+	0	-	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food and drink uses in the town centre shopping area (PA)	0	+	+	0	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food and drink uses in the town centre shopping area (RA)	0	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 7: Summary of SA scores for the options relating to Core Strategy policies

SA objectives	SA1: Poverty and social exclusion	SA2: Services and facilities	SA3: Health	SA4: Housing	SA5: Crime	SA6: Economy	SA7: Town centre	SA8: Regeneration	SA9: Resources	SA10: Waste	SA11: Climate change	SA12: Flooding	SA13: Heritage	SA14: Sustainable transport	SA15: Pollution	SA16: Biodiversity	SA17: Landscape	SA18: Townscape
Parish Plans (PA)	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parish Plans (RA)	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhancing the strategic green infrastructure network (PA)	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+?	+	+	++	+	+
Enhancing the strategic green infrastructure network (RA)	0	-?	-?	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	-?	-	-	-	-	-
Green infrastructure allocations (PA)	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+?	++	+	+?	+?	++	+?	+?
Green infrastructure allocations (RA)	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	-?	-	-	-?	-	-	-	-
Sustainable design and construction (PA)	+	0	+?	+	0	0	0	0	++	?	++	+	+	+	+	0	+	+
Sustainable design and construction (RA)	-?	0	-?	-?	0	0	0	0	-?	0	-?	-?	-?	-?	-?	0	-?	-?
Affordable housing (PA)	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Affordable housing (RA)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Local housing need (PA)	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local housing need (RA)	-	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rural exceptions housing (PA)	+	0	0	++?	0	0	0	0	?	0	-?	-?	0	-?	-?	-?	-?	0
Rural exceptions housing (RA)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 8: Summary of SA scores for the other policy options

SA objectives	SA1: Poverty and social exclusion	SA2: Services and facilities	SA3: Health	SA4: Housing	SA5: Crime	SA6: Economy	SA7: Town centre	SA8: Regeneration	SA9: Resources	SA10: Waste	SA11: Climate change	SA12: Flooding	SA13: Heritage	SA14: Sustainable transport	SA15: Pollution	SA16: Biodiversity	SA17: Landscape	SA18: Townscape
Noise (PA)	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0
Noise (RA)	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0
Information and communications technology (PA)	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
Information and communications technology (RA)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marinas and houseboats (PA)	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
Marinas and houseboats (RA)	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
General infrastructure policy (PA)	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	0
General infrastructure policy (RA)	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	0	0
Review policy (PA)	+	0	0	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Review policy (RA)	-	0	0	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Landscape protection and enhancement (PA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	+
Landscape protection and enhancement (RA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	-
Healthy communities (PA)	++	0	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Healthy communities (RA)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Impact Assessments (PA)	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health Impact Assessments (RA)	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protection of the water environment (PA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0
Protection of the water environment (RA)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Likely Effects of the Rugby Borough Local Plan: Preferred Option

- 1.44 This section presents the SA findings for the draft policies and site allocations that are set out in the current version of the Local Plan, the Preferred Option consultation document (December 2015). The SA scores for all of the policies and proposals in the Local Plan are presented in **Table 9** overleaf and the cumulative effects of the Plan as a whole are described by SA objective underneath the table.

Table 9: Summary of SA scores for the policies and proposals in the Rugby Borough Local Plan: Preferred Option

