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Cherwell District Council  
Local Plan

Sustainability Appraisal  
Summary of Results

Prepared for:  
**Cherwell District Council**

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## Table of Contents

1	Introduction	2
1.1	Background	2
1.2	Purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal	2
1.3	This Report	2
2	Sustainability Appraisal Methodology	3
2.1	SA work to date	3
3	Results of the SA	7

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

The Cherwell District Local Plan will set out the spatial planning policies for the area in the period up to 2031. The Cherwell District Local Plan (formally the Core Strategy) has now reached the proposed Submission Stage. This report provides a summary of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) undertaken during the preparation of the Local Plan

The preparation of the Cherwell District Council Local Plan has been subject to an integrated SA and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (hereafter referred to as SA) in line with the requirements of:

- Statutory Instrument 2004 No. 1633: The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (which requires an environmental assessment to be carried out on certain plans and programmes prepared by public authorities that are likely to have a significant effect upon the environment); and
- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Planning Policy Statement 12 (PPS12) (which requires Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of all emerging Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents).

The SA is being carried out by ENVIRON using a team of consultants experienced in SA of local authority spatial planning documents.

## 1.2 Purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal

The purpose of SA is to ensure that plans achieve sustainable development through the simultaneous integration of social, economic and environmental objectives in plan preparation and adoption.

Although planning authorities aim to address these issues, it is easy to miss opportunities for better supporting social, economic and environmental objectives, and for reducing conflicts. SA offers a systematic and robust way for checking and improving on plans as they are being developed. Ideally, as a result of the appraisal, conflicts with sustainability objectives will be removed, but this is not always possible. The conflicts and the decisions made must be explained in the SA reports. As a result the public and other stakeholders will find it easier to appreciate the pros and cons of the plan and to make up their own minds about whether the planning authority has made good decisions.

## 1.3 This Report

This report provides the summary results of the latest round of assessment of the Cherwell Local Plan 2012 which has been undertaken in April and May 2012. It concentrates on highlighting the potential main effects of the policies in the plan. The full SA Report will be published for consultation alongside the Local Plan. This report will summarise the results of the Habitats Regulation Assessment which will address any potential significant effects of the Plan on the Oxford Meadows SAC.

## 2 Sustainability Appraisal Methodology

### 2.1 SA work to date

For the SA of the Local Plan work to date has involved:

- A Scoping Report, produced in December 2005, set out the scope of the SA in order to establish and consult on what the main issues are in Cherwell and how the SA is to be undertaken. This document was sent to the required statutory consultees and other interest groups and stakeholders for comment. These comments have informed the SA process and this report and will be set out in the final SA report;
- An Initial SA Report, produced and consulted on at the same time as the Local Plan Issues and Options Paper in February 2006;
- The Initial SA report set out an appraisal of the options in the Issues and Options paper. These were mostly 'subject based' options which generally did not propose the direction of and location of growth or the allocation of strategic sites; and
- A draft Sustainability Appraisal report of the draft Core Strategy in February 2010. This report set out an assessment of the policies in the draft Core Strategy including strategic site options.

Along with the collection of new evidence and the results of public consultation the SA has informed the formation of draft policies for the draft Local Plan. In order to undertake comprehensive and detailed SA the Council has also consulted stakeholders and interested parties at workshops throughout the SA process.

The work completed to date and the publication of the SA report aim to meet the requirements of Stages A to D below.

The key tasks in the SA process are outlined in Table 2.1.

<b>Table 2.1: SA key tasks</b>	
<b>SA Stage</b>	<b>Purpose of the SA Stage</b>
<b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope (scoping)</b>	
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives	To document how the plan is affected by outside factors and suggest ideas for how any constraints can be addressed
A2: Collecting baseline information	To provide an evidence base for sustainability issues, effects prediction and monitoring
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems	To help focus the SA and streamline the subsequent stages, including baseline information analysis, setting of the SA framework, prediction of effects and monitoring
A4: Developing the SA framework	To provide a means by which the sustainability of the plan can be appraised
A5: Producing scoping report and consulting on the scope of the SA	To consult with statutory bodies with social, environmental, or economic responsibilities to ensure the appraisal covers the key sustainability issues

<b>Table 2.1: SA key tasks</b>	
<b>SA Stage</b>	<b>Purpose of the SA Stage</b>
<b>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</b>	
B1: Testing the plan objectives against the SA framework	To ensure that the overall objectives of the plan are in accordance with sustainability principles and provide a suitable framework for developing options
B2: Developing the plan options	To assist in the development and refinement of the options, by identifying potential sustainability effects of options
B3 and B4: Predicting and evaluating the effects of the plan	To predict the significant effects of the plan and assist in the refinement of the plan
B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects	To ensure that all potential mitigation measures and measures for maximising beneficial effects are considered
B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan	To detail the means by which the sustainability performance of the plan can be assessed
<b>Stage C: Preparing the SA report</b>	
C1: Preparing the SA report	To provide a detailed account of the SA process <b><i>This is the stage we are at now</i></b>
<b>Stage D: Consulting on the draft plan and SA report</b>	
D1: Public participation on the preferred options of the plan and the SA report	To provide the public and statutory bodies with an effective opportunity to express their opinion on the SA report and to use it as a reference point when commenting on the plan

In order to adhere to the SEA Regulations the following types of effects have been identified - short, medium and long term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects where relevant (and where possible to identify). The plan has been assessed using appraisal matrices which will be included in an appendix of the SA Report. The SA Objectives used in the matrices are shown below in Table 2.2. An SA matrix is designed to help identify the potential effects of the options / policies on the SA objectives (guided by the SA questions). A combination of expert judgement and analysis of baseline data has been used to judge the potential effects of the plan.

<b>Table 2.2: SA Objectives</b>
1. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainability constructed and affordable home.
2. To reduce the risk of flooding and resulting detriment to public well being, the economy and the environment
3. To improve the health and well-being of the population & reduce inequalities in health.
5. To reduce poverty and social exclusion
6. To reduce crime and disorder and the fear of crime.
7. To create and sustain vibrant communities and engage cultural activity across all sections of the



Cherwell community.
7. To improve accessibility to all services and facilities.
8. To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including the re-use of materials from buildings, and encouraging urban renaissance.
9. To reduce air pollution including reducing greenhouse gas emissions and ensure the District is ready for its impacts
10. To conserve and enhance and create resources for the District's biodiversity
11. To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the Districts countryside and historic environment.
12. To reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice, and reducing the need for travel by car/ lorry
13. To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resource by using sustainability produced and local products.
14. To reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste
15. To maintain and improve the water quality of the Districts rivers and to achieve sustainability water resources management
16. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the District
17. To ensure high and stable levels of employment so everyone can benefit from the economic growth of the District.
18. To sustain and develop economic growth and innovation, a educated/ skilled workforce and support the long term competitiveness of the District.
19. To encourage the development of buoyant, sustainable tourism sector.

The following 'scoring' system has been used to assess the effects of the plan.

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant positive impact	The policy/site fully achieves the SA objective and will have a positive effect with relation to characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors (where known)	++
Minor positive impact	The policy/site partly achieves the SA objective and has a positive effect with relation to characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors (where known)	+
Neutral	The policy/site does not have an effect on the achievement of the SA objective	0
Minor negative impact	The policy/site will partially conflict with the SA objective and have a negative effect with relation to the characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors (where known)	-
Significant negative impact	The policy/site will actively work against the SA objective and have a negative effect with relation to characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors (where known)	--

Uncertain	It is unclear whether there is the potential for a negative or positive effect on the SA objectives	?
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The term 'neutral effect' means there will be 'no significant effect'. It is possible that some elements of the plan or options that have been assessed could have some minimal effect when assessed against particular SA objectives, however it is not the intention of the SA to identify these. The SA has focused on identifying significant effects. In some cases the policies are also not directly relevant to the SA objective.

