



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSráithe Báin
Derry Cittie & Strábane
Districk Council

DERRY CITY & STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) 2032



SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL – INTERIM REPORT

(Incorporating Strategic Environmental
Assessment for the Preferred Options Paper)

May 2017

www.derrystrabane.com/ldp

This Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report has been prepared by Shared Environmental Service in conjunction with Derry City and Strabane District Council.

How to comment

If you wish to comment on this report please do so by 22 August by e-mail to: LDP@DerryStrabane.com, preferably using the online questionnaire. Alternatively, you can write to the Planning LDP Team, 98 Strand Road, Derry BT48 7NN.

The Preferred Options Paper, associated documents including this report and full details of the consultation arrangements are available at www.derrystrabane.com/ldp

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Derry City and Strabane District Council Local Development Plan

Derry City and Strabane District Council encompasses an area of 1,342 sq. km and is home to a population of approximately 149,500 people or 8.2% of the NI population. The District is the 6th biggest district council area in NI in terms of population. It uniquely combines a regional city with a large and widely dispersed rural area, some of which is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Derry is also recognised as the regional city of the North West of Northern Ireland and is also a university city – home to the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster. The District is strategically located on the Border with the Republic of Ireland and has a strong linkage with Donegal County Council. Both Councils are active in lobbying for positioning the wider North West region in national and international markets.

The Council, when considering how best to sustainably transform our District over the next 15 years, clearly recognises that our assets are our people and our place. In preparing the Local Development Plan (LDP), it is essential that we fully understand our population demographics and their planning related needs over the coming years. Population change has implications for the provision of housing, employment opportunities and public services including health, education and infrastructure. It is therefore important to know the components of population change and the characteristics of the population when planning for future growth.

Planning is also about meeting the needs of everyone – both the majorities and the minorities within the community. Our Local Development Plan can assist in building inclusive and cohesive communities, addressing everyone's needs by providing equality of opportunity, facilitating employment and wealth creation, providing accessible services, increasing transportation options and promoting shared space. Decisions must be made based on targeting deprivation and being aware of the consequences for Catholic and Protestant communities in particular. It is clear that Derry needs to significantly develop to fulfil its role as the principal city of the North West and as a regional and international gateway.

Similarly, Strabane needs considerable relevant development to fulfil its role as a main hub (Regional Development Strategy, 2035). While the clear focus needs to be on Derry City and Strabane Town, it is important that the needs of those people living in the countryside are also considered. For these populations to be sustained and vibrant communities to be maintained, they too will also require their share of sustainable housing, employment and service opportunities.

What is Sustainability Appraisal?

A Sustainability Appraisal is being carried out alongside preparation of the Derry City and Strabane District Council Local Development Plan. Local Planning Authorities use Sustainability Appraisal to assess plans against a set of sustainability objectives developed in consultation with local stakeholders and communities. This assessment helps the Council to identify the relative environmental, social and economic performance of possible strategic, policy and site options, and to evaluate which of these may be more sustainable. Sustainability Appraisal is a statutory process incorporating the requirements of the European Union Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive.

What is the purpose of this document?

The purpose of this Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report is to:

- Document the appraisal of options and alternatives against a sustainability framework consisting of fourteen objectives, which has helped to determine our preferred options
- Identify where there are significant effects of a preferred option and, where these are negative effects, identify how these could be addressed.
- Present any cumulative effects identified in the appraisal.
- Present any assumptions used in the appraisal, including assessing the significance of effects.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives for Derry City and Strabane District Council

The objectives for sustainable development are to...

- 1...improve health and well-being.
- 2... strengthen society
- 3... provide good quality, sustainable housing
- 4...enable access to high quality education.
- 5...enable sustainable economic growth.
- 6... manage material assets sustainably.
- 7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.
- 8... encourage active and sustainable travel.
- 9... improve air quality
- 10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.
- 11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.
- 12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.
- 13... maintain and enhance landscape character.
- 14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage

Contents

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY.....	1
GLOSSARY	5
1 INTRODUCTION.....	6
1.1 Purpose of this Sustainability Interim Report	6
1.2 Derry City and Strabane District Council Local Development Plan.....	6
1.3 Sustainability Appraisal Context.....	7
1.3.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment.....	7
1.3.2 Integrated Sustainability Appraisal	7
1.3.3 Habitats Regulations Assessment	7
1.3.4 Rural Proofing	8
1.3.5 Interim Report Structure.....	8
2 Sustainability Appraisal: The Approach.....	9
2.1 Introduction	9
2.2 Strategic Context	9
2.2.1 Regional Development Strategy.....	9
2.2.2 Strategic Planning Policy Statement	9
2.2.3 Sustainable Development Strategy	9
2.2.4 Draft Programme for Government (PfG)	10
2.2.5 Community Plan.....	10
2.3 Sustainability Appraisal and the LDP.....	11
2.3.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework	11
2.3.2 The Sustainability Objectives	11
2.3.3 Assessment Method	11
2.3.4 The Appraisal Meeting and Write-Up	12
2.3.5 Assessing the Significance of Effects.....	13
2.3.6 Consideration of Potential Mitigation Measures	13
2.3.7 Appraisal limitations and assumptions	13
2.3.8 Cumulative Effects	13
2.3.9 Compatibility of Sustainability Objectives.....	13
2.3.10 Compatibility of Sustainability Objectives with Derry City and Strabane District Council LDP Strategic Objectives.	14
3 Summary of Sustainability Appraisal Findings.....	15
3.1 Spatial Strategy – Issues and Options	15
Issue: 6A - Overall Spatial Distribution	15
Issue: 6B - Specifics of Settlement Hierarchy.....	16
3.2 Economy – Issues and Options	18
Issue: 7A - Economic Development Land.....	18
Issue: 7B - City / Town Centres	19
Issue: 7C - Retailing Capacity	21

Issue: 7D - Derry City Centre.....	22
Issue: 7E - Strabane Town Centre.....	23
Issue: 7F - Local Towns – Castledearg, Newtownstewart, Claudy	25
Issue: 7G - Transport.....	26
Issue: 7H - Tourism	27
Issue: 7I - Minerals.....	29
Issue: 7J - Rural Economy.....	30
3.3 Social Development – Issues and Options	33
Issue: 8A - Strategic Housing Distribution.....	33
Issue: 8B - Housing Allocation Quantum.....	34
Issue: 8C - Location and Allocation of Housing Land.....	36
Issue: 8D - Social / Affordable Housing and Balanced Communities.....	37
Issue: 8E - Open Space/Recreation	39
3.4 Environment – Issues and Options	41
Issue: 9A - Natural Environment	41
Issue: 9B - Landscape Character	43
Issue: 9C - Coastal Development	45
Issue: 9D - Built Environment / Heritage.....	46
Issue: 9E - Urban Design/Places.....	48
Issue: 9F - Renewables – Wind & Solar	50
Issue: 9F - Flooding	51
Issue: 9H - Transport – Environmentally and People-friendly.....	52
4 The Next Steps.....	54
4.1 How has the Sustainability Appraisal influenced the process so far?	54
4.2 Outcome	54
APPENDIX 1: COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST FOR STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.....	55
APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL GUIDE FOR DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT LDP.....	57
APPENDIX 3: COMPATIBILITY OF SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES	74
APPENDIX 4: HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT BASELINE FOR DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL	75
APPENDIX 5: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRICIES.....	85

GLOSSARY

CCC	Committee on Climate Change
COE	Council of Europe
DAERA	The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
DCs	District Councils
DE	The Department of Education
DEA	District Electoral Area
DfC	The Department for Communities
DfE	The Department for the Economy
DfI	The Department for Infrastructure
DoH	The Department of Health
DoJ	The Department of Justice
EC	European Commission
EO	The Executive Office
HSCB	Health and Social Care Board
LDP	Local Development Plan
NA	Not Applicable
NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
NIW	Northern Ireland Water
RDS	Regional Development Strategy
SA	Sustainability appraisal
SHSCT	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
SPPS	Strategic Planning Policy Statement
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems
UK Gov.	UK Government
UN	United Nations
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this Sustainability Interim Report

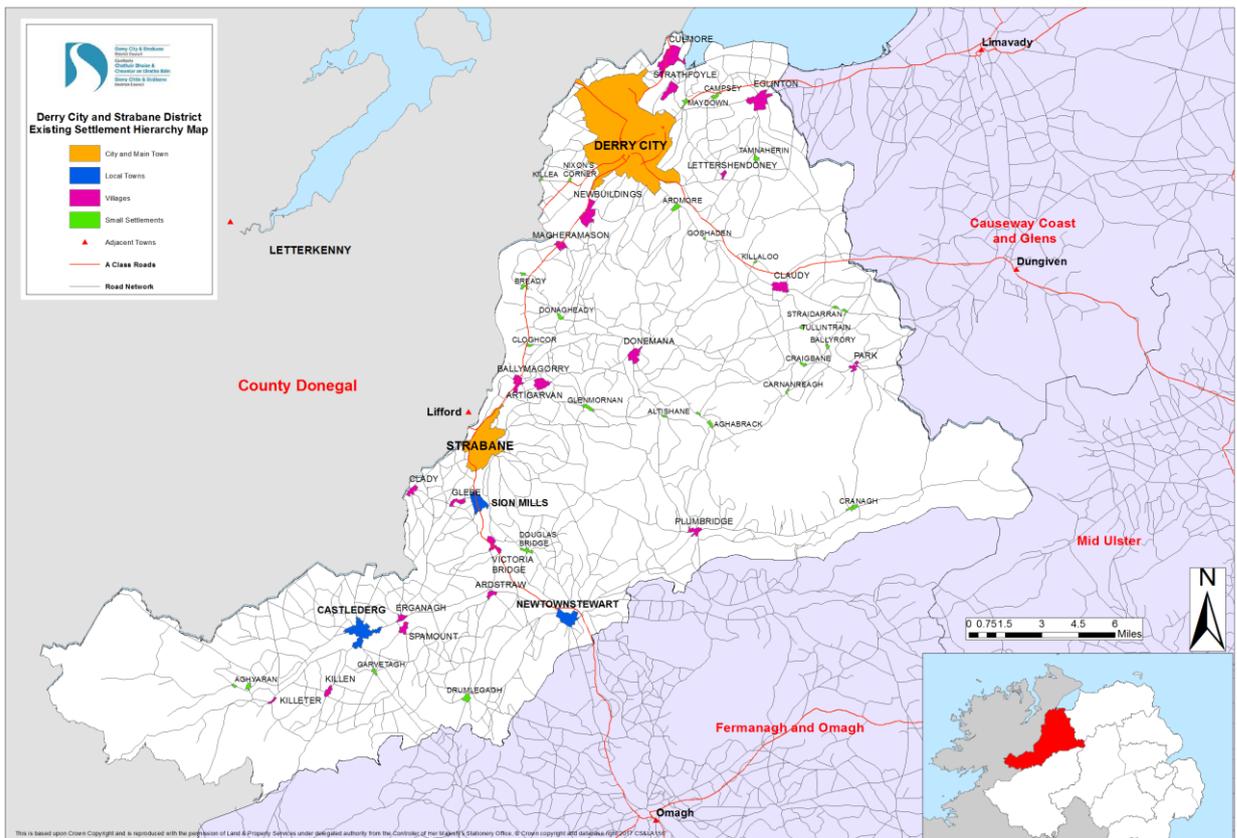
This interim report is part of the Sustainability Appraisal process for the Derry City and Strabane District Council Local Development Plan (LDP) and is accompanied by the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. It documents the appraisal of options and alternatives against a sustainability framework consisting of fourteen objectives, which has helped to determine our preferred options. This process identifies where there are significant effects of a preferred option and, where these are negative effects, identifies how these could be addressed.

1.2 Derry City and Strabane District Council Local Development Plan

This section is covered in more detail in Chapter 4 of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and in depth in the Preferred Options Paper (POP).

Derry City and Strabane District Council encompasses an area of 1,342 sq. km and is home to a population of approximately 149,500 people – 8.16% of the NI population. The District is the 6th biggest council area in NI in terms of population. It uniquely combines a regional city with a large and widely dispersed rural area, some of which is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Derry is also recognised as the regional city of the North West of Northern Ireland and is also a university city – home to the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster. The District is strategically located on the Border with the Republic of Ireland and has a strong linkage with Donegal County Council. Both Councils are active in lobbying for positioning the wider North West region in national and international markets.

Figure 1.2.1 District Context



The Council, when considering how best to sustainably transform our District over the next 15 years, clearly recognises that our assets are our people and our place. In preparing the Local Development Plan (LDP), it is essential that we fully understand our population demographics and their planning related needs over the coming years. Population change has implications for the provision of housing, employment opportunities and

public services including health, education and infrastructure. It is therefore important to know the components of population change and the characteristics of the population when planning for future growth.

Planning is also about meeting the needs of everyone – both the majorities and the minorities within the community. Our Local Development Plan can assist in building inclusive and cohesive communities, addressing everyone’s needs by providing equality of opportunity, facilitating employment and wealth creation, providing accessible services, increasing transportation options and promoting shared space. Decisions must be made based on targeting deprivation and being aware of the consequences for Catholic and Protestant communities in particular. It is clear that Derry needs to significantly develop to fulfil its role as the principal city of the North West and as a regional and international gateway.

Similarly, Strabane needs considerable relevant development to fulfil its role as a main hub (Regional Development Strategy, 2035). While the clear focus needs to be on Derry City and Strabane Town, it is important that the needs of those people living in the countryside are also considered. For these populations to be sustained and vibrant communities to be maintained, they too will also require their share of sustainable housing, employment and service opportunities.

1.3 Sustainability Appraisal Context

1.3.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment is a systematic process for assessing potential effects of proposed plans or programmes to ensure that significant environmental impacts are considered from the earliest opportunity and addressed in decision making. It was introduced by the European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment. In Northern Ireland the Directive’s requirements are taken forward through The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (EAPP) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004. The EAPP (NI) Regulations set out more detailed requirements for the process and content of the environmental assessment of plans and development. Appendix 1 records how these regulations are being complied with.

1.3.2 Integrated Sustainability Appraisal

Section 25 of the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 requires that all NI Departments and councils, in exercising their functions, act in the way they consider best calculated to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

Section 5 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (the 2011 Act) requires those who exercise any function in relation to local development plans to do so with the objective of furthering sustainable development. In addition, Sections 8(6) and 9(7) of the 2011 Act requires an appraisal of sustainability to be carried out for the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan, respectively.

The approach in this report is informed by [Development Plan Practice Note 04: Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment \(DOE, 2015\)](#)¹. Sustainability Appraisal therefore refers to an integrated approach which fully incorporates Strategic Environmental Assessment and fulfils the requirements for both Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

1.3.3 Habitats Regulations Assessment

Habitats Regulations Assessment is a provision of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended). The regulations require assessment of possible adverse effects on the integrity of European sites (Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas) as a result of plans and policies in the Local Development Plan, this is also carried out for Ramsar sites. An initial Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening is available in this report in Appendix 5. A draft Habitats Regulations Assessment will be

¹ [Department of the Environment \(2015\) Development Plan Practice Note 04: Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment Amend footnote numbers to 2 and 3](#)

published for consultation with the Draft Plan Strategy and Draft Local Policies Plan. A final Habitats Regulations Assessment will be published when each of these are adopted.

1.3.4 Rural Proofing

The Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016, for which the proposed commencement date, as it applies to Government Departments and District Councils is 1 June 2017, states that ‘A public authority must have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans.’ Public authorities must report annually on how they have implemented this requirement.

The approach to considering rural needs is called rural proofing and DAERA provides advice on carrying it out in *Thinking Rural: The Essential Guide to Rural Proofing*. Rural proofing is the process by which all major policies and strategies are assessed to determine whether they have a differential impact on rural areas and, where appropriate, adjustments are made to take account of particular rural circumstances.

The Scoping Report directly considers policy for rural populations and how the LDP could affect them in the Community topic. Where available, data on rural populations is also included under other topics, for example health, education and infrastructure. Key issues for the Council include some specific to rural communities and the appraisal prompts include questions about how a proposal will meet the needs of rural populations or potentially have a disproportionate impact. Where measures that could either enhance positive or reduce negative effects have been identified these have been recorded.

As plan preparation progresses and more detail emerges about proposals, how they will be implemented and where they will be located, rural issues can be considered in more depth. A rural proofing checklist, reflecting the advice in *Thinking Rural*, will be included in the Sustainability Appraisal for Plan Strategy.

1.3.5 Interim Report Structure

The report continues with Chapter 2 which presents our approach to carrying out and documenting the sustainability appraisal of the Preferred Options Paper, including how we assessed the significance of effects, and the limitations and difficulties that we encountered. Chapter 3 summarises the appraisal findings and Chapter 4 outlines the next appraisal steps in the LDP process. A number of appendices are referred to in the report and provide further detail.

2 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL: THE APPROACH

2.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the overall approach taken to carry out sustainability appraisal for the Preferred Options Paper. The tools for this appraisal were developed in accordance with Development Plan Practice Note 04.

2.2 Strategic Context

The following regional or local strategies and plans are overarching and form a backdrop to the Local Development Plan. These were considered in preparation of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

2.2.1 Regional Development Strategy

The Regional Development Strategy (RDS) provides a strategic and long term perspective on the future development of Northern Ireland up to 2035 to deliver the spatial aspects of the Programme for Government. It contains regional guidance to provide policy direction in relation to the economy, society and environment. It complements the Sustainable Development Strategy and sets the context for policy and development decisions in order to achieve sustainable development throughout the region.

The RDS recognises the important role of Belfast in generating regional prosperity and that Londonderry is the focus for economic growth in the North West. However, to ensure all areas benefit from economic growth, it also reflects the Programme for Government approach of balanced sub-regional growth and recognises the importance of key settlements as centres for growth and prosperity. The RDS has a statutory basis, is material to decisions on individual planning applications and appeals, and Councils must take account of the RDS when drawing up their Local Development Plans.

2.2.2 Strategic Planning Policy Statement

The Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) - Planning for Sustainable Development provides an overarching statement of the general regional planning principles underlying the reformed plan led system. It provides a planning policy framework which must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Development Plans and the provisions are also material to all decisions on individual planning applications and appeals.

2.2.3 Sustainable Development Strategy

The Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy - 'Everyone's Involved', published in May 2010, stated that sustainability policy *'is driven by intergenerational equity; to secure a quality of life for present and future generations that is positive and rewarding.'*

Achieving sustainable development is a requirement set out in Provision 25 of the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006. This requires all Departments and Councils in Northern Ireland, in exercising their functions, to act in the way they consider best calculated to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. In doing this they must have regard to any strategy or guidance relating to sustainable development published by Northern Ireland departments.

Within planning legislation Section 5 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, as amended, requires those who exercise any function in relation to Local Development Plans to do so with the objective of furthering sustainable development.

Sustainability Appraisal is the approach used to promote sustainable development within Local Development Plans by evaluating the social, environmental and economic effects of all aspects of the Local Development Plan throughout its preparation.

The Sustainable Development Strategy identifies 32 strategic objectives in the following Priority Areas.

- Building a dynamic, innovative economy that delivers the prosperity required to tackle disadvantage and lift communities out of poverty.
- Strengthening society so that it is more tolerant, inclusive and stable and permits positive progress in quality of life for everyone.
- Driving sustainable, long-term investment in key infrastructure to support economic and social development.

- Striking an appropriate balance between the responsible use and protection of natural resources in support of a better quality of life and a better quality environment.
- Ensuring reliable, affordable and sustainable energy provision and reducing our carbon footprint.
- Ensuring the existence of a policy environment which supports the overall advancement of sustainable development in and beyond Government.

2.2.4 Draft Programme for Government (PfG)

The draft PfG 2016-21 contains 14 Strategic Outcomes supported by 42 Indicators. The outcomes touch on every aspect of government, including the attainment of good health and education, economic success and confident and peaceful communities and are intended to meet statutory obligations and to make real improvements to the quality of life of citizens.

2.2.5 Community Plan

The new duty of Community Planning came into operation on 1st April 2015 and requires councils to act as the lead for community planning in their areas, in partnership with the community and service providers. This will result in a long term vision for the social, environmental and economic well-being of our area and its citizens. The Community Plan also aims to promote community cohesion and improve the quality of life for all of our citizens. It will integrate service and function delivery and set out the future direction for development within the council area. The Local Development Plan will support delivery of the spatial aspects of our Community Plan.

Our draft Community Plan, The Strategic Growth Plan for Derry City and Strabane District has just been published. It was developed through extensive engagement with stakeholders and the community and set out the shared outcomes for this area.

***Our vision is a thriving, prosperous and sustainable
City and District with equality of opportunity for all.***

It places emphasis on the regional status of Derry and Strabane and the need to maximise its strengths for communication, transport, tourism, economic productivity, knowledge, education and innovation.

Key issues that are identified are the need to improve educational outcomes; the need to reverse population decline; the need to increase investment and income levels and the need to improve cooperation.

Cross cutting themes are: addressing inequality and promoting inclusive growth; sustainability; good relations and rural development.

Eight primary outcomes have been identified for the Community Plan.

1. We live in a shared, equal and safe community.
2. We live long, healthy and fulfilling lives.
3. Our children and young people have the best start in life.
4. We prosper through a strong, competitive, entrepreneurial and innovative economy.
5. We are better skilled and educated.
6. We live in the cultural destination of choice and offer world class visitor experiences.
7. We live sustainably – protecting the environment.
8. We connect people and opportunities through our infrastructure

The Community Plan is to be supported by a Local Community Planning process to identify actions to meet local needs and improve well-being.

The draft Community Plan sustainability theme includes the goal of protecting our local ecosystems as the source of clean air, clean water and fertile topsoil.

Our Corporate Plan and Performance Improvement Plan 2016/17 is an interim plan until the community plan is finalised and sets out our current priorities. The future Corporate Plan will capture the council's contribution to the Community Plan.

2.3 Sustainability Appraisal and the LDP

The SEA Directive requires assessment of the likely significant effects of implementing the plan, and 'reasonable alternatives'. Developing options and alternatives is an important part of both the plan-making and sustainability appraisal process. For the Preferred Options Paper the reasonable alternatives are the different options put forward during the preparation of the paper.

2.3.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework

The Sustainability Appraisal Framework was developed with input from a number of stakeholders. It consists of fourteen sustainability objectives with appraisal prompts which have been used to assess the Preferred Options Paper.

The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report allowed the Key Sustainability Issues for the Council to be identified, and these helped to inform the appraisal prompts and to guide the appraisal. The Sustainability Objectives are presented below, and the full Sustainability Appraisal Framework is presented in Appendix 2.

2.3.2 The Sustainability Objectives

The sustainability objectives have been developed in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report informed by the policy and strategic context, baseline information and Key Sustainability Issues. The objectives for sustainable development for Derry City and Strabane District Council are to...

- 1...improve health and well-being.
- 2... strengthen society.
- 3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.
- 4... enable access to high quality education.
- 5...enable sustainable economic growth.
- 6... manage material assets sustainably.
- 7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.
- 8... encourage active and sustainable travel.
- 9... improve air quality
- 10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.
- 11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.
- 12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.
- 13... maintain and enhance landscape character.
- 14... protect, protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage

The rationale for and scope of each of these sustainability objectives is detailed in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and can also be found in Appendix 2.

2.3.3 Assessment Method

The options for each LDP issue were assessed using the appraisal matrix shown in Table 2.1 and scoring in Table 2.2. The matrix includes:

- The plan topic and delivery options to be assessed
- A score indicating the nature of the effect for each option and alternative in the short, medium and long term for each sustainability objective with an explanation of why the score was given.
- A summary comparing the options and their alternatives in relation to the sustainability objectives.
- Identification of any mitigation recommended to address negative effects and measures where appropriate to enhance positive effects.

Table 2.1: Outline Sustainability Appraisal Matrix

Issue												
Options	Option 1:				Option 2:				Option 3:			
Sustainability Objective	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation
1. Sustainability Objective												
2. Sustainability Objective etc.												
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives The preferred option What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option? What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option? Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects												

Table 2.2: Scoring and definitions for Sustainability Appraisal Matrix

Score		Description
++	Significant Positive	Proposal would greatly help to achieve the objective
+	Minor Positive	Proposal would slightly help to achieve the objective
0	Neutral / no effect / negligible effect	Proposal would not affect the objective
-	Minor Negative	Proposal would slightly conflict with the objective
--	Significant Negative	Proposal would greatly conflict with the objective
?	Uncertain	The effect cannot be predicted because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the approach has an uncertain relationship to the objective; or • the relationship is dependent on the way in which the option is implemented; • insufficient information is available to enable an appraisal to be made.
ST	Short Term	Up to five years
MT	Medium Term	Five to 15 years
LT	Long term	Over 15 years

2.3.4 The Appraisal Meeting and Write-Up

Appraisal of the options presented in the Preferred Options Paper was carried out in April 2017. The appraisal panel comprised of Derry City and Strabane District Council planning team, other council staff from teams that cover environmental health, economic development and biodiversity officers, and the Shared Environmental Service team. A number of representatives from local and regional stakeholder organisations also participated

in the appraisal meetings. An additional appraisal day was carried out in May by staff from Derry and Strabane District Council and the Shared Environmental Service.

Appraisals were carried out using the agreed Sustainability Appraisal Framework, and scores with explanations were recorded in the appraisal matrices, presented in Appendix 5. For each issue all options were appraised in terms of how the option would either support or conflict with the sustainability objectives. Following this the matrices were written up, reviewed with planning officers and finalised to incorporate any amendments. A summary of the findings of the appraisal is presented in Chapter 3.

2.3.5 Assessing the Significance of Effects

The Sustainability Appraisal assessed the significant effects of options both positive and negative. There is no single definition of a significant effect therefore assessment is a matter of judgement taking account of the extent of the effect spatially and in time.

Sustainable development is an underlying principle of plan preparation therefore for the majority of issues the positive effects of all options already outweigh the negative effects and few options were put forward which were considered to have a significant negative effect for any sustainability objective. In appraising the options some ways in which negative effects could be reduced or offset and positive effects could be enhanced were identified and these are presented where applicable.

2.3.6 Consideration of Potential Mitigation Measures

The SEA Directive requires consideration of ‘measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme’. These are referred to as mitigation measures, and can include recommendations for improving beneficial effects.

2.3.7 Appraisal limitations and assumptions

The assessment reflects baseline information from the Local Development Plan evidence papers, information provided by consultees, and the experience and judgement of the panel carrying out the appraisal meeting. There is uncertainty in some cases about how a given approach would be implemented due to insufficient detail about the proposal which is a consequence of this early and strategic stage. Where necessary ‘uncertain’ was recorded and a note made of further information that could inform future appraisal. For some options the approach has an uncertain relationship with the sustainability objective or it could have both positive and negative effects. In these situations ‘uncertain’ was recorded and potential impacts noted in the explanation paragraph. Sometimes the same score has been given for the effects of different options however more subtle differences may be described in the explanations.

During the appraisal of each option, where possible, effects were predicted. However it was found that in some cases, the effect will depend upon the type of development and the exact location. Many of the proposals affect multiple locations and locations for which boundaries have not been defined which makes it hard to determine at this stage whether overall effects are likely to be negative or positive. Some approaches represent a continuation of a previous policy however each option was considered on its own merits in line with the characteristics of the baseline for the relevant sustainability objective.

Consideration has been given to the timescale in which an effect may be seen. In many cases it is hard to predict at this stage of plan development when an effect is likely to be apparent therefore the score is often the same for short, medium and long term. If appropriate, short, medium and long term scores will be differentiated at a later stage of assessment. The sustainability appraisal at Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan will take account of all additional and updated information available at that time.

2.3.8 Cumulative Effects

Consideration must be given to any cumulative effects of proposals during plan preparation. These include potential cumulative effects within the plan and in combination with other relevant plans and strategies. As more detail emerges of plan proposals cumulative effects will be considered.

2.3.9 Compatibility of Sustainability Objectives

A comparison has been drawn between all of the Sustainability Objectives to identify any conflicts between them and is presented in Appendix 3. No Sustainability Objectives were considered to be incompatible with the

rest of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework. In some cases, however the effect is uncertain. The Sustainability Objectives will therefore be reviewed at the next stage and the rationale updated to address this uncertainty.

2.3.10 Compatibility of Sustainability Objectives with Derry City and Strabane District Council LDP Strategic Objectives.

Chapter 4 of the POP presents and invites comment on the proposed vision and objectives for the LDP. The vision is to be a 'Thriving, prosperous and sustainable City and District with equality of opportunity for all.' There are eight economic objectives under an overall title 'Creating Jobs and Promoting Prosperity'. There are eight social objectives under an overall title 'Accommodating People and Facilitating Communities'. There are nine environmental objectives under an overall title 'Enhancing the Environment, Creating Places and Improving Infrastructure'.

An initial overview finds that there are some LDP objectives that specifically support the sustainability objectives for example LDP social objective (iv) relating to housing. Some sustainability objectives are supported by reference as is the case for health which is referred to in four LDP objectives. Almost all of the sustainability objectives are clearly supported by the LDP objectives. Some however, such as reduce causes of and adapt to climate change, are not explicitly referred to although they are implicit where sustainable growth and development is referred to.