	1) Poverty and social exclusion	2) Leisure and culture	3) Health	4) Housing	5) Crime	6) Economy	7) Town centre vitality and viability	8) Urban regeneration	9) Efficient use of land and energy	10) Waste	11) Climate change	12) Flood risk	13) Historic environment	14) Sustainable transport	15) Pollution	16) Biodiversity	17) Landscapes	18) Townscapes
Quantum of housing development	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	+	-?	-?	-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	-?	+/-?	-?	+
Quantum of employment development	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	-?	-?	-?	+/-?	+/-?	+/-?	-?	+/-?	-?	+
Quantum of retail and leisure development	0	++	0	0	0	+	++	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+/-	0	0	+
Distribution strategy	0	+/-	?	++	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+/-	?	+	+
Removal of land parcel LL2 from green belt	0	+	+	+	0	++	0	-?	--?	0	++	-?	-?	++	--	--?	-?	0
Removal of land parcel C6 from green belt	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	-?	--?	0	+	-?	--	++	--?	-?	-?	0
Allocation: Coton House	0	++	-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	-?	++	--	-?	-?	0
Allocation: Coton Park East	0	+	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	+	-	0?/-?	++	--	--?	--?	0
Allocation: South West Rugby	0	++	+/-	++	0	++	0	-	--	0	++	-	0?/-?	++	--	--?	-?	0
Allocation: Land South of Walsgrave Hill Farm	0	--	+	++	0	+	0	-	--	0	0	-	--?	+	0/--	--?	-?	0
SD1: Settlement hierarchy	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0
SD2: Securing sustainable development	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SD3: Previously developed land	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	+
SD4: Conversions	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+
SD5: Safeguarding development potential	0	0	0	+/-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+/-?	0	0	0	0
Sub: Parish or Neighbourhood level documents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H1: Informing housing mix	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0
H2: Housing for rural businesses	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0
H3: Rural exceptions sites	+	-?	-?	++	0	0	0	0	-	0	-?	0	0	-?	-?	0	-?	0
H4: Replacement dwellings	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-?	0
H5: Specialist housing	+	+	+	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0
AH1: Affordable housing provision	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AH2: Sites for Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	0	+	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+
ED1: Protection of Rugby's employment land	+	0	0	+/-	0	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+
ED2: Employment development within Rugby urban area	+	0	+	0	0	++	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+
ED3: Employment development outside Rugby urban area	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
ED4: The wider urban and rural economy	0	+	+	0	0	++	0	0	+	0	-	0	+	-	-	0	+/-	+
TC1: Development in Rugby town centre	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	++	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	++
TC2: Rugby town centre comparison and convenience floorspace requirements	+	+	0	0	0	++	++	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
TC3: Directing development in the town centre	+	+	0	0	0	++	++	++	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+
TC4: Primary shopping area and shopping frontages	0	+	+	0	+	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+
HS1: Healthy, safe and inclusive communities	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	+
HS2: Health Impact Assessments	0	0	++	-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HS3: Protection and provision of local shops, community facilities and services	0	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+
HS4: Open space and recreation	0	++	+	+/-	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
NE1: Protecting designated biodiversity and geodiversity assets	0	0	0	-?	0	-?	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	+	0
NE2: Biodiversity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	+	0
NE3: Green Infrastructure policy	0	+	+	-?	0	-?	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	0
NE4: Landscape protection and enhancement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	++	+
SDC1: Sustainable design	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	++	0	++	0	+	+	++	++
SDC2: Landscaping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	++	++	+
SDC3: Protecting and enhancing the historic environment	0	0	0	-?	0	-?	+	+	0	0	0	0	++?	0	0	+	++	+
SDC4: Sustainable buildings	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SDC5: Flood risk management	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0
SDC6: Sustainable urban drainage	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	+	+	+	+

SA objective 1: Reduce/eliminate poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion

- 1.46 The majority of the policies and proposals in the Local Plan: Preferred Option will not have a direct effect on reducing poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion in the Borough. Therefore the Local Plan as a whole will not have a significant effect on the achievement of this objective. However, where likely effects have been identified, all are positive. In particular the policies in the Housing section of the Plan should have broadly positive effects as they will help to ensure that a suitable range of housing is provided in the Borough, including affordable houses and homes for the elderly and those with special needs, thereby addressing disadvantage and exclusion. In addition, the Economy policies will have broadly positive effects as the general aim of the policies in that section of the Local Plan is to boost the local economy, which will result in increased employment opportunities and therefore will help to combat poverty and economic disadvantage.
- 1.47 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative minor positive** effect on reducing poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion. This effect is expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 2: Provide good quality local services, leisure and cultural opportunities with good access for all sections of the community