Mitigation measures have been suggested to reduce negative and uncertain effects and where possible enhancement measures have been suggested to enhance positive effects. The Council has considered these measures, the details of how will be provided in the SA report. Any residual effects will be highlighted within the final SA and monitoring measures for these residual effects will be proposed.

The following mitigation measures are suggested to be included for all the site policies identified in the Local Plan:

- The SUDS policy should cover the appropriate type of SUDS being used at each development site or this should be included within each of the sites policies, where this information is known.
- If the Housing Density policy is not going to specify appropriate densities for different sites or types of development, then target densities should be included within the strategic sites policies.
- The sites policies should include a requirement to ensure high quality design that will assist in reducing crime and fear of crime.

In addition, the SA identified inconsistency between the strategic sites policies with regards to the promotion of walking and cycling. Therefore, the mitigation measures for the strategic sites identify where additional policy wording is needed to address this issue. Similarly, some of the strategic site policies include cross references to the sustainable development (Theme 3) policies but some do not. Where cross reference is considered appropriate, this has been included within the mitigation and enhancement measures for each strategic site.

Detailed mitigation and enhancement measures have been proposed for each site and for the Theme policies as part of the assessment. These will be considered by the policy authors alongside the consultation responses.

### 3 Results of the SA

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
Vision and Strategic Objectives	The SA has identified a range of significant positive effects, particularly in regard to housing, accessibility, pollution, biodiversity and energy, finding the Vision and Sustainability Objectives particularly aspirational with relation to these areas. However, there are some omissions that may create negative effects for the historic environment and local resource consumption and mitigation measures are being considered.
BIC 1 North West Bicester Eco-Development	<p>The site scores positively as the proposals at North West Bicester would provide 5,000 high quality homes to the north west of Bicester with a potential 30% as affordable (this is under review). In addition, there is potential for extensive SUDs and the provides for extensive greenspace.</p> <p>Given the current designation as greenfield, there is the potential for a rise in crime although this is uncertain. It is likely that through increased traffic and proximity to rail lines that noise will be an impact on the proposals.</p> <p>The site is currently greenfield land in agricultural use so it does not perform well in regard to the reuse of PDL.</p> <p>Biodiversity projects will be developed as part of the Masterplanning process resulting in a positive effect.</p> <p>Listed buildings will be retained and settings protected. At this scale and stage of development it is unsurprising that the potential for archaeology is unknown.</p> <p>Travel planning is included in this policy, therefore there are positive effects in terms of GHG reductions form the use of fossil fuel energy for transport.</p> <p>No mention of waste or recycling in policy. PPS requirements for the Site mention it specifically.</p>
BIC 2 Graven Hill	<p>The SA has identified no significant negative effects.</p> <p>A significant positive effect is identified for employment and economic growth through significant on site employment land and premises provision. The site should provide up to 2,070 jobs (in addition to 420-620 military jobs) and will help promote accessible employment opportunities. Minor positive effects are identified in terms of housing provision (1900 dwellings), health and well-being (facilities are being provided on site although the detail is to be confirmed), poverty and social exclusion (through increased employment and onsite service provision), accessibility (through onsite service provision, and based on the site's close physical proximity to Bicester and potential to improve links between the site and Bicester, as well as the new Bicester Relief Road sought in the policy), efficient use of land (the majority of the site is previously developed land), air quality (reduced need to travel to services/facilities through onsite provision and sustainability of location), biodiversity</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>(the policy aims to create a net gain in biodiversity although onsite mitigation is required), congestion (reduced need to travel due to onsite service provision and general sustainability of location, and the provision of a new Bicester Relief Road), waste (provision for sustainable waste management is made in the policy through reference to ESD3), energy (compliance with energy and sustainable construction standards in ESD3 required), and tourism (potential increased day visits to the wider area attracted by new facilities/retail to be provided on the site or by new public access to the woodland).</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in relation to sustaining vibrant communities as the A41 on the north east boundary and railway line on the north west boundary could represent significant noise sources.</p> <p>Whilst minor positive effects are identified in terms of landscape and heritage (new landscaping onsite will improve the visual impact compared to the buildings presently on site), the landscape capacity and sensitivity assessment did not cover this site therefore the policy needs to have a strong requirement for the consideration of landscape or require additional studies.</p>
BIC 3 South West Bicester Phase 2	<p>The SA found significant positive effects with regard to housing (large land provision for housing) and services and facilities through the provision of a local centre and new school. The Policy also scored well in relation to accessibility where there would be a significant positive effect due to integration with the phase 1 development, the extension of shuttle bus service to Bicester Town Railway Station, the opportunity for connection to new SW perimeter road and due to the relative proximity to the town centre and a major supermarket etc.</p> <p>There is potential for a significant positive effect on biodiversity as this is relatively low at present for a greenfield site and the policy requires enhancement including through wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Although the provision of on-site health facilities has yet to be confirmed, the site is relatively close to Bicester Community Hospital and a site is reserved a health village on Phase 1 . A minor positive effect is therefore envisaged.</p> <p>There is potential for a minor negative effect in terms of flood risk due to the presence of a minor water course along the northern boundary and the site's situation over a minor aquifer. However, the site is in flood zone 1 and mitigation can be readily provided for the watercourse through a development buffer. SUDS can used be water attenuation may be required to protect the aquifer (further investigation on type of SUDS required).</p> <p>Significant negative effect for being a greenfield site although this is currently low grade agricultural land and has high capacity to receive development in terms of landscape sensitivity.</p> <p>Addressing crime is not specifically mentioned but the policy text includes "A layout that maximises the potential for walkable neighbourhoods, with a legible hierarchy of routes and community facilities" which may address the</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	issue. There is no mention of local sourcing or construction / operational resources and no mention of energy / resource efficiency.
BIC 4 Bicester Business Park	<p>Significant positive effects are identified in terms of employment and economic growth (through the provision of employment land and premises for the town) and tourism (the site has planning consent for a new hotel for the town).</p> <p>Significant positive effects are identified with relation to access to services and facilities and reducing congestion (because of the proximity of the site to other development sites in Bicester and the town centre, thus reducing the need to travel to service provision and potentially providing employment for the new residents of development at South West Bicester phases 1 &amp; 2).</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in relation to flood risk as although parts of the site are in Flood Zones 2 &amp; 3, non-sensitive (employment) uses are proposed within the policy). Minor positive effects are identified for health and well-being, poverty and social exclusion (through the creation of employment opportunities), sustaining vibrant communities through improvements to townscape and public realm, air pollution (reduced due to a reduced need to travel based on sustainability of location and local employment opportunities), biodiversity (plan policies require a net gain in biodiversity on development sites), water quality (the plan contains policies on water quality and energy (the policy requires sustainable construction standards to be met) and waste (sustainable construction standards also involve the sustainable management of waste).</p> <p>A minor negative effect is identified in relation to efficient use of land as the site is currently a greenfield site. Uncertainty is recorded where although the policy promotes development that with a high degree of integration and connectivity between new and existing development, there are no specific measures included for reducing crime and the fear of crime although this is covered under other policies in the plan.</p>
<p>BIC 5 Strengthening Bicester Town Centre and</p> <p>BIC 6 Bure Place Town Centre Redevelopment</p>	<p>The Bicester Masterplan has identified how a southerly extension of the town centre would provide space to help accommodate Bicester's growth needs and enable improvements to the connectivity of the existing town centre. The Bicester Masterplan analysis will be used as the basis for adopting a widened Town Centre boundary. The assessment may need to be re-visited following receipt of the Bicester Masterplan and a consideration of the options as part of that masterplan may need to be incorporated.</p> <p>The SA has identified significant positive effects in relation to reducing poverty and social exclusion, creating a vibrant community, the use of previously developed land and urban renaissance, accessibility, economic growth and employment. One significant negative effect is identified with regards to consumption of resources as the policy does not promote the use of locally and sustainably sourced, recycled materials and construction. It also</p>