There are some LDP objectives which could conflict with sustainability objectives if implemented in isolation without the balance of other LDP objectives and policies. For example economic objectives for job creation and attracting new businesses could have adverse effects on natural heritage and water resources. The POP includes specific issues to ensure a balanced approach and invites comment on its approach to reviewing and bringing forward policy. In the process of finalising the LDP vision and objectives they will be reviewed to assess their compatibility with the sustainability objectives individually and cumulatively.

3 SUMMARY OF SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FINDINGS

3.1 Spatial Strategy – Issues and Options

Issue: 6A - Overall Spatial Distribution

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane Town as a Main Hub as set out in RDS 2035.

Option 2: Proportionate Growth across all Settlements and Countryside

Option 3: Balanced Growth – focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane Town as a Main Hub plus some other opportunities in the rural settlements and countryside.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives.

The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Overall Spatial Distribution Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane Town as a Main Hub as set out in RDS 2035.	+	+	+	+	+	?	++	+	-	0	+	+	++	+
Option 2: Proportionate Growth across all Settlements and Countryside	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	--	-	-	?
Option 3: Balanced Growth – focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane Town as a Main Hub plus some other opportunities in the rural settlements and countryside.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	0	+	+	+	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was considered to have a positive effect on many wide societal aspects including health and wellbeing, providing good quality sustainable housing, and enabling access to high quality education. In terms of environmental objectives, it was also considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting physical resources, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. Option 2 scored positively for some aspects of society, but had a negative scoring for improving health and well-being. It was considered to have a negative effect on many objectives, including enabling access to high quality education, enabling sustainable economic

growth, managing material assets, and physical resources, and encouraging active and sustainable travel. It also had a negative scoring for improving air quality, protecting natural resources and biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. It was considered to have a significantly negative effect on protecting and managing water resources sustainably. Option 3 gained a positive scoring for many of the sustainably objectives concerning society and the environment including improving health and well-being and providing good quality sustainable housing. The option was considered to have an uncertain effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel, and improving air quality.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Modal shifts in behaviour for travel options i.e. car-pooling, park-and-ride, walking/cycling to work; energy efficient homes; access to renewables; public transport initiatives and improved services; key site requirements – ecological mitigation like integration of SuDS and green building design guides; building conservation guidelines; other planning policy.

Issue: 6B - Specifics of Settlement Hierarchy

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Existing 49 Settlements retained

Option 2: Rationalise Upper Tiers - Derry, Strabane, Local Towns. Re-designate some Villages and Small Settlements, including some new settlement designations.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Specifics of Settlement Hierarchy Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Existing 49 Settlements retained	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Option 2: Rationalise Upper Tiers - Derry, Strabane, Local Towns. Re-designate some Villages and Small Settlements, including some new settlement designations.	+	+	++	+	++	++	-	++	+	+	+	+	+	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Overall option 2 scored positively long term across many of the following sustainability objectives These included improving health and well-being, strengthening society, enabling access to high quality education,

managing material assets sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel, improving air quality, reducing causes of climate change, protecting and managing water resources, protecting natural resources, biodiversity, landscape character and built environment and cultural heritage. Option 1 was considered to have a neutral effect which could become negative over time for many of these objectives. In terms of providing good quality sustainable housing, and enabling sustainable economic growth, both options scored positively, but option 2 gave a significant positive score.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for providing good quality sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Transport assessment, sewerage capacity studies.

3.2 Economy – Issues and Options

Issue: 7A - Economic Development Land

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option1: Retain existing zonings as currently contained in DAP & SAP.

Option 2: Retain existing zonings along with additional, more sustainably located, sites that will cater for our assessed future economic needs.

Option 3: Re-evaluate all current economic zonings and rezone/zone new sustainably-located sites catering for assessed future economic needs.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Economic Development Land Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4.... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option1: Retain existing zonings as currently contained in DAP & SAP.	-	-	0	0	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Option 2: Retain existing zonings along with additional, more sustainably located, sites that will cater for our assessed future economic needs.	0	+	0	0	+	+	-	-	?	?	+	+	0	+
Option 3: Re-evaluate all current economic zonings and rezone/zone new sustainably-located sites catering for assessed future economic needs.	+	+	0	0	++	++	?	-	?	?	+	+	0	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was considered to have a negative effect on some of the sustainability objectives relating to society such as health and wellbeing, and strengthening society. Enabling sustainable economic growth scored as neutral, becoming negative long term. This option also was scored negatively for a number of environmental objectives, including reducing causes of and adaption to climate change, protecting and managing water resources and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. This option gained a negative scoring for encouraging active and sustainable travel, and a significant negative scoring for improving air quality. Option 2 had a neutral scoring for some of the objectives but was considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society. It was considered to be positive for enabling sustainable economic growth and managing

material assets. The option was considered to have a negative effect on both protecting physical resources and encouraging active travel, and an uncertain effect on air quality and reducing the causes of climate change. This option was also considered to have a positive effect on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably, and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. Option 3 was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, and managing material assets sustainably. It was also considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society, and some of the environmental objectives including protecting and managing water resources, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and protect, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. The effect on physical resources, air quality and climate change was considered to be uncertain.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets sustainably.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Planning assessments - transport, appropriate etc., other planning policies, biodiversity enhancement measures, SuDS, planning conditions, green building design, developer contributions.

Issue: 7B - City / Town Centres

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Strong focus on existing centres whilst constraining District Centres and outer/ arterial sites

Option 2: Balance – focus is on existing centres plus potential limited development in District Centres

Option 3: Support existing centres but with growth in District Centres and outer / arterial sites

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

City / Town Centres Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5... enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Strong focus on existing centres whilst constraining District Centres and outer/arterial sites	+	+	?	0	+	-	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	++
Option 2: Balance – focus is on existing centres plus potential limited development in District Centres	+	+	?	0	+	-	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+
Option 3: Support existing centres but with growth in District Centres and outer /arterial sites	+	+	-	0	+	-	-	+	0	0	0	-	0	-

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 scores positively for many aspects related to society. It was considered to have a positive scoring for enabling sustainable economic growth and significant positive for protecting, conserving and enhancing historic environment and cultural heritage. It also gained a positive scoring for managing material assets sustainably and protecting physical resources. It was considered to have a positive effect on active and sustainable travel.

Option 2 scores positively for many aspects related to society. It was considered to have a significant positive effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. It also gained a positive scoring for managing material assets sustainably and protecting physical resources. It was considered to have a positive effect on active and sustainable travel.

Option 3 is considered to have positive effect on improving health and wellbeing, strengthening society and enabling sustainable economic growth. It has a negative scoring for managing material assets and protecting physical resources due to pressure on provision of services over a wider area, and potentially loss of green field land. It was also considered to have a negative effect on the protection of natural resources and biodiversity and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

Option 2 was determined to have a significantly positive effect on the historic environment and cultural heritage.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Management plans for urban areas; improved evening public transport provision; biodiversity enhancement measures; planning conditions – ecological mitigation; other planning policy; waste management plans; key site requirements; building/conservation guidelines; local level design plans.

Issue: 7C - Retailing Capacity

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Existing amount of provision is adequate, generally across Derry and Strabane and retail types

Option 2: To allow growth of retail supply generally

Option 3: Monitor retail capacity and plan for sustainable, phased growth

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Retailing Capacity Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Existing amount of provision is adequate, generally across Derry and Strabane and retail types	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Option 2: To allow growth of retail supply generally	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Option 3: Monitor retail capacity and plan for sustainable, phased growth	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was scored as having a neutral impact across all of the sustainability objectives. Option 2 was considered to have a potentially significant negative effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character, and protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. It was also considered to be negative for many other sustainability objectives, including enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets, protecting physical resources, encouraging active and sustainable travel amongst others. Option 2 was also considered to have a negative effect on protecting water quality, and protecting natural resources and biodiversity. Option 2 was considered to have a neutral effect on the rest of the sustainability objectives. Option 3 also had a neutral effect on some of the sustainability objectives, but has a positive effect on many objectives including sustainable economic growth, managing material assets and protecting and conserving the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 3 however did have a negative effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, retail capacity studies, transport assessment, sewerage capacity studies.

Issue: 7D - Derry City Centre

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Evaluate the existing Central Area & Commercial Core within Cityside and Waterside, clarifying / simplifying their definitions / roles and adjusting their boundaries if necessary

Option 2: Retain the existing Central Area plus a compact Cityside focus for commerce

Option 3: Expand the overall central areas within Cityside and Waterside

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Derry City Centre Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5... enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Evaluate the existing Central Area & Commercial Core within Cityside and Waterside, clarifying / simplifying their definitions / roles and adjusting their boundaries if necessary	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	?	0	0	0	0
Option 2: Retain the existing Central Area plus a compact Cityside focus for commerce	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	?	0	0	0	0
Option 3: Expand the overall central areas within Cityside and Waterside	0	?	0	0	++	+	-	+	0	?	0	-	0	0

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 is considered to have a neutral effect over many of the sustainability objectives. It has an uncertain effect on climate change, in common with the two other options. It is considered to have a positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel.

Option 2 is considered to have a positive effect on economic growth through the opportunities for consolidated retail and associated uses in central areas with a compact Cityside focus for commerce. Option 2 also will have a positive effect for managing material assets and encouraging active and sustainable travel.

The effect of Option 3, with including the Ebrington area within the central area, was considered to be uncertain for strengthening society but the option gave a scoring of significantly positive for enabling sustainable economic growth. It also was considered to have positive impact on managing material assets sustainably and encouraging active and sustainable travel. It was however considered to have negative effects for protecting physical resources and using sustainably, and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, both due to potential loss of green-field land.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Transport assessment, sewerage capacity studies. Other plans and strategies to consider compatibility of adjacent land uses, public service provisions needed, new routes, increased services, parking policy provisions, planning policy on retail.

Issue: 7E - Strabane Town Centre

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Maintain existing Strabane Area Plan Town Centre boundary, subject to detailed reevaluation of boundaries

Option 2: Contract the existing town centre boundary to a more compact form

Option 3: Expand town centre boundary to beyond the Bypass / Camel's Hump area

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Strabane Town Centre Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Maintain existing Strabane Area Plan Town Centre boundary, subject to detailed reevaluation of boundaries	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+
Option 2: Contract the existing town centre boundary to a more compact form	0	0	0	0	-	-	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	++
Option 3: Expand town centre boundary to beyond the Bypass/Camel's Hump area	-	?	0	0	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 delivers a positive effect for enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel. It also is considered to have a positive effect on protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.

Option 2 delivers very similar effects as option 1 but the objectives on enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets were considered to have a negative effect long term. Option 2 is considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.

Option 3 was determined to have a positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, but also had a negative effect across many of the sustainability objectives due to the potential loss of green-field land, and potential to increase car use in the town and wider area.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Provision of public transport, development design to consider traffic flow, building design guides, conservation guidelines, avoid developing floodplains.

Issue: 7F - Local Towns – Castleberg, Newtownstewart, Claudy

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Retain the compact Town Centre boundary for Castleberg and define compact Town Centres for N'Stewart (existing designated town) & Claudy (proposed new town).

Option 2: Do not define Town Centres for Castleberg, Newtownstewart or Claudy.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Local Towns – Castleberg, Newtownstewart, Claudy Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Retain the compact Town Centre boundary for Castleberg and define compact Town Centres for N'Stewart (existing designated town) & Claudy (proposed new town).	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+
Option 2: Do not define Town Centres for Castleberg, Newtownstewart or Claudy.	-	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	-

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 delivers a range of positive effects including improving health and wellbeing, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel, long term reducing causes of climate change, maintaining and enhancing landscape character, and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 2 was considered to have a negative effect across many of the sustainability appraisal objectives.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Retail capacity assessments, transport assessments.

Issue: 7G - Transport

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Plan to maximise the opportunities for sustainable development arising from the A5 / A6 upgrades and other orbital / cross border links. Also promote Active Travel opportunities and accessibility and connectivity within our main urban settlements.

Option 2: Maintain / accept current transport links and plan for commensurate level of sustainable growth. Also promote Active Travel and accessibility within our main urban settlements.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Transport Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5... enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Plan to maximise the opportunities for sustainable development arising from the A5 / A6 upgrades and other orbital / cross border links. Also promote Active Travel opportunities and accessibility and connectivity within our main urban settlements.	+	+	0	0	++	++	-	++	0	-	-	-	0	0
Option 2: Maintain / accept current transport links and plan for commensurate level of sustainable growth. Also promote Active Travel and accessibility within our main urban settlements.	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was considered to have positive effects long term for improving health and wellbeing, and strengthening society although the appraisal did recognise that short term there could be negative effects for improving health and well-being and strengthening society. The option was considered to have long term effects for enabling sustainable economic growth, becoming significant long term, and have a medium and long term positive effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel. However it was considered to have a

negative effect on protecting physical resources, and would not positively contribute to reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. It was also considered to have a negative impact on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.

Option 2 would have negative effects long term for health and well-being and strengthening society, and negative impacts for enabling sustainable economic growth. It would also be negative for encouraging active and sustainable travel long term, and improving air quality long term.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably and encouraging active and sustainable travel.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.

Issue: 7H - Tourism

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Identify flagship Tourism sites/areas along with opportunities for dedicated sustainable attractions and associated accommodation. Focus on improved accessibility, place-making and legibility of tourism offer.

Option 2: Plan for further opportunities that emerge, to expand current offer generally.

Option 3: Focus on the protection of our Tourism assets and constrain Tourism development potential.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Tourism Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Identify flagship Tourism sites/areas along with opportunities for dedicated sustainable attractions and associated accommodation. Focus on improved accessibility, place-making and legibility of tourism offer.	+	+	0	0	++	0	-	+	0	0	0	0	+	+
Option 2: Plan for further opportunities that emerge, to expand current offer generally.	0	0	0	0	+	0	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	0
Option 3: Focus on the protection of our Tourism assets and constrain Tourism development potential.	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was considered to have a positive effect on many of the sustainability appraisal objectives including improving health and well-being, strengthening society, encouraging active and sustainable travel, maintaining and enhancing landscape and the objective to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage. The option was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth. It was considered to have a negative effect for protecting physical resources and using sustainably.

Option 2 was determined to have a neutral effect for many of the objectives, but was considered to have a positive impact on enabling sustainable growth. It was considered to have a negative effect on protecting physical resources, encouraging active and sustainable travel, improving air quality, reducing the causes of and adapt to climate change, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.

Option 3 was determined to have a neutral effect for many of the objectives, but was considered to have a negative impact on enabling sustainable economic growth. It was however considered to have a positive impact on protecting managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has a significant positive effects for enabling sustainable economic growth.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Transport studies.

Issue: 7I - Minerals

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option1: Pro-development, and maximise the potential growth of our local aggregates sector across the District.

Option 2: Emphasis on protecting environment, and consequently constrain further development and growth opportunities.

Option 3: Balanced approach, which seeks to promote mineral development in sustainable locations with a focus on the protection of sensitive landscapes and reinstatement of workings.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Minerals Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option1: Pro-development, and maximise the potential growth of our local aggregates sector across the District	-	0	0	0	+	0	-	0	-	0	-	-	-	0
Option 2: Emphasis on protecting environment, and consequently constrain further development and growth opportunities	+	0	0	0	-	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	++
Option 3: Balanced approach, which seeks to promote mineral development in sustainable locations with a focus on the protection of sensitive landscapes and reinstatement of workings.	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	++	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was determined to have a neutral effect on a number of sustainability objectives, but was considered to have a negative impact on health and well-being, protecting physical resources and using sustainably. It is also considered to have negative effects for air quality, which are significant in the short term.

Option 2 was determined to have a neutral effect on many of the sustainability objectives and a negative effect on water quality in the short term. The option was considered to have a significant negative effect on enabling sustainable economic growth through inhibiting and restricting growth in this sector. However the option is determined to have a positive impact on improving health and well-being, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, improving air quality, medium and long term protecting of water resources, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. Option 2 is also considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.

Option 3 was also determined to have a neutral effect on many of the sustainability objectives. It was considered to have a positive effect on improving health and well-being, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, protecting managing and using water resources sustainably and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. The option also was determined to have a significantly positive effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity long term.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

Significant positive effects for the preferred option include protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity and maintain and enhance landscape character.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Key site requirements, planning conditions, other planning policy, local level policies, areas of constraint on mineral development, local level industry/business partnerships, site management plans – mitigation, archaeological investigations / licensing.

Issue: 7J - Rural Economy

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: To focus rural economic development proposals in the Local Towns and villages, to drive the rural economy.

Option 2: Balanced, opportunities in the rural settlements for appropriate-scale development / employment plus opportunities for appropriate business starts and small businesses in the countryside, to promote a vibrant, rural economy.

Option 3: Rural Development / businesses promoted generally across the District, wherever it emerges spatially and with only minimal restrictions.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Rural Economy Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: To focus rural economic development proposals in the Local Towns and villages, to drive the rural economy	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	-	0	0	+	+	+
Option 2: Balanced, opportunities in the rural settlements for appropriate-scale development/employment plus opportunities for appropriate business starts and small businesses in the countryside, to promote a vibrant, rural economy	+	+	0	0	+	+	-	?	0	0	0	-	+	+
Option 3: Rural Development / businesses promoted generally across the District, wherever it emerges spatially and with only minimal restrictions	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	?	0	0	0	-	-	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was determined to have a positive effect on a large proportion of the sustainability objectives including health and well-being, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources, encouraging active and sustainable travel, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. However the option was determined to have a medium and long term negative effect for air quality.

Option 2 was determined to have a positive effect on health and wellbeing, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. This option was determined to have a negative impact on protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, and on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. The appraisal also recorded the impact on encouraging active and sustainable travel to be uncertain.

Option 3 was determined to have a negative effect on health and wellbeing, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. This option was determined to have a positive impact on protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. The appraisal also recorded the impact on encouraging active and sustainable travel as uncertain. What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Planning policy, mitigation measures, Key Site Requirements, water conservation programmes, green building design, local level policies/guidelines, archaeological studies, local building design conservation guidelines.

3.3 Social Development – Issues and Options

Issue: 8A - Strategic Housing Distribution

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Dispersed – across the Settlement Hierarchy, including countryside in proportion to settlement tier.

Option 2: Concentrated – emphasis on urban, central, sustainably accessible locations.

Option 3: Balanced – Moderate focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane town as a main hub plus housing opportunities across the settlement tiers at appropriate scale / densities and in the countryside.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Strategic Housing Distribution Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option1: Dispersed – across the Settlement Hierarchy, including countryside in proportion to settlement tier	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	?
Option 2: Concentrated – emphasis on urban, central, sustainably accessible locations	-	- -	+	-	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	+	+	?
Option 3: Balanced – Moderate focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane town as a main hub plus housing opportunities across the settlement tiers at appropriate scale/densities and in the countryside	+	+	++	++	++	+	-	-	?	-	-	-	+	?

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 is considered to have a negative effect on many of the sustainability objectives including improving health and well-being, strengthening society, long term for providing good quality sustainable housing. It also is considered to have a negative effect on enabling access to high quality education, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel,

reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change, and protecting managing and using water sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. The option was also considered to have a positive effect in the short and medium term for providing good quality, sustainable housing, and an uncertain effect for enabling sustainable economic growth long term. It was also considered to have an uncertain effect on improving air quality and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 2 was considered to have a significantly negative effect on improving health and wellbeing long term, although in the short and medium term it had a positive effect. The option was also determined to have a negative effect on strengthening society becoming significant over the long term. It also was considered to have a negative impact on enabling access to high quality education, and reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. It was also considered to have a negative impact on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably in the long term. Option 2 did however record some positive scorings and comments including for providing good quality, sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. It was also considered to have an uncertain effect on improving air quality and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 3 was considered to have a significantly positive effect on a number of sustainability objectives such as providing good quality, sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education, and enabling sustainable economic growth. It was considered to have a positive impact on improving health and well-being, strengthening society, managing material assets sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel in the short term. It is also considered to have a positive impact on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity in the short and medium term. The option was considered to have a negative impact on protecting physical resources and using sustainably, long term for encouraging active and sustainable travel, reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change, and long term for protecting managing and using water resources sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. It was also considered to have an uncertain effect on improving air quality and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

There were significant positive effects for the preferred option for provide good quality sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education and enable sustainable economic growth.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Building design/energy efficiency measures, site mitigation, key site requirements, avoid building on floodplains, development management, SuDS, biodiversity enhancement measures, building conservation guidelines, archaeological studies, other planning policy considerations, local level policies.

Issue: 8B - Housing Allocation Quantum

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Current housing growth indicator (HGI) as per RDS 6500 dwellings.

Option 2: Balanced planned growth of 12 000 dwellings.

Option 3: Previous housing growth indicator (HGI) as per RDS 16 000 dwellings.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Housing Allocation Quantum Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Current housing growth indicator (HGI) as per RDS 6500 dwellings	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	0	0	-	0	+	0	0
Option 2: Balanced planned growth of 12000 dwellings	?	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	-	0	-	+	?
Option 3: Previous housing growth indicator (HGI) as per RDS 16 000 dwellings	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	?	?	-	-	-	-	?

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was considered to have negative effects for many of the sustainability objectives including health and well-being, strengthening society, good quality sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education, enabling sustainable economic growth and reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. However, option 1 was considered to have positive effects for strengthening society and providing good quality sustainable housing in the short term. It also was considered to have a positive effect on managing material assets, protecting physical resources and using sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity.

Option 2 was considered to have an uncertain effect on improving health and well-being. It was considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society, providing good quality sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education, and enabling sustainable economic growth. It is also considered to have a positive effect on managing material assets, protecting physical resources and using sustainably and encouraging active and sustainable travel in the short and medium term. There are a number of uncertainties with this option, including the impact on air quality in the medium to long term and the impact on the historic environment and cultural heritage.

Option 3 scored similarly to Option 2 across many of the sustainability objectives however with many effects becoming negative long term due to the risks associated with over supply and over development.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Site/development active travel plans, partnership working with local transport providers, energy efficient measures, green building design, SuDS, avoid building on floodplains, key site requirements, planning conditions, other planning policy, ecological mitigation, biodiversity enhancement measures, building conservation guidelines, archaeological studies.

Issue: 8C - Location and Allocation of Housing Land

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Rely on existing zonings and settlement development limits.

Option 2: Retain committed and zoned housing land for residential, re-evaluate un-committed sites and allocate any further required and in accordance with sequential test on SPPS, and deliverability.

Option 3: Re-evaluate all existing zoned land on the basis of sustainability. Only carry forward zonings deemed sustainable. Allocate all land based on sequential test in SPPS.

Option 1: Rely on existing zonings and settlement development limits

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Location and Allocation of Housing Land Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5... enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Rely on existing zonings and settlement development limits	0	0	+	0	0	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Option 2: Retain committed and zoned housing land for residential, re-evaluate un-committed sites and allocate any further required and in accordance with sequential test on SPPS, and deliverability.	+	+	+	0	+	+	-	+	+	0	0	0	0	0
Option 3: Re-evaluate all existing zoned land on the basis of sustainability. Only carry forward zonings deemed sustainable. Allocate all land based on sequential test in SPPS.	++	++	+	0	+	+	-	++	+	0	0	0	0	0

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was considered to have negative effects on protecting physical resources and using sustainably, improving air quality (short and medium term), reducing causes of and adapting to climate change, protecting

managing and using water resources sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. It will have a significant negative effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel and improving air quality long term. Option 1 was determined to have positive effects for providing good quality sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets.

Option 2 was considered to have a positive effect on improving health and well-being, strengthening society and providing good quality sustainable housing. It also was considered to have a positive impact on enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel and improving air quality. The option was considered to have a negative effect on protecting physical resources and using them sustainably. Option 2 had a neutral effect on many of the objectives.

Option 3 was considered to have a significantly positive effect on improving health and wellbeing, strengthening society, and encouraging active and sustainable travel. The option is also considered to have a positive effect on providing good quality, sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably and improving air quality. The option was considered to have a negative effect on protecting physical resources and using sustainably.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Waste water treatment capacity information, key site requirements, transport studies, site mitigation, economic analysis, other planning policy.

Issue: 8D - Social / Affordable Housing and Balanced Communities

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Incorporate the principle of including social, private and affordable housing & cross-community. Consider policy and mechanisms to deliver balanced communities and meet all housing need / demand.

Option 2: More research needed by DfI, DfC, NIHE and Council on this area. The need is not proven for a policy response, so do not include in the Plan. Possible future subject plan or Supplementary Guidance.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Social / Affordable Housing and Balanced Communities Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Incorporate the principle of including social, private and affordable housing & cross-community. Consider policy and mechanisms to deliver balanced communities and meet all housing need/demand. More research	+	++	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Option 2: More research needed by Dfi, DfC, NIHE and Council on this area. The need is not proven for a policy response, so do not include in the Plan. Possible future subject plan or Supplementary Guidance.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 could significantly help to strengthen society and contribute to providing an appropriate housing mix to meet the needs of all the community. It could contribute to better health and well-being and support sustainable economic growth. Option 2 was considered to have a neutral effect on all of the objectives.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for strengthening society and providing good quality, sustainable housing.

No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Further research into affordable and cross-community housing initiatives.

Issue: 8E - Open Space/Recreation

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Protect the existing and zoned OSR provision as set out in DAP and SAP.

Option 2: Re-evaluate our current OSR provision in terms of role and function and identify and protect any existing land and additional land required for open space, sport and recreation.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Open Space Recreation Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Protect the existing and zoned OSR provision as set out in DAP and SAP.	- -	- -	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	+
Option 2: Re-evaluate our current OSR provision in terms of role and function and identify and protect any existing land and additional land required for open space, sport and recreation.	++	+	0	0	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	++	++	++

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 is considered to have a negative effect on improving health and well-being, and strengthening society, both of which will become significant long term. It is considered to have a neutral effect across many of the sustainability objectives. It is considered to have a positive effect on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character, and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 2 builds on all of the positive effects for option 1 but increases the level of benefit and widens the range of positive effects. It is considered to have a significantly positive effect on improving health and well-being through the ability to target open space where it is most needed. It also has a positive effect on protecting managing and using water resources sustainably through increased green infrastructure. Finally option 2 has a significantly positive effect on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option was considered to have significant positive effects for improving health and well-being, enabling active and sustainable travel, protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity, maintain and

enhance landscape character and protect conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Other planning policy, local level health/recreation impact assessment, role of developer contributions, local level environmental initiatives, planning conditions.

3.4 Environment – Issues and Options

Issue: 9A - Natural Environment

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Existing designated sites / protected species are identified / protected, with policies as per SPPS. Other habitats, species or features of natural heritage importance will also be protected in line with the SPPS.

Option 2: In addition to Option 1, designate additional local designations and preclude inappropriate development likely to have significant adverse impacts on such sites.

Option 3: Protect only those currently designated sites / protected species and accommodate development in all other locations.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Natural Environment Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Existing designated sites/protected species are identified/protected, with policies as per SPPS. Other habitats, species or features of natural heritage importance will also be protected in line with the SPPS.	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0
Option 2: In addition to Option 1, designate additional local designations and preclude inappropriate development likely to have significant adverse impacts on such sites.	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	++	++	0
Option 3: Protect only those currently designated sites/protected species and accommodate development in all other locations.	-	-	0	0	-	0	-	0	-	-	-	--	-	-

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 and 2 are considered to have similar effects across many of the sustainability objectives. Both scores are considered to have a positive effect on health and well-being, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, protecting physical resources, improving air quality, reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change and protecting and managing water resources. However, although both options were considered to have a positive effect on protecting natural resources and biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character, Option 2 has the potential to achieve this effect to a significant degree. This is due to its potential to designate new sites of local importance.

Option 3 was considered to be initially positive in a number of areas, but with a longer term deterioration to negative over many of the objectives. It was considered to have a long term significant adverse effect on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Local level parameters for housing projects; key site requirements – planning conditions; ecological mitigation; biodiversity enhancement measures; sensitive site design incorporating biodiversity measures; pre-construction surveys; archaeological studies, green building design, conservation guidelines, other planning policy, local level partnership working plans.

Issue: 9B - Landscape Character

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Informed by the existing NI / Regional Landscape Character Area Assessments and their associated Sensitivity Considerations, permit further sustainable development accordingly on a case by case basis.

Option 2: Informed by LDP Development Pressure Analysis and relevant Landscape Character Assessments, identify those areas of our landscape with higher sensitivity or 'at capacity' and identify development that may be inappropriate in these areas.

Option 3: Accommodate growth / development wherever possible, utilising the minimal number of protected landscape designations in the LDP.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Landscape Character Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Informed by the existing NI/Regional Landscape Character Area Assessments and their associated Sensitivity Considerations, permit further sustainable development accordingly on a case by case basis.	0	+	0	0	++	0	-	-	-	0	-	+	+	+
Option 2: Informed by LDP Development Pressure Analysis and relevant Landscape Character Assessments, identify those areas of our landscape with higher sensitivity or 'at capacity' and identify development that may be inappropriate in these areas.	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	++	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 is considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. It was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, through encouraging economic growth associated with innovation and small scale job creation. However the option is considered to have a negative effect on protecting physical resources through the potential loss of green-field and semi-natural land. It will also continue the trend of high car use in rural areas, which will have a negative effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel and on air quality.

Option 2 is considered to have a positive effect for many of the sustainability objectives including enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel and improving air quality in the medium and long term. It is also considered to have a positive effect on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and protecting and enhancing landscape character and historic and cultural heritage. The option also was considered to have potential to deliver significantly positive effects for maintaining and enhancing landscape character.