- 1.48 The effects of the Local Plan policies on the provision of services, leisure and cultural opportunities which are accessible to all are broadly positive but some negative effects have also been identified. The likely effects of the policies in the Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities section of the Local Plan are particularly positive in relation to this SA objective as they seek to ensure that shops, services and facilities are retained and new ones provided where possible, to support the needs of the growing population. The policies in the Transport section of the Plan will also have broadly positive effects as they seek to encourage and facilitate the use of sustainable transport links which will enable people without cars to have better access to services.
- 1.49 The allocated development sites will have mixed effects on this SA objective – while the Coton House and South West Rugby sites would have significant positive effects as they provide good access to services, the site allocation South of Walsgrave Hill Farm could have a significant negative effect because the site is not within either Rugby town, a Main Rural Settlement or a Local Needs Settlement and is not well connected by existing bus services. However, the large size of the site may mean that there are opportunities to provide improvements through the development of the site.
- 1.50 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a cumulative **significant positive effect, although with some minor negative effects** on the provision of accessible local services, leisure and cultural opportunities. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 3: Promote/improve health of the population and reduce health inequalities

- 1.51 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will have broadly positive effects on the health of the local population, through the enhancement and conservation of open space and green infrastructure (which may facilitate higher levels of active outdoor recreation), the provision of specialist housing for those with long-term healthcare needs, and by managing environmental issues such as flood risk and pollution which can otherwise have knock-on impacts for human health and well-being. The policies in the Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities section are likely to have particularly positive effects as they directly address health-related issues.
- 1.52 Only a small number of potential minor negative effects on health have been identified in relation to the Local Plan, where policies or proposals could result in higher levels of car use, thereby reducing levels of walking and cycling which can otherwise benefit health. This is the case where development might come forward in rural areas (H3: Rural Exceptions Sites). While some of the allocated sites have relatively poor access to existing healthcare facilities, this may be able to be addressed through the development of the site, for example if new healthcare facilities were to be provided.
- 1.53 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative minor positive** effect on health. This effect is expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 4: Provide affordable and decent housing, which meets the needs of the Borough

- 1.54 The Local Plan makes provision for at least 12,400 new homes which would meet the objectively assessed housing need for Rugby Borough and meet unmet need from Coventry City. Due to the nature of the policies proposed in the Housing and Affordable Housing sections of the Local Plan, most of those policies are likely to have a significant positive effect on the achievement of this SA objective as they would ensure that an appropriate mix of housing types is provided to meet the needs of the local population.
- 1.55 However, a small number of potential minor negative effects have also been highlighted, mainly where the policies in the Local Plan could result in restrictions being placed on new development (including housing development) due to the overriding aim to protect the natural environment. However, these types of effects are uncertain and restrictions may not in fact occur.
- 1.56 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative significant positive effect, although with some minor negative effects** on housing. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 5: Reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

- 1.57 Only a small number of the policies in the Local Plan: Preferred Option were found to have a likely effect on levels of crime and safety in Rugby Borough, and in all cases the effects were positive. In particular, the model policy from the NPPF (SD2: Securing Sustainable Development) will have a positive effect due to its overriding aim to improve the social conditions of the Borough, which is taken to include crime and policy HS1: Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities could have a minor positive effect because it specifically encourages development proposals to incorporate a design and layout which would minimise the potential for crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 1.58 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative minor positive** effect on crime. This effect is expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 6: Promote/enable a strong, stable and sustainable local economy