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<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>does not aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy consumption.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to crime reduction, landscape, heritage and tourism as well as air quality and congestion as the site is well connected to the town centre, . Minor negative effects are identified in relation to flood risk, sustainable waste management and water resource management. There is a potential adverse impact on the Pingle Fields sports pitches which would need to be addressed.</p>
BIC 7 Meeting the Need for Open Space, Sport and Recreation	See summary for BAN 11 below.
BIC 8 RAF Bicester	<p>The RAF Bicester site should have significant positive effect through provision of housing.</p> <p>Potential positive effects given that the site lies within Launton Ward which has existing deficiencies.</p> <p>The SA identified positive economic effects through the creation of jobs and indirectly affect poverty in a positive way.</p> <p>The policy sets out a conservation led approach which should have a positive effect in preserving the historic fabric of buildings.</p> <p>Whilst the area is non-agricultural use most is not previously developed and is unlikely to achieve an urban renaissance.</p> <p>There may be a minor negative effect to landscape character through sensitive conversion to new uses.</p> <p>There is a considerable distance to town centre and secondary schools which may result in negative effects to air quality.</p>
BIC 9 Cemetery Provision in Bicester and BAN 13 Burial Site Provision in Banbury	<p>New land is needed at Banbury and Bicester.</p> <p>There is an uncertain effect as the Policies do not specify locations and there could be a loss of Greenfield land. There will be positive effects in terms of the provision for the local community.</p>
BIC 10 Bicester Gateway	<p>The policy should have significant positive impacts in terms of job creation, economic growth and employment benefits with the theoretical effect of reducing poverty and social exclusion. Minor positive effects are identified in terms of accessibility, reducing air pollution, and reducing congestion since the site is in relative close proximity to existing services, facilities, residential and employment areas in Bicester and the policy aims to maximise connectivity between the new and existing developments. Minor positive effects are also identified in terms of energy, water and waste management since the policy requires compliance with policies ESD1 – 7.</p> <p>There is potential for significant negative biodiversity effects given the site is a District Wildlife Site and there are</p>

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	<p>BAP habitats and protected species in close proximity to the site and with regards to efficient use of land since the site is on greenfield land.</p> <p>There are potential minor negative effects with relation to the district’s heritage assets given that the site lies in an area of archaeological potential. The Site is in Floodplains 2 and 3 to the east but this should be acceptable given its proposed non-sensitive uses.</p> <p>There is uncertainty with relation to water quality as there is a water course just beyond the site to the east. Development will need to comply with the plan policies on flood risk, SuDS, water resources, water quality protection (Oxford Meadows SAC).</p>
BIC 11 North East Bicester Business Park	<p>There are significant positive effects with relation to employment/economic growth due to the site being proposed for employment generating development.</p> <p>Significant negative effects are identified in terms of landscape and heritage (since built development in this location will affect the open setting of the RAF Bicester Conservation Area and potentially listed buildings/scheduled ancient monuments).</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to health and well-being, poverty and social exclusion, crime, accessibility, biodiversity, landscape and heritage, and employment. The site is a proposed Local Wildlife Site which is in conflict with the proposed development, However, the policy requires that ecology surveys are undertaken to identify habitats and species of value and any mitigation measures required. It also specifies that ecological enhancement proposals should result in a net gain in biodiversity.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to accessibility, air quality and congestion due to the relative proximity of the site to areas of residential and other uses and the promotion of non-car modes of transport in the policy. Minor positive effects are also identified in relation to health and well-being, poverty and social exclusion (through job creation opportunities); vibrant communities (the policy encourages high quality design which should contribute to a sense of place); the consumption of resources, and energy, water and waste management because the policy requires adherence with plan policies ESD1-5 on sustainable construction and sustainable water management.</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in relation to efficient use of land (the land is greenfield) and consumption of resources.</p> <p>There is uncertainty regarding the potential for the development to address crime and the fear of crime.</p>

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<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
BIC 12 East Bicester	<p>The SA has identified significant positive effects in relation to:</p> <p>Health and well-being as the policy is based on the IDP assessment, which does not identify a need for health care facilities on the site. The development will include good access to the countryside, and should create a walkable neighbourhood with cycle routes to encourage sustainable modes of travel. In addition, a contribution will be made to indoor sports provision off-site.</p> <p>Sustaining vibrant communities as the policy provides for a range of housing tenure, including affordable housing and requires that new development respects the setting of the scheduled ancient monument and the adjacent countryside, which will contribute to a sense of place. However, noise impact from the railway line must be mitigated as much as possible by means of buffers/barriers/screening. The public realm will be enhanced through provision of open space, a walkable neighbourhood and consideration of street frontages and building heights.</p> <p>Biodiversity as the policy requires provision of open space, the retention and enhancement of hedgerows, introduction of new landscaping features/wildlife corridors, which must ensure a net gain in biodiversity. It also requires a well-designed approach to the urban edge, with good access to the countryside.</p> <p>Landscape and heritage as the policy requires a well-designed approach to the urban edge, with good access to the countryside. It also requires that new development respects the setting of the scheduled ancient monument and the adjacent countryside.</p> <p>No significant negative effects are identified.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to flood risk, poverty and social exclusion, accessibility, congestion, employment and tourism. Minor negative effects are identified in relation to efficient use of land, resource consumption and waste management.</p>
BAN 1 Banbury Canalside	<p>The assessment has identified a number of significant positive effects relate which relate to several of the SA objectives including the provision of housing, accessibility, the efficient use of land and urban renaissance, reducing air pollution and congestion, landscape and historic environment, water quality, energy and tourism.</p> <p>A small part of the site lies within flood zone 1 but the majority lies within flood zones 2/3a/3b (Source: SFRA Level 1 and 2). The Environment Agency will remove 3b zone from the classification due to the new Banbury Flood Alleviation Scheme to the north of Banbury. The policy requires applications for this site to follow the requirements set out within the SFRA2 and to undertake a detailed FRA for the site. The policy will ensure that no development takes place on the site without a detailed FRA having been prepared.</p> <p>A number of minor positive effects are identified in relation to poverty and social exclusion and waste. Open</p>