Option 3 gives a largely negative scoring with some objectives being determined to be significantly negatively affected. It did have a short term positive effect for enabling sustainable economic growth however this effect was considered to become negative over time

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for maintaining and enhancing landscape character. No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Other planning policy, planning conditions, local level impact assessments, landscaping.

Issue: 9C - Coastal Development

What option has been considered?

The following policy option has been developed:

Option 1: Accommodate appropriate development, as per new Marine Plan and Policy and all coastal relevant designations

The option has been appraised for its likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Coastal Development Option	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Accommodate appropriate development, as per new Marine Plan and Policy and all coastal relevant designations	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	++	++	+	+

Summary of option against the sustainability objectives

This option was considered to have a neutral effect across many of the sustainability objectives. It was considered to have a positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth through its ability to focus on potential developments linked to coastal areas including tourism. The appraisal also reflected a positive effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel reflecting the potential to adopt a modal shift to walking and cycling. It also was determined to have a positive impact on climate change, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. The option was considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. It was recognised that it could help to manage and shape development in coastal areas that are protected for landscape and nature conservation, and help reduce risks to water pollution.

What significant effects are envisaged with the option

The option has significant positive effects for the objectives to protect, manage and use water resources sustainably and protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.

No significant negative effects were identified for the option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects of option.

No significant negative effects were identified for the option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Other planning policy, key site requirements, site mitigation, ecological mitigation, building design and measures, archaeological studies, partnership working on local level projects.

Issue: 9D - Built Environment / Heritage

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Existing designated areas / buildings of historic environment importance will continue to be protected and development facilitated with policies in line with the SPPS.

Option 2: In addition to Option1, designate new areas / buildings of historic environment importance as part of LDP preparation and preclude all development likely to adversely impact on such sites / buildings or their setting.

Option 3: Protect only those designated areas / buildings and accommodate appropriate development where possible.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Built Environment / Heritage Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Existing designated areas / buildings of historic environment importance will continue to be protected and development facilitated with policies in line with the SPPS	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	++
Option 2: In addition to Option1, designate new areas / buildings of historic environment importance as part of LDP preparation and preclude all development likely to adversely impact on such sites / buildings or their setting.	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	++
Option 3: Protect only those designated areas / buildings and accommodate appropriate development where possible.	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 is considered to have a neutral effect over many of the sustainability objectives. It is considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society and on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. It is considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth and protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. This recognises the varied and high quality historic environment resources in the council district and the role that they play in current and potential future economic growth. Option 2 is considered to have the same pattern of positive and significantly positive effects as option 1. However some of the comments reflect a potential to deliver more for the objective. Option 3 is considered to have a neutral effect over many of the objectives, but a negative effect for enabling sustainable economic growth and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural

heritage. This reflects the risks inherent in potential loss of historic environment assets and their settings, and also their role in future economic growth of the district in relation to tourism.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for the objectives to enable sustainable economic growth and protect, conserve and enhance historic environment and cultural heritage.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Other planning policy, building conservation and design guidelines, site mitigation, local level townscape consideration.

Issue: 9E - Urban Design/Places

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Existing Design Standards accepted – reasonable designs, on a site-by-site basis.

Option 2: A comprehensive drive for Place Shaping, including high quality design of both buildings and key focal areas, in both urban and rural areas.

Option 3: Minimal design standards accepted with focus on development and investment paramount.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Urban Design/Places Options	1...improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society	3 ... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4.... enable access to high quality education.	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7 ... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9 ... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Existing Design Standards accepted – reasonable designs, on a site-by-site basis	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Option 2: A comprehensive drive for Place Shaping, including high quality design of both buildings and key focal areas, in both urban and rural areas	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	++
Option 3: Minimal design standards accepted with focus on development and investment paramount.	-	-	-	0	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option 1 was considered to have a neutral effect over all of the objectives except enabling sustainable economic growth where it has a positive effect. This scoring reflects that the option has potential to contribute positively to achievement of many of the objectives but only on a case-by-case basis, and not strategically. Option 2 has a positive effect across almost all of the sustainability objectives including: health and well-being, strengthening society, sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing physical resources, air quality, reducing the causes of climate change, protecting water quality and using water sustainably, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and enhancing landscape character. The option was considered to have a significantly positive effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel as using a comprehensive urban design approach has the potential to make the best use of greenways to connect parts of urban settlements. The option was also considered to have a significant positive effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. This is due to the opportunity with this option to influence design which reflects and respects the historic and built heritage of the council area. Option 3 scored negatively across almost all of the sustainability objectives reflecting the impact of minimal design criteria and a lack of strategic place shaping.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for encouraging active and sustainable travel and protect conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, Design Guides.

Issue: 9F - Renewables – Wind & Solar

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option1: Maximise the Wind and Solar Resource of the District.

Option 2: Identify the most sensitive landscape Zones remaining – for protection, permitting appropriate wind and solar development elsewhere in line with SPPS.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Renewables – Wind & Solar Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5... enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option1: Maximise the Wind and Solar Resource of the District	-	0	0	0	+	+	-	0	0	+	0	-	-	0
Option 2: Identify the most sensitive landscape Zones remaining – for protection, permitting appropriate wind and solar development elsewhere in line with SPPS	-	0	0	0	+	+	-	0	0	+	0	-	0	0

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

Option1 is considered to have a negative effect on health and well-being based on some of the potential impacts from wind and solar renewable energy projects on people. It is considered to have an overall positive impact on enabling sustainable economic growth, significantly so in the short term. It also was determined to have positive effects for managing material assets through delivery of renewable energy, and replacing dependence on fossil fuels. The option also scored positively for reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. The option was considered to have a negative impact on protecting physical resources through the potential land-take for the renewable development and associated infrastructure. It was considered to have a significantly negative effect on both protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.

Option 2 scored similarly to option 1 across the sustainability objectives however it was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth over the short and medium term, and long term a positive effect. This is due to its balanced approach which will help to support other economic growth areas such as tourism, through protecting the resource of landscape. Although the option is considered to have a negative effect on protecting natural heritage resources and biodiversity, it is not considered significant, recognising that there will be an ability to avoid development in the most sensitive areas, and

opportunities for mitigation. The option is also considered to have a neutral effect on maintaining landscape character through the ability to avoid the most sensitive areas.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets sustainably.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Planning conditions, key site requirements, mitigation – peat / ecology / water, archaeology surveys, environmental assessments where required, other planning policy, biodiversity enhancement measures

Issue: 9F - Flooding

What alternatives have been considered?

The following options have been developed:

Option 1: Avoid all further development in flood prone areas, or those forms of development which exacerbate flooding elsewhere.

Option 2: Precautionary approach – only allow suitable types of development in floodable areas, with appropriate mitigation.

These options have been appraised for their likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Flooding Options	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education.	5... enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect, manage and use water resources	12... protect natural resources and enhance	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Option 1: Avoid all further development in flood prone areas, or those forms of development which exacerbate flooding elsewhere	+	0	+	0	-	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	++	+
Option 2: Precautionary approach – only allow suitable types of development in floodable areas, with appropriate mitigation.	+	0	+	0	-	0	+	0	0	++	++	++	++	+

Summary and comparison of alternatives against the sustainability objectives

The options scored very similarly across the sustainability objectives. Both options were considered to have positive effects for health and well-being, for providing access to good quality sustainable housing, protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, and protecting, conserving and enhancing our historic environment assets. Both options were considered to have significant positive effects for climate change (through helping with adaption), protecting managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and using them sustainably, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. In many of these areas it was identified that option 1 delivered more for the objective. However it was also considered that option 1 could bring about significant negative effects for enabling sustainable economic growth, where option 2 could bring also bring negatives. Both would inhibit development in flood prone areas, however option 2 allows greater flexibility which could allow some, appropriate and well mitigated development to take place.

What significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option

A number of likely significant positive effects were envisaged with the preferred option. These are: climate change (through helping with adaption), protecting managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and using them sustainably, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the preferred option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Flood risk assessments

Issue: 9H - Transport – Environmentally and People-friendly

What option has been considered?

The following policy option has been developed:

Option 1: Identify / encourage / require pedestrian accesses / footways, cyclepaths / bridlepaths and other greenways proposals

The option has been appraised for its likely significant effects against the 14 sustainability objectives. The full assessment is presented in Appendix 5. A summary of results is shown in the following table.

Transport – Environmentally and people-friendly Option	1... improve health and well-being.	2... strengthen society.	3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4... enable access to high quality education	5...enable sustainable economic growth.	6... manage material assets sustainably.	7... protect physical resources and use	8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	9... improve air quality.	10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11... protect natural resources and enhance	12... protect, manage and use water resources	13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
Identify / encourage / require pedestrian accesses / footways, cyclepaths / bridlepaths and other greenways proposals	++	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	+	0	+	0	0	0

Summary option against the sustainability objectives

This option has the opportunity to significantly improve health and wellbeing, and encourage active and sustainable travel. It also could have a positive effect on housing, air quality, biodiversity and strengthening society. Overall the option would contribute to the objective of sustainable development.

What significant effects are envisaged with the option

The preferred option has significant positive effects for health and well-being and encouraging active and sustainable travel.

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

What mitigation measures would prevent, reduce or offset the likely significant adverse effects on the option

No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects

Use of planning conditions, ecological mitigation, biodiversity enhancement measures. Planting and landscaping.

4 THE NEXT STEPS

4.1 How has the Sustainability Appraisal influenced the process so far?

This is an Interim Sustainability Appraisal Report and the appraisal process will take account of the representations made during this public consultation. The appraisal process helped critically review issues and the options put forward as reasonable alternatives and influenced the content of the POP. Sustainability appraisal will continue throughout plan preparation with a draft sustainability report being published with the draft Plan Strategy.

4.2 Outcome

In developing the Plan Strategy we will ensure that no significant effects for the sustainability objectives are likely or that where they are unavoidable they can be mitigated. We will also seek to ensure that positive effects are enhanced where appropriate.

APPENDIX 1: COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST FOR STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Schedule 2 of the The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 lists the following information required for environmental reports, according to Regulation 11(3), (4). The location in this Interim Report or the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report is identified.

Requirement	Location
1. An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	An introduction to the Derry City and Strabane District Council Local Development Plan (LDP) is presented in Chapter 4. Appendix 4 of the SA Scoping Report outlines the relationship with other plans, programmes and policies.
2. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.	SA Scoping Report Chapter 6 SA Interim Report Appendix 2 presents Key Sustainability Issues.
3. The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	SA Scoping Report Chapter 6. More detail will be added to this at Plan Strategy stage. The Key Sustainability issues are also presented in Appendix 2 of this Interim Report.
4. Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds(9) and the Habitats Directive.	Chapter 6 of the SA Scoping Report identifies environmental problems. The Key Sustainability issues are also presented in Appendix 2 of this Interim Report. Appendix 4 of this Interim Report outlines sites to which the Directives apply and potential pathways and effects that could arise from development.
5. The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	SA Scoping Report Chapter 6 outlines the main policy themes for each topic and Appendix 4 outlines the relationship with other plans, programmes and policies.
6. The likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as – (i) biodiversity; (ii) population; (iii) human health; (iv) fauna; (v) flora; (vi) soil; (vii) water; (viii) air; (ix) climatic factors; (x) material assets;	These issues are all covered in the 14 sustainability objectives in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework used to assess the options and reported in Appendix 5 of this report. Interrelationships have been covered in Chapter 2 and Appendix 3 of this SA Interim Report.

Requirement	Location
(xi) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage; (xii) landscape, and (xiii) the inter-relationship between the issues referred to in sub paragraphs (i) to (xii).	
7. The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.	Mitigation measures are referred to in both Chapter 3 and in the matrices presented in Appendix 5 of this report.
8. An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.	Chapter 2 of this report considers this in general and Chapter 3 and Appendix 5 provide more detail on the options appraised and assumptions and limitations encountered in the appraisal.
9. A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with regulation 16.	Not required at this stage
10. A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 9.	A non-technical summary is provided at the opening of this report.

APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL GUIDE FOR DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT LDP

1. The objective for sustainable development is to improve health and well-being.

Rationale

Public policy seeks to increase healthy life expectancy, reduce preventable deaths, improve mental health and reduce health inequalities. Evidence shows that there is a need to address obesity, increase physical activity and reduce inequalities in health. It is also necessary to provide for the needs of an aging population and minimize the detrimental impacts of noise. This can be achieved by creating an environment that is clean and attractive; encourages healthy lifestyles; protects tranquil and quiet areas and enables access to health care facilities for all.

Key Sustainability Issues for Health and Well-being

- The population profile is younger than that for Northern Ireland however trends indicate an aging population and by 2039 over 65s are expected to represent almost a quarter (23.9%) of the population.
- Overall, the health of the area is improving.
- However more than one in five people have long term health problems or disability that limit their day-to-day activities.
- Life expectancy is increasing but is about a year lower compared with the NI average.
- Hospital admission rates have dropped for circulatory disease but increased due to respiratory disease and alcohol related causes.
- While death rates from circulatory, respiratory and external causes have decreased they are higher for DCSDC than those for Northern Ireland.
- There are indicators that there is a greater prevalence of mental illness in DCSDC and that there is an increasing trend.
- Increase in the proportion of older people in the population will increase the requirement for care. There is a need to meet the future needs for care and support for older people at home or in communal homes and to improve access to health services, other facilities and services.
- Levels of obesity in Northern Ireland and the UK are high by global standards reflecting poor diet and a relatively sedentary lifestyle.
- The rate of overweight or obese children in DCSDC is higher than the NI average.
- Levels of physical activity are lower than the NI average and much lower than recommended levels.
- There is a need to promote physical activity through provision of and ensuring good accessibility to sports facilities, open space, green infrastructure and walking and cycling routes.
- There is a gap in information about the provision for children's play.
- In particular there is a need for children to have accessible play in places where they feel safe.
- Also there will be a need to enable older people to engage in physical activity to prolong their healthy lives.
- Development should be sited and designed to connect with greenways where possible.
- More than one in ten people (11%) of people provide unpaid care to family, friends, neighbours or others and there is a steady increase in the number of people receiving carers' allowance (5%).
- DCSDC shows a higher rate of adaptation of accommodation to meet disability or mobility needs for those 65+ however this will continue to be a need.
- Noise and environmental quality are not identified as being significant adverse effects at present however they can impact on health and therefore environmental quality should be improved, or sustained where it is good, to minimise adverse health impacts.
- There is a need to protect and enhance biodiversity to promote positive health benefits.
- Ambulance response times are typically better than those for Northern Ireland however can be long for rural areas; the location of and access to emergency services can impact on response times.
- There is a very strong correlation between health and income, employment and education.
- DCSDC shows a higher rate of health deprivation and disability compared with Northern Ireland and there is an inequality in health with most measures of health being significantly worse in the most deprived areas.
- Good spatial planning can reduce health inequalities by providing a high standard of design and place making, open space, capacity for any additional services required and accessibility.

Appraisal Prompts for Health and Well-being

Positive Effects	Negative Effects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Improve access to health care b) Reduce response times for the emergency services c) Provide opportunities for and encourage health lifestyles and physical activity for all ages d) Increase social contact and intergenerational contact (including family cohesion) e) Support those providing care f) Provide suitable accommodation for those with long term health problems or disability g) Maintain good air quality h) Avoid or reduce noise impacts that may affect health i) Reduce the risk of traffic accidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> j) Reduce access to health care k) Increase response times for the emergency services l) Discourage healthy lifestyles and physical activity m) Decrease social contact and intergenerational contact n) Lack of support for carers o) Shortage of suitable accommodation for those with long term health problems or disability p) Decrease in air quality q) Increase noise impacts that may affect health r) Increase the risk of traffic accidents

2. The objective for sustainable development is to **strengthen society**

Rationale

Regional policy is directed towards improving community relations and creating a safe society which is more united. Success will be represented by places which are inclusive, respect culture and identity, promote social integration and create a sense of pride. They will also be designed to feel safe and to reduce opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour.

Key Sustainability Issues for Community

- The evidence relating to the population, community and safety indicates the following issues to be considered in preparing the LDP.
- The rate of population growth has been lower than for NI and is expected to decline by 2039 to a level similar to today.
- There is a need to promote social inclusion through shared, welcoming and accessible places.
- There is a need to provide appropriate shared space and apply place making to make areas inclusive for all backgrounds and income levels.
- There are a greater number of more deprived areas and neighbourhoods in DCSDC than in other councils, particularly in Derry and Strabane urban areas and in the rural hinterland surrounding Strabane.
- There is evidence that there is a high level of deprivation, particularly in terms of proximity to services, in some rural areas.
- The highest concentrations of deprivation with respect to proximity to services in DCSDC occurs in Banagher, Claudy 2, Clare, Donemana, Glenderg, Plumbridge and Slievekirk.
- While the main religions of 'Catholic' or 'Protestant' are balanced overall in many areas the population is represented by more than 70% of one of these.
- Design should seek to remove barriers that restrict life choices for disabled people.
- The community is not ethnically diverse, however the needs of minority groups must be taken into account.
- The proportion of households with dependent children is higher than the NI average although it has started to decline and will continue to do so.

Appraisal Prompts for Community

Positive Effects	Negative Effects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Promote inclusion of all groups b) Retain, create, or enhance welcoming, shared space c) Increase access to shared space d) Provide appropriate access to facilities and services for rural communities e) Meet identified needs that will reduce inequalities experienced by the most deprived communities f) Promote equality of opportunity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) Inhibit inclusion of all groups h) Shared space reduced or deteriorates i) Rural communities less access to facilities and services j) Exacerbate the factors causing inequalities k) Maintains or increases inequalities experienced by the most deprived communities l) Increase inequality of opportunity

3. The objective for sustainable development is to provide good quality, sustainable housing.

Rationale

The population is growing and therefore there is ongoing need for new housing in locations that meet regional policy, are accessible and balance the needs of society and the environment. The make-up of households is changing therefore design needs to meet long term requirements with good quality build to be sustainable. This objective should reduce homelessness and ensure decent, affordable homes with a mix of types.

Key Sustainability Issues for Housing

- There is a projected need for 2,500 additional households between 2012 and 2022, rising to 4,000 between 2012 and 2037.
- Although the average household size is above the average for Northern Ireland, and will continue to be so for some time, it is expected to drop in 2037. At the same time there is an increasing growth of single people, and households with one adult. A decline in household size will increase the number of homes required per capita and influence the type of dwellings required
- There will be an increased need to accommodate those with disability.
- A greater proportion of older people will increase the need for suitable housing that is accessible for those who may not drive and enables support to be provided. People may be more likely to stay in a home long term if it meets their changing needs and facilities and amenities that they wish to use are as accessible as possible through their lives
- Around half of households in DCSDC area are considered to be in fuel poverty.
- The proportion of social housing stock in DCSDC area is considerably higher than the Northern Ireland figure.
- The total social housing need for DCSDC for 2015-2030 has been assessed at 5, 930 units. A large proportion of the social housing waiting list comprises single households and small families.
- In Derry District, Banagher and Claudy are ranked within the 8% most deprived SOAs for NI. Across the 'Living Environment' deprivation domain, which includes an assessment of housing quality and housing access, there are a particularly significant cluster of deprived SOAs within Derry city. Ten of these are ranked within the top 14% for NI.
- There is an increase in the number of people presenting themselves as homeless in the district.
- All new housing should aim to provide life time homes that are accessible and adaptable to all and meet modern standards.
- New housing should be low carbon and avoid the problems of fuel poverty.
- Affordable housing is required for a variety of housing types and sizes.
- All new housing should help to support healthy lifestyles.
- Housing provision should enable social cohesion in families and communities and promote vibrancy of settlements.
- The impact of Brexit may lead to people choosing to relocate.

Appraisal Prompts for Housing

Positive Effects

- Provide housing which meets locally identified needs (in terms of type, tenure and size)
- Meet the needs of specific groups e.g. single people, families, retired people, ethnic minorities, disabled
- Encourage low carbon homes
- Encourage the building of life-time homes with potential for adaptability, such as wheelchair access
- Encourage affordable housing
- Reduce homelessness
- Reduce the number of unfit homes

Negative Effects

- Does not meet local need for housing type/quantity
- Does not meet the needs of specific groups e.g. single people, families, retired people, ethnic minorities, disabled
- Decrease energy efficiency
- Homes not suited for lifetime use
- Reduced affordable housing
- Increase homelessness
- Reduces the quality of homes to unfit standards

4. The objective for sustainable development is to enable access to high quality education.

Rationale

Good education improves opportunities for employment and also contributes to avoidance of poverty and healthier lifestyles. The provision of suitable accommodation for educational establishments in appropriate, accessible locations should play a part in making schools more sustainable and reducing inequalities in education.

Key Sustainability Issues for Education and Skills

- Ensuring access to high quality education is one of the most significant investments in developing the individual, society and the economy.
- In some areas of the district a decline in pupil numbers will have implications for the sustainability of existing schools. Although approximately one fifth of the Derry and Strabane population is currently under 16, the proportion of children under 16 is due to fall between 2008 and 2023. This could mean implications for provision of crèches, nurseries and schools, and a rationalisation of second level education.
- There was a steady decrease in the number of pupils attending post-primary schools, within DCSDC, in the five year period 2012/13 to 2016/17. This trend will continue over the next 4 years, most evident in the Strabane area.
- Sharing facilities has been recognised as a way of promoting a more cohesive and tolerant society and assist a better use of the resources available to education. There is potential for schools sharing facilities with community centres so that pitches can be used for after school open spaces. In future school grounds could become integrated into community shared space.
- The area has seen an improvement in educational attainment over the last number of years, however, the DEAs vary in attainment.
- In the population as a whole, low educational attainment amongst those in work is higher than the Northern Ireland average.

Appraisal Prompts for Education and Skills

Positive Effects

- a) Improve education level and employability of the population
- b) Promote access to education for all
- c) Promote access to skills training
- d) Help rural communities access education and skills training
- e) Improve opportunities for multiple use of facilities
- f) Help educational establishments to provide modern sustainable accommodation

Negative Effects

- g) Does not help improve education level and employability of the population
- h) Decrease access to education and skills training
- i) Makes access to education and skills training harder for rural communities
- j) Under use of public facilities
- k) Inhibit provision of suitable educational facilities

5. The objective for sustainable development is to enable sustainable economic growth.

Rationale

Regional policy seeks to develop a strong, competitive and regionally balanced economy. It is necessary to provide suitable locations for employment, with flexibility where necessary, to reflect current and future distribution of jobs across sectors, encourage new business startups, facilitate innovation, regenerate areas, attract investment and make employment as accessible as possible for all. This will reduce unemployment and poverty by helping more people to earn a living and increase their income.

Key Sustainability Issues for Economy and Employment

- Identifying and zoning appropriate land is a vital part of creating the conditions to sustain economic development that meets employment needs and supports economic growth.
- Derry needs to significantly develop to fulfil its role as the principal city of the North West and as a regional and international gateway.
- Strabane needs considerable relevant development to fulfil its role as a main hub.
- While the clear focus needs to be on Derry City and Strabane town, it is important that the employment needs of those people living in the extensive rural hinterland are also considered.
- Forecasts for the manufacturing sector suggest a continued decline in manufacturing employment levels both in Northern Ireland and the UK. However manufacturing is changing towards innovation based products with niche markets and knowledge based products.
- The four key growth sectors identified in the Derry and Strabane Draft Integrated Economic Development Strategy are: Advanced Manufacturing/Engineering, Digital/Creative Industries, Life and Health Sciences and Tourism and Culture.
- A cornerstone of the private sector in the DCSDC area is micro-businesses, those employing less than nine staff. In 2016, there were 4,830 VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in the district. 88.4% of them employed less than ten people, and 45.7% of them had turnover of less than £100,000 a year.
- While the business birth rate and survival rate, as represented by VAT registration is on a par with the rest of the NI, it does not appear to be impacting upon the net employment levels with little growth in employee numbers since 2009. There is potential to encourage new business to develop, innovate and grow.
- There is a need for quality employment to lower the need for benefits and to facilitate a culture of independence and entrepreneurship and move away from public sector reliance. The public sector accounts for almost a third of employment in the DCSDC area. This covers Health, Social Work and Education Sectors.
- New employment locations should be accessible by active travel and/or public transport. Homeworking can assist employment for those with other responsibilities such as caring, or those involved with agriculture.
- The unemployment rate for DCSDC area is higher than for Northern Ireland although it has been falling since October 2013, is still almost double the NI rate at 5.3% in February 2017.
- Unemployment is a particular issue for young people, with almost a third of those in the claimant count aged 18-24 having been claiming for more than one year, compared to less than a quarter in Northern Ireland.
- Of those on the claimant count the majority have low to middle skills and around a third had previously worked in a sales capacity.
- Employment related deprivation in 2010 was second highest for the 11 NI council areas in terms of the number of people and highest in terms of percentage of the population at 38%. 16,500 people were estimated to experience deprivation as a result of a lack of employment opportunities.
- Within retail, the market is in recovery and is evolving. There has been a number of challenges in recent years. The growth of internet shopping has contributed to shop closures and is likely to grow in the coming years. Within the district a number of large shops have closed including Austin's in Derry and Linton and Robinson in Strabane. These losses affect the vitality and viability of these centres, as economic and cultural shared space.
- There continues to be a demand from developers for out of town sites for retail and a new trend for retail in industrial estates. Both of these can become further factors to reduce vitality in Derry City and Strabane Town and must be carefully considered.
- A resident population will assist in developing an evening economy alongside additional office workers and students.

- There are a wealth of natural, landscape, heritage and cultural tourism assets within the DCSDC area with significant future potential. 2013 brought a rise in visitor numbers and spend, with the UK City of Culture. In 2015, there were an estimated 223,172 overnight trips – estimated expenditure of £42,502,028.
- Need to ensure that the DCSDC area is attractive to investors, and higher skilled people – by supporting the vitality and vibrancy of the City Centre, towns and villages and facilitating a high quality local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout.
- The impact of ‘Brexit’ needs to be carefully considered in light of the impacts on exchange rates, cross-border trade and implications for the labour market within tourism, retailing, construction and other sectors. Also it may bring changes in regulatory regimes and funding opportunities.

Appraisal Prompts for Economy and Employment

Positive Effects	Negative Effects
a) Support innovation and competitiveness within the local economy	k) Does not promote innovation and competitiveness within the local economy
b) Ensure sufficient land supply in appropriate locations for economic growth	l) Does not support creation of a range of job types that are accessible especially to areas of greatest deprivation
c) Support creation of a range of job types that are accessible especially to areas of greatest deprivation	m) Does not support enhancement of the skills base.
d) Support enhancement of the skills base.	n) Does not help make the DCSDC area a more attractive place to live, work, visit and invest
e) Help make DCSDC area a more attractive place to live, work, visit and invest	o) Does not make the best use of Derry’s location as a regional and international gateway.
f) Make the best use of Derry’s location as a regional and international gateway.	p) Does not make the best use of Strabane’s location as a main hub.
g) Make the best use of Strabane’s location as a main hub.	q) Vitality and vibrancy of city and town centres may decline.
h) Ensure the vitality and vibrancy of city and town centres can be improved	r) Does not increase the number of people coming to the DCSDC area to work
i) Increase the number of people coming to the DCSDC area to work	s) Does not enable use of tourism assets.
j) Maximise economic benefits of sustainable tourism	

6. The objective for sustainable development is to manage material assets sustainably.

Rationale

Material assets such as infrastructure and sources of energy production are essential for society and the economy but need careful planning to ensure that they are designed for efficiency and to minimize adverse impacts. The concept of circular economy treats waste as resource which should be managed sustainably to reduce production and increase recovery, recycling and composting rates; new or adapted facilities may be required.

Key Sustainability Issues for Material Assets

- Less congestion on international telecommunications links and an improved local telecommunications network should help attract global companies and better support small to medium sized enterprises because of projects Kelvin, Super Connected Derry, and Broadband Improvement.
- Some rural areas have no access to broadband and poor mobile phone service provision.
- Some areas may never benefit from gas infrastructure due to feasibility issues.
- There is a potential gas source from the Culmore landfill site.
- A fit-for-purpose electrical infrastructure is required to enable an increasing number of renewable connections, including large-scale projects but also an increasing amount of domestic scale projects and prosumers.
- Wind technology has dominated renewables but a diversity of technologies will be needed for a sustainable energy mix i.e. solar, tidal, biomass, hydroelectric, anaerobic.
- There may be opportunities to develop community based renewable projects such as wind/solar farms or large single turbines, that could reduce the local impacts from several single applications and make more efficient use of land.
- In Northern Ireland, financial incentives to support the uptake of renewables has ceased.
- There is no active landfill capacity within the Council.
- Recycling rates are below the Northern Irish average and new measures are needed to increase rates.
- Up to 25% of waste is compostable but food caddy provision across the Council is limited.
- There is a need to ensure the location of fit-for-purpose recycling facilities based on the proximity principle.
- The existing location of material assets should be a consideration when planning new developments to help ensure sustainable land management.