- 1.59 The effects of the Local Plan: Preferred Option on this SA objective are broadly positive, as the Local Plan makes provision for the development of 96-104 ha of employment land over the Plan period which will stimulate job creation and economic growth. Unsurprisingly, the policies in the Economy section of the Local Plan will have broadly positive effects as their primary aim is to boost the performance of the local economy. They will continue to safeguard a number of identified employment sites and will also boost the rural economy through stimulating rural tourism and farm diversification. In general, the allocated sites would provide good access to employment opportunities.
- 1.60 However, a small number of potential negative effects on the economy are associated with policies that seek to protect and enhance the natural environment (such as NE1: Protecting designated biodiversity and geodiversity assets and SDC3: Protecting and enhancing the historic environment). This is because the measures in those policies could potentially restrict commercial developments coming forward although this may not eventually be the case and would only occur if inappropriate proposals come forward that could harm the environment.
- 1.61 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative significant positive effect** on the promotion of a strong, stable and sustainable local economy. This effect is expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 7: Promote the vitality and viability of the town centre

- 1.62 A number of the policies in the Local Plan: Preferred Option directly seek to address the viability and vitality of Rugby town centre, in particular the policies in the Retail and Town Centre section. Revising the town centre boundary should concentrate town centre uses in a reduced area and therefore contribute to reduced vacancy rates and increased vitality and viability of the town centre. The policies restricting the uses that can come forward in the Primary Shopping Area and Secondary Shopping Frontages will also help to secure the vitality of the town and promote it as a shopping destination of choice.

- 1.63 In addition, several of the policies seeking to improve the overall quality of the built environment by promoting high quality design will benefit the overall appearance and townscape of the town centre which will in turn have economic benefits by encouraging people to visit the town centre. Many of the town centre policies also promote a 'town centre first' approach which will restrict out of centre developments that could otherwise adversely affect the health of the town centre.
- 1.64 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative significant positive effect** on the vitality and viability of the town centre. This effect is expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 8: Promote the regeneration of urban areas

- 1.65 The effects of the policies and proposals in the Local Plan on the achievement of this SA objective are generally positive as the Local Plan makes provision for high quality new development, mainly focussed in the larger settlements, as well as the provision of job opportunities and affordable housing which will benefit regeneration in the Borough. In particular, the policies in the Town Centres section of the Plan should have positive effects as their aim is to ensure that occupancy rates in the town centre are increased and more people make use of a wide range of services and facilities there.
- 1.66 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **minor positive** effect on the regeneration of urban areas. This effect is expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 9: Use and manage land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently, and increase energy generated from renewables

- 1.67 The allocated development sites could have significant negative effects on this SA objective as they will result in large-scale development on greenfield land which does not represent the efficient use of land and soils. However, several Local Plan policies aim to increase renewable energy generation and increase the energy efficiency of built development, particularly policies in the Sustainable Design and Construction section. This should mitigate the potential impacts of new development to some extent. Further positive effects are associated with the policies relating to green infrastructure and open space as they will contribute to the preservation of soil resources.
- 1.68 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed (minor positive and minor negative) effect** on the efficient use of resources and energy efficiency. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 10: Minimise waste and manage it sustainably

- 1.69 The large-scale development proposed through the Local Plan will inevitably result in an increase in waste generation, although not necessarily a per-capita increase. Opportunities to reuse existing buildings and materials on allocated sites are limited as most development is proposed on greenfield land. However, it is assumed that new residential development in the Borough would be covered by the existing Borough-wide kerbside recycling collection.
- 1.70 Most of the policies in the Local Plan will have a negligible effect, although a minor positive effect may result from SDC8: Supporting the Provision of Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technology because the policy could result in energy generation from waste.
- 1.71 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed** (minor positive and minor negative) effect on waste. These effects are expected to be temporary (i.e. occurring during the construction phase) and experienced over the short term.

SA objective 11: Reduce the Borough's contribution to climate change

- 1.72 The large-scale development proposed through the Local Plan will inevitably result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions from both buildings and vehicle use. However, the Local Plan makes good provision for encouraging sustainable design and construction in new development which will reduce emissions from built development, and seeks to encourage modal shift which will help to mitigate the effects of population growth in relation to increased vehicle traffic. In particular, the policies in the Sustainable Design and Construction section of the Local Plan will have broadly very positive effects as one of their primary aims is to increase energy efficiency and promote the

generation of renewable energy sources in the Borough. In particular, SDC8: Supporting the Provision of Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technology will have a significant positive effect.