<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
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	<p>space will be provided helping to reduce poverty and social exclusion. The provision of urban spaces, a school and nursery proposed helping to create a vibrant community. Minor negative effects are identified in relation to creating vibrant communities (with regards to potential noise issues associated with existing sources e.g. the railway line).</p> <p>An uncertain effect is identified in relation to health and well-being as it is uncertain until the Infrastructure Delivery Plan is completed to determine whether a health centre is required. There are health facilities nearby.</p> <p>The policy will result in junction improvements, better pedestrian and cycle routes from the station, across the river and canal, reduced carparking provision and bus routes therefore having positive effects in relation to reducing greenhouse gases and air pollution.</p> <p>A canal and river corridor will be maintained allowing for biodiversity to be preserved and enhanced.</p> <p>The site will provide 1050 homes on previously developed land at a high density leading to efficient use of land.</p> <p>There will be no loss of agriculture land.</p> <p>Recreation will be provided across the site in line with Council standards and will provide a linear park along the river and canal.</p> <p>Businesses will be lost on the site, but it is anticipated these will stay in the District. Jobs will be created through construction and retailing leading to a positive economic effect.</p> <p>The improvements to the river and canal, canal basin and commercial area could attract tourists.</p>
BAN 2 Hardwick Farm, Southam Road (East and West)	<p>The SA has identified a significant positive effect in relation to poverty and social exclusion as new affordable/social housing will be provided at the site, which will help to reduce poverty. In addition, extra care housing and the opportunity for self-build affordable housing will be provided. Therefore, a significant positive impact is predicted.</p> <p>Significant negative effects are identified in relation to efficient use of land as the site is not previously developed and will lead to the loss of agricultural land of mixed grade 2, 3a and 3b.</p> <p>Significant negative effects are also identified in relation to air pollution as the site is located a significant distance from some key destinations and has the problem of severance from the employment sites in Grimsbury which could create longer journeys leading to more emissions. However there are excellent opportunities to link the site with high quality pedestrian/ cycle network already in place in the north of Banbury.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified with regards to biodiversity, resource use, waste and energy.</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in relation to health and well-being, sustaining vibrant communities, road</p>

