

## Appendix 2

The scoring system used is outlined below.

- Major (significant) positive ✓✓✓
- Moderate (significant) positive ✓✓
- Minor positive ✓
- Neutral effects -
- Minor negative ×
- Moderate (significant) negative ××
- Major (Significant) negative ×××
- Uncertain effects (positive or negative) ? / ?

SA Topic	Overall Whole Plan Effect	Summary
Natural Environment	-	<p>Development through plan allocations and growth targets for settlements is predicted to be negative for the natural environment in some locations. This is related to the cumulative loss of agricultural land of best and most versatile value, disturbance to wildlife and potential increases to traffic. In particular, there is potential for more prominent negative effects associated with the SDAs due to their proximity to wildlife sites and the loss of agricultural land. However, the plan seeks to mitigate these potential negative effects in a number of ways. Individual site specific policies seek to protect biodiversity, and implement green infrastructure enhancements, whilst a range of other plan policies seek to ensure that development protects and enhances the environment where possible.</p> <p>Overall, the effects on bio-diversity and water are predicted to be <i>neutral</i> as the application of plan policies ought to ensure that potential negative effects are mitigated and/or offset.</p> <p>For soil, a <i>minor negative effect</i> will remain as there would be a substantial loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.</p>
Built & Natural Heritage	×	<p>The Plan is likely to have some negative effects upon built and natural heritage due to new development affecting the character of settlements. In the main the effects on settlements across the district are likely to be minor. More prominent effects are predicted at the proposed SDAs, due to their effects on landscape. However, mitigation and enhancement measures detailed in site policies and broader Plan policies would help to ensure that these effects were not significant. For Hallaton and Swinford the effects are predicted to be <b>moderately negative</b>, but these could be avoided through lower scales / densities of development.</p> <p>The plan generally seeks to protect and enhance the built and natural environment through its development management policies and these should offset the potential negative effects that could arise from development.</p> <p>Overall, a <i>minor negative effect</i> is predicted; acknowledging that changes to the landscape and settlement character will be inevitable, but that the</p>

		residual effects will be minor.
Health & Wellbeing	✓✓✓	<p>The Plan is predicted to have a <i>significant / major positive</i> effect through the provision of new housing and jobs, and accompanying improvements to the environment and social / physical infrastructure. The delivery of 2 SDA's as an integral part of the strategy ought to bring about significant positive effects for new communities here, and within surrounding communities. The majority of policies also seek to ensure that development brings about positive outcomes for local communities, and in-combination should contribute to improvements to the health and wellbeing of the population.</p> <p>For example, through the provision of green infrastructure improvements, improved access to jobs, homes and facilities, supporting active travel, and preserving the character of settlements where possible. The inclusion of a link road as part of the Lutterworth East scheme should also help to reduce congestion through Lutterworth town centre, which would have positive effects on air quality in this settlement. However, uncertain negative effects are recorded for other nearby settlements that could be affected by increased traffic.</p>
Resilience to Climate Change	✓	<p>The plan is unlikely to lead to substantial changes to flood risk, or resilience to climate change. In the main, allocated sites and targets for growth at settlements would not be likely to put new development at risk of flooding. Though this is positive, the effects on the baseline position would be neutral (<i>i.e. there would be insignificant changes to the number of properties and people at risk of flooding on new development sites</i>).</p> <p>A variety of the Plans policies do however, seek to mitigate potential flood risk both on site and downstream. For example, through measures which support green infrastructure, SUDs and site specific policies to minimise risk. These are positive measures and should help to ensure that new development does not lead to incremental and cumulative adverse effects on flood risk.</p> <p>Overall, the plan is likely to be beneficial with regards to climate change resilience, and so a <i>minor positive effects</i> are predicted. However, changes to the baseline are not expected to be significant unless enhancement occurs as part of development.</p>
Housing & Economy	✓✓✓	<p>Overall the Plan is predicted to have a <i>significant positive effect</i> on the provision of housing and jobs. Policies H1 and E1 are the key policies for delivering the spatial strategy and are supported through the Places and Sites policies. These policies should ensure the delivery of sufficient housing to meet objectively assessed need, including affordable and specialist provision.</p> <p>Although there are some minor negative effects recorded for policies that could be restrictive to growth, these would not affect the achievement of the plans housing and employment land targets. Furthermore a large number of policies ought to be positive in terms of creating attractive environments to live and work.</p>

		<p>Focusing a large amount of housing to Market Harborough and at 2 SDA's ought to match new employment opportunities well, whilst still ensuring that settlements throughout the district experience positive effects in terms of housing provision.</p>
<p>Resource Issues</p>	<p>✓ ✓</p>	<p>Development typically leads to increased resource use, water use and disposal, and travel: which subsequently increase the amount of greenhouse gases that are emitted. However, it is important to understand the context of the Local Plan, and that development would still be likely to occur in the absence of a Plan. Therefore the effects of a Plan are based on whether the spatial distribution of development is more beneficial than the baseline position.</p> <p>For this plan, development is focussed mainly on accessible locations such as Market Harborough, Lutterworth and Scraftoft . The inclusion of 2 SDA's will also ensure that new communities are created that promote sustainable forms of transport and reduce the need to travel. Therefore, with regard to emissions from transport the plan is likely to have positive implications.</p> <p>In terms of energy and water use, no particular opportunities have been identified to achieve higher levels of sustainability. However policies CC1 and CC2 are identified as having a positive effect, by making it clear that development should seek to be high quality and identifying areas that are potentially suitable for wind development (which should help assist this energy sector) .</p> <p>In combination with a number of other policy areas which encourage the recycling /reuse of land, and accessible modes of transport, overall the Plan is predicted to have a <i>significant / moderate positive</i> effect on resource use.</p>