- 1.73 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed** (minor positive and minor negative) effect on climate change. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 12: Avoid, reduce and manage flood risk

- 1.74 The large-scale development proposed through the Local Plan will inevitably involve the loss of greenfield land which could adversely affect flood risk by reducing levels of infiltration. However, new development may offer opportunities to incorporate SuDS to manage flood risk within the site and elsewhere. Policy SDC6: Sustainable Urban Drainage directly addresses this issue. Other policies in the Natural Environment and Sustainable Design and Construction sections of the Local Plan will have broadly positive effects on the achievement of this SA objective as they aim to reduce and manage flood risk in the Borough, both directly through a specific policy (SDC5: Flood risk management) and indirectly through the provision of open space and green infrastructure which will facilitate infiltration.
- 1.75 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed** (minor positive and minor negative) effect on flood risk management. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 13: Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings

- 1.76 The large-scale housing and employment development proposed through the Local Plan means that there is the potential for negative effects on heritage assets and their settings, particularly because the allocated sites are all within close proximity of designated heritage assets. However, high quality new development may offer opportunities to enhance the setting of the historic environment, where the development is of high quality design and is sensitive to its surroundings. There are a number of policies in the Local Plan seeking to achieve this.
- 1.77 In particular, SDC3: Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment aims to protect the historic environment from the potential impacts of new development and will apply to all development proposals. A number of other policies include relevant criteria, and the overall aim to achieve high quality design in new development will benefit the setting of nearby heritage features. However, it is not possible to assess in detail the potential impacts of development on the historic environment at the strategic level, as effects will depend on the detail and design of the development eventually proposed.
- 1.78 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed (minor negative and minor positive)** effect on the historic environment and heritage assets. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 14: Promote a sustainable and accessible transport network

- 1.79 The overall scale of development proposed in the Local Plan means that an increase in car use is likely; however the Local Plan makes good provision for mitigating this through policies relating to sustainable transport use. The focus of the policies in the Transport section of the Local Plan is modal shift, and the overall development strategy should benefit sustainable transport use as it focuses most development in Rugby town where public transport links are relatively good and there should be opportunities to walk and cycle day to day.
- 1.80 The allocated sites are very well connected to existing public transport links which should help to mitigate their impacts in relation to traffic generation.
- 1.81 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed** (minor positive and minor negative) effect on sustainable transport. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 15: Reduce all forms of pollution

- 1.82 The allocated development sites are likely to have a number of significant negative effects on this SA objective as they are mainly within close proximity of an AQMA and are also next to major roads which could mean that residents are exposed to air and noise pollution, as well as potentially exacerbating existing air pollution issues. The fact that an AQMA has already been declared across Rugby town means that the development strategy of focussing most new development there could have negative effects by increasing traffic and commercial activities in that area, particularly in light of the large-scale housing and employment development proposed through the Local Plan.
- 1.83 However, the Local Plan includes a number of policies which should help to mitigate the potential effects of the large-scale development proposed, in relation to increased vehicle traffic in particular. The Transport policies seek to enhance levels of sustainable transport use and encourage modal shift which, as well as providing better access for all, will help to reduce air pollution from vehicle traffic. In addition, SDC10: Traffic Generation and Air Quality directly seeks to avoid adverse impacts on air quality from development and SDC7: Protection of the Water Environment and Water Supply addresses issues relating to water pollution. Other policies may have indirect effects, for example policies relating to managing flood risk should help to reduce the associated water potential pollution incidents, and protecting biodiversity should have indirect positive effects on levels of pollution as it is assumed to involve maintaining air and water quality on which habitats and species depend.
- 1.84 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed** (minor positive and minor negative) effect on levels of pollution in Rugby Borough. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 16: Conserve and where possible enhance the Borough's biodiversity, flora and fauna