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<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>congestion and travel.</p> <p>There may be noise impacts from the M40.</p>
BAN 3 Land West of Bretch Hill	<p>The SA identifies significant positive effects with regards to housing provision as the site will provide up to 400 new homes with a mixed tenure. 30% of the units will be affordable/social.</p> <p>There is also a significant positive effect on poverty and social exclusion. Extra care housing and the opportunity for self-build affordable housing will be provided and the development is intended to bring about wider benefits to the existing community including provision of open space in the form of a linear park.</p> <p>A number of other positive effects are identified in relation to access (the development will preserve and enhance existing links from the urban area to the countryside and the layout, landscaping and open space provision will be designed to respect the sensitive landscape setting and historic environment), water quality (through the promotion of a surface water management framework) and employment and economic growth and innovation (the development may provide the opportunity for the inclusion of some small scale enterprise space). Other minor positive effects are identified in relation to resources, waste, energy,</p> <p>A significant negative effect is identified in relation to efficient use of land because the site is greenfield and will lead to the loss of agricultural land which is a mix of grades including grade 1 to the north of the site and grade 2 to the southern portion of the site. Allotment provision has been raised. Minor negative effects are identified in relation to air pollution, biodiversity and transport.</p> <p>Uncertain effects are identified in relation to health and well-being and sustaining vibrant communities as no health facilities are required. Provision of new recreation and open space facilities could assist integration with Bretch Hill (physically and socially) and will help retain important views of landscape features to the west. The development will either provide new community facilities or contribute towards the improvement of existing facilities.</p>
BAN 4 Bankside Phase 2	<p>The SA has identified a significant positive effect in relation to housing as the development will provide approximately 400 new homes. 30% of the units will be affordable/social.</p> <p>A significant negative effect is identified in relation to efficient use of land because the site is greenfield and will result in the loss of grades 2 and 3b agricultural land.</p> <p>A significant positive effect would arise from development of land that has high capacity to receive development from a landscape perspective, rather than a site with low or moderate capacity.</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>A number of minor positive effects are identified in relation to flood risk (flood zone 1), poverty and social exclusion (access to housing &amp; employment generation), sustaining vibrant communities (affordable housing / local services and facilities), biodiversity (including protection of trees, retention of hedgerows &amp; wildlife corridors), the use of resources and energy (continuation of Phase 1 development). Minor negative effects were identified with regard to accessibility (set back from Oxford Road), transport and air pollution as the policy is not considered to be strong enough in terms of access to the town centre however there is reference to the extension of the Phase 1 bus routes.</p> <p>Uncertain effects are identified with regard to health and well-being, as there is no health provision mentioned in the Policy.</p>
BAN 5 North of Hanwell Fields	<p>The SA has identified significant positive effects in relation poverty and social exclusion (through the provision of affordable housing and social housing), sustaining vibrant communities (through the provision of new cultural services and water quality (through the promotion of a surface waste management framework).</p> <p>Significant negative effects are identified with regards to efficient use of land as only a small portion of the site is previously developed, accessibility due to distances to key destinations and resource consumption as the policy does not promote the use of local resources.</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in relation to health and well-being through deficiencies in playspace, access to services and facilities due to distance from town centre, congestion, particularly access to the southern part of the Site, waste management and economic growth.</p> <p>A minor positive effect is identified in relation to flood risk.</p>
BAN 6 Employment Land West of M40	<p>The SA has identified a significant positive effect in relation to employment through the provision of 1,000 (net) jobs. These effects may be positively amplified through the connectivity and proximity to other areas such as Canalside. The SA identified a significant negative effect with regards to efficient use of land because the site is greenfield.</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in relation to efficient use of land (because the site is greenfield) and biodiversity (because there are habitats on site which could be lost through development).</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to waste management and energy (through the requirement for adherence with policy ESD3), and landscape and heritage as the site has a high capacity to accept development in landscape terms and there are no heritage assets on the site or in the areas immediately surrounding the site.</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>The site is positive in terms of economic growth as the site is proposed for employment-generating development. Minor positive effects are also identified in relation to poverty and social exclusion (through job creation opportunities), accessibility (the site is proximate to the town centre and the policy seeks to maximise connectivity between the site and the town centre and other existing developments), air pollution and congestion (through encouragement for sustainable travel), and consumption of resources (through encouragement for sustainable travel and adherence with policy ESD3).</p> <p>Significant negative effects are identified in terms of flood risk (parts of the site are subject to flooding) although non sensitive (employment) uses are proposed as mitigation.</p>
BAN 7 Strengthening Banbury Town Centre	<p>This policy provides support for town centre uses within an extended Banbury Town Centre boundary. It now includes the Spiceball Development Area (mixed uses including night time economy) (Banbury 9) and a small part of the Canalside regeneration site (Banbury 1). It identifies land within the town centre to help meet Banbury’s identified need for retail floor space as well as positioning Banbury to compete on a regional basis. Key sites of strategic importance to the future of the town centre are identified and have been assessed separately Banbury 9 and 1 but also Bolton Road (Banbury 8).</p> <p>The policy encourages retail, leisure and other town centre uses which is likely to have a significant positive effect in creating and sustaining vibrant communities and potentially on cultural activity. It will have a minor positive effect with relation to the SA objective to sustain and develop economic growth and innovation, an educated/skilled workforce and support the long term competitiveness of the District and a minor positive effect with relation to the SA objective to improve accessibility to all services and facilities. The remaining objectives are not applicable to this policy in its current form. There is potential for a minor negative effect on crime but also potential for a positive effect by designing out crime in new development.</p>
BAN 8 Land at Bolton Road	<p>Land at Bolton Road will be developed to provide new shopping and other town centre uses. The SA has identified a number of significant positive effects in relation to maintaining vibrant communities through the replacement of community centre and enhancing townscape and public realm; accessibility and air pollution as the thrust of policy is about improving accessibility and connectivity; landscape and historic assets as re-development of the site has the potential to improve the rears of the historic properties on Parson's Street and remove newer buildings of little merit which are currently detracting from the historic environment. This is referenced in the site specific design and place shaping principles; and use of resources and energy as the policy requires the incorporation of sustainable design/construction techniques and references policies ESD3</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>and ESD7 in the site specific design and place shaping principles.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to flood risk, waste, health and well-being, employment and economic growth. A number of uncertain effects are identified. There relate to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing - because although some housing will be provided on this site, the mix and affordability of units has not yet been defined.</li> <li>• Efficient use of land - because the density of development has not yet been defined.</li> <li>• Travel - because it is not known whether the level of parking to be provided within the development is appropriate.</li> <li>• Water resources - as information is not yet available on river water quality and contaminated land.</li> </ul>
BAN 9 Spiceball Development Area	<p>The SA has identified one potential significant positive effect in relation to employment as the site will include an arts centre and new library, which will provide some local employment opportunities. In addition, improved pedestrian access will be provided from the town centre and additional car parking.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to health and well-being, poverty and social exclusion, sustaining vibrant communities, efficient use of land ( as the site is a previously developed site), accessibility and air quality (as the site is located next to the town centre close to bus routes), landscape and heritage, economic growth and tourism.</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in relation to flood risk, resource consumption, waste management, water resource management and energy.</p>
BAN 10 Bretch Hill Regeneration Area	<p>The SA identified significant positive effects with regard to housing as the aim of policy is housing led regeneration.</p> <p>Positive effects were identified as the policy sets out (as yet unconfirmed) a requirement for improvements to GP surgery to meet aspiration of improving health and well being</p> <p>The SA identified further positive effects as the purpose of regeneration, as stated, is to encourage proposals which would result in improvements to the community fabric of the area and this should also address deprivation. It will achieve this through improvements to public realm through betterment of existing housing stock, and the improvement/small scale redevelopment of existing community facilities including at Wood Green.</p> <p>The SA also identified that whilst this is small scale urban renewal/small scale redevelopment policy, it is being</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>undertaken in a built up area. Furthermore, there is an emphasis on improving the local housing stock.</p> <p>The policy supports self-build affordable housing schemes which aims to provide training in construction skills as well as provide housing.</p>
<p>BAN 11 Meeting the Need for Open Space, Sport and Recreation and</p> <p>BIC 7 Meeting the Need for Open Space, Sport and Recreation</p>	<p>The policies respond to identified deficiencies and future shortfalls of open space, sport and recreation provision in both Bicester and Banbury.</p> <p>The policy for Banbury makes a provision to meet two specific objectives for the town:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect linear open space from the north of the town and Grimsbury reservoir to the new park to be provided as part of the committed development south of Bankside; and</li> <li>• Securing a regeneration site for Banbury football club.</li> </ul> <p>The policy for Bicester encourages the development of a park around the edge of the town including open space as part of committed development in south Bicester and through the eco-development to provide a buffer between the town and the rural villages. It also seeks to establish a community woodland between the south west Bicester link road and Chesterton and encourages proposals for the restoration and use of Stratton Audley Quarry for informal outdoor recreation, however stipulates that any proposals need to be compatible with the site's designation as a Local Wildlife Site and partial SSSI.</p> <p>Therefore the policies are having a minor positive impact in relation to health and well-being, improving access to services and facilities, conserving and enhancing biodiversity and protecting, enhancing and make accessible for enjoyment, the District's countryside and historic environment.</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
BAN 12 Land for the Relocation of Banbury United FC	<p>The SA has identified a significant positive effect in relation to health and well-being as the Site lies within Bloxham and Bodicote Ward which has existing deficiencies in natural/semi-natural and amenity greenspace, children/young person's playspace and tennis court provision. (Greenspace Strategy Background Document, 2008). The site could potentially be used to address identified deficiencies in provision on land which is not required by the football club, as the site is larger than their needs require. In developing this site along with Bankside it could become integrated into a network of green infrastructure (LSCA, 2009).</p> <p>A significant negative effect is identified in relation to the efficient use of land because it is greenfield land and will result in the loss of agricultural land. Minor positive effects are identified in relation to flood risk, crime and security, resources and energy and employment. Minor negative effects are identified in relation to maintaining vibrant communities (in terms of potential noise pollution), accessibility, air pollution, transport and congestion, biodiversity and landscape.</p>
BAN 13 Burial Site Provision in Banbury	See summary for BIC 9 above.
BAN 14a Banbury Country Park	<p>The policy for Banbury country park builds on existing woodland to the north east of the town. A network of existing Rights of Way and permissive paths will provide public access to the majority of the flood alleviation scheme area and Wildmere Wood Key site specific design and place shaping principles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodland planting in the form of community woodland will form a major component of the scheme.</li> <li>• The scheme will include the creation of new habitats such as wetland scrapes, grassland and meadows.</li> </ul> <p>Therefore this policy has the potential to have a significant positive impact on the SA objectives "To conserve and enhance and create resources for the District's biodiversity." and "To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment the District's countryside and historic environment".</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
KID 1 Langford Lane Technology Park	<p>The SA has identified significant positive effects in relation to accessibility as the site is within an existing employment area within Kidlington and for biodiversity as the ecological value appears to be limited and the policy requires a well-designed approach to the urban edge, including a comprehensive landscaping scheme, provision of wildlife corridors and the creation of a green infrastructure network. Significant positive effects are also identified for employment/economic growth as the policy will support the research and development sector and potentially provide employment growth for Kidlington and for.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in relation to, poverty and social exclusion (associated within increased job creation opportunities air pollution, and congestion (associated with a reduced need to travel due to the sustainability of the location and because the policy encourages integration and connectivity between new and existing development).</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in terms of energy and waste management as the policy explicitly requires compliance with policy ESD3 &amp; 5 on sustainable construction and renewable energy. Minor positive effects are also identified in relation to landscape (new build employment development in an open area) although the policy requires a comprehensive landscaping scheme and promotes development that enables a high degree of integration and connectivity between new and existing development, as well as a well-designed approach to the urban edge that achieves a successful transition between town and country.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified. Minor negative effects are identified in relation to previously developed land since the policy requires a Green Belt review. Uncertainty is identified with regards to crime and the fear of crime.</p>
KID 2 Supporting Kidlington Village Centre	<p>This policy provides support for town centre uses within the boundary of Kidlington Village Centre. This will have a significant positive effect with relation to the SA objective to improve accessibility to all services and facilities. The remaining objectives are not applicable to this policy in its current form.</p> <p>The policy also proposes the extension of Kidlington Village Centre boundary to include land not previously formally identified as being within the village centre. The purpose of doing so is to support the village centre and to improve connectivity between the existing centre and areas of other civic/community uses. Significant positive effects are therefore identified in terms of improving health and well-being (the central area now extends to include the health centre and the policy aims to improve connectivity between the two); in terms of sustaining vibrant communities (in the policy’s aims to enhance the public realm and improving the sense of place); in improving accessibility to services and facilities; and in supporting economic growth.</p> <p>Minor positive effects are identified in terms of reducing poverty and social exclusion (through increased service provision and economic growth), and encouraging the development of tourism (potentially through increased day</p>