Appraisal Prompts for Material Assets

Positive Effects

- a) Sufficient telecommunications
- b) Sufficient transmission/distribution lines
- c) Infrastructure is fit for purpose
- d) Enables renewable energy production
- e) Encourages diversity of renewables
- f) Proportion of waste to landfill decreases
- g) Makes recycling easier
- h) Recycling rates likely to increase
- i) Composting rates likely to increase
- j) Reuses contaminated /derelict land
- k) Safeguards land for material assets

Negative Effects

- l) Insufficient telecommunications
- m) Insufficient electrical infrastructure
- n) Renewable energy not supported/enabled
- o) Recycling rates do not increase
- p) Waste to landfill does not decrease
- q) Composting rates do not increase
- r) Vacant/derelict/contaminated land persists
- s) Does not consider/retain appropriate land for material assets

7. The objective for sustainable development is to **protect physical resources and use sustainably.**

Rationale

Earth science sites, minerals, geothermal energy, land use/cover and soil are resources that require protection from degradation and safeguarding for future use. Sustainable agriculture, tourism and sustainable use of minerals and geothermal energy can help to support the economy.

Key Sustainability Issues for Physical Resources

- Earth science sites should be protected and could be integrated to blue/green infrastructure as part of the Council's natural heritage.
- Existing mineral sites and reserves should be safeguarded from alternative uses and/or developments that may impede their accessibility.
- Older mineral sites (pre-1985) may be causing undue damage to the local environment and require new planning conditions to ensure adequate restoration.
- A spatial approach to new mineral sites and extensions could help to support rural communities and businesses as the most appropriate locations with adequate transport routes could be prioritised.
- Redundant mineral sites may be suitable after restoration for reuse as educational or recreational purposes and at the same time add to local biodiversity as blue/green infrastructure.
- There is a need for a new cemetery in Derry City and which should be chosen to be sustainable.
- Some land zoned for recreation/open space has been used for housing and retail purposes but significant amounts of land zoned for recreation/open space have remained undeveloped.
- Some of the best farmland in the area is located in the low-lying areas of the Foyle.
- Soil quality across the Council should be protected using effective conservation measures due to a lack of specific legislation protecting soils at a regional or local level.
- The compatibility of adjacent land uses is important to ensure the most sustainable land use management.
- Development pressure exists from the larger settlements, and commercial and residential projects.

Appraisal Prompts for Physical Resources

Positive Effects

Negative Effects

- | Positive Effects | Negative Effects |
|---|--|
| a) Earth science sites remain protected | j) Earth science features not protected |
| b) Enable the minerals industry to operate sustainably | k) Reduce ability of minerals industry to sustainably operate |
| c) Enables materials to be locally sourced where available | l) Does not protect potential future use/benefit of physical resources |
| d) Retain potential future use of mineral sites after restoration | m) Inhibits future development of geothermal energy |
| e) Allow for the future development of geothermal energy | n) Reduces semi natural land cover/local biodiversity |
| f) Minimises loss of greenfield sites | o) Causes soil erosion/pollution |
| g) Retain semi natural land cover/biodiversity | |
| h) Avoid loss of land | |
| i) Avoid soil erosion/pollution | |

8. The objective for sustainable development is to encourage active and sustainable travel.

Rationale

There is a common goal to reduce traffic emissions and congestion which means reducing car use and increasing other forms of transport. Better access to public transport and opportunities for active travel make travel more affordable with added health benefits and also reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Measures that help reduce car use and improve accessibility to encourage a shift to travel by public transport, walking and cycling will contribute to this goal.

Key Sustainability Issues for Transport and Accessibility

- Car use is the most popular mode of transport in Northern Ireland and this is reflected in Derry City and Strabane District area.
- There are mostly unclassified and B roads across the Council.
- Sustainable travel options are required across the Council area so as to encourage people to use other transport options than private motorised vehicles.
- Currently there is a low level usage of public transport to get to work.
- Providing support for greenways and at least one more bridge project across the Foyle is important to help reduce vehicle use and improve local air quality.
- Sustainable and active travel links need to be integrated to existing and new infrastructure so people can choose other modes of transport to the private car.
- Public transport needs to be improved (cost, congestion, reliability) with adequate links to and from places of employment, housing and town centres.
- Consideration of the County Donegal Development Plan 2012-2018 is fundamental to transport development within the region as it could directly impact on air quality by providing more public transport (rail) and rural transport solutions (park & rides, carpooling, taxi schemes).
- There is potential for active travel in a cross border network, linking people and places together.
- The impact of 'Brexit' needs to be carefully considered in light of the impacts upon travel between the DCSDC area and County Donegal. It is estimated that there are 46,654 daily traffic movements at crossing points, (Derry-Bridgend, Derry-Culmore and Strabane-Lifford).

Appraisal Prompts for Transport and Accessibility

Positive Effects

- a) Encourage modal shift to active travel
- b) Enhance access to and efficiency of public transport
- c) Benefit those without access to cars
- d) Retain, create, or enhance walking and cycle routes

Negative Effects

- e) Does not promote modal shift to active travel
- f) Does not enhance access to and efficiency of public transport
- g) Does not benefit those without access to cars
- h) Does not retain, create, or enhance walking and cycle routes

9. The objective for sustainable development is to improve air quality.

Rationale

Air pollution has serious impacts on human health as well as degrading the natural environment. This objective can be achieved through reducing sources of air pollution. Where air pollution cannot be totally excluded careful siting of development should avoid impacts on sensitive receptors.

Key Sustainability Issues for Air Quality

- There are six active Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, nitrous oxides, sulphur dioxide and ozone are recorded.
- There are three urban air quality monitoring stations within the Council, two in Derry and one in Strabane.
- There are smoke control areas in the Council area.
- The standardised death rate for the Council from respiratory diseases was recorded as 190 per 100,000 of the population which is above the Northern Ireland average and the highest of all the Councils.
- The car is the most common mode of transport making up 71% of all journeys.
- Public transport needs to be improved (cost, congestion, reliability, feasibility) with adequate links to and from places of employment, housing and town centres.
- Sustainable and active travel links need to be integrated to existing and new infrastructure so people can choose other modes of transport to the private car.
- A behavioural shift is needed to help move people away from the private car and into using other forms of transport (bikes, greenways) to get around town centres and to complete short journeys.
- Partnership working with other agencies and Councils is needed to help ensure sustainable land use planning and compatible adjacent land uses that enable reduced travel to facilities and services.
- Open spaces and green areas need to be maintained within new plans to help maintain local air quality standards.
- Providing support for greenways and at least one more bridge project across the Foyle is important to help reduce vehicle use and improve local air quality.

Appraisal Prompts for Air Quality

Positive Effects

- Improve air quality
- Help achieve the objectives of any Air Quality Management Area
- Reduce emissions of key pollutants
- Reduce transport emissions
- Encourage other modes of transport than the car – walking, cycling, public transport
- Encourage behavioural shift

Negative Effects

- Reduce air quality
- Risk achieving the objectives of any Air Quality Management Area
- Increase emissions of key pollutants
- Increase transport emissions
- Risk integration of active travel options
- Maintain/increase car use

10. The objective for sustainable development is to **reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.**

Rationale

International commitments require greenhouse gas emissions to be reduced to lessen their effects on climate. Measures that help reduce energy consumption and enable renewable energy helps lessen greenhouse gas emissions however adaption is also required to plan for the impacts of climate change.

Key Sustainability Issues for Climatic Factors

- There may be a higher risk of coastal flooding in low-lying areas.
- Old sea walls may become more vulnerable to the effects of flooding and rising sea levels and require additional maintenance or replacement.
- The LDP should support a low-carbon energy future in anticipation of new energy and climate change policies.
- There are currently no financial incentives for renewables to help encourage uptake.
- Adequate electrical infrastructure is required to accommodate new grid connections for large-scale renewables and domestic scale producers.
- Alternative renewable technologies to wind, i.e. tidal, wave, hydro, solar, biomass, anaerobic digestion, are needed to improve the diversity of energy sources and enable a more sustainable energy mix.
- Sustainable drainage systems should be integrated to plans/projects.
- Adequate provision and accessibility to alternative transport options are required in rural and urban areas to help reduce reliance on the car and greenhouse gas emissions.
- The development of land can be planned to encourage and enable sustainable development that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, through reducing the need for vehicular travel, avoiding damage/development of floodplains, and protecting carbon/water stores.
- Carbon dioxide per capita emissions were estimated to be below the Northern Ireland average in 2012 for the Derry area but in Strabane they were estimated to be higher.
- Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture make a significant contribution to total emissions in Northern Ireland and the Council.

Appraisal Prompts for Climatic Factors

Positive Effects

Negative Effects

- | Positive Effects | Negative Effects |
|---|--|
| a) Manage/consider coastal flooding/erosion | l) Does not consider marine issues |
| b) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions | m) Increases greenhouse gas emissions |
| c) Reduce energy consumption | n) Increases energy consumption |
| d) Increase the production of renewable energy | o) Does not encourage renewable energy |
| e) Incorporate measures to adapt to climate change | p) Damage/loss to habitats that capture carbon/water |
| f) Protect or enhance habitats that capture carbon | q) Reduces the extent/ holding capacity of floodplains |
| g) Protect or enhance floodplains | r) Discourages active travel |
| h) Increase/encourage other forms of transport than the car – public transport, cycling/walking | s) Increases polluting forms of transport |
| i) Reduce car/vehicle journey times/frequency | t) Does not allow for adaptation to climate change |
| j) Encourage behavioural shift | |
| k) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture | |

11. The objective for sustainable development is to protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.

Rationale

This objective encompasses reducing levels of water pollution, sustainable use of water resources, improving the physical state of the water environment and reducing the risk of flooding now and in the future. It meets the requirements of Northern Ireland legislation, strategies and plans in support of the Water Framework Directive and other Directives that relate to water and it takes account of the future impacts of climate change.

Key Sustainability Issues for Water

- There were no water scarcity issues in Northern Ireland 2005 – 2015 and demand has decreased by almost 11% between 2009 and 2015.
- The lack of water supply is not considered likely to be a constraint to development in any of the settlements however measures to make more efficient use of water should be promoted.
- Constructed flood alleviation and defence measures are expensive and should be avoided.
- Development should be planned to avoid areas at significant risk from flooding, now or in the future, or where development may increase the flood risk elsewhere.
- There are benefits in retaining and restoring natural flood plains and natural watercourses as a form of flood alleviation.
- Climate change will increase the risk of flooding.
- Plan proposals should be compatible with the Flood Risk Management Plans published by Rivers Agency in December 2015.
- Two Significant Flood Risk Areas (SFRAs) are located in DCSDC, Derry/Londonderry SFRA and Strabane SFRA. Areas of Further Study for flood risk are Eglington, New Buildings, Ballymagorry, Sion Mills, Newtownstewart and Castleberg as well as Coolkeeragh Power Station.
- A safety issue arises because there are not currently legal requirements relating to impounded water therefore there are considered to be risks in potential inundation zones below reservoirs.
- By comparison to the rest of Northern Ireland surface water quality is generally high, this is reflected in designations to protect freshwater species and habitats in much of the council area.
- Freshwater angling, in particular for salmon, brown, trout and sea trout, and sea angling are important in DCSDC.
- There are shellfish protected waters at Longfield Bank and Balls Point in Lough Foyle.
- Emissions from development can impact on water quality and quantity.
- Development may lead to contaminated runoff which may cause pollution; the rate of surface water runoff may change or the capacity of a receiving watercourse may be altered which in turn has the potential to increase flood risk.
- Sustainable drainage SuDS measures should be incorporated and maintained in new development and redevelopment or regeneration schemes.
- Waste water generates the need for treatment of dirty water.
- The larger WWTWs generally have good capacity although there are constraints at some. There are significant constraints on WWTW provision for small settlements. This may limit or delay potential for development.
- Developments without access to mains sewers can incorporate sewage treatment on site but it is important that there is capacity for safe disposal of treated discharges and for maintenance of the treatment system to ensure that it remains effective long term.
- Other wastes may also cause pollution at the point where they are disposed of or utilised. Wastes from livestock, food processing or primary treatment such as sewage or anaerobic digestors have the potential to cause pollution elsewhere.

Appraisal Prompts for Water

Positive Effects	Negative Effects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Improve the quality of surface and ground water to meet objectives b) Lead to more efficient use of water c) Minimise risks from flooding d) Avoid the need for flood defence e) Protect or enhance floodplains f) Maintain water flows for good ecological quality g) Protect aquatic food resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> h) Reduce quality of surface and ground water i) Fail to meet water quality objectives j) Lead to waste of water k) Increase risks from flooding (now or in future) l) Risk creating a need for flood defence m) Reduce the extent or holding capacity of floodplains n) Water flows/temperature not suitable for good ecological quality. o) Unsustainable impacts on aquatic food resources

12. The objective for sustainable development is to protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.

Rationale

International obligations which are adopted in Northern Ireland legislation and policies require the protection of biodiversity including flora, fauna and habitats. This is for their intrinsic value and for the wider services that they provide to people, the economy and the environment for example as carbon stores which lessen the effects of climate change. This objective includes protecting and enhancing biodiversity as well as protection of green and blue infrastructure to enhance the services that natural resources provide.

Key Sustainability Issues for Natural Resources

- There are a significant number of nature conservation sites and some of these are shared with other Councils, which presents opportunities for partnership working for effective management.
- Marine planning and its associated obligations need to be appropriately considered within the Local Development Plan particularly as previous plans and frameworks may not have referred to coastal or marine matters.
- Country parks provide recreational access to the local countryside but tend to be most popular with locals and less popular with visitors to the area.
- There is a higher level of outdoors leisure in DCSDC than in the rest of Northern Ireland.
- Development pressure on the natural heritage exists from industry (energy), transport, agriculture and mining.
- Much natural heritage is associated with wetland habitats – riparian, estuarine and coastal.
- The River Foyle is a salmonid river but salmon stocks are declining.
- In the south west of the River Foyle there is a lack of access to the river.
- There are a significant number of patches of ancient woodland, native forests and dense tree cover across the Council but these are disconnected.
- A new Local Biodiversity Action Plan is due to be published with updated species and habitats, and threats to biodiversity.
- Existing green spaces need to be connected together and protected from other types of development.
- New developments and regeneration sites should include attractive design settings using functional green spaces that encourage people to reside.
- Local level blue/green infrastructure projects should continue to be invested in.
- Public access to the coast should be protected and where possible enhanced.

Appraisal Prompts for Natural Resources

Positive Effects

- Protect or enhance local biodiversity
- Protect or enhance existing or potential wildlife corridors
- Protect or enhance designated sites and their buffers
- Enable ecological connectivity between habitats
- Locally important sites and buffers are protected
- Protect/enhance/integrate blue/green infrastructure
- Protect or enhance open space
- Attract visitors/tourists to the country park
- Create attractive town setting for people to reside
- Support/provide ecosystem services
- Coastal erosion / marine issues are able to be managed/considered

Negative Effects

- Loss of local biodiversity
- Damage/interrupt existing or potential wildlife corridors
- Damage designated site and their buffers
- Locally important sites and buffers damaged
- Remove or damage blue/green infrastructure
- Block or remove access to B/GI or open space
- Reduce ecosystem services
- Lack of consideration of coastal/marine issues

13. The objective for sustainable development is to **maintain and enhance landscape character.**

Rationale

International and national policies seek to conserve the natural character and landscape of the coast and countryside and protect them from excessive, inappropriate or obtrusive development. This objective seeks to maintain the character and distinctiveness of the area's landscapes and seascapes and to protect and enhance open spaces and the setting of prominent features, settlements and transport corridors.

Key Sustainability Issues for Landscape

- The Sperrins Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is the largest AONB in the country and is shared with other Councils, which presents opportunities for partnership working.
- The Sperrins with their elevated position are a key feature for many of the views from lower hills across the area.
- There is a need to work in partnership with other jurisdictions as sites are very often linked to each other through either perception or boundary.
- Hedgerow and stonewall boundaries are a feature of some low-lying areas and valleys.
- Forested areas and open moorland are typical of some of the valleys and higher areas.
- Development pressure from conifer plantations exists in the upland moorland areas of the north Sperrin Hills.
- Development pressure for housing exists in the low-lying areas of the valley floors.
- Development pressure for airport works, waste management and commercial/industrial facilities exists around the mudflats and floodplains of Lough Foyle.
- Development pressure from wind turbine development, commercial forestry and mining/quarrying exists in the West Tyrone Hills.
- Development pressure exists from transport along the river valley of the Foyle.
- Protection is required from development that may affect the sense of tranquillity and wildness of areas.
- Protection is required from development that may affect the dark sky resource.
- The Council may need to consider further local level detailed studies to complement RLCAs and to help manage local development pressures on landscape.

Appraisal Prompts for Landscape

Positive Effects

Negative Effects

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Minimise visual intrusion within the AONB b) Avoid visual intrusion of views to the AONB c) Protect the typical landscape features/settings of each area (LCAs, RLCAs) d) Protect the sense of tranquillity e) Protect the dark sky resource f) Consider the impacts of development (transport, agriculture, renewables) on local landscape g) Integrate new development with measures to protect and enhance local distinctiveness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> h) Increases visual intrusion of the AONB i) Detracts from the setting of prominent features and settlements j) Reduces protection of areas designated for landscape k) Reduces protection of the dark sky resource l) Detracts from views to the coast m) New development not integrated to protect and enhance local distinctiveness |
|--|---|

14. The objective for sustainable development is to protect, conserve and enhance historic environment and cultural heritage.

Rationale

The historic environment and cultural heritage are resources that inform our history and bring character and sense of place. They also attract visitors and contribute to the economy and bring vibrancy to the places where we live, work and relax. This can be achieved by protecting and enhancing Conservation Areas, townscapes and other sites of historic and cultural value including their setting.

Key Sustainability Issues for Historic Environment and Cultural Heritage

- Derry City and Strabane District Council has a wealth of Historic and Cultural Resources, including listed buildings, state monuments, historic gardens and demesnes and archaeological heritage. These assets contribute to the high quality environment that creates attractive places to live, invest in and visit.
- The Council area contains settlements which each have a unique sense of place, and character. Protecting this sense of place aspect has benefits for people and their pride in their community.
- Heritage assets are at risk from neglect, decay and development pressure.
- Heritage crime is an issue in this Council area.
- Risks are presented by inappropriate development, enhancement or design that does not demonstrate an informed understanding of heritage asset and their settings.
- Traffic pollution is a contributing factor to erosion of historic environment assets.
- Appreciating the value of built heritage should also apply to new buildings, through understanding how new development will affect the setting of existing historic environment assets.
- The Historic City of Derry is considered an area of archaeological potential and contains many listed buildings and sites/monuments. Derry City's historic walls and the site at Ebrington Barracks to the East are scheduled zones and contain a number of state sites/monuments.
- Within all ATCs and Conservation Areas new development must preserve or enhance the character and appearance of these areas.
- The Council area has a rich industrial heritage both in the main settlements and also in rural locations.
- The Council area also has a rich defence heritage associated with World War II.
- There is evidence of incremental erosion of historical/architectural character and appearance within some of the designated Conservation Areas.
- There is ongoing loss of non-designated heritage assets such as historic farmsteads and buildings in the countryside, industrial and defence heritage, and historic shopfronts in some towns and settlement.
- Around half of respondents to the continuous household survey from DCSDC area stated that they had visited a museum or science centre in the last year.

Appraisal Prompts for Historic Environment and Cultural Heritage

Positive Effects

- Protect and conserve the historic environment and cultural heritage
- Enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage
- Allow 'sense of place' to be conserved in townscape and rural settings
- Protect and enhance local distinctiveness
- Allow archaeological features to be assessed, recorded and preserved
- Preserve and enhance the setting of cultural heritage assets
- Support access to, interpretation of and understanding of the historic environment
- Enable assessment of impacts of development on complex and extensive archaeological sites adjacent to settlements
- Provide opportunities for cultural activities

Negative Effects

- Loss of the historic environment and cultural heritage
- Lose 'sense of place' in townscape and rural settings
- Reduce local distinctiveness
- Archaeological features not assessed, recorded and preserved
- Damage the setting of cultural heritage assets
- Reduce access to, interpretation of and understanding of the historic environment
- Impacts of development on complex and extensive archaeological sites adjacent to settlements not understood
- Decrease opportunities for cultural activities

APPENDIX 3: COMPATABILITY OF SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

Sustainability Objectives	1 Improve health and well-being.	2 Strengthen society.	3 Provide good quality, sustainable housing.	4 Enable access to high quality education.	5 Enable sustainable economic growth.	6 Manage material assets sustainably.	7 Protect physical resources and use sustainably.	8 Encourage active and sustainable travel.	9 Improve air quality.	10 Reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	11 Protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	12 Protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	13 Maintain and enhance landscape character.	14 Protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.
1 Improve health and well-being.														
2 Strengthen society.	✓													
3 Provide good quality, sustainable housing.	✓	✓												
4 Enable access to high quality education.	✓	✓	✓											
5 Enable sustainable economic growth.	✓	✓	✓	✓										
6 Manage material assets sustainably.	✓	0	0	0	✓									
7 Protect physical resources and use sustainably.	✓	0	0	0	✓	✓								
8 Encourage active and sustainable travel.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	0							
9 Improve air quality.	✓	✓	✓	0	?	✓	✓	✓						
10 Reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	✓	✓	✓	0	?	✓	✓	✓	✓					
11 Protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	✓	0	✓	0	?	✓	✓	0	✓	✓				
12 Protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	✓	✓	0	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
13 Maintain and enhance landscape character.	✓	✓	0	0	✓	?	✓	0	✓	✓	✓	✓		
14 Protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	0	✓	0	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Compatible	✓	No relationship	0	Uncertain relationship	?	Incompatible	✘
------------	---	-----------------	---	------------------------	---	--------------	---

APPENDIX 4: HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT BASELINE FOR DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Introduction

The requirement for Habitats Regulations Assessment is introduced in section 1.3.3. Habitats Regulations Assessment will be an iterative process carried out in parallel with Local Development Plan (LDP) preparation and will be updated in line with knowledge of potential plan effects and any changes relating to European sites. This report provides a long list of sites for which effects of the plan will be reviewed. These will be considered in the context of how they are connected with the LDP area and potential effects of the LDP on its own and in combination with other plans and projects.

This screening takes a precautionary approach. There will be no conceivable effect on many of the long listed sites, for example on those that are over 10km away and have no ecological or infrastructure connection, therefore a number of these sites will be excluded from further consideration at the next stage of assessment. It must be emphasised that only some of the potential impacts may arise. Measures to avoid, reduce or mitigate for impacts will be incorporated in the plan where necessary and feasible or proposals amended to avoid adverse effects on site integrity.

The policies and spatial zonings proposed within the plan will be assessed to determine whether any of the potential impacts could materialise as a result of the plan. This will consider the source of potential impacts, any pathways to European sites and whether the impact could have a significant effect on site selection features, their conservation objectives and site integrity along with any avoidance and mitigation measures identified in the course of assessment and plan preparation. The evidence in Table A.4.1 and further evidence available at each stage of assessment will be taken into account.

Table A.4.1: Evidence to inform baseline data and further Habitats Regulations Assessment

<u>JNCC Standard Data Form</u>	JNCC Standard data form generated from the Natura 2000 Database submitted to the European Commission on 22/12/2015.
<u>NIEA Conservation Objectives</u>	The most recent NIEA Conservation Objectives for each site found on DAERA website.
Spatial Data Local Government	Spatial NI Data Layers for Local Government boundaries 12/05/17
Spatial Data European and Ramsar sites	NIEA Data Layers for designated and proposed European and Ramsar sites 12/05/17

Overview

This is a summary of the long list of sites to be considered, how they are connected to the LDP area and potential issues. The sites listed are those for which there is a potential pathway allowing a connection with the plan area. Sites within 15km of the LDP area (Figure A1) have been considered and any distances listed are to the nearest 0.5km. The sites are listed in Table A.4.2 and locations relative to the plan area are shown in Figures A.4.1 – A.4.4 All Maps: Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland - © Crown Copyright and Database Right. Definitions of each type of connection follow.

Within or Adjacent

All or part of the European or Ramsar Site is within or directly adjacent to the plan area. There are eight UK sites within or directly adjacent to the council area. All are wetland sites and some have more than one designation as is the case for Fairywater Bogs SAC and Ramsar. The river and marine sites such as River Foyle and tributaries SAC and Lough Foyle Ramsar also extend beyond the council area. For rivers, which include migratory species as site selection features, consideration also needs to be given to impacts beyond designated areas. There are also three sites designated in Ireland which are immediately adjacent to the plan area, including the River Finn SAC.

Ecological

The European or Ramsar Site is ecologically connected to the plan area. Ecological connections include linkages by ecological corridors such as river systems; hydrological links between the LDP area and peatland or wetland sites; known areas of land in the LDP area which are regularly used by birds which also use a SPA; and sites that form part of the coastal ecosystem to which the LDP area is connected. This includes a number of waterbodies which are hydrologically connected with the Council area such as the River Roe and Tributaries SAC which has a small part of its catchment in the council area. There may be non-designated areas which support species from designated sites in or beyond the council area and this includes whooper swan feeding areas around Lough Foyle. These are considered as having an ecological connection.

Within 15km

The European or Ramsar Site is within 15km of the LDP area. This brings in to consideration a number of peatland and woodland sites. Some, such as Ballynahone Bog SAC have no hydrological connection and are too far away for any effects to be possible. On the other hand some, such as Banagher Glen SAC are close enough to require consideration of aerial emissions.

By Infrastructure

The European or Ramsar Site is connected by infrastructure with the plan area. Infrastructural connectivity is related to the potential linkage of sites to the LDP area by infrastructure services such as water abstraction or waste water discharges.

Water supplies for Derry area come from two water treatment works at Carmoney, near Eglinton and at Caugh Hill, near Dungiven. Water supplies for Strabane are provided by water treatment works at Derg, Lough Braden, Glenhordial, Loughmacrory and Caugh Hill. The lack of water supply is not considered likely to be a constraint in the Plan, to development in any of the settlements however the connection between water supply and European sites will be examined further in the Habitats Regulations Assessment at Plan Strategy.

Waste water treatment works (WWTW) may discharge to designated sites and could have impacts if there was insufficient capacity for treatment. The larger WWTWs generally have good capacity although there are constraints for some settlements. Most of the smaller works have constraints. Therefore there are

significant constraints on services for small settlements and careful consideration also needs to be given to housing not serviced by WWTW.

Table A.4.2: Potential pathways between LDP area and European Sites

European Site Name	Connection with plan area				Potential Pathways
	Within or Adjacent	Ecological	Within 15 km	By Infrastructure	
Northern Ireland					
Ballynahone Bog Ramsar Site			●		Nearest point 14.5 km, no hydrological connection.
Ballynahone Bog SAC			●		Nearest point 14.5 km, no hydrological connection.
Banagher Glen SAC			●	●	Nearest point 4.5 km. Within the River Roe catchment however no pathway from the council area for any effects. Downstream of a water source for the council area and close to infrastructure related to Caugh Hill Water Treatment Works.
Black Bog Ramsar Site			●		Nearest point 10.5 km. Drains into council area but does not receive drainage from it.
Black Bog SAC			●		Nearest point 10.5 km. Drains into council area but does not receive drainage from it.
Carn - Glenshane Pass SAC			●		Nearest point 11.5 km. Drains west to the River Roe and east to the Agivey River however no hydrological link to the council area.
Cranny Bogs SAC			●		Nearest point 14.0 km. Drains into the Foyle catchment in the council area but does not receive drainage from the council area.
Fairy Water Bog Ramsar Site	●	●	●		Four components, one in the council area and the remainder within 1.6 km.

European Site Name	Connection with plan area				Potential Pathways
	Within or Adjacent	Ecological	Within 15 km	By Infrastructure	
Fairy Water Bogs SAC	•	•	•		Four components, one in the council area and the remainder within 2.0 km.
Lough Foyle Ramsar Site	•	•	•	•	Immediately adjacent with intertidal area subject to planning control. Also potential links through pollution, disturbance or to habitats elsewhere on which features depend.
Lough Foyle SPA	•	•	•	•	Immediately adjacent with intertidal area subject to planning control. Also potential links through pollution, disturbance or to habitats elsewhere on which features depend.
Moneygal Bog SAC	•	•			Within council area and potential for direct impacts and hydrological or aerial pathways for potential effects.
Owenkillew SAC	•	•	•		The SAC is partly within the council area and also extends into the 15 km buffer. Potential for impacts via hydrological links.
Pettigoe Plateau Ramsar Site			•		Nearest point 12 km.
Pettigoe Plateau SAC			•		Nearest point 12 km.
Pettigoe Plateau SPA			•		Nearest point 12 km.
River Faughan and Tributaries SAC	•	•			The SAC is partly within the council area and also extends into the 15 km buffer.
River Foyle and Tributaries SAC	•	•		•	The SAC is partly within the council area and also extends into the 15 km buffer.
River Roe and Tributaries SAC			•		A small part of the council area drains to the Owenbeg River which is part of the SAC.
Teal Lough SAC			•		Nearest point 6.0 km, no hydrological connection.