- 1.85 The development proposed through the Local Plan could inevitably affect biodiversity through habitat loss or disturbance to habitats and species; however the Local Plan also includes a number of policies providing mitigation and seeking to enhance biodiversity where possible.
- 1.86 The overall quantum of housing and employment development could have negative effects, as could the development site allocations, due to their proximity to designated biodiversity sites. However, these effects are uncertain and will depend on the design and layout of development eventually proposed at those sites. The Local Plan also includes a number of provisions which seek to protect and enhance biodiversity, particularly in the Natural Environment section. Those policies seek to enhance green infrastructure and open space, and a specific policy aiming to conserve and enhance biodiversity is also included. New development may offer opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements as well as mitigating negative effects.
- 1.87 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed** (minor positive and minor negative) effect on biodiversity, and many of the effects are uncertain until specific development proposals come forward. These effects could be either permanent or temporary, and could be experienced over the short to long-term, depending on the exact nature of the effects.

SA objective 17: Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes

- 1.88 The policies and proposals in the Local Plan will have a range of positive and negative effects on the landscape in Rugby Borough. While the large-scale development proposed is inevitably likely to affect the quality and character of the landscape, the Local Plan includes many provisions seeking to protect and enhance the landscape and mitigate the potential impacts of built development.
- 1.89 The policy relating to rural exception sites (H3) may have a negative effect as it could result in the development of sites in the open countryside that would not normally be permitted for development due to their landscape impacts. In addition, the overall amount of housing and employment development could have negative effects as a result of the scale of development proposed in the Borough. The individual site allocations are mainly assessed as having likely minor negative effects as they are in areas of moderate landscape sensitivity. However, detailed

impacts on the landscape cannot be assessed until more information is known about the proposals for each site and the design and layout of development. The Coton Park East allocation is in a more sensitive area and so could have a significant negative effect although this is uncertain and will depend on the design of the development and the incorporation of mitigation.

- 1.90 Policy NE4: Landscape Protection and Enhancement is likely to have a significant positive effect as its primary aim is to ensure that new development is appropriately designed and sited so as not to adversely affect its setting, and a number of other policies include criteria relating to the design and appearance of development which may provide mitigation and potentially enhancement.
- 1.91 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative mixed (minor negative and positive)** effect on the landscape in Rugby Borough. These effects are expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term.

SA objective 18: Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of townscapes

- 1.92 The policies and proposals in the Local Plan will generally have positive effects on townscapes in Rugby Borough, as they seek to ensure that new development is high quality and therefore improves the appearance of the existing built environment. In particular, TC1: Development in Rugby town centre will have a significant positive effect because it specifically aims to ensure that development in the town centre is high quality in terms of its design and appearance. A number of other policies include relevant criteria seeking to ensure that new development enhances its surroundings (as described under SA objective 17 above) which will also benefit this SA objective.
- 1.93 No likely negative effects on the townscape, either minor or significant, were identified.
- 1.94 The Local Plan: Preferred Option will therefore have a **cumulative minor positive** effect on the townscape in Rugby Borough. This effect is expected to be permanent and experienced over the long term

Monitoring

- 1.95 The SEA Regulations require that monitoring is undertaken in relation to the significant effects of implementing the Plan in question. **Table 10** below sets out a number of suggested indicators for monitoring the potential significant sustainability effects of implementing the Rugby Borough Local Plan. Note that the indicators proposed are included as suggestions and may change as Rugby Borough Council prepares the monitoring framework for the Local Plan itself.