<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	<p>visits to an improved retail centre).</p> <p>Minor negative effects are identified in terms of consumption of resources, flood risk, sustainable waste management, water resource management and energy since no criteria for new development are referred to in the policy. In terms of crime reduction there may be both positive and negative effects since increased town centre uses could increase pressure on policing but conversely a more vibrant centre and public realm improvements may lead to crime reduction.</p>
<p>C.4 Our Villages and Rural Areas</p> <p>Policy for Villages 1 – Village Categorisation</p> <p>Policy for Villages 2 – Distributing Growth across the Rural Areas</p> <p>Policy for Villages 3: Rural Exception Sites</p> <p>Policy for Villages 4: Meeting the Need for Open Space, Sport and Recreation</p>	<p>The SA has identified significant positive effects for housing provision, given the policy wording in ‘Village 2’ in that housing will be located in the most sustainable villages and through the specification of housing to be delivered. Local services and facilities will be supported helping to address social exclusion and the creation of vibrant communities. This housing provision can be assumed to also contribute positively to improving health and well-being through the provision of affordable housing. As infill is within the village rather than, on greenfield land on the edge it can be assumed that this will have positive effects with regard to minimising the effects onto minimising the effects on biodiversity, landscape and improving the efficiency of land use. However, negative effects are identified with regard to transport and air quality. Rural residents will have more need for the use of a car and as such there may be increased emissions and trips resulting from increased rural populations.</p>
<p>Policy for Villages 5 – Former RAF Upper Heyford</p>	<p>The policy provides for 750 new homes, jobs and community facilities (the site already has planning permission). Therefore, the housing provision set out in the policy is significant, and should have significant positive effects in regard to housing.</p> <p>The policy scores positively in terms of the site not being at risk of flooding.</p> <p>Greenspace, play space, allotments and outdoor sports provision and community facilities will be provided helping to reduce poverty and social exclusion, create vibrant communities and access to services and facilities.</p> <p>The effects on crime and the fear of crime are uncertain but could be negative.</p> <p>The site is isolated leading to long travel distances to the towns however the policy states specifically that the intention is to promote walking, cycling and other methods of public transport. It may also act as a hub for surrounding villages, if the provision of community facilities can meet any other identified deficiencies.</p> <p>The policy will encourage the conservation of heritage resources, landscape, restoration, enhancement of biodiversity and other environmental improvements will be across the whole of the former airbase.</p> <p>There is a failure to pick up resource efficiency and renewable energy, both of which could have a great deal of</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
	potential on a site of this size.
Theme 1 Economic policies SLE1: Employment Development SLE 2: Securing Dynamic Town Centres SLE3: Supporting Tourism Growth (incomplete policy at time of assessment)	<p>The economic policies SLE1 to SLE3 relating to employment development, supporting town centres and supporting tourism growth perform well with regards to the SA objectives. A significant positive effect is recorded with regards to the SA Objective relating to economic growth and competitiveness. No negative or uncertain effects are identified in the assessment. A number of neutral effects are recorded which relate to potential effects of employment development which are addressed through the Theme 3 policies of the Local Plan e.g. flood risk.</p> <p>By providing for employment development within the district, policy SLE 1 is aiming to decrease the current levels of out-commuting from the district for work. This should result in shorter distances travelled to access work and possibly less congestion although the SA has queried how congestion will be relieved on the ground. Specific cross reference can be made between Policy SLE1 and the North West Bicester Eco-Development strategic site (Policy Bicester 1) which intends to provide 3,000 new jobs as a part of the development, which equates to one job per new household, therefore supporting the achievement of Policy SLE1.</p>
Theme 1 transport policies SLE4: Improved Transport and Connections SLE5: High Speed Rail 2 – London to Birmingham	<p>The transport policies SLE4 and SLE5 perform well with regards to a number of the SA objectives, in particular relating to sustainable transport, access, communities and economy. Minor positive effects are identified in the assessment. No significant positive effects are identified because, although the policies largely support the SA Objectives, the implementation of the policies depend on other policies within the Local Plan such as the distribution of housing (Policy BSC1) and the strategic sites in Section C of the Local Plan. It will be in the assessments of these policies that potential significant positive effects of locating development in sustainable locations, for example, can be more accurately considered by the SA. No negative or uncertain effects are identified.</p>
Theme 2 housing and community policies BSC1: District Wide Housing Distribution BSC2: Ensuring Sustainable Housing Delivery BSC3: Efficient and Sustainable Use of Land BSC5: Affordable Housing BSC6: Housing Mix BSCX: Area Renewal	<p>The SA has identified positive effects with regard to Objective 1 as Cherwell district will provide over 16,000 homes (mixed, affordable) to 2031. Cherwell will meet its rural housing requirements by allocating most development to the towns and some to sustainable rural locations (Policy Villages 2). It promotes renewal and allows for Gypsy and traveller sites.</p> <p>The policies providing for open space and recreation score positively in relation to SA objectives 3 to 7. For example Policy BSC12: Local Standards of Provision- Outdoor Recreation sets out that sites should include publicly accessible, spacious, clean and litter free areas with clear pathways and natural features that encourage wildlife conservation and biodiversity.</p> <p>The SA identified positive effects against Objective 3 throughas Policy BSC11: Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreation Provision would ensure that sufficient quantity and quality of, and convenient access to open space,</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
BSC8: Travelling Communities BSC9: Meeting Education Needs NSC10: Securing Health and Well-being BSCXX: Public Services and Utilities BSC11: Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreation Provision BSC12: Local Standards of Provision – outdoor recreation BSC13: Indoor Sport, Recreation and Community Facilities	<p>sport and recreation provision is secured. Policy Provision. Policy BSC 10 indicates that the Council will support the provision of health and other facilities in sustainable locations which contribute towards health and well-being.</p> <p>The SA identified positive effects against Objective 18 through Policy BSC9: Meeting Education Needs.</p> <p>The SA identified positive effects against Objective 6 as Policy BSC12: Local Standards of Provision- Outdoor Recreation sets out the requirement for a “clean, safe, litter and graffiti free community site which encourages a sense of place where local distinctiveness and traditions can be celebrated. The civic space will provide public art and ancillary facilities, where appropriate, to accommodate a wide range of uses.” Policy BSC1: District Wide Housing Distribution and Policy BSC6: Housing Mix both set out the approach to Tenure Mix, notably securing appropriate mixed tenure.</p> <p>Positive effects against Objective 8 were identified as Cherwell Council’s Brownfield Strategy sets out the trajectory for brownfield delivery and (Policy BSC3) encourages efficient use of land. ‘Efficient and Sustainable Use of Land’ sets out policy in this regard.</p> <p>The density of housing development will be expected to represent the most efficient use of land taking into account the character and appearance of individual localities and the design of the development proposed. There is an emphasis on high quality homes. Proposals should determine if there is potential for harm to the historic and natural environment and if the proposal will provide a satisfactory living environment. There is some potential for soil loss, specifically proposals for urban extensions to the north-west of Bicester.</p> <p>Uncertain – Positive effects were identified against Objective 9 as air quality is not mentioned explicitly in this policy also it is stated that proposals should determine if there is potential for harm to the historic and natural environment and if the proposal will provide a satisfactory living environment.</p> <p>The Policy for ‘Area Renewal’ will have positive economic and social and environmental effects.</p>
Theme 3 sustainable development policies ESD1: Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change ESD2: Energy Hierarchy ESD3: Sustainable Construction ESD4: Decentralised Energy Systems	<p>The Theme Three policies generally perform well against the SA objectives, in particular significant positive effects are identified in relation to flood risk, efficient use of land, biodiversity, water quality and energy. Minor positive effects are also identified in relation to health and well-being, crime and security, air pollution, resource use and waste.</p> <p>. A minor negative effect is identified with regards to the SA objective relating to landscape and historic assets because there is no policy wording mitigating for the loss of archaeology through development.</p>