European Site Name	Connection with plan area				Potential Pathways
	Within or Adjacent	Ecological	Within 15 km	By Infrastructure	
Tully Bog SAC			●		Lies within the catchment of the Fairywater which arises in the council area.
Upper Ballinderry River SAC			●		There is no drainage from the council area to this site.
Republic of Ireland					
Croaghonagh SAC			●		Catchment for the site drains into the Foyle catchment in the council area but does not receive drainage from the council area.
Donegal Bay SPA			●		Nearest point 13.0 km, no hydrological connection.
Donegal Bay (Murvagh) SAC			●		Nearest point 13.0 km, no hydrological connection.
Dunragh Loughs / Pettigoe Plateau SAC			●		Site is 2.0 km away and upstream of the Derg catchment in the council area.
Lough Derg SPA			●		Site is 0.5 km away and upstream of the Derg catchment in the council area. There is a hydrological link.
Lough Eske & Ardnamona Wood SAC			●		Nearest point 4.0 km, no hydrological connection.
Lough Foyle SPA	●	●	●		Adjacent to the LDP area.
Lough Nageage SAC	●	●	●		Lies in two catchments which drain from the council area however the area in the LDP area is small.
Lough Swilly SAC			●		Skeoge River in Derry flows into this SAC
Lough Swilly SPA			●		Skeoge River in Derry flows into this SPA
Magheradrumman Bog SAC			●		Adjacent to the LDP area.
Meenaguse Scragh SAC			●		Nearest point 14.5 km, no hydrological connection.
Pettigo Plateau Nature Reserve SPA			●		Nearest point 4.0 km.

European Site Name	Connection with plan area				Potential Pathways
	Within or Adjacent	Ecological	Within 15 km	By Infrastructure	
River Finn SAC	●		●		This site is upstream of the council area. A portion also includes the River Derg which forms the border and is partly in the council area.
Tamur Bog SAC			●		Nearest point 9.0 km, no hydrological connection.

Figure A.4.1: SACs in or within 15km of Derry City and Strabane District Council

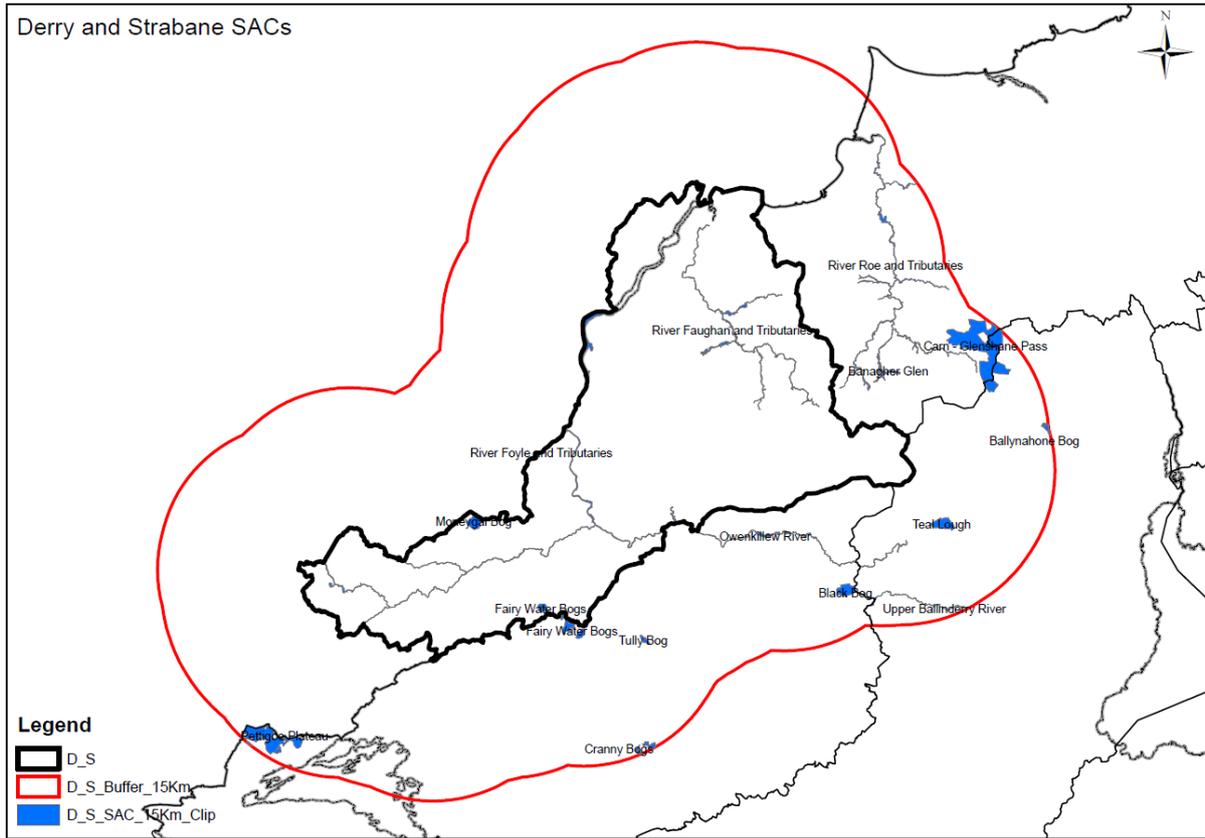


Figure A.4.2: SPAs in or within 15km of Derry City and Strabane District Council

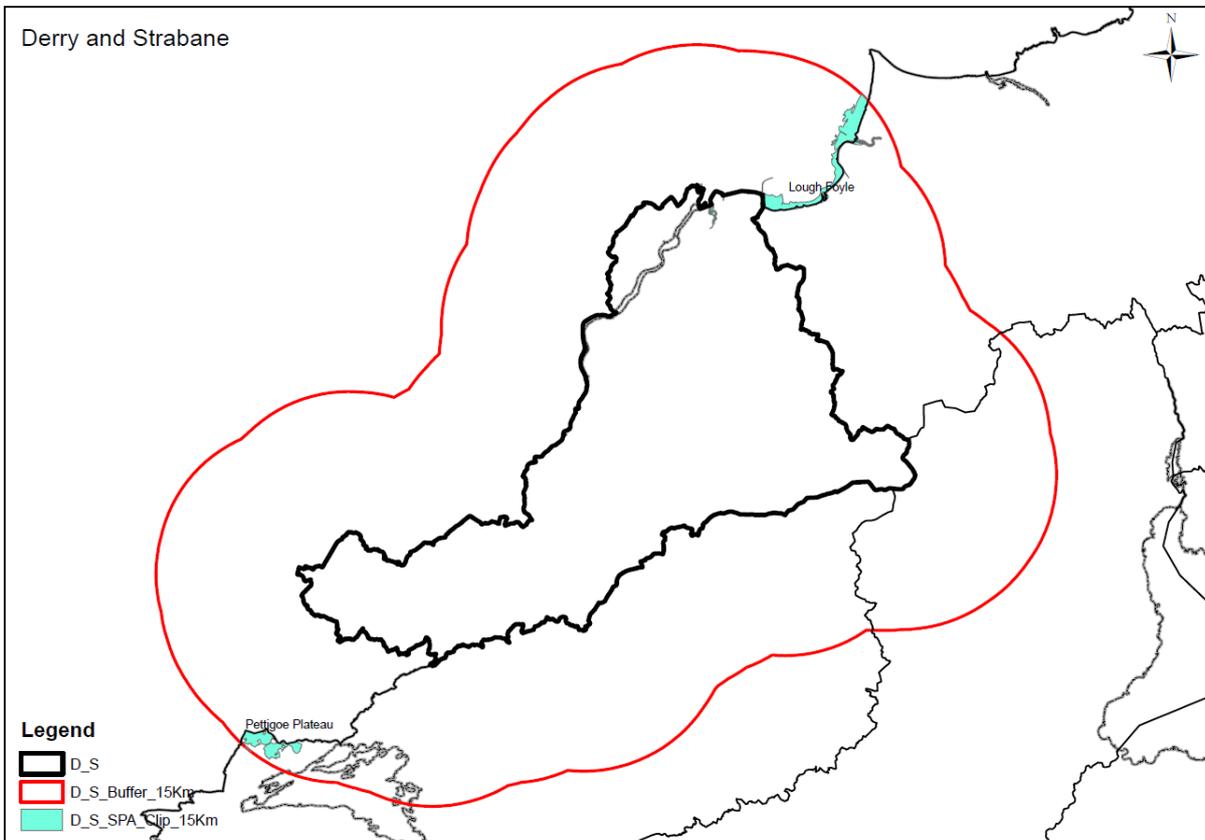


Figure A.4.3: Ramsar sites in or within 15km of Derry City and Strabane District Council

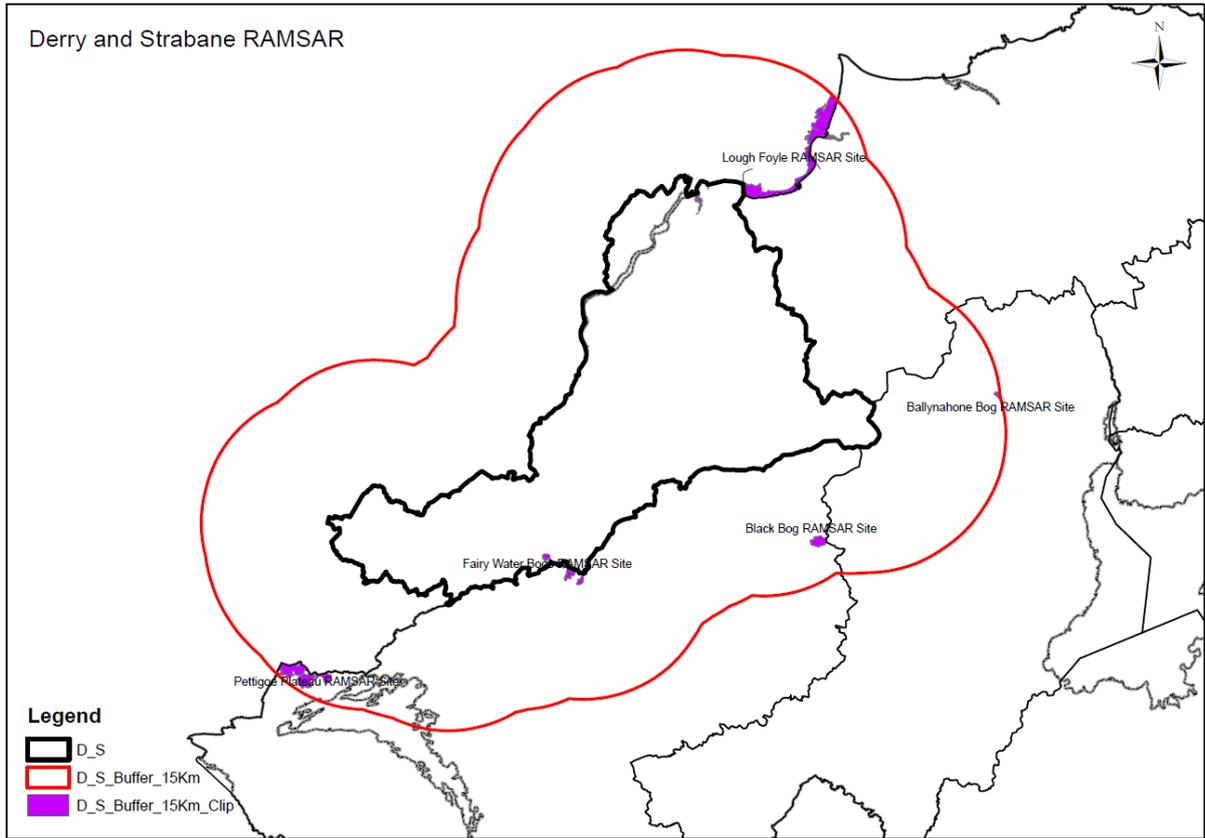
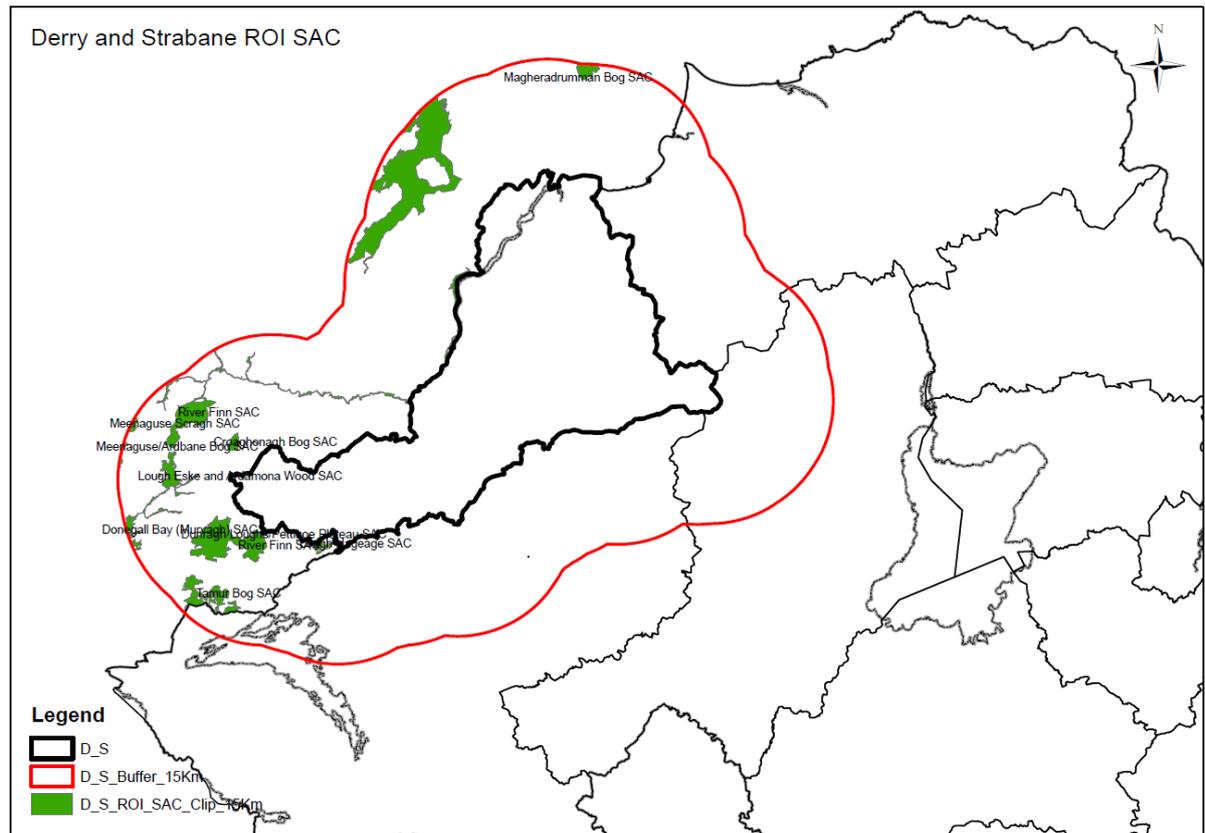


Figure A.4.4: RoI SACs within 15km of Derry City and Strabane District Council



Overall Potential Impacts

More detailed description follows in Table A.4.3 of potential development impacts that could arise as a result of the LDP. As more detail of LDP delivery activities that may arise will be assessed in relation to

European sites and their features. Note that this is a full list and some of the effects listed may not apply to the selection features of sites connected with the plan area.

Table A.4.3: Potential development impacts to be assessed in relation to European sites

Potential Impacts	Activities arising from the implementation of LDP
Loss, fragmentation, damage of habitats and / or species:	Construction activities associated with LDP could lead to the loss, fragmentation (or obstruction of movement) or damage of habitats and / or species through:
	Direct land take and / or land clearance and the use of machinery/materials.
	Direct and indirect impacts resulting from the construction and operation of built development and required infrastructure.
	Impacts caused during repair and maintenance activities for built development and required infrastructure.
	Direct impacts associated with mineral development in the plan area.
	Removal, fragmentation or physical changes to important connectivity features could create barrier effects to species, alter habitat availability or ecological functioning or result in changes in breeding, roosting, commuting and foraging behaviour.
Disturbance: physical, noise, lighting	Noise or activity during construction and operational activities could have adverse impacts on sensitive species (marine mammals and birds in particular).
	Increased lighting from construction or additional built development could: create barrier effects to species; result in changes in species breeding, roosting, commuting and foraging behaviour; or increase predation.
Biological Disturbance: invasive species, human disturbance	Sensitive habitats and species may experience adverse impacts from the introduction of invasive species, non-native, competitive or predatory species through construction activities and associated machinery, movement of soils and waste or from garden escapes.
	Increased human activity (including recreation; increase in pet ownership; increased incidence in fires) close to sensitive habitats and species may cause disturbance that could impact negatively on these features and lead to displacement of sensitive species from certain locations.
Contamination of land	Waste arising from the operation of developments associated with LDP could cause contamination of land which could have a direct detrimental impact on sensitive habitats or species or indirect impacts if subsequent emissions to water occur.
Emissions by air	The construction and operation of developments associated with LDP (in particular industrial developments) have the potential to generate chemical and dust emissions and could make a contribution to acid rain or nutrient deposition resulting in significant adverse impacts to animals and sensitive habitats for example they could cause localised smothering of vegetation or potential health issues in animals e.g. birds.
	Increased traffic generation could lead to increased air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions which could have localized impacts on sensitive habitats or species.

Potential Impacts	Activities arising from the implementation of LDP
Emissions by water and changes to hydrology	There is potential for an increased transport of chemical contaminants reaching the aquatic environment during the construction and operation of development associated with the LDP. This could range from transportation of fuels to cleaning or waste water treatment materials and associated drainage and discharges into watercourses. Changes to water quality can have harmful effects on fish, invertebrates, and vegetation, e.g. as a result of lowered oxygen levels.
	Surface run off and sediment release from construction works and operational activities associated with LDP can increase sediment deposition and turbidity within aquatic systems. This can adversely impact on associated wildlife by causing shading effects that can inhibit plant and algal growth and smother organisms thereby limiting productivity and survival.
	Water abstraction from streams or lakes required for construction and operation of developments associated with LDP could have physical impacts on water levels, fish species at intakes, affect populations of fish or alter the configuration or availability of breeding gravels.
	Construction and operation of development associated with BDLP could alter the hydrology of sensitive habitats and species by either increasing or decreasing runoff or water percolation into aquifers.
	Increased demands on waste water treatment works or for septic tanks could lead to increased nutrient enrichment of waterbodies which could change water quality and increase eutrophication. This in turn could have a harmful effect on the ecological functioning of these systems.

Glossary

Abbreviations	
LDP	Local Development Plan
SAC	Special Areas of Conservation are sites that have been adopted by the European Commission and formally designated by the government of each country in whose territory the site lies.
SCI	Sites of Community Importance are sites that have been adopted by the European Commission but not yet formally designated by the government of each country.
cSAC	Candidate SACs are sites that have been submitted to the European Commission, but not yet formally adopted.
pSAC	Possible SAC
SPA	Special Protection Area
pSPA	Proposed SPA
Ramsar	Sites listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance adopted at Ramsar, Iran in 1971. As a matter of policy these sites as treated in the same way as European sites.

APPENDIX 5: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRICIES

6A - Overall Spatial Distribution													
Options	Option 1: Focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane Town as a Main Hub as set out in RDS 2035.				Option 2: Proportionate Growth across all Settlements and Countryside				Option 3: Balanced Growth – focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane Town as a Main Hub plus some other opportunities in the rural settlements and countryside.				
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	Development focused on critical mass so less distance to travel to services.	-	-	-	Spread of resources – potential uncertainties as growth in some areas will need support of services and facilities.	+	+	+	Potential positives over wider area but exact spread of growth outside of main hubs not defined. Some areas will need support for services. Overall option enables more support to more people.	
2... strengthen society	+	+	+	Help to bring people together and enable interaction across communities. Should enable growth amongst people/society but may not be as positive for all areas i.e. rural.	+	+	+	Help to bring people together and enable interaction across communities in both urban and rural areas. Should enable growth amongst people/society.	+	+	+	Help to bring people together and enable interaction across communities in both urban and rural areas. Should enable growth amongst people/society. May have more positives for rural areas as smaller hubs able to provide services and facilities to support wider community/number of people.	
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	+	+	+	Policy based on this provision and option targets areas for mix of housing.	+	+	+	Policy based on this provision and option targets areas for mix of housing. Market driven as well though may not be as sustainable an option.	+	+	+	Policy based on this provision and option targets areas for mix of housing. Market driven as well as policy based. Able to enhance rural locations.	

4.... enable access to high quality education.	+	+	+	Location near to schools/services.	-	-	-	Stretching resources across more areas. Dilution of focus from focus areas.	+	+	+	Enables focused locations as well as ability to serve rural communities.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Provides certainty for targeted growth in focused areas. Note that it is city focused and not so much rural.	-	-	-	Less focus on key areas so less sustainable although there may be positives for rural areas and ability to promote sustainable tourism across the wider countryside.	+	+	+	Provides certainty for focused areas as well as positives for rural areas as able to promote sustainable tourism across the wider countryside and other opportunities for rural enterprises.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	+	?	Focused growth and targeted use of resources although there are issues with existing level of grid infrastructure in the north west.	-	-	-	Not as focused an approach to use of existing or proposed material assets. Less sustainable as over a wider area based on growth.	+	+	+	Some focused use of existing and proposed material assets with the ability to also serve rural areas in certain circumstances. A more sustainable approach to distribution.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	++	++	++	Focused growth and targeted use of resources.	-	-	-	Not as focused an approach to the use of or consideration of physical resources. Less sustainable as over a wider area.	+	+	+	Some focused use or consideration of physical resources but there is the ability to also impact on rural areas although these could be mitigated
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	Better for public transport as focused on key areas. Also enables focused access to active travel. Potential for new city routes although rural areas also need improved routes and links and may be at a disadvantage to the main city and hubs. Some smaller hubs	-	-	-	Less focused and more dispersed which tends to not enable adequate public transport routes or active travel links. Current areas/zonings not as well connected as could be. Option could encourage active travel across more settlements but modal shift required.	?	?	?	Better for public transport as focused on key areas. Also enables focused access to active travel. Potential for new city routes and potential for consideration of improved rural routes. Option should make it more feasible to improve rural transport links and active travel

				remain very important and need better transport links.							routes around the smaller hubs. Previously zoned land may not encourage active travel and areas currently not always well connected. Uncertainty over where opportunities are currently located.	
9... improve air quality.	-	-	-	Higher populations in key areas will probably create more emissions from travel and particularly car transport. Also, increase in home heating in those areas to consider. Potential for local air quality issues. Smoke control areas are in place in some places. -	-	-	-	Higher level of dispersion feasible for traffic and homes i.e. heating so potential for air quality issues exists but over wider area although this could alleviate local air quality issues. The dispersed distribution may encourage more car travel.	?	?	?	Higher populations in key areas will probably create more emissions from travel and heating in those areas. Option also enables rural development across wider area which may increase local air quality issues but uncertain at the moment where these areas are.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	Growth likely which will increase or contribute to emissions however can include mitigation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions where feasible and apply adaptation measures to site and building design. This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Growth likely which will increase or contribute to emissions however can include mitigation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions where feasible and apply adaptation measures to site and building design. Option may stimulate need for more car travel, which could increase emissions but it could have opposite effect and reduce need for car journeys. Overall this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Growth likely which will increase or contribute to emissions however can include mitigation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions where feasible and apply adaptation measures to site and building design. Option may stimulate need for more car travel, which would increase emissions but option could also have opposite effect as more people supported at the local level across a wider area. Overall this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.

11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	+	+	+	Main infrastructure should be in place. Important to protect marine environment and coastal waters. Lots of mitigation feasible with developments and measures required.	--	--	--	Increased risk of pollution from septic tanks though depends on substrate.	+	+	+	Main infrastructure should be in place for main areas and even in smaller hubs. Lots of mitigation feasible with developments and measures required to help protect water resources. Potential to install more measures like SuDS and to take advantage of infrastructure both existing and proposed/needed in key areas and smaller hubs.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	+	+	+	Focused growth helps to retain development in key areas and enables use of standard mitigation to protect natural environment i.e. salmon rivers. Helps to avoid key nature conservation sites.	-	-	-	Higher risk of pollution and loss of biodiversity with increased loss of greenfield sites also likely.	+	+	+	Focused growth helps to retain development in key areas and enables use of standard mitigation to protect natural environment. Helps to avoid key nature conservation sites but option enables potential wider scope of development which would lead to potential biodiversity loss and fragmentation of habitats.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	++	++	++	Conserving development to main towns and hubs helps to avoid development of key landscape sites and the wider countryside.	-	-	-	Slightly higher risk of loss of landscape character through wider scope of development.	+	+	+	Conserving development to main towns and hubs helps to avoid development of key landscape sites but option also enables smaller hubs and rural areas to be considered which could negatively affect local landscape. Mitigation is feasible.

<p>14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>	+	+	+	<p>Conserving development to main towns helps to reuse old buildings and redundant sites and maintain local character. For example listed buildings in conservation areas in the city. Focused option helps to safeguard the historic environment and cultural heritage through use and access.</p>	?	?	?	<p>Wider scope of settlements feasible so potential for an increased level of protection through reuse of sites and buildings in keeping with local character but in some cases/areas development pressure could negatively impact.</p>	+	+	+	<p>Conserving development to main towns helps to reuse old buildings and redundant sites and maintain local character. For example listed buildings in conservation areas in the city. The wider scope of development could help retain local built and cultural character across rural areas as well. Potential for opportunities.</p>
<p>Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives</p>	<p>Option 1 was considered to have a positive effect on many wide societal aspects including health and wellbeing, providing good quality sustainable housing, and enabling access to high quality education. In terms of environmental objectives, it was also considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting physical resources, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. Option 2 scored positively for some aspects of society, but had a negative scoring for improving health and well-being. It was considered to have a negative effect on many objectives, including enabling access to high quality education, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets, and physical resources, and encouraging active and sustainable travel. It also had a negative scoring for improving air quality, protecting natural resources and biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. It was considered to have a significantly negative effect on protecting and managing water resources sustainably. Option 3 gained a positive scoring for many of the sustainably objectives concerning society and the environment including improving health and well-being and providing good quality sustainable housing. The option was considered to have an uncertain effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel, and improving air quality.</p>											
<p>The preferred option</p>	<p>Option 3</p>											
<p>What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>											
<p>What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>											

Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Modal shifts in behaviour for travel options i.e. car-pooling, park-and-ride, walking/cycling to work; energy efficient homes; access to renewables; public transport initiatives and improved services; key site requirements – ecological mitigation like integration of SuDS and green building design guides; building conservation guidelines; other planning policy.
---	--

6B - Specifics of Settlement Hierarchy

Options	Option 1: Existing 49 Settlements retained			Option 2: Rationalise Upper Tiers - Derry, Strabane, Local Towns. Re-designate some Villages and Small Settlements, including some new settlement designations.				
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	0	-	-	Spreading a declining rural population over too large a number of settlements could mean less access to good quality health local health care services.	0	+	+	Long term, rationalizing the settlement hierarchy should allow local health care facilities to be provided in a more sustainable way.
2... strengthen society.	0	-	-	This option allows the status quo to be maintained, but long term this may lead to a greater number of people living in settlement with less than adequate services, which could contribute to an increased sense of isolation.	+	+	+	This approach is flexible to allow appropriate development in settlements in line with services available and community needs, based on evidence. It will need careful consideration to ensure that rural meets are met and rural communities sustained.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	+	+	+	Having a settlement hierarchy is part of managing growth, and helps to contribute to the provision of housing. Without further analysis, it is possible that retaining the existing hierarchy could mean continued growth in settlements that do not have adequate service provision.	++	++	++	This approach gives greater flexibility to rationalize settlements based on local services and local needs.
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	-	-	There is a limited risk between settlement hierarchy and access to education. However, maintaining a large number of settlements with a dispersed rural population means greater distances travelled to schools and colleges, and a less efficient use of resources.	0	+	+	Allows a more efficient provision of education facilities.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Allows growth in a wide number of settlements.	++	++	++	Allows growth to be considered in settlements which are best located, have the best infrastructure and transport linkages.

6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	-	-	This option will maintain a level of population dispersal which long term means inefficient use of resources.	+	+	++	Allows growth in locations which allow efficient use of material assets.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	-	-	Long term this approach will lead to a loss of green field land.	0	-	-	Long term this approach will lead to loss of green field land, but in fewer locations.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	-	-	---	A more dispersed rural population will likely mean less use of active and sustainable travel. This trend could become worse over time.	+	+	++	Rationalising the settlement hierarchy based on evidence allows growth in settlements which can be well served by public transport, or which have good provision of local services leading to greater use of active travel.
9... improve air quality.	0	-	-	A more dispersed rural population will likely mean the continued trend of high car use in the council district.	0	+	+	Initially there will be very little change, however long term rationalizing the settlement hierarchy using criteria including public transport and active travel opportunities, would bring some improvements in local air quality.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	-	A more dispersed rural population will likely mean the continued trend of high car use in the council district, which will contribute to green-house gas emissions.	0	0	+	Initially there will be very little change, however long term rationalizing the settlement hierarchy using criteria including public transport and active travel opportunities, could bring a decreased use of greenhouse gas emitting cars use.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	-	-	Retaining the existing settlement hierarchy, could lead to future growth in locations that are less suitable in terms of sewerage capacity. This may lead to greater use of septic tanks and these have a greater potential to cause point-source water pollution events.	0	+	+	Rationalising the settlement hierarchy using evidence will allow the capacity of sewerage services to be used as part of the decision making process. This will assist in ensuring that future growth allocation is in locations that have minimal risk of damage to water quality.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	-	-	Retaining the existing settlement hierarchy means a large number of dispersed settlements which could mean rural growth in more locations. In the long term this could bring about a loss of semi-natural land, wildlife corridors and removal of hedges all of which contribute to biodiversity and natural resources.	0	+	+	Rationalising the settlement hierarchy using evidence could bring about more opportunities to look at development in previously developed brownfield locations. It would also means rural edge of settlement growth in a smaller number of locations, and reduced subsequent loss of biodiversity.