Table 10: Monitoring Indicators for the Rugby Borough Local Plan

SA objectives	Proposed monitoring indicators
1. Reduce/eliminate poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of people living in fuel poverty • Number of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance • Affordable home completions
2. Provide good quality local services, leisure and cultural opportunities with good access for all sections of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of new and loss of community facilities (sqm) • Amount of additional 'town centre use' floorspace provided in Rugby town centre • Amount of open space and sport and recreation facilities
3. Promote/improve health of the population and reduce health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy • Number of new healthcare facilities provided • Infant mortality rates • Obesity rates • Number of people living with a disability • Percentage of people regularly participating in sport

SA objectives	Proposed monitoring indicators
4. Provide affordable and decent housing, which meets the needs of the Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing completions • Average house prices • Number of people in housing need (SHMA) • Annual housing completions –total houses built, types, sizes and tenures • Total vacant dwellings • Total number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches • Number of statutory homeless people • Number or proportion of local authority homes falling below Decent Homes Standards
5. Reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of crimes reported per 1,000 people • Number of injuries or deaths from accidents on the roads
6. Promote/enable a strong, stable and sustainable local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of new employment land delivered • Amount of employment land lost to residential development • Number of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance
7. Promote the vitality and viability of the town centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of additional 'town centre use' floorspace provided in Rugby town centre
8. Promote the regeneration of urban areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of development taking place on previously developed land
9. Use and manage land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently, and increase energy generated from renewables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of development taking place on previously developed land • Number of planning applications approved within a Minerals Consultation Area • Amount of development that takes place on best and most versatile agricultural land
10. Minimise waste and manage it sustainably	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of household waste recycled • Amount of commercial waste recycled • Amount of waste sent to landfill
11. Reduce the Borough's contribution to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new developments incorporating low carbon technologies • Installed renewable energy capacity
12. Avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of properties built in areas of flood zones 2 and 3 • Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice • Number of new developments incorporating SUDS
13. Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of entries on the Heritage at Risk Register
14. Promote a sustainable and accessible transport network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of people who travel to work by public transport • Railway Station footfall • Bus patronage levels • Number of Travel Plans implemented with new development • Number of users of cycle paths
15. Reduce all forms of pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Air Quality Management Areas declared • Number of planning permissions granted contrary to sustained objection of the Environment Agency on water quality grounds
16. Conserve and where possible enhance the Borough's biodiversity, flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of greenfield land lost to development • Change in condition of SSSIs • Number of Local Wildlife Sites • Amount of development that takes place on Local Green spaces
17. Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of new development taking place on brownfield land

SA objectives	Proposed monitoring indicators
18. Maintain and where possible enhance the quality of townscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of development taking place on previously developed land

Conclusions

- 1.96 The reasonable alternative site and policy options, as well as the draft policies and site allocations for the Rugby Borough Local Plan have been subject to a detailed appraisal against the SA objectives which were developed at the Scoping stage of the SA process. The emerging Local Plan: Preferred Option proposes a large amount of housing, employment and other development across Rugby to meet the future needs of the Borough, as well as some of the unmet housing need for Coventry City; therefore the SA has identified the potential for negative effects on many of the environmental objectives including biodiversity, cultural heritage and the landscape. However, the Local Plan also includes a wide range of draft development management-style policies, aiming to protect and enhance the economic, social and environmental conditions of the Borough. These should go a long way towards mitigating the potential negative effects of the overall scale of development proposed.
- 1.97 In some areas, the emerging Local Plan document does not yet include all the information that will eventually be included; for example in relation to the removal of land parcels from the green belt, where information about the proposed uses of those areas is not yet set out in the Preferred Option document. In such cases, there is therefore uncertainty attached to some of the SA findings and the conclusions of the SA will be able to be made with more certainty during later stages of the Plan preparation process.

Next Steps

- 1.98 The full SA Report and this Non-Technical Summary will be available for consultation alongside the Local Plan: Preferred Option between December 2015 and February 2016.
- 1.99 Following this consultation the responses will be reviewed and addressed. The findings of the SA and the outcomes of the consultation will be taken into account by the Council as it prepares the next iteration of the Local Plan. The SA will then be updated to reflect that version of the Local Plan and further consideration will be given to potential mitigation measures as well as the approach to monitoring the likely significant effects of the plan.

LUC
December 2015