<b>Table 3.1: Results of the SA</b>	
<b>Policy / site</b>	<b>Summary of the impacts identified</b>
ESD5: Renewable Energy Proposals	
ESD6: Sustainable Flood Risk Management	
ESD7: Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	
ESD8: Water resources	
ESD9: Protection of the Oxford Meadows SAC	
ESD10: Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity and the Natural Environment	
ESD11: Conservation Target Areas	
ESD12: Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	
ESD13: Local Landscape Protection and Enhancement	
Policy14: Oxford Green Belt	
Policy ESD15: Green Boundaries to growth (policy not provided at time of assessment)	
ESD16: The Character of the Built Environment	
ESD17: The Oxford Canal	
ESD18: Green Infrastructure	

<b>Table 3.2: Potential cumulative effects of development proposed at Bicester</b>		
<b>Policies / sites</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effect</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
Bicester 1 Bicester 2 Bicester 3 Bicester 12	<b>Uncertain cumulative effect</b> as these policies do not state whether health facilities will be provided as part of their developments. Until the health centre provision or contributions are defined there is a risk of cumulative negative effects on health and well-being of residents as existing healthcare facilities are overstretched.	Information is needed on facilities / contributions needed for healthcare facilities in the policies identified.
Bicester 1 Bicester 2 Bicester 3 Bicester 4 Bicester 10 Bicester 11 Bicester 12	Potential <b>negative cumulative effect</b> on loss of greenfield land and soil resources due to scale of greenfield development around the town. Potential increase in surface water runoff is addressed by the Local Plan policies.	Loss of greenfield land cannot be mitigated. Loss of soil resources requires policy to encourage reuse of soils on site. Suggest addition to Policy ESD 10: Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity and the Natural Environment.
Bicester 1 Bicester 2 Bicester 3 Bicester 4 Bicester 10 Bicester 11 Bicester 12	Potential temporary <b>negative cumulative effect</b> on air quality and traffic in the short, medium and long term from construction at sites around the town and construction traffic. This will be dependent on the timing of construction but it is likely that several sites will be constructed simultaneously and the Bicester 1 North West Bicester Eco Development construction will continue beyond the Plan period.  Potential permanent but reversible <b>negative cumulative effect</b> on air quality and transport from increased traffic within the town from the operation of the new developments.	Mitigation: a traffic model should be developed for Bicester incorporating known information about construction timing/phasing and operation of developments in order to assess potential cumulative effects on air quality and traffic congestion. This model should be used to inform planning applications, conditions, travel plans for developments and the Bicester Masterplan.
Bicester 1 Bicester 2 Bicester 3 Bicester 4	The policies for the large scale mixed use developments all contain requirements to create habitat and achieve biodiversity net gains, as does Policy ESD 10: Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity and the Natural Environment.  However, there is still potential for <b>negative cumulative effects</b> on	Mitigation measure: A comprehensive biodiversity mitigation and enhancement plan for Bicester should be developed as part of the Bicester Masterplan, incorporating survey information provided by developers. The mitigation and enhancement plan should ensure that protected species and BAP habitats are protected and enhanced and a network of wildlife corridors is developed around

<b>Table 3.2: Potential cumulative effects of development proposed at Bicester</b>		
<b>Policies / sites</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effect</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
Bicester 8 Bicester 10 Bicester 11 Bicester 12	biodiversity from the scale of development and urbanisation proposed around the town which requires a joined up approach to ensure that effects are mitigated for protected species, habitats and wildlife corridors are created and maintained, with the aim of ensuring an overall net benefit. Potential effects might include effects on bats from loss of feeding areas, flight routes either from physical removal of features such as hedgerows or from light pollution from the new developments.	the town, incorporating green travel routes and public access where possible and where habitats are robust.
Bicester 2 Bicester 10	Potential <b>negative cumulative effect</b> on Local Wildlife Site from development at Bicester 2 and Bicester 10. A buffer could be used in Bicester 2 to ensure birds not disturbed//affected by urbanisation. There may be less impact from disturbance at Bicester 10 as they will be high tech jobs with less noise/pollution.	Mitigation: Bicester 2 should require ecological assessment to include assessment of effect on Local Wildlife site in conjunction with the development proposed at Bicester 10. Appropriate mitigation should be put in place.
Bicester 1 Bicester 2 Bicester 3 Bicester 4 Bicester 8 Bicester 10 Bicester 11 Bicester 12	Potential <b>negative cumulative effect</b> on landscape from scale of development proposed around the town. Potential negative cumulative effect on loss of greenfield land, agricultural land, traffic generation, and soil resources due to scale of greenfield development around the town. Development proposed (including permitted development) could double the built footprint of the town in a relatively short period of time. Careful treatment of visual effects will be required, especially with regards to the new gateways into the town and the new urban edges.	Mitigation measure: Bicester Masterplan should include design codes for developed in partnership with developers, which are in keeping with Local Plan Theme 3 policies and take into account local styles and materials. The Bicester Masterplan should include requirements relating to gateways to the town, urban edges, green buffers required and visual screening and/or building heights. This will need to be informed by developers and the landscape sensitivity and capacity study (September 2010).
Bicester 1 Bicester 2 Bicester 3 Bicester 4 Bicester 8	Several proposed sites (Bic 1, Bic 2, Bic 3, Bic 10, Bic 4, Bic 8,) contain archaeological constraint priority areas. Bicester 12 contains a Scheduled Ancient Monument but the policy requires protection of this feature using a landscape buffer.  Bicester 8 is a conservation area, containing a number of National Monument Records within the site and within the surrounding areas	Mitigation: A policy is required with regards to the treatment of archaeological finds associated with the strategic sites. This policy should be developed in consultation with English Heritage. Information about new archaeology should be made available to the public and could create a benefit to the town and tourism.

<b>Table 3.2: Potential cumulative effects of development proposed at Bicester</b>		
<b>Policies / sites</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effect</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
Bicester 10 Bicester 11 Bicester 12	<p>but the policy for this site requires protection of sensitive historic fabric of the buildings.</p> <p>Policy ESD 16: The Character of the Built Environment aims to protect and enhance historic assets and requires assessment of potential effects on historic assets.</p> <p>However, there is a potential for negative cumulative effects with regards to archaeology due to the archaeological potential identified within most of the strategic sites.</p>	
Bicester 1 Bicester 2 Bicester 4 Bicester 5 Bicester 6 Bicester 8 Bicester 10 Bicester 11	<p>Potential <b>positive cumulative effects</b> on employment and the economy of the town, providing more jobs than new homes and thus supporting a decrease in out commuting for work. Along with improvements to the town centre and transport accessibility, the increased workers within the town could help keep wealth circulating around the town, rather than taking people out of the town during the working day.</p>	None required.