13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	-	-	Retaining the existing settlement hierarchy will continue the pattern of growth which long term could result in a loss of landscape character.	0	+	+	Rationalising the settlement hierarchy using evidence provides an opportunity to look again at settlements in the context of their landscape character.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	-	-	Retaining the existing settlement hierarchy will continue the pattern of growth which long term could result in a loss in the quality of the setting of built heritage features.	0	+	+	Rationalising the settlement hierarchy may lead to reuse of listed and vernacular buildings.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	Overall option 2 scored positively long term across many of the following sustainability objectives These included improving health and well-being, strengthening society, enabling access to high quality education, managing material assets sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel, improving air quality, reducing causes of climate change, protecting and managing water resources, protecting natural resources, biodiversity, landscape character and built environment and cultural heritage. Option 1 was considered to have a neutral effect which could become negative over time for many of these objectives. In terms of providing good quality sustainable housing, and enabling sustainable economic growth, both options scored positively, but option 2 gave a significant positive score.							
The preferred option	Option 2.							
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	The preferred option has significant positive effects for providing good quality sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel. No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.							
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.							
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Transport assessment, sewerage capacity studies.							

7A - Economic Development Land

Options	Option1: Retain existing zonings as currently contained in DAP & SAP.			Option 2: Retain existing zonings along with additional, more sustainably located, sites that will cater for our assessed future economic needs.			Option 3: Re-evaluate all current economic zonings and rezone/zone new sustainably-located sites catering for assessed future economic needs.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	-	-	-	Some concerns/issues with locations as they could negatively affect local people/communities but it is recognised that access to local jobs, money and prospects can improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	Some concerns/issues with old locations as they could negatively affect local people/communities but it is recognised that access to local jobs, money and prospects can improve health and well-being. Able to have new locations too.	+	+	+	Option more sustainable as new locations feasible which can be based on helping the most deprived areas and help improve local well-being and mental health through access to jobs, money, prospects etc.
2... strengthen society	-	-	-	Some concerns/issues with locations which could reduce local populations and negatively impact on local people.	+	+	+	Some concerns/issues with old locations which could reduce local populations and negatively impact on local people. New locations likely to be in most needed areas or accessible from these areas.	+	+	+	Option more sustainable delivery on objective as sites can be chosen to help with deprived areas.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.

5...enable sustainable economic growth.	0	0	-	Old sites based on old information that does not reflect current economic conditions/needs so there is an inability under this option to achieve the objective.	+	+	+	Old sites based on old information that does not reflect current economic conditions/needs but option enables new sites that could be better located for current economic conditions and needs.	++	++	++	New sites based on current conditions and needs of economy and society. Able to ensure fit for purpose sites. Option able to deliver more for this objective.
6... manage material assets sustainably.				Old sites based on old information that does not reflect, use or support existing material assets as well as some other alternative locations for economic use that are available.	+	+	+	Old sites based on old information that does not reflect, use or support existing material assets as well as some other alternative locations but option enables other sites based on current information.	++	++	++	New sites based on current conditions and needs of economy and society. Able to ensure fit for purpose sites. Option able to deliver more for this objective and even may encourage shared renewable energy schemes.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	Old sites based on old information that does not best support or consider existing physical resources. Concerns with locations and loss of greenfield sites.	-	-	-	Old sites based on old information that does not best support or consider existing physical resources. Concerns with locations and loss of greenfield sites. New sites feasible that could help reduce any losses of greenfield land.	?	?	?	Potential loss of greenfield sites under this option but also potential to reduce such loss of land with an updated reevaluation of suitable sites.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	-	-	-	Location issues as old sites based on old information. Not completely fit for purpose based on existing/current development. Does not encourage active travel.	-	-	-	Location issues as old sites based on old information. Not completely fit for purpose based on existing/current development and active travel not encouraged but new sites are feasible that could be well located for active travel although much can depend on	-	-	-	Potential for more sustainably located sites with regards to local populations and active travel networks but much depends on modal shift in societal behaviour to the car. Sites may still be based on strategic routes as well that don't support active travel.

								modal shift in behaviour to car use. Also strategic routes followed for sites that only really support vehicular transport.				
9... improve air quality.	--	--	--	Unlikely to improve air quality and depending on the type of development/economic use, air quality could be reduced. There are existing air quality issues from traffic/transport and access to sites should be considered.	?	?	?	Pros and cons. Unlikely to improve air quality and depending on the type of development/economic use, air quality could be reduced. There are existing air quality issues from traffic/transport and access to sites should be considered but option enables new sites that could be more sustainably located to be chosen. These could ensure active/sustainable travel links and have compliant adjacent land uses.	?	?	?	Pros and cons. Sites could be more sustainable in terms of location i.e. travel links and adjacent land uses but the economic activity may have an impact on air quality. Potentially this option is able to deliver more for the objective but there are uncertainties as depends on outcomes of reevaluation and modal shifts in behaviour toward car travel.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	-	-	-	Location issues with older sites and some are based in floodplains. Economic use will contribute to emissions either through traffic and/or business use so unable to reduce causes of climate change. Locations don't support active travel. If sites in floodplains are developed, the flooding issue will negatively impact on adjacent areas. Flooding	?	?	?	Location issues with older sites and some are based in floodplains. Economic use will contribute to emissions either through traffic and/or business use so unable to reduce causes of climate change. Option enables new sites which could help to avoid any development of floodplain sites and enable active/sustainable travel. Uncertainty as to whether new	?	?	?	Potential for a more strategic approach to sites based on current information and conditions which could result in avoidance of floodplains, and enable active/sustainable travel for workers. Sites may even encourage shared renewable energy schemes.

				expected to increase as a result of climate change.				sites for future economic needs can replace older sites.				
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	-	-	-	Locations are based on older information and there are some issues with dirty run off water from sites.	+	+	+	Potential to improve water protection and conservation by relocating older sites away from key water designations and encouraging measures to protect water and sustainably use it on site as a resource.	+	+	+	Reevaluation has potential to move older sites away from key water designated sites but also to provide new sites that are more sustainably located and able to protect local waterways. New sites could encourage measures to promote water conservation.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	-	-	-	Location issues as some sites on floodplain and next to designated nature conservation areas. Potential for damage/pollution.	+	+	+	Location issues as some sites on floodplain and next to designated nature conservation areas. Potential for damage/pollution but new sites feasible under this option, which could help to reduce risks by moving away from designated sites and using new sustainably located sites.	+	+	+	Potential under this option to reevaluate sites and choose locations that will avoid environmental impacts and particularly any risks to designated sites. Also able to promote biodiversity enhancement measures on new sites and/or use local natural features as positive features as opposed to barriers to development i.e. wildlife corridors, vegetation buffers.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective. Noted that mitigation needed to avoid negative impacts.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective. Noted that mitigation needed to avoid negative impacts.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective. Noted that mitigation needed to avoid negative impacts.

14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	+	+	+	Potential to use old buildings and conserve historic assets in or near to new sites.	+	+	+	Potential to use old buildings and conserve historic assets in or near to new sites. Potential to group sites within the development limits and possibly help to preserve local character by reusing buildings and streets.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	Option 1 was considered to have a negative effect on some of the sustainability objectives relating to society such as health and wellbeing, and strengthening society. Enabling sustainable economic growth scored as neutral, becoming negative long term. This option also was scored negatively for a number of environmental objectives, including reducing causes of and adaption to climate change, protecting and managing water resources and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. This option gained a negative scoring for encouraging active and sustainable travel, and a significant negative scoring for improving air quality. Option 2 had a neutral scoring for some of the objectives but was considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society. It was considered to be positive for enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets. The option was considered to have a negative effect on both protecting physical resources and encouraging active travel, and an uncertain effect on air quality and reducing the causes of climate change. This option was also considered to have a positive effect on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably, and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. Option 3 was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, and managing material assets sustainably. It was also considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society, and some of the environmental objectives including protecting and managing water resources, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and protect, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. The effect on physical resources, air quality and climate change was considered to be uncertain.											
The preferred option	Option 3											
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	The preferred option was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets sustainably. No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.											
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.											
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Planning assessments - transport, appropriate etc., other planning policies, biodiversity enhancement measures, SuDS, planning conditions, green building design, developer contributions.											

7B - City / Town Centres

Options	Option 1: Strong focus on existing centres whilst constraining District Centres and outer/ arterial sites			Option 2: Balance – focus is on existing centres plus potential limited development in District Centres			Option 3: Support existing centres but with growth in District Centres and outer / arterial sites					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	Types of business need to be complimentary with people living in area too as more people are residing in town centres. Noise and odour issues can affect people’s health and well-being. Able to improve general well-being for people living there with provision of services and facilities.	+	+	+	Types of business need to be complimentary with people living in area too as more people are residing in town centres. Noise and odour issues can affect people’s health and well-being. Able to improve general well-being for people living there with provision of services and facilities. Potential for wider scope of influence under this option.	+	+	+	Types of business need to be complimentary with people living in area too as more people are residing in town centres. Noise and odour issues can affect people’s health and well-being. Able to improve general well-being for people living there with provision of services and facilities. Potential for wider scope of influence under this option. Able to provide more services and facilities to a wider spectrum of people living in the centres and sites.
2... strengthen society	+	+	+	Positives for people living in centres. Increases social interaction, safety, and use of shared space.	+	+	+	Positives for people living in centres. Increases social interaction, safety, and use of shared space. Potential for wider scope of influence under this option as district centres also targeted. Able to keep people residing in these areas.	+	+	+	Positives for people living in centres. Increases social interaction, safety, and use of shared space. Potential for wider scope of influence under this option as district centres also targeted but also other more remote sites. Able to keep people residing in those areas

							Wider scope of influence under this option with district centres also targeted which spreads ability for wider economic growth but at same time is within key areas.				Wider scope of influence under this option with district centres also targeted as well as other sites which spreads the potential benefits for wider economic growth but at same time the option may enable less emphasis on key areas that may be a negative for some businesses, investors, workers.	
6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	-	-	Focused on centres i.e. hubs, which is positive for access to and use of material assets. Easier to benefit from these if located in centres and to take advantage of vacant land if available. It is noted that there is pressure on existing waste management facilities for storage, recycling and food waste and this could become more of an issue with increased evening business uses. The “strong” focus on just the main centres could also exert pressure on local services/facilities and land.	+	+	-	Focused on centres i.e. hubs, which is positive for access to and use of material assets. Easier to benefit from these services and facilities if located in the main hubs and more able to take advantage of vacant land if available and have access to renewable energy. It is noted that there is pressure on existing waste management facilities for storage, recycling and food waste and this could become more of an issue with increased evening business uses. The focus on various types of centre across wider area could help reduce local pressure on services and land.	-	-	-	Focused on centres i.e. hubs, which is positive for access to and use of material assets. Easier to benefit from these services and facilities if located in the main hubs and more able to take advantage of vacant land if available and have access to renewable energy. Option also considers outer sites and this would increase pressure on material assets in general. It is noted that there is pressure on existing waste management facilities for storage, recycling and food waste and this could become more of an issue with increased evening business uses in all centres and also in outer sites where waste management facilities are less likely to be able to accommodate.

7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	Focus is on centres, which helps avoid development of other lands, the wider countryside and greenfield land.	+	+	+	Focus is on centres, which helps avoid development of other lands, the wider countryside and greenfield land but limited district centre development is feasible.	-	-	-	Although there is a focus on hubs there is also growth of district centres and outer sites which would result in loss of greenfield land.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	Focus on hubs so easier for people to choose other modes of transport to the car. Potential is there but modal shift in behaviour is needed as well.	+	+	+	Focus on hubs so easier for people to choose other modes of transport to the car. Potential is there but modal shift in behaviour is needed as well. Some people have easier to access to district centres than others.	+	+	+	Focus on hubs so easier for people to choose other modes of transport to the car. Potential is there but modal shift in behaviour is needed as well. Some people have easier to access to district centres than others. Option may encourage car use as more choice for people to travel to different sites and centres but at same time could reduce car travel and enable people to walk or cycle.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	Pros and cons – potential odours but potentially less traffic. Overall, this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Pros and cons – potential odours but potentially less traffic. May distribute traffic across wider area and reduce emissions in town centres but increase them in districts. Unlikely to affect air quality. Overall, this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Pros and cons – potential odours but potentially less traffic. May distribute traffic across wider area and reduce emissions in town centres but increase them in districts and other sites. Unlikely to affect air quality. Overall, this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.

10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	Although this option helps avoid greenfield development, it would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Although this option helps avoid greenfield development and enables biodiversity enhancement such as roof gardens, it would have a negligible effect on the objective.	-	-	-	Option enables wider scope of development by expanding district centres and other arterial sites which has a higher risk of biodiversity loss including loss of greenfield sites.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective although it is noted that growth of district centres and arterial sites may require mitigation.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	++	++	++	Focus on hubs helps to reuse old buildings and retain businesses and retailers in these areas. Strong focus could enable high level of conservation of the local townscape and character and application of building conservation.	++	++	+	Focus on hubs helps to reuse old buildings and retain businesses and retailers in these areas. Potentially able to conserve local townscape and character across centres. District centres may detract some investment/attention away from town centres where this objective can be achieved	+	-	-	Support on existing centres helps to reuse old buildings and retain businesses and retailers with local townscape intact but option also enables large risk of detracting investment/attention away from these areas as district centres and other arterial sites can be targeted. Less emphasis

7C - Retailing Capacity													
Options	Option 1: Existing amount of provision is adequate, generally across Derry and Strabane and retail types				Option 2: To allow growth of retail supply generally				Option 3: Monitor retail capacity and plan for sustainable, phased growth				
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	
2... strengthen society	0	0	0	The city's current retail offer supports places for people to meet. It has been recognised that there is a potential for retailing to play more of a role in creating a shared space.	0	0	0	This option has limited potential to shape retailing to allow it to play a role in creating a shared space.	+	+	+	This option has more potential to change sustainably and plan for growth that allows retailing to play more of a role in creating a shared space.	
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	0	0	0	The option has no link with this objective.	
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	0	0	0	Currently it is recognised that employment in retail is not growing, and the levels of retail remain broadly constant.	-	-	-	It was considered that this approach might lead to an initial increase in retailing growth. However longer term, it will not help the overall retail picture, and could bring about development that could damage the vitality of the City centre.	+	+	+	This option provides the opportunity to ensure that the right types of retail provision occur in the right locations to further stimulate associated economic development.	

6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	No change to the locations which require services. This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	-	-	-	This approach could lead to retail development in locations that are difficult to service for waste management, and is not likely to lead to development of brown-field land.	+	+	+	This approach allows provision of infrastructure and services to be considered in a phased approach to growth.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	0	0	No change to use of physical resources such as green field land for development. This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	-	-	-	With growth of retail supply there is a possibility of loss of green field land generally.	0	0	0	This will depend on the approach taken, to ensure that the right locations are identified and taken forward whilst minimising loss of green field land. This effect is considered to be neutral but could be positive depending upon the approach taken.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	The current situation has good active and sustainable travel opportunities, but these could be better used. Overall there is a neutral score.	-	-	-	This option has the potential to move retail away from locations that favour active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	This option has the potential to plan for sustainable growth of retail provisions in locations that will encourage active and sustainable travel. This effect could become positive over time.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	Air quality in parts of the City is currently poor. The current retail offer has potential for more active and sustainable travel, but this will require behavioral change to contribute to improving air quality.	-	-	-	This option has the potential to move retail away from locations that favour active and sustainable travel. This could lead to more car based transportation further emissions to damage air quality.	0	0	0	This option means that growth in retail can be carried out sustainably giving consideration to how 'readable' locations are for active travel and ensuring that opportunities are taken to encourage a move away from car use. These should help to minimise additional air emissions.

10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	The current retail offer has potential for more active and sustainable travel, but this will require behavioral change to contribute to reducing green-house gas emissions.	-	-	-	This option has the potential to move retail away from locations that favour active and sustainable travel. This could lead to more car based transportation and further green-house gas emissions.	0	0	0	This option means that growth in retail can be carried out sustainably giving consideration to how 'readable' locations are for active travel and ensuring that opportunities are taken to encourage a move away from car use. These should help to minimise future green-house gas emissions.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	The current approach has a negligible effect on water quality.	-	-	-	Depending upon location, this approach could lead to more development in flood prone areas, and could mean an increase in area of retail car parking. These could have negative impacts on water quality, and on the incidences of surface water flooding in adjacent areas.	0	0	0	Depending upon location, this approach could lead to problems with flooding and water quality. However the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, and the protection of water quality will be considered as part of the provision of sustainable growth.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	The current approach has a negligible effect on biodiversity and natural resources.	-	-	-	If semi-natural land and was lost to provide for retail growth there could be a potential loss of biodiversity.	0	0	0	Growth in retailing has the potential to mean a loss of semi natural land and biodiversity, however this approach will consider sustainable phased growth which will consider these issues in future plans.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	The existing retail offer is primarily in a Cityscape location. There is a negligible effect on landscape character.	-	-	-	This approach has the potential to impact on views towards and out from the City of Derry.	-	-	-	Carefully selecting sites using the sustainable phased growth approach will allow consideration of landscape however growth may have some negative impacts over all.

<p>14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Although there are 3 conservation areas within the City Centre, parts of the City centre are losing vitality and this could have a negative effect on keeping historic buildings in use.</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>--</p>	<p>There is a risk that development will move away from the City Centre which could lead to a further loss of City Centre vitality and vibrancy. This could mean an increased level of vacancy and dereliction in the City Centre.</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>Opportunity to carefully plan growth that will support City Centre vitality and vibrancy. This can help to keep historic buildings appropriate in use, allowing them to contribute to the sense of place that makes Derry City Centre a unique shopping destination.</p>
<p>Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives</p>	<p>Option 1 was scored as having a neutral impact across all of the sustainability objectives. Option 2 was considered to have a potentially significant negative effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character, and protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. It was also considered to be negative for many other sustainability objectives, including enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets, protecting physical resources, encouraging active and sustainable travel amongst others. Option 2 was also considered to have a negative effect on protecting water quality, and protecting natural resources and biodiversity. Option 2 was considered to have a neutral effect on the rest of the sustainability objectives. Option 3 also had a neutral effect on some of the sustainability objectives, but has a positive effect on many objectives including sustainable economic growth, managing material assets and protecting and conserving the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 3 however did have a negative effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character.</p>											
<p>The preferred option</p>	<p>Option 3</p>											
<p>What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>											
<p>What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>											
<p>Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects</p>	<p>Use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, retail capacity studies, transport assessment, sewerage capacity studies.</p>											

7D - Derry City Centre

Options	Option 1: Evaluate the existing Central Area & Commercial Core within Cityside and Waterside, clarifying / simplifying their definitions / roles and adjusting their boundaries if necessary				Option 2: Retain the existing Central Area plus a compact Cityside focus for commerce				Option 3: Expand the overall central areas within Cityside and Waterside			
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
2... strengthen society	0	0	0	Maintenance of the current situation.	0	0	0	Potential loss to sense of being part of the City centre in Waterside area. Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	?	?	?	This could have a positive effect through including the Ebrington area
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	The existing Central Area and Commercial Core contribute to economic growth, through consolidating retail and associated uses into Cityside and Waterside.	+	+	+	The existing Central Area and Commercial Core would continue to contribute to economic growth, through consolidating retail and associated uses although Waterside would not be part of this core.	++	++	++	Potential to include Ebrington, which could lead to greater footfall and economic growth at this site and in the city central area as a whole.

6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	+	+	Having a central area and commercial core assists with the sustainable and efficient management of material assets.	+	+	+	Having a central area and commercial core assists with the sustainable and efficient management of material assets.	+	+	+	Having a central area and commercial core assists with the sustainable and efficient management of material assets.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	-	-	-	Potentially some green field land could be developed.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	There currently is a small focus so active travel within this area, and to this area should currently be occurring.	+	+	+	This option will continue and increase the compact nature of the Central area which encourage the use of active travel.	+	+	+	Potentially this option will encourage active travel.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	Air quality is an issue in parts of the city, but it is unlikely that this option has an impact on local air quality.	0	0	0	Air quality is an issue in parts of the city, but it is unlikely that this option has an impact on local air quality.	0	0	0	Expanding the central area might lead to greater car use locations and associated congestion.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	?	?	?	Difficult to determine.	?	?	?	Difficult to determine.	?	?	?	Difficult to determine.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	-	-	-	Expanding the central core into green field areas could lead to greater risks to biodiversity.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.

14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective. Will be completed once comments are checked.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	<p>Option 1 is considered to have a neutral effect over many of the sustainability objectives. It has an uncertain effect on climate change, in common with the two other options. It is considered to have a positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel. Option 2 is considered to have a positive effect on economic growth through the opportunities for consolidated retail and associated uses in central areas with a compact Cityside focus for commerce. Option 2 also will have a positive effect for managing material assets and encouraging active and sustainable travel. The effect of Option 3, with including the Ebrington area within the central area, was considered to be uncertain for strengthening society but the option gave a scoring of significantly positive for enabling sustainable economic growth. It also was considered to have apposite impact on managing material assets sustainably and encouraging active and sustainable travel. It was however considered to have negative effects for protecting physical resources and using sustainably, and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, both due to potential loss of green-field land.</p>											
The preferred option	Option 1											
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.											
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.											
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Transport assessment, sewerage capacity studies. Other plans and strategies to consider compatibility of adjacent land uses, public service provisions needed, new routes, increased services, parking policy provisions, planning policy on retail.											

7E - Strabane Town Centre

Options	Option 1: Maintain existing Strabane Area Plan Town Centre boundary, subject to detailed reevaluation of boundaries				Option 2: Contract the existing town centre boundary to a more compact form				Option 3: Expand town centre boundary to beyond the Bypass / Camel's Hump area			
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	-	-	-	Potential negative impacts on runners, joggers, walkers and people outside in general due to lesser air quality.
2... strengthen society	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	?	?	?	Pros and cons with option as increasing town centre and away from traditional core may have a noticeable impact on it. May also have wider societal benefits as able to include more of the population to new social circles but not have any impact.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Able to maintain traditional core for business and investment. Adds certainty to investors and new ventures as services/facilities/resources and	+	+	-	Focusing development in a hub where support (services/facilities/resources) and footfall already present. Able to maintain business	+	+	+	Potential growth outside of town centre enabled. Could enable Strabane to be more of a competitive town with the

				footfall already present. With reevaluation, other future potential types of growth could be planned for. Adds an element of sustainability to the option and approach.				within a core area and help revitalise town centre. In longer term may not stimulate diversity of businesses and investments and be unable to support a certain increase in business within the area.				wider proposed area enabling a more diverse mix of uses.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	+	+	Hub focus. Future centered around where existing services and facilities provision is already feasible. Enables reuse of land.	+	+	-	Hub focus. Future centered around where existing services and facilities provision is already feasible. Enables reuse of land. May be restrictive in the longer term if pressure increases on land needed versus availability and provision of waste management services.	-	-	-	Less focus on a hub centre. Wider distribution of infrastructure needed under this option. May lead to inefficient use of land with unused derelict/contaminated land.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	Compact approach to use of land with hub focus. Efficient approach to land use with reevaluation feasible. Able to avoid or greatly limit impacts in wider countryside on physical resources.	+	+	+	Compact approach to use of land with hub focus. Able to avoid or greatly limit impacts in wider countryside on physical resources.	-	-	-	Increased risk of loss of greenfield sites and potential impacts on the wider countryside.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	Currently people can walk and cycle around the town so this active travel would be protected and network be added to.	+	+	+	Option could encourage more active travel as focus is on a smaller area.	-	-	-	Potential for active travel over wider area but likely to increase car journeys as wider area encompassed with less connectivity for walking/cycling.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	-	-	The increase in car use may have negative impacts on local air quality. These may not be a noticeable issue in the short term.

10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	-	-	-	Likely to encourage car use but also part of the land required under this option is floodplain which acts as a natural adaptation measure to help combat climate change. This would be lost.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	-	-	-	Option would need to develop floodplain, which is integral to local water conservation and quality. If developed the issue of flooding would be likely to increase in the immediate area or on adjacent lands.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	-	-	-	Option likely to cause loss of greenfield sites including floodplain area. Potential impacts to consider on designated sites such as Lough Foyle.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	-	-	-	Potential visual impacts on the fringe of urban area as currently undeveloped.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	Able to reuse town buildings and conserve local character through use of central areas within a hub.	++	++	++	Able to reuse town buildings and conserve local character through use of central areas within a hub. More potential to conserve terraces and canal history with the significant focus on the town centre.	-	-	-	Potentially less emphasis on townscape character and need to conserve local buildings and cultural features as option covers wider area with less emphasis on town centre. a
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives				Option 1 delivers a positive effect for enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel. It also is								

	<p>considered to have a positive effect on protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Option 2 delivers very similar effects as option 1 but the objectives on enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets were considered to have a negative effect long term. Option 2 is considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Option 3 was determined to have a positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, but also had a negative effect across many of the sustainability objectives due to the potential loss of green-field land, and potential to increase car use in the town and wider area.</p>
The preferred option	Option 1
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Provision of public transport, development design to consider traffic flow, building design guides, conservation guidelines, avoid developing floodplains.

7F - Local Towns – Castleberg, Newtownstewart, Claudy

Options	Option 1: Retain the compact Town Centre boundary for Castleberg and define compact Town Centres for N'Stewart (existing designated town) & Claudy (proposed new town).			Option 2: Do not define Town Centres for Castleberg, Newtownstewart or Claudy.				
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	Newtownstewart and Claudy might benefit from a defined town centre in that it would keep development close to the centre and mean that people living in the towns have good access to local healthcare facilities. Castleberg would continue to benefit from a defined and compact town centre.	-	-	-	This option will miss the positive effects for health and well-being that come with having a defined town centre.
2... strengthen society.	+	+	+	Defining a compact town centre could help to keep the town centres vibrant places, where people can meet in a shared space, and have a sense of pride in their town.	-	-	-	This option will miss the positive effects for strengthening society that come with having a defined town centre, which are associated with improved vitality.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option has no link on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no link on this objective.
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option has no link on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no link on this objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Defining a compact town centre could help to keep the town centres vibrant places with high levels of footfall , with good provision of local shopping and associated services. This would have a positive impact on economic growth and sustaining local employment.	-	-	-	This option will miss the positive effects for enabling sustainable economic growth associated with defined town centres.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	+	+	Having a compact and defined town centres allow the most efficient use of material assets and provision of infrastructure. It could also lead to the development of derelict and brown-field land in those towns.	0	0	0	Not having defined town centres does not allow the most efficient use of material assets and provision of infrastructure. It could also lead to the development of derelict and higher levels of

								vacancy in those towns. Overall the objective would have a neutral effect.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	This option would consolidate town centre development into a compact centre, and could mean less green field land is developed.	0	0	0	This option could mean potentially loss of green field land. Overall the objective would have a neutral effect.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	Defining compact town centres should lead to vital and vibrant settlements with a good range of retail and service provision. This should encourage greater use of walking and cycling for shopping and daily business.	-	-	-	This option could have a negative effect on active travel in these towns as people might not only drive to them, but also drive between locations in a spread out area.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	Improving the viability and attractiveness of Castlederg, Claudy and Newtownstewart as settlements could attract more people to live, visit and shop and this could bring more car traffic leading to poorer air quality. This could be off-set to some degree by the use of active travel once in the settlements.	-	-	-	Missing the opportunities to encourage more active travel in these towns could lead to poorer air quality.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	+	Long term making these settlements more vital and vibrant might lead to more people living, working and shopping locally, which might decrease green-house gas emitting travel.	0	0	-	Long term these towns may make increase their level of car use which would also mean a higher level of greenhouse gas emission.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option could contribute to loss of biodiverse land in these towns. Overall, this option will have a negligible effect on this objective.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	+	+	+	Keeping these rural towns within compact boundaries will help to protect views into the towns and out from them.	-	-	-	The spread of the town centres in these towns could negatively influence the setting of the town and views into it from the surrounding countryside.

14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	Castlederg currently has low vacancy and has retained a good quality of the historic environment assets. This option could help to extent that effect to Claudy and Newtownstewart.	-	-	-	A spread out small settlement can be at risk of vacancy and a lack of the appearance of vibrancy.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	Option 1 delivers a range of positive effects including improving health and wellbeing, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel, long term reducing causes of climate change, maintaining and enhancing landscape character, and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 2 was considered to have a negative effect across many of the sustainability appraisal objectives.							
The preferred option	Option 1							
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.							
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.							
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Retail capacity assessments, transport assessments.							

7G - Transport

Options	Option 1: Plan to maximise the opportunities for sustainable development arising from the A5 / A6 upgrades and other orbital / cross border links. Also promote Active Travel opportunities and accessibility and connectivity within our main urban settlements.			Option 2: Maintain / accept current transport links and plan for commensurate level of sustainable growth. Also promote Active Travel and accessibility within our main urban settlements.				
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	-	+	+	Road upgrades may bring short term disruption associated with road upgrades, such as congestion and traffic jams. Long term will lead to better accessibility and promotion of active and sustainable travel should help with health and well-being. Also less congestion could lead to improvements in local air quality in some areas, which will be better for respiratory conditions.	0	-	-	Maintaining and accepting current transport links will mean less disruption in the short term, however this will do nothing to deal with the problems of congestion, and associated health problems from poor air quality and low levels of activity.
2... strengthen society.	-	+	+	Road upgrades may bring short term disruption associated with congestion and traffic jams. Long term will lead to better accessibility which improve quality of life and lead to	0	-	-	Long term accepting the current transport links and planning for a commensurate level of sustainable growth, could lead to greater congestion and reduced quality of life for people.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option will not affect the ability to meet housing needs in the council area.	0	0	0	This option will not affect the ability to meet housing needs in the council area.
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option will not affect the ability to meet housing needs in the council area.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	++	This option presents opportunities for economic growth, as it aims to reduce congestion, and should give certainty to investors about locations and their connectivity.	0	-	-	Long term this option could provide less opportunities for economic growth and investment.

6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	+	++	Services and infrastructure can be delivered efficiently as new roads are in place.	0	0	-	Long term delivery of services may become more challenging.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	This option could lead to loss of some green field and semi-natural land with development associated with these road improvements.	0	0	0	A commensurate level of economic growth would have a negligible effect on loss of greenfield land.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	++	++	Over the longer term this option should improve the infrastructure in place for bus links, and will promote active and sustainable travel with connectivity within urban settlements.	0	0	-	There would be no improvement in the infrastructure in place to support public transport.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	This option is considered to have a neutral effect on air quality overall as it includes promoting active travel and accessibility within main urban settlements. It may increase road use, but may lead to reduced congestion in some areas.	0	0	0	This option is considered to have a neutral effect on air quality overall as it includes promoting active travel and accessibility within main urban settlements.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	-	-	-	It is likely that this growth will lead to increasing greenhouse gas emissions.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	-	-	-	Potential risks to water quality with an increase in the area of hard-standing and run off from the road, and increase in people and businesses using the roads.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	-	-	-	Potential loss of semi-natural land, woodland and wildlife corridors.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	-	-	0	This option could lead risks to landscape character.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.

14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option will have a negligible effect on this objective.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	<p>Option 1 was considered to have positive effects long term for improving health and wellbeing, and strengthening society although the appraisal did recognise that short term there could be negative effects for improving health and well-being and strengthening society. The option was considered to have long term effects for enabling sustainable economic growth, becoming significant long term, and have a medium and long term positive effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel. However it was considered to have a negative effect on protecting physical resources, and would not positively contribute to reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. It was also considered to have a negative impact on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.</p> <p>Option 2 would have negative effects long term for health and well-being and strengthening society, and negative impacts for enabling sustainable economic growth. It would also be negative for encouraging active and sustainable travel long term, and improving air quality long term.</p>							
The preferred option	Option 1							
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	<p>The preferred option has significant positive effects for enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably and encouraging active and sustainable travel.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>							
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.							
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.							

7H - Tourism

Options	Option 1: Identify flagship Tourism sites/areas along with opportunities for dedicated sustainable attractions and associated accommodation. Focus on improved accessibility, place-making and legibility of tourism offer.			Option 2: Plan for further opportunities that emerge, to expand current offer generally.			Option 3: Focus on the protection of our Tourism assets and constrain Tourism development potential.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	Improving accessibility, place making and legibility of spaces at some of the tourism assets may make some locations in the council area easy to use and navigate. This might make walking more likely, and improve health and well-being of residents.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
2... strengthen society	+	+	+	Increasing the tourism offer in this way aims to increase jobs associated with tourism which will contribute to quality of life and opportunity for residents of the council area. It also may increase sense of pride in the community.	0	0	0	This option does not have the opportunity to shape tourism in a proactive way and therefore has a negligible effect on this this objective.	0	0	0	This option does not have the opportunity to shape tourism in a proactive way and therefore has a negligible effect on this this objective.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.

4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective but it could have some very minor positive effects in terms of the educational resources that some of the tourism assets are.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	++	++	++	This strategic approach to tourism development should have benefits for job creation, economic growth, vitality and vibrancy in nearby settlements.	+	+	+	The approach will encourage economic growth but with less strategic and spatial overview.	-	-	-	This approach will limit growth of tourism related economic enterprises.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	This option could lead to loss of green field or semi-natural land.	-	-	-	This option could lead to loss of green field or semi-natural land.	0	0	0	This option will limit this type of growth and is not likely to lead to loss of green field land.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	This option may encourage walking as some areas will benefit from better accessibility, place-making and legibility of the connections between spaces. Also public transport may develop to work with tourism needs, which could have benefits for residents. However tourism growth overall is likely to increase traffic in parts of the council area, although this	-	-	-	This approach does not give the potential to improve sustainable and active travel. It could lead to more dispersed, and less strategically planned tourism locations, which could bring problems for congestion.	0	0	0	This option is unlikely to increase congestion but it is also unlikely to help to improve sustainable and active travel. Overall this option has a neutral effect on the objective.

				approach allows the impact on transportation to be considered in a strategic way.								
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	As described above, this option has the potential to increase car use, and associated emissions to local air quality. However the approach allows traffic to be a consideration in the strategic planning of locations/activities, and also the option should help to support active and sustainable travel which could have positive effects on local air quality.	-	-	-	A described above, this option does not give the potential to improve sustainable and active travel. It could lead to more dispersed, and less strategically focused tourism locations, which could bring problems for congestion for adjacent areas.	0	0	0	Overall this option is likely to have a neutral effect on this objective.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option has the potential to increase car use, and the associated green house has emissions associated with road transportation. However the approach allows traffic to be a consideration in the strategic planning of locations/activities, and also the option should help to support active and sustainable travel which could mean less green-house gas emissions. Overall the option is considered to have a neutral effect on this objective.	-	-	-	This option does not give the potential to strategically shape the provision of the tourism offer. It may lead to more dispersed, and less strategically planned tourism locations, which could continue green-house gas emissions.	0	0	0	Whilst this option will not increase climate change emissions, it also does not encourage tourism development which considers travel and its role in the creation of green-house gas emissions. It is therefore considered to have a neutral effect.

11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option could lead to less dispersed tourism development, but one that might put more pressure on local water resources and sewerage capacity.	?	?	?	This option could put more pressure on local water resources and sewerage capacity. These impacts could be minimized through planning policy.	+	+	+	This option could help to protect water resources through restricting tourism development,
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	There could be a potential loss but strategic approach can consider natural heritage and biodiversity resources in scale and location of tourism opportunities.	-	-	-	May lead to pattern of dispersed tourism development, with less opportunity to plan strategically to consider nature conservation.	+	+	+	This option has a high potential to protect natural resources and biodiversity.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	+	+	+	This option gives the potential to consider impact on landscape when considering the spatial location and types of tourism.	-	-	-	This option is less strategic in nature but will allow each case to be considered on its own merits. Landscape protection will depend upon the approach taken to development management, however overall it presents a risk to landscape.	+	+	+	This option has a high potential to maintain and enhance landscape character.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	This approach can include ensuring built heritage assets are given consideration in identification of sites, and approaches to tourism growth.	0	0	0	Considering proposals individually misses an opportunity to holistically look at the role historic buildings and built heritage play in creating places, as locations for tourism.	0	0	0	Constraining tourism development may to protect some the historic environment resources. However it will reduce opportunities for reuse of historic buildings.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives					Option 1 was considered to have a positive effect on many of the sustainability appraisal objectives including improving health and well-being, strengthening society, encouraging active and sustainable travel, maintaining and enhancing landscape and the objective to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage. The option was considered to have a							

	<p>significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth. It was considered to have a negative effect for protecting physical resources and using sustainably.</p> <p>Option 2 was determined to have a neutral effect for many of the objectives, but was considered to have a positive impact on enabling sustainable growth. It was considered to have a negative effect on protecting physical resources, encouraging active and sustainable travel, improving air quality, reducing the causes of and adapt to climate change, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.</p> <p>Option 3 was determined to have a neutral effect for many of the objectives, but was considered to have a negative impact on enabling sustainable economic growth. It was however considered to have a positive impact on protecting managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.</p>
The preferred option	Option 1.
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	<p>The preferred option has a significant positive effects for enabling sustainable economic growth.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Transport studies.

71 - Minerals

Options	Option1: Pro-development, and maximise the potential growth of our local aggregates sector across the District.			Option 2: Emphasis on protecting environment, and consequently constrain further development and growth opportunities.			Option 3: Balanced approach, which seeks to promote mineral development in sustainable locations with a focus on the protection of sensitive landscapes and reinstatement of workings.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	-	-	-	Potential to maximise local level impacts on people's health and well-being i.e. noise, dust, odours, traffic concerns (safety)	+	+	+	Able to prevent future local level nuisances and able to continue to mitigate any existing impacts from works on people's health. Noted that there may be negative impacts on people's health who are linked to the industry.	+	+	+	Sustainable locations sought so local people's health and well-being a key consideration. A balanced approach to assessing sites so nuisances should be avoided or minimized. Also people linked to the industry remain supported through employment and future prospects.
2... strengthen society	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.

5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Would provide jobs in the industry and help stimulate associated work as well in local areas but option is developer led and could negatively impact on other types of industry i.e. tourism.	--	--	--	Option would inhibit and restrict economic growth within this sector.	+	+	+	Option enables sites in sustainable locations therefore compatibility with other industries and sectors is considered. Balanced approach may help with mitigation to reduce impacts on for example local tourism. Option supports associated work through lifetime of the minerals working i.e. restoration phase.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	+	+	+	Option seeks sustainable locations so associated infrastructure is a consideration. This should enable the most efficient use of infrastructure and the use of any derelict/vacant land for associated works.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	Option would maximise land take with the risk of soil erosion/pollution. Potential impacts across the wider countryside on earth science sites and other land uses also a consideration. Potentially less control with this option to avoid impacts.	+	+	+	Option would inhibit land take for minerals and avoid similar development across the wider countryside, which would work in favour of conserving earth science sites and land/soil for other land uses.	+	+	+	Option seeks sustainable locations with sensitive sites avoided and workings restored. This approach supports this objective by sustainably using land for current and future use. Earth science sites can also remain protected under this option.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.

9... improve air quality.	--	-	-	Local air quality likely to be affected by works although factors important to consider include amount of extraction/works/traffic and background levels of air pollutants. This option aims to maximise works so air quality likely to be affected particularly in the short term.	+	+	0	This option would inhibit associated works so depending on background air pollutant levels, it may help to improve air quality in the short to medium term.	-	0	0	There are likely to be local level air quality issues in the initial extraction/construction phases of sites but much depends on existing background levels of air pollutants and mitigation. Sustainable approach to new sites should help avoid local level impacts through efficient locations, infrastructure etc.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	Noted that resources closer to home may help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport sources used to import materials but the domestic market could lead to increased exports so overall this option thought to have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	-	-	-	Maximising sites increases risk of water pollution from ground and surface sources. Potentially less able to manage and fully monitor sites.	-	+	+	Remove risk of water pollution from minerals and associated works over time. With restrictions under this option comes less risk to water resources.	+	+	+	Sustainable approach to sites should enable consideration of avoidance of sensitive sites and water pollution pathways. Option also requires restoration of sites, which leads to responsibility for aftercare of sites and reduces the risk of pollution to local waterways.

<p>12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.</p>	-	-	-	<p>Maximising sites would increase fragmentation of habitats and increase risks of pollution and loss of biodiversity. Developer led so possibly difficult to fully mitigate.</p>	+	+	+	<p>Protecting natural environment from mineral workings by restricting sites and avoiding future losses to local biodiversity from the industry by inhibiting growth.</p>	0	+	++	<p>Sustainable approach should help avoid any significant losses of natural heritage and local biodiversity. Mitigation remains feasible as well. Restoration of sites required under this option, which provides an opportunity to ensure natural environment is restored and local biodiversity enhanced.</p>
<p>13... maintain and enhance landscape character.</p>	--	--	--	<p>Maximising sites would increase number of sites across wider countryside that all need to be mitigated. Developer led so possibly difficult to fully and equally mitigate all sites for local level impacts.</p>	0	+	+	<p>Option prevents future sites and growth of existing so over time the approach helps to support the objective.</p>	0	++	++	<p>Sensitive areas avoided and working sites chosen based on sustainable locations, which should include landscape as a consideration. Option also requires restoration of sites, which would help to maintain local landscape character.</p>
<p>14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>	0	0	0	<p>Potential significant impacts on rural archaeology may be likely due to the maximum growth approach but pre-work studies and licensing procedures should protect these sites/features/artefacts.</p>	0	++	++	<p>Potential impacts on rural archaeology unlikely as option avoids further growth of any type.</p>	0	+	+	<p>Potential impacts on rural archaeology but pre-work studies and licensing procedures should protect these sites/features/artefacts. This option is based on sustainable locations and built/cultural heritage should be a consideration in the decision-making process of any sites. This consideration helps add a layer of potential avoidance of areas that have built and/or cultural heritage interest.</p>

<p>Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives</p>	<p>Option 1 was determined to have a neutral effect on a number of sustainability objectives, but was considered to have a negative impact on health and well-being, protecting physical resources and using sustainably. It is also considered to have negative effects for air quality, which are significant in the short term.</p> <p>Option 2 was determined to have a neutral effect on many of the sustainability objectives and a negative effect on water quality in the short term. The option was considered to have a significant negative effect on enabling sustainable economic growth through inhibiting and restricting growth in this sector. However the option is determined to have a positive impact on improving health and well-being, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, improving air quality, medium and long term protecting of water resources, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. Option 2 is also considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Option 3 was also determined to have a neutral effect on many of the sustainability objectives. It was considered to have a positive effect on improving health and well-being, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, protecting managing and using water resources sustainably and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. The option also was determined to have a significantly positive effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity long term.</p>
<p>The preferred option</p>	<p>Option 3</p>
<p>What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?</p>	<p>Significant positive effects for the preferred option include protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity and maintain and enhance landscape character.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects</p>	<p>Key site requirements, planning conditions, other planning policy, local level policies, areas of constraint on mineral development, local level industry/business partnerships, site management plans – mitigation, archaeological investigations / licensing.</p>

7J - Rural Economy

Options	Option 1: To focus rural economic development proposals in the Local Towns and villages, to drive the rural economy.				Option 2: Balanced, opportunities in the rural settlements for appropriate-scale development / employment plus opportunities for appropriate business starts and small businesses in the countryside, to promote a vibrant, rural economy.				Option 3: Rural Development / businesses promoted generally across the District, wherever it emerges spatially and with only minimal restrictions.			
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	May have some negatives for dispersed rural communities and make it harder for them to access services. Possibly isolate communities in the wider countryside but at same time, option brings employment to the towns and villages that rural communities can access. This can positively affect mental health and well-being and help support provision of rural health services and facilities. Option helps to retain vitality of rural towns and villages which in itself has a positive impact on local people's health and well-being.	+	+	+	Pros and cons. Traffic across wider area and may increase in some rural parts that could lead to increased risk of traffic accidents. Potentially more jobs, opportunities and money available for rural people, which can have a positive impact on health and well-being. Option enables opportunities in a balanced approach and in appropriate areas so assume nuisances can be avoided. Option able to help improve quality of life by enabling people to work closer to home within rural areas.	-	-	-	Pros and cons. Traffic across wider area so may be increased risk of traffic accidents. More jobs, opportunities and money available for people, which has a positive impact on health and well-being but option has no strategic approach and minimal controls so developments could arise that negatively impact local people's health and well-being. Option could lead to piecemeal developments.
2... strengthen society	+	+	+	Enables rural communities to be considered. Enables connections and partnerships across rural areas even though	+	+	+	Enables rural communities to be considered. Enables connections and partnerships across rural areas. More strategic approach to enable	-	-	-	Option would disperse community benefits as option applicable across the wider countryside but without strategic approach and minimal

				towns/villages are only focused on.				wider benefits for society. Rural economy support ensures retention of vitality and vibrancy in rural areas, which can positively impacts on local communities.				controls so nuisances likely. Less focus on key areas.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	Slight link with economy in that jobs can encourage house building but also economic ventures may deter house building in some areas. Overall thought that this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Slight link with economy in that jobs encourage house building but also economy may deter house building in some areas. Overall thought that this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Slight link with economy in that jobs encourage house building but also economy may deter house building in some areas. Overall thought that this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Helps stimulate economic growth and associated services and facilities within the rural towns and villages i.e. key areas.	+	+	+	Strategic approach to developing appropriate rural type developments. Should not affect main towns/ hubs negatively as option also considers appropriate businesses in appropriate locations only within the countryside.	-	-	-	Able to help stimulate economic growth but over a wider area that may lead to unsuitable businesses for certain locations and less control over sustainable growth. May help deprived areas outside of main hubs and settlements but overall thought to not be a sustainable option.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	+	+	Focused on towns/villages where existing material assets are present. Able to easily take advantage of access to the	+	+	+	Focused on towns/villages as well as appropriate rural locations where existing material assets are probably	-	-	-	Option applicable across wide rural area, which could reduce development in focused hubs/settlements and place

				existing services as well as any derelict land.				already available and access to them not an issue. Able to take advantage of any derelict land in these areas.				increased pressure on material assets across wider area. Some locations may not be adequately supported for businesses/industries. Option enables less control over these decisions.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	Less risk of losing greenfield sites and able to limit impacts in the wider countryside and on physical resources. Able to avoid mineral and earth science sites.	-	-	-	Likely to have some loss of greenfield land with impacts on physical resources - land and soil but mitigation feasible. Only appropriate businesses are to be considered in appropriate locations.	-	-	-	Option applicable across wide rural area, which could reduce development in focused hubs/settlements and place increased pressure on wider countryside with more potential impacts on physical resources. Loss of greenfield sites very likely under this option.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	Able to focus on towns/villages where walking, cycling and public transport provision at the local level are available. Location choice in these key areas could help encourage active travel for local people and could increase public transport services to these areas.	?	?	?	Able to focus on towns/villages where walking, cycling and public transport provision to a local level are available. Other rural locations can be considered based on suitable businesses/industries for those locations and may enable more people to work from home or to remain in local area for employment. Option may help to encourage active travel for local people but at same time, it may encourage more car use across rural area particularly if workers have to come in from	?	?	?	Widespread approach so probably less able to promote and use existing active travel and sustainable travel. Depends on local conditions but as option promotes potential business anywhere in rural area, it is likely to encourage car use as the easiest or only mode for people. However option could enable more rural people to work from home or from their local area thus reducing car use and journeys.

							other places. Much depends on local transport conditions and behaviours.					
9... improve air quality.	0	-	-	May be local impacts on air quality but depends on existing background levels, local conditions, the proposed industry/businesses and associated traffic flows. Option focuses on towns/villages where traffic already resides. Potential is there to reduce air quality in the longer term.	0	0	0	May be local impacts on air quality but depends on existing background levels, local conditions, the proposed industry/businesses and associated traffic flows. Strategic approach so able to spread rural enterprise across wider area and less likely to impact on local air quality. Able to also appropriately consider types of suitable businesses and avoid adding to any local air quality issues using this approach. Overall option thought to have a negligible effect.	0	0	0	May be local impacts on air quality but depends on existing background levels, local conditions, the proposed industry/businesses and associated traffic flows. Option promotes potential business/industries across wider area which may contribute to air quality issues from traffic but dispersed approach could eliminate this. Also air quality issues linked to more urban areas. Overall option thought to have a negligible effect.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective. Option may increase car travel across wider area but could also enable people to stay at home or within local area for work across the rural area.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	May increase pressure on local water supplies and increase the risk of local water pollution incidents depending on the	0	0	0	May increase pressure on local water supplies and increase the risk of local water pollution incidents depending on the	0	0	0	May increase pressure on local water supplies and increase the risk of local water pollution incidents depending on the

				type of business/industry. At same time focused on areas with water services and able to reduce risks of pollution. Overall option thought to have a negligible effect because of town/village focus.				type of business/industry. Strategic approach should help reduce pressure on adequate access to water and help to reduce risks to water resources by focusing on towns/villages with services but by also using appropriate considerations for sites. Overall option thought to have a negligible effect.				type of business/industry. This option is potentially dispersed across rural area to greater extent, which could increase the risks of pollution and reliance on septic tanks. Less able to control access to water and to limit potential impacts to it as a resource.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	+	+	+	Approach helps to avoid losses of greenfield sites and local biodiversity as focused on towns/villages. Mitigation still likely as development and associated works are proposed in the rural environment but impacts on wider countryside are able to be limited to existing towns/villages.	-	-	-	Approach in part helps to focus business and associated development to villages and towns but wider countryside is also feasible for consideration of appropriate businesses. There is potential for piecemeal loss of greenfield sites and local biodiversity though mitigation is feasible. Reusing old farm buildings and derelict areas in rural parts is feasible but option increases risks to wider countryside.	-	-	-	Wider approach could lead to potentially more impacts in the wider countryside with loss of greenfield land and local biodiversity. Less control with this option so piecemeal development and/or associated works to support new rural businesses likely but across rural area. Option has potential to lead to a higher level of dissection across habitats at local level.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	+	+	+	This option focuses on the towns and villages and avoids the wider countryside which in effect helps to continue to protect landscape character.	+	+	+	Option has the potential to impact on local landscape character within the wider countryside because of approach to stimulating growth in towns and villages but also within appropriate areas. Any likely businesses in these areas should be based on the most	-	-	-	Option has potential to impact on local landscape character within the wider countryside because of approach to stimulating growth across entire rural area and not just within towns/villages. Option feasible across wider countryside so piecemeal

						suitable for the location so landscape character should remain a consideration.				developments more likely and any associated impacts. Less control with this option and more risk of impacts on local landscape character.		
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	Able to reuse buildings and structures for new business/industry and associated uses. Option able to help retain local character particularly townscapes and enable regeneration of some rural areas if required.	+	+	+	Potential is there to conserve rural buildings and structures across a wider area as well as cultural features of interest. Option able to help retain local rural character and enable regeneration of some rural areas as well. Mitigation also feasible. Potentially able to have a wider impact across rural hubs and appropriate rural locations/ sites.	+	+	+	Potential is there to conserve rural buildings and structures across a wider area as well as cultural features of interest. Help to retain local rural character and enable regeneration of some rural areas as well. Mitigation also feasible. Potentially able to have a wider impact across the rural area.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	<p>Option 1 was determined to have a positive effect on a large proportion of the sustainability objectives including health and well-being, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources, encouraging active and sustainable travel, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. However the option was determined to have a medium and long term negative effect for air quality.</p> <p>Option 2 was determined to have a positive effect on health and wellbeing, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. This option was determined to have a negative impact on protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, and on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. The appraisal also recorded the impact on encouraging active and sustainable travel to be uncertain.</p> <p>Option 3 was determined to have a negative effect on health and wellbeing, strengthening society, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. This option was determined to have a positive impact on protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment</p>											

	and cultural heritage. The appraisal also recorded the impact on encouraging active and sustainable travel as uncertain.
The preferred option	Option 2
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Planning policy, mitigation measures, Key Site Requirements, water conservation programmes, green building design, local level policies/guidelines, archaeological studies, local building design conservation guidelines.

8A - Strategic Housing Distribution

Options	Option 1: Dispersed – across the Settlement Hierarchy, including countryside in proportion to settlement tier.			Option 2: Concentrated – emphasis on urban, central, sustainably accessible locations.			Option 3: Balanced – Moderate focus on Derry City as a Regional City, as well as Strabane town as a main hub plus housing opportunities across the settlement tiers at appropriate scale / densities and in the countryside.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	-	-	-	Pros and cons across both urban and rural areas. Potential dispersal of health services. Possible negatives for some areas/communities if available health services/facilities do not match local population needs.	+	+	-	Less dispersal of housing so provision of health services/facilities should reflect populations. May be negatives for rural areas particularly in the wider countryside and worsening over time. The areas focused on with majority of people should benefit from easy accessibility to health provisions. Air quality should be a consideration for new housing and areas with local AQ issues avoided. This may become more difficult in the long term to achieve.	+	+	+	Strategic approach should help enable access to health services/facilities for more people in both urban and rural areas. Easier access for the majority of the population. Provision should reflect more accurately the local population and with that local needs.
2... strengthen society	-	-	-	Option may place smaller settlements at a disadvantage and due to lack of strategy place rural communities at a disadvantage by not being appropriately considered. Lack of shared space provision and	-	-	--	Shared spaces very feasible in more urban areas but not so much in the rural areas. May negatively impact on the vitality of rural communities particularly in the long term.	+	+	+	Strategic approach enables more cohesion across urban and rural areas. Should help enable a balanced provision of services/facilities to suit local populations/need. Help to protect smaller settlements and

				lack of cohesive housing projects.						supportive of rural communities helping to retain rural populations.		
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	+	+	-	Option provides housing in key areas to match population need but it is worth noting that some smaller settlements may be at a disadvantage and particularly in the longer term.	+	+	+		++	++	++	Option provides housing based on strategic approach. Main hubs covered but also the rest of the settlement hierarchy and the wider countryside so provision should be feasible to most if not all of the population where it is needed. Hub focus suits big providers like the NIHE but smaller settlements and countryside could support other housing providers.
4.... enable access to high quality education.	-	-	-	Housing can enable access to local schools particularly in the main hubs but this option may put rural schools at a disadvantage by distributing housing to main hubs and settlements. Some rural schools need local populations maintained or increased to sustain them and without this are in danger of closing.	-	-	-	Approach can help enable access to local schools particularly in the urban areas but it could place an increased pressure on rural schools by reducing the local rural populations needed to sustain the schools. Although the option could at the same time help urban schools that are in trouble of closure, it would place rural dwellers and schools at a disadvantage.	++	++	++	Strategic approach should enable provision of housing and populations to support schools across both urban and rural areas. It may help sustain schools in some areas that need more students to remain open. This option is sustainable in its approach to this objective as it is more balanced and based on existing populations and need.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	0	0	?	People stay in area for work but there are those that still travel to Belfast and Coleraine; residents in Castleberg /	+	+	+	Approach could help focus construction/housing and associated works in the main hubs. This provides jobs, money	++	++	++	Approach enables a balanced approach to housing development across rural and urban areas, which helps to

				Plumbridge / Newtownstewart areas tend to go to Omagh. There is potential for cross-border jobs/opportunities. Housing and construction industry is good for job creation and can help to stimulate local economy. Also housing enables workers to live closer to the work.				and opportunities but the actual housing provision itself also enables workers to live in the bigger hubs that tend to have a higher supply of work and demand for employees. This option could help bring employees closer to the jobs. There would be some disadvantages for areas within the lower tiers of the hierarchy which may worsen over time.				stimulate associated business during construction. Also bringing homes to these areas, helps create economic growth through the need for shops and services/facilities. Option is based on existing need/populations using the settlement hierarchy and considers the wider countryside so should be sustainable.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	-	-	-	Some focus on hubs but also rural areas. May be some disadvantages for rural areas with no or poor access to telecommunications and electrical infrastructure. Option is less strategic, which can place pressure on material assets.	+	+	+	Approach focuses on hubs where main infrastructure already exists and provision of services/facilities is more feasible. The option enables an efficient approach to the use of infrastructure and as well as derelict/contaminated land.	+	+	+	Approach is strategic so housing focused on areas already supported by existing material assets and therefore more readily accessed. Option does cover rural areas and wider countryside so there may be risks in those locations of less access to material assets but option based on existing populations and need so provision of housing should suit adequate local level of services/facilities and access to other material assets.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	Potential loss of greenfield sites with element of dispersal across settlement hierarchy.	+	+	+	Approach should have less dispersal and less risk of loss of greenfield sites. Able to avoid physical resources by focusing on the hubs and taking advantage of any brownfield	-	-	-	Urban focus but also throughout the hierarchy and the countryside. Potential loss of greenfield sites under this option but other important

							sites. Option would help encourage this.				physical resources can still be avoided and mitigation used.	
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	-	-	-	Potentially less opportunity to use active or sustainable travel as approach is less strategic and unable to plan for/around critical mass.	+	+	+	Urban and hub focus helps to concentrate people in those areas where walking and cycling routes as well as public transport provision are already present and can be added to.	+	+	-	Potential for active and sustainable travel evident in the main hubs but to a lesser extent in the smaller settlements. Public transport available but could be improved upon. Housing across wider countryside may have a negative impact on active/sustainable travel, as location requires car travel. This may become more evident in the longer term.
9... improve air quality.	?	?	?	Background levels are important and in rural areas and any locations with little congestion. Option may lead to an increased level of car travel.	?	?	?	Emissions from new housing and associated traffic in main hubs potentially adding to any local air quality issues. By focusing more people in the same areas, a higher level of active and sustainable travel as well as shorter journeys to work, school and to the shops, is likely. Some uncertainty over whether approach could improve air quality though gas and renewables and electric cars are more likely to be used in the future.	?	?	?	Strategic approach but housing still focused on main hubs where there are some local air quality issues. Housing can create emissions during its construction phase and then whilst heating homes and associated traffic. Housing in lower settlement hierarchy and wider countryside unlikely to improve local air quality but at same time unlikely to affect it in these areas due to the more open locations and less traffic congestion but it depends on

												local environmental conditions and other factors.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	-	-	-	Development of housing unlikely to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with construction phase and then heating and associated travel with new homes. The focus on settlement hierarchy should help avoid development of floodplain areas and help limit loss of greenfield sites but wide area encompassed.	-	-	-	New houses involve construction which creates greenhouse gas emissions and then housing itself from heating and associated traffic also releases emissions. Able to incorporate energy efficient measures, green building design, adaptations like SuDS and avoid development in floodplains but overall option is unlikely to reduce GHG emissions.	-	-	-	New houses involve construction which creates greenhouse gas emissions and then housing itself from heating and associated traffic also releases emissions. Potential for loss of greenfield sites with this option. Able to incorporate energy efficient measures, green building design, adaptations like SuDS and avoid development in floodplains but overall option is unlikely to reduce GHG emissions.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	-	-	-	Developments across the settlement hierarchy potentially could impact negatively on existing water services/facilities which are at capacity and could lead to increased pressure on existing services/infrastructure. Also there could be potential risks from a potential increase in the number of septic tanks discharging into local groundwater in rural areas.	0	0	-	Urban focus so less pressure on the wider countryside and reliance on septic tanks. Hub focus enables use of existing water services/facilities but housing may increase pressure on existing services at capacity and in general over time. Some rural settlements may also be at a disadvantage under this option in the longer term without upgrades.	0	0	-	Urban and rural focus but strategic approach so less pressure on the wider countryside and smaller settlements than the main hubs. Reliance on septic tanks would still be required in the wider countryside. Hub focus enables use of existing water services/facilities but housing may increase pressure on these particularly over time and same in the smaller settlements. Strategic approach would consider services/facilities with

											capacity issues. Development in the wider countryside presents more risk of pollution and need for mitigation. Strategic approach should help enable housing provision with adequate services/facilities.	
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	-	-	-	Increased risk of loss of greenfield sites and local biodiversity.	+	+	+	Option focuses on developed areas, which helps to avoid development of greenfield sites and the wider countryside, which helps to avoid loss of biodiversity. Mitigation is feasible with any developments on the edges of sites. Potential to use brownfield sites under this option could help encourage its use.	+	+	-	Strategic approach to housing provision but this includes smaller settlements and the wider countryside so loss of greenfield sites and biodiversity likely. Focus is on main hubs where use of brownfield sites is more feasible. Mitigation feasible in both urban and rural areas. Housing is to be provided where it is needed in a balanced approach to population/need but impacts on wider countryside possibly harder to avoid in the longer term.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	-	-	-	Less control with option and less strategic so more difficult to minimise local landscape impacts.	+	+	+	Hub focus helps to avoid development in the wider countryside and so protects landscape character through avoidance. Less risk to local landscapes with this option's approach to hub development.	+	+	+	Hub focus helps to avoid dispersed development across the wider countryside but option does not stop it. Approach is proportionate and balanced so housing provision should not affect local landscape character. Mitigation feasible.

<p>14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>	?	?	?	<p>Pros and cons. Able to potentially reuse buildings in urban and rural areas across settlements and able to replicate local character. Protection and conservation of local buildings, sites and features is feasible under this option by avoidance, replication and possibly reuse but replacement of sites for new development can occur.</p>	?	?	?	<p>Pros and cons with this option but hub focus helps to encourage retention of local townscapes and areas and the reuse of older buildings if possible. Urban archaeology also able to be conserved within designs so long as the correct pre-works studies are carried out and mitigation used. Not all developers can conserve older heritage in their plans/projects.</p>	?	?	?	<p>Strategic approach to distribution of housing. Able to reuse where feasible old buildings but more likely to retain and replicate local character. Urban and rural archaeology also able to be conserved within designs so long as the correct pre-works studies are carried out and mitigation used. Not all developers can conserve older heritage in their plans/projects which adds uncertainty to this objective.</p>
<p>Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives</p>				<p>Option 1 is considered to have a negative effect on many of the sustainability objectives including improving health and well-being, strengthening society, long term for providing good quality sustainable housing. It also is considered to have a negative effect on enabling access to high quality education, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel, reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change, and protecting managing and using water sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. The option was also considered to have a positive effect in the short and medium term for proving good quality, sustainable housing, and an uncertain effect for enabling sustainable economic growth long term. It was also considered to have an uncertain effect on improving air quality and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Option 2 was considered to have a significantly negative effect on improving health and wellbeing long term, although in the short and medium term it had a positive effect. The option was also determined to have a negative effect on strengthening society becoming significant over the long term. It also was considered to have a negative impact on enabling access to high quality education, and reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. It was also considered to have a negative impact on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably in the long term. Option 2 did however record some positive scorings and comments including for providing good quality, sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, protecting physical resources and using sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. It was also considered to have an</p>								

	<p>uncertain effect on improving air quality and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Option 3 was considered to have a significantly positive effect on a number of sustainability objectives such as providing good quality, sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education, and enabling sustainable economic growth. It was considered to have a positive impact on improving health and well-being, strengthening society, managing material assets sustainably, and encouraging active and sustainable travel in the short term. It is also considered to have a positive impact on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity in the short and medium term. The option was considered to have a negative impact on protecting physical resources and using sustainably, long term for encouraging active and sustainable travel, reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change, and long term for protecting manging and using water resources sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. It was also considered to have an uncertain effect on improving air quality and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>
The preferred option	Option 3
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	<p>There were significant positive effects for the preferred option for provide good quality sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education and enabling sustainable economic growth.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Building design/energy efficiency measures, site mitigation, key site requirements, avoid building on floodplains, development management, SuDS, biodiversity enhancement measures, building conservation guidelines, archaeological studies, other planning policy considerations, local level policies.

8B - Housing Allocation Quantum

Options	Option 1: Current housing growth indicator (HGI) as per RDS 6500 dwellings.				Option 2: Balanced planned growth of 12 000 dwellings.				Option 3: Previous housing growth indicator (HGI) as per RDS 16 000 dwellings.			
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	-	-	-	Under provision - inadequate to deal with current overcrowding and health issues of some of the population. Overall potential negative impacts on mental health and well-being due to under provision.	?	?	?	More appropriate match in housing number to need which would help with health and well-being by providing homes for people and families. Appropriate number would help to consolidate development i.e. local health services/facilities for people.	-	-	-	Potentially less control with this option. Estimate too high and not enough of a population available to support the local services/facilities. Risk of creating ghost estates – negative image for citizens and investors.
2... strengthen society	+	-	-	Not enough provision of housing to help adequately meet objective. May help some communities unite and connect in areas but overall inadequate provision.	+	+	+	Would enable a larger amount of population to meet in shared spaces and to be part of new housing areas. Could encourage linking of old and new housing areas and communities through design and use of local level spaces and community projects. People able to meet easily.	+	+	+	Would enable a larger amount of population to meet in shared spaces and to be part of new housing areas. Could encourage linking of old and new housing areas and communities through design and use of local level spaces and community projects. People able to meet easily.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	+	-	-	Number would not be enough to deal with related issues – overcrowding, homelessness. Also less feasible to provide different types of housing to meet all the needs of the population though there would be some provision in the initial stages.	+	+	+	Appropriate number to deal with issues of overcrowding and homelessness. Able to provide mix of housing suited to population needs. More attractive to providers as more opportunities for them feasible under this option/number.	+	+	-	Housing number would help deal with issues of overcrowding and homelessness. Able to provide mix of housing suited to population needs. More attractive to providers as more opportunities for them feasible under this option/number.

				where housing developed. This approach is not thought to be able to improve current economic status but there would be activity and related work/stimulus at construction phase.				housing would bring workers closer to the jobs. A higher population in the area would also help to stimulate associated services and facilities – shops, leisure facilities, tourist industry and so on.				local population needs and this could result in an excess of services/facilities being developed and then not sustained or supported as based on a higher than necessary housing number that would overload the local situation.
6... manage material assets sustainably.				Less pressure on existing and future material assets. Could probably integrate to existing areas and access infrastructure, services and use suitable brownfield sites. Depends on locations as well how much mitigation may be needed.				Housing number proposed appropriate for local need and focus would most probably be in the main hubs and larger settlements to help deal with the issues of overcrowding and homelessness though rural areas would not be ignored. Access to material assets would be more feasible and have less of an impact in the main hubs but less so in the rural areas. Depends on exact locations of housing and numbers as this exerts pressure on local access to the grid and other infrastructure as well as use of derelict land. Amount of housing proposed more realistic to population needs so should not overload local situation.				Housing number proposed in excess of local need. Focus would most probably be in the main hubs and larger settlements to help deal with the issues of overcrowding and homelessness though rural areas would not be ignored. Access to material assets would be more feasible and have less of an impact in the main hubs but less so in the rural areas. Higher than required amount of housing, could increase local pressure on services/facilities and begin to increase local development pressure for land as well as increasing pressure on local infrastructure to the detriment/loss of other users. If excess houses were developed and then left empty, their need to access the grid and other local infrastructure, and the use

												of land would all be unsustainable.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	Less risk and pressure on land and the wider countryside and so avoidance of physical resources more likely. Depends on locations but assume focus of development would be in the main hubs.	+	+	?	Housing amount more appropriate to local need and though development focus would be on main hubs and larger settlements, the full settlement hierarchy and the countryside would be considered. Loss of greenfield sites likely and use of land for housing as opposed to other land uses inevitable. Much depends on exact locations and application of mitigation as to how option may score in the long term.	+	?	-	Housing amount higher than that required by local need and although focus of development would be on main hubs and larger settlements, the full hierarchy and countryside would be considered. Risk of impacts on wider countryside likely with loss of greenfield sites, land from other uses and impacts on soil. May be more difficult to manage any impacts on minerals and earth science sites within the wider countryside with the higher then required housing number.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	Unlikely to be enough to change the favoured choice of transport mode although new housing likely to be in the main hubs where active/sustainable travel is feasible and accessible. These options are encouraged in new housing developments. Depends on locations.	+	+	?	Amount of housing would probably focus on main hubs and larger settlements where access to public transport and active travel is more feasible. New housing projects are expected to integrate active travel. Modal shifts in behaviour are required to help encourage people from the car and supply of housing with active travel designs unlikely to achieve this on its own. May be	+	?	?	Housing would probably focus on main hubs and larger settlements where access to public transport and active travel is more feasible. New housing projects are expected to integrate active travel. Modal shifts in behaviour are required to help encourage people from the car and supply of housing with active travel designs unlikely to achieve this on its own. May be more difficult to

							more difficult to encourage the objective in the wider countryside and in the smaller or more isolated settlements. More appropriate amount of housing enables a sizeable amount of population to be targeted and encouraged to use alternative transport modes to the car.				encourage the objective in the wider countryside and in the smaller or more isolated settlements. Amount of housing is above an appropriate amount required for local needs and may lead to more sporadic development that is less focused on critical mass locations. This would be unlikely to meet public transport service provision and may not integrate with active travel networks/plans. The amount of housing could enable a sizeable amount of the population to be targeted and encouraged to use alternative transport modes to the car.	
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	Unlikely to improve local air quality but at same time unlikely to seriously impact on it. Housing emits emissions during construction and during use from heating and associated traffic but amount is unlikely to negatively impact on local conditions. Depends on locations and local conditions i.e. background levels and there are some main hub areas with air quality issues. Option proposes a relatively low	0	?	?	Unlikely to improve local air quality but at same time unlikely to seriously impact on it. Housing emits emissions during construction and during use from heating and associated traffic. Much depends on locations and local conditions i.e. background levels. There are some main hub areas with air quality issues and new housing may lead to a lack of improvement in air quality in these areas. This type	0	?	?	Unlikely to improve local air quality but at same time unlikely to seriously impact on it. Housing emits emissions during construction and during use from heating and associated traffic. Much depends on locations and local conditions i.e. background levels. There are some main hub areas with air quality issues and new housing may lead to a lack of improvement in air quality in these areas. This type

				number of houses so associated impacts thought to be negligible.				of scenario is more likely in the longer term with the increase in housing amount but much depends on other factors. There is unlikely to be any impact in the smaller settlements and wider countryside but again baseline levels have to be considered and potential cumulative impacts with other air pollutant sources.				of scenario is more likely in the longer term with the increase in housing amount but much depends on other factors. There is unlikely to be any impact in the smaller settlements and wider countryside but again baseline levels have to be considered and potential cumulative impacts with other air pollutant sources.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	-	-	-	Unlikely to reduce causes of climate change during construction/development phase or during habituation stage as all phases release greenhouse gas emissions from different sources. Access to gas and renewables, and active/sustainable travel options helps during the use phase to reduce GHG emissions as does energy efficiency measures installed to the home. Adaptation measures can be built in to sites but much depends on location, site designs, developer onus etc.	-	-	-	Unlikely to reduce causes of climate change during construction/development phase or during habituation stage as all phases release greenhouse gas emissions from different sources. Access to gas and renewables, and active/sustainable travel options helps during the use phase to reduce GHG emissions as does energy efficiency measures installed to the home. Adaptation measures can be built in to sites but much depends on location, site designs, developer onus etc.	-	-	-	Unlikely to reduce causes of climate change during construction/development phase or during habituation stage as all phases release greenhouse gas emissions from different sources. Access to gas and renewables, and active/sustainable travel options helps during the use phase to reduce GHG emissions as does energy efficiency measures installed to the home. Adaptation measures can be built in to sites but much depends on location, site designs, developer onus etc.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	Unlikely to have any negative impacts due to small number and most likely to be able to use existing infrastructure.	0	0	0	Balanced growth on zoned sites, with existing or planned infrastructure, coupled with planning conditions should	0	0	-	Significant growth, to the previous higher HGI levels, could be perceived as neutral up to a point. Negative issues

				Likely to avoid wider countryside and focus on main hubs.				offset any potential negative impacts. issues				may start to arise if housing market delivers an oversupply of housing and limited purchasers. This could be perceived as a negative impact for protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably. However this could be offset by developers reducing supply as market appears to be reaching saturation.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	+	+	+	Unlikely to impact on wider countryside but depends on exact locations. Less risk of impacts due to small number of houses that are most likely to be in main hubs and larger settlements. Option has relatively low number of houses proposed and avoidance of wider countryside would help achieve this objective.	+	+	-	Potential to impact on wider countryside and local biodiversity particularly if site locations are dispersed and focused on the lower tiers of the settlement hierarchy. Mitigation feasible and focus of development more likely to be in the main hubs and larger settlements in the initial development stages.	+	-	-	Potential to impact on wider countryside and local biodiversity particularly if site locations are dispersed and focused on the lower tiers of the settlement hierarchy. Option enables a higher than required housing number which may encourage more sporadic building with greater risks to local biodiversity and natural features. Mitigation feasible and focus of development likely to be in the main hubs and larger settlements in the initial development stages but option enables less control over location of housing with higher number allocation than local needs.

<p>13... maintain and enhance landscape character.</p>	0	0	0	<p>Unlikely to impact on landscape character due to small number of housing. Likelihood of being located in the main hubs and the larger settlements is likely so avoidance of wider countryside and more sensitive landscapes feasible. Location of housing still a consideration but assumed small number would have to be in the main hubs.</p>	+	+	+	<p>The majority of housing likely to be focused in main hubs and larger settlements but housing also likely in the lower tiers of the hierarchy and in the wider countryside where local landscape impacts may be more difficult to manage. Other planning policy can be used and mitigation applied. Much would depend on location and local conditions. Option enables an appropriate amount of housing for local need, which could be planned to support the critical mass of people.</p>	+	-	-	<p>The majority of housing likely to be focused in main hubs and larger settlements but housing also likely in the lower tiers of the hierarchy and in the wider countryside where local landscape impacts may be more difficult to manage. Other planning policy can be used and mitigation applied. Much would depend on location and local conditions. Option enables a higher than required amount of housing which could encourage sporadic development and dispersed projects that would be much harder to manage for their local level impacts.</p>
<p>14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>	0	0	0	<p>Potential impacts on local townscape character and built/cultural heritage both positive and negative but much depends on location of housing and approach to housing design and use of other policy and mitigation. Due to relatively small amount of housing, negative impacts unlikely.</p>	?	?	?	<p>Potential impacts on local townscape character and built/cultural heritage both positive and negative but much depends on location of housing and approach to housing design and use of other policy and mitigation. Amount of housing may help enable a wider use of older buildings and features within designs.</p>	?	?	?	<p>Potential impacts on local townscape character and built/cultural heritage both positive and negative but much depends on location of housing and approach to housing design and use of other policy and mitigation. Amount of housing may help enable a wider use of older buildings and features within designs.</p>
<p>Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives</p>				<p>Option 1 was considered to have negative effects for many of the sustainability objectives including health and well-being, strengthening society, good quality sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education, enabling sustainable economic growth and reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. However, option 1 was</p>								

	<p>considered to have positive effects for strengthening society and providing good quality sustainable housing in the short term. It also was considered to have a positive effect on managing material assets, protecting physical resources and using sustainably and protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity.</p> <p>Option 2 was considered to have an uncertain effect on improving health and well-being. It was considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society, providing good quality sustainable housing, enabling access to high quality education, and enabling sustainable economic growth. It is also considered to have a positive effect on managing material assets, protecting physical resources and using sustainably and encouraging active and sustainable travel in the short and medium term. There are a number of uncertainties with this option, including the impact on air quality in the medium to long term and the impact on the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Option 3 scored similarly to Option 2 across many of the sustainability objectives however with many effects becoming negative long term due to the risks associated with over supply and over development.</p>
The preferred option	Option 2
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	No significant effects were identified for the preferred option.
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Site/development active travel plans, partnership working with local transport providers, energy efficient measures, green building design, SuDS, avoid building on floodplains, key site requirements, planning conditions, other planning policy, ecological mitigation, biodiversity enhancement measures, building conservation guidelines, archaeological studies.

8C - Location and Allocation of Housing Land

Options	Option 1: Rely on existing zonings and settlement development limits.				Option 2: Retain committed and zoned housing land for residential, re-evaluate un-committed sites and allocate any further required and in accordance with sequential test on SPPS, and deliverability.				Option 3: Re-evaluate all existing zoned land on the basis of sustainability. Only carry forward zonings deemed sustainable. Allocate all land based on sequential test in SPPS.			
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	Existing zonings were developed previously and this option does not give an opportunity to re-consider them in light of encouraging healthy lifestyles. Overall this option does not deliver for this objective.	+	+	+	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings in light of encouraging healthy lifestyles. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites.	++	++	++	This option would allow an opportunity to re-valuate all zoned land in light of encouraging healthy lifestyles. This option has the potential to deliver more for this objective.
2... strengthen society	0	0	0	As above this option does not give an opportunity to re-consider zonings in light of encouraging social integration and development which fosters sense of pride in the local area. Overall this option does not deliver for this objective.	+	+	+	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings in light of encouraging social integration and development which fosters sense of pride in the local area. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites.	++	++	++	This option would allow an opportunity to re-valuate all zoned land in terms of encouraging social integration and development which fosters sense of pride in the local area of This option has the potential to deliver more for this objective.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	+	+	+	Relying on existing zonings will provide land for housing development.	+	+	+	This option will provide land to meet housing needs.	+	+	+	This option will provide land to meet housing needs.
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option has negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has negligible effect on this objective.

5...enable sustainable economic growth.	0	0	0	As above this option does not give an opportunity to re-consider zonings in light of encouraging a mix of uses, and in locations which will support vitality and vibrancy in settlement centres.	+	+	+	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings to consider the best locations to support local economic growth in terms of vitality and vibrancy in settlements. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites.	+	+	+	This option would allow consideration to the role that housing zonings could play local economic growth through improved vitality and vibrancy in settlements. This option has the potential to deliver more for this objective.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	+	+	+	Zoned land allows efficient provision of infrastructure and services.	+	+	+	Zoned land allows efficient provision of infrastructure and services.	+	+	+	Zoned land allows efficient provision of infrastructure and services.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	Development of zoned land will lead to loss of green-field land.	-	-	-	Development of zoned land will lead to loss of green-field land.	-	-	-	Development of zoned land will lead to loss of green-field land.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	--	--	--	Previous zonings did not always consider use of active and sustainable travel in choosing locations.	+	+	+	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings to consider the best locations for use of walking and cycling as active transport, and linkages into the system of public transport. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites.	++	++	++	This option would allow consideration of zoning land for housing in the best locations for use of walking and cycling as active transport, and linkages into the system of public transport.
9... improve air quality.	-	-	--	Continuing reliance on the private car will continue the trend for poor air quality in some areas associated with a high level of traffic. This may	+	+	+	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings to consider the best locations which could reduce car use, and therefore bring about	+	+	+	This option would allow consideration of zoning land for housing in the best locations for use of walking and cycling as active transport, and linkages into the system of public transport.

				become more significant over time.				improvements in local air quality. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites.				This could lead to reduced car use, which would have a positive impact on local air quality.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	-	-	-	Continuing reliance on the private car and missing opportunities to choose locations which will encourage active and sustainable travel will mean continued green-house gas emissions.	0	0	0	As above, if uncommitted sites are reevaluated, it could lead to housing growth that does not bring the continued trend of high car use, and may mean the green-house gas emissions associated with travel are not increased. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites. Overall this option has a neutral effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option would allow consideration to zoning land for housing in the best locations to encourage a move away from car based travel and towards active and sustainable transport. This could lead to green-house gas emissions associated with travel are not increased. This option is unlikely to result in an overall reduction in green-house gas emissions, as it will facilitate housing growth. Overall this option has a neutral effect on this objective.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	-	-	-	Previous zonings did not always consider the risks to water quality from development. This option does not allow opportunity to consider zonings in light of possible risks to water quality, the role of sewerage capacity and the value of green infrastructure in flood prone areas.	0	0	0	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings with respect to risks to water quality, the role of sewerage capacity and the value of green infrastructure in flood prone areas. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites. Overall this is considered to have a neutral effect.	0	0	0	This option would allow consideration to zoning land for housing in the best locations that minimise risks to water quality, consider sewerage capacity and the importance of green infrastructure in flood prone areas. Overall this is considered to have a neutral effect.

12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	-	-	-	This option does not allow opportunity to consider zonings in light of possible risk to Europeans designations for habitats and species particularly in relation to riverine and marine areas.	0	0	0	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings with respect to the impact of their development on biodiversity, loss of wildlife corridors and connectivity, and impact on habitats and species including those protected under European legislation. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites. Overall this is considered to have a neutral effect.	0	0	0	This option would allow consideration of zoning land for housing in the best locations that reflects the impact of their development on biodiversity, loss of wildlife corridors and connectivity, and impact on habitats and species including those protected under European legislation. Overall this is considered to have a neutral effect.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	No opportunity to consider zonings anew in light of development since then.	0	0	0	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings with respect to their impact on local landscape considering development which has taken place since the production of the plans. However, this benefit cannot be applied to already committed sites. Overall this is considered to have a neutral effect	0	0	0	This option would allow an opportunity to give consideration to landscape in zoning land for housing. Overall this is considered to have a neutral effect.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	No opportunity to consider zonings anew in light the impact they might have on the historic environment.	0	0	0	This option brings some opportunity to re-valuate uncommitted zonings with respect to the impact they might have on historic environment assets. However, this benefit cannot be applied	0	0	0	This option would allow an opportunity to give consideration to impact on the historic environment assets zoning land for housing. Overall this is considered to have a neutral effect.

8D - Social / Affordable Housing and Balanced Communities

Options	Option 1: Incorporate the principle of including social, private and affordable housing & cross-community. Consider policy and mechanisms to deliver balanced communities and meet all housing need / demand.			Option 2: More research needed by DfI, DfC, NIHE and Council on this area. The need is not proven for a policy response, so do not include in the Plan. Possible future subject plan or Supplementary Guidance.				
Sustainability Objective	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	This option could lead long term to the provision of more areas/facilities that are considered to be shared amongst the community. This could have a positive impact on mental and physical well-being.	0	0	0	Using more research to inform the approach would be helpful. However this option has no effect on this objective.
2... strengthen society.	+	++	++	Where housing is developed to be welcoming to all the community, regardless of background this has a potential to significantly encourage a shared and inclusive society medium to long term.	0	0	0	Using more research to inform the approach would be helpful. However this option has no effect on this objective.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	++	++	++	This option can deliver significantly to help to meet the housing needs of different types and tenure and meet needs of specific groups, including those on lower incomes.	0	0	0	Using more research to inform the approach would be helpful. However this option has no effect on this objective.
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	Housing development which is balanced to reflect the needs of all the community will help to support greater integration of children outside of the school environment. Overall, this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Using more research to inform the approach would be helpful. However this option has no effect on this objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Moving towards greater integration will have positive impacts for helping to create the conditions to attract investment, and make the council area an attractive place to live in, and visit.	0	0	0	Using more research to inform the approach would be helpful. However this option has no effect on this objective.

6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.

14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	Option 1 could significantly help to strengthen society and contribute to providing an appropriate housing mix to meet the needs of all the community. It could contribute to better health and well-being and support sustainable economic growth. Option 2 was considered to have a neutral effect on all of the objectives.							
The preferred option	Option 1.							
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	The preferred option has significant positive effects for strengthening society and providing good quality, sustainable housing. No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.							
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.							
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Further research into affordable and cross-community housing initiatives.							

8E - Open Space/Recreation									
Options	Option 1: Protect the existing and zoned OSR provision as set out in DAP and SAP.				Option 2: Re-evaluate our current OSR provision in terms of role and function and identify and protect any existing land and additional land required for open space, sport and recreation.				
Sustainability Objective	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	
1...improve health and well-being.	-	-	--	The exiting provision has a number of issues. In some housing areas play areas are not easily accessible, and historically, open space is not well integrated with housing. This contributes to less opportunity to exercise for children and adults.	++	++	++	Opportunity to target open space where it is most needed in line with evidence, whilst retaining existing open space provision in best way to provide opportunities for recreation and leisure.	
2... strengthen society.	-	-	--	The exiting provision is such that in some housing areas play areas are not easily accessible, and historically, open space is not well integrated with housing. This has led to reduced opportunities for meeting up and socialising, and especially for intergenerational contact.	+	+	+	Opportunity to target open space where it is most needed in line with evidence, whilst retaining existing open space provision in best way to provide opportunities for social interaction and intergenerational contact.	
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This policy does not affect the ability to meet housing needs, and has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This policy does not affect the ability to meet housing needs, and has a negligible effect on this objective.	
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	0	0	0	The current open space provision could be improved in some parts of the council area.	+	+	+	Improved open space provision can make areas more attractive to live in, visit and invest in.	
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	Opportunities to consider re-use of brownfield land as new open space may present.	

7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	Opportunities to retain and enhance open space provision creatively, allowing retention of semi-natural areas, and city centre green space.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	Some of the current open space provision links into green-way routes suitable for walking and cycling.	++	++	++	This option presents an opportunity to build provision of green way walking and cycling routes into planning of new development. This could significantly help to make active travel more convenient to use, and improve connectivity in towns and cities.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	The current provision of green areas, and green way routes do contribute slightly to improving air quality. However, there is a tendency for park users to visit by car. Overall the impact of the current open space provision on improving air quality is considered to be negligible.	+	+	+	Retaining and increasing open space provision, has the potential to increase linkages and encourage a modal shift away from car use towards active travel. This could decrease congestion and improve local air quality.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	This option brings an opportunity to increase the amount of open space and also to consider woodland as part of the mix, which acts as a carbon store helping to offset greenhouse gas emissions. Green open space along riverside areas also can help with flood attenuation.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	Potential for open space to play a role in protecting water quality, and slowing down release of water into surface water drainage systems after storm events.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	+	+	+	This option currently provides some opportunity for biodiversity, in less managed areas of the open space provision.	++	++	++	This option has potential to retain, improve and grow natural resources and enhance biodiversity throughout the council area. Also the role of developer contributions could be considered and the use of key site requirements.

13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	+	+	+	This option currently has a positive effect on landscape providing open space on the edge of settlements, which softens the edges.	++	++	++	This option has potential to maintain and enhance landscape character further in parts of the council area. Increasing open space provision could help to improve the setting of new development, and soften the edges between townscape and landscape.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	The current provision of open space contributes to the setting of the historic environment assets.	++	++	++	This option has potential to protect, conserve and enhance built and cultural heritage throughout the council area. Increasing open space provision could further improve the setting of built heritage features.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives					Option 1 is considered to have a negative effect on improving health and well-being, and strengthening society, both of which will become significant long term. It is considered to have a neutral effect across many of the sustainability objectives. It is considered to have a positive effect on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character, and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. Option 2 builds on all of the positive effects for option 1 but increases the level of benefit and widens the range of positive effects. It is considered to have a significantly positive effect on improving health and well-being through the ability to target open space where it is most needed. It also has a positive effect on protecting managing and using water resources sustainably through increased green infrastructure. Finally option 2 has a significantly positive effect on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage.			
The preferred option					Option 2			
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?					The preferred option was considered to have significant positive effects for improving health and well-being, enabling active and sustainable travel, protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity, maintain and enhance			

	<p>landscape character and protect conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects</p>	<p>Other planning policy, local level health/recreation impact assessment, role of developer contributions, local level environmental initiatives, planning conditions.</p>

9A - Natural Environment

Options	Option 1: Existing designated sites / protected species are identified / protected, with policies as per SPPS. Other habitats, species or features of natural heritage importance will also be protected in line with the SPPS.			Option 2: In addition to Option 1, designate additional local designations and preclude inappropriate development likely to have significant adverse impacts on such sites.			Option 3: Protect only those currently designated sites / protected species and accommodate development in all other locations.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	Provides places for people to visit with benefits for both mental and physical well-being. Being outdoors and in touch with nature, all good for mental health and well-being. Can also exercise in these places. Overall, this can help reduce costs to local health service and reduce pressures on local health facilities.	+	+	+	Provides places for people to visit with benefits for both mental and physical well-