<b>Table 3.3: Potential cumulative effects of development proposed at Banbury</b>		
<b>Policies / sites</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effect</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
Banbury 2 Banbury 3 Banbury 4 Banbury 5	<b>Uncertain cumulative effect</b> as these policies do not state whether health facilities will be provided as part of their developments. Until the health centre provision or contributions are defined there is a risk of cumulative negative effects on health and well-being of residents as existing healthcare facilities are overstretched.	Information is needed on facilities / contributions needed for healthcare facilities in the policies identified.
Banbury 1 Banbury 8 Banbury 9	Potential <b>positive cumulative effect</b> on creating and sustaining vibrant communities and engaging in cultural activity.	None required.
Banbury 2 Banbury 3 Banbury 4 Banbury 5 Banbury 12	Potential <b>negative cumulative effect</b> on loss of greenfield land, valuable agricultural land and soil resources due to scale of greenfield development around the town.	Loss of soil resources requires policy to encourage reuse of soils on site. Suggest addition to Policy ESD 10: Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity and the Natural Environment.  Policy assessments put forward several mitigation measures suggesting allotments are provided on the best and most versatile agricultural land where possible.
Banbury 12 Banbury 4 Permitted development Bankside Phase 1	Potential <b>negative cumulative landscape</b> effects on Bodicote village from urbanisation of the areas to the north and east of the village.  No additional mitigation to that proposed for Banbury 12 (in terms of impacts on nearby communities) can be suggested to mitigate for urbanizing effects. The greatest influence is from the permitted Bankside Phase 1 development which is located closest to the village.	None proposed.



<b>Table 3.4: Potential cumulative effects (other projects, plans and programmes)</b>		
<b>Project, plan or programme / issue</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effects</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
Cherwell Local Plan 2012 and the High Speed Rail 2 London to Birmingham national infrastructure project.	The preferred route of the High Speed Rail 2 passes through Cherwell District, through Fringford ward to the north of Bicester and is likely to have negative impacts on the environment and local communities in that area. Policy SLE5: High Speed Rail 2 – London to Birmingham has been included in the Local plan in order to minimise the adverse impacts on the environment in Cherwell and maximise the benefits that could arise from the proposal, particularly in terms of improving rail services on the West Coast mainline and economic impacts. There is the potential that residents of the communities within the Fringford ward could be adversely affected by construction traffic and activities, however, policy SLE5 seeks to address such potential effects. Bicester is also close by. It is unlikely that the development proposed at Bicester could combine with the potential adverse effects of the High Speed Rail 2 to create cumulative impacts, such as in relation to landscape and visual effects, urbanisation, and noise impacts due to the distances involved. Therefore it is concluded that no <b>cumulative effect</b> is likely in relation to the Cherwell Local Plan and the High Speed Rail 2.	None proposed
<p><b>West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy Pre-Submission Joint Core Strategy (February 2011).</b> Plans for development is South Northamptonshire to 2026.</p> <p>Brackley and Towcester will continue to provide local service centres.</p> <p>Brackley – 2,460 new homes proposed (of which 420 completed by 2010).</p>	Housing and employment growth is planned in the districts immediately surrounding Cherwell. These activities are likely to continue existing relationships between Cherwell and their neighbouring areas and journeys (for work, services and leisure) between their settlements. It is unlikely to change these existing circumstances. The Cherwell Local Plan aims to reduce out commuting from the district for work and create more self-sufficient towns in	None Proposed

<b>Table 3.4: Potential cumulative effects (other projects, plans and programmes)</b>		
<b>Project, plan or programme / issue</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effects</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
<p>Towcester - 2,460 new homes proposed (of which 480 completed by 2010)</p> <p>South Northants rural areas 3620 new homes proposed (of which 1630 completed by 2010)</p> <p>Provision of 16,000 jobs over plan period 2010 to 2026.</p> <p>Employment provision within South Northants District including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• high technology motorsport cluster at Silverstone Circuit ;</li> <li>• local employment provision within sustainable urban extensions as set out in the sustainable urban extension policies; and</li> <li>• tourism and visitor development in the rural areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>West Oxfordshire Draft Core Strategy Consultation January 2011</b> Plans for the period 2011 to 2026</p> <p>New residential development, economic development and supporting services will take place within and on the edge of the main service centres of Witney, Carterton and Chipping Norton.</p> <p>Development elsewhere will be much more limited.</p> <p>Witney - 1,500 new homes to include a strategic development area to the west</p> <p>Carterton - 1,600 new homes to include a new strategic development area</p> <p>Chipping Norton - 400 new homes</p> <p><b>Aylesbury Vale Local Development Framework</b></p> <p>The Core Strategy was withdrawn in 2010 and there is no saved policy in the Local Plan which provides a</p>	<p>Bicester and Banbury.</p> <p><b>No cumulative effects</b> have therefore been identified between the Cherwell Local Plan and housing and economic growth within the neighbouring districts.</p>	

<b>Table 3.4: Potential cumulative effects (other projects, plans and programmes)</b>		
<b>Project, plan or programme / issue</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effects</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
<p>development strategy for the district. The council is in the process of developing a LDF but no document is available which presents a development strategy. Aylsebury and Buckingham are the main towns within the district.</p> <p><b>NB. South Oxfordshire</b> has a short border with Cherwell but it is not considered that activities within South Oxfordshire are likely to significantly affect Cherwell.</p> <p><b>Adopted Oxford Core Strategy 2026</b></p> <p>5,986 new dwellings and 12,590 new jobs proposed within Oxford.</p> <p><b>Stratford-on-Avon Draft Core Strategy 2012</b> This latest version of the Core Strategy consulted on options for the distribution of development across the district which included different percentages of housing and employment growth directed to Stratford-upon-Avon, main rural centres local service villages and rural brownfield sites. 8,000 new dwellings are proposed within the plan period 2008-2028.</p>		
<p><b>Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Minerals Planning Strategy Consultation Draft (September 2011)</b></p> <p>The Minerals proposal map and Policy M3 identify a crushed rock resource to the north west of Bicester. Preference will be given to extensions to existing soft sand and crushed rock quarries.</p> <p><b>Waste Planning Strategy Consultation Draft (September 2011)</b></p> <p>There are several new waste management facilities</p>	<p>There is a potential for increased demand for crushed rock from the development within Cherwell and also potential for an increase in minerals traffic which could combine with construction traffic relating to development in Bicester. Potential negative cumulative effect on HGV traffic on Cherwell's roads, air quality, noise and congestion.</p> <p>The proposed new waste management facilities could create environmental and social effects on Banbury and Bicester. The potential for effects would depend where these facilities are proposed to be located and no sites have been identified in the minerals and waste plans as</p>	<p>Mitigation: further investigation is required to identify whether minerals HGV traffic could use transport assessments by developers of major sites in Bicester should include consideration of minerals HGV traffic.</p> <p>Mitigation: New waste facilities could be identified on the Local Plan Proposals Maps and new facilities proposed at Bicester could also be included within the Bicester masterplan, depending on the geographical limit of the masterplan and the location of proposed facilities.</p>

**Table 3.4: Potential cumulative effects (other projects, plans and programmes)**

<b>Project, plan or programme / issue</b>	<b>Potential cumulative effects</b>	<b>Mitigation / enhancement measures needed</b>
<p>planned in or near to Banbury and Bicester. These will provide facilities to deal with the waste arisings associated with proposed growth within the area.</p> <p>Banbury – new household waste recycling centre, new CDE waste facility, new municipal waste and commercial and industrial waste recycling facility.</p> <p>Bicester - new municipal waste and commercial and industrial recycling facility, new construction, demolition and excavation waste facility, proposed new commercial and industrial residual treatment facility (western side of M40).</p>	<p>yet. Effects of proposed sites will be considered in the SA of the Minerals and Waste Plan. The provision of these proposed facilities will enable sustainable waste management within the district which will result in a positive effect with regards to waste.</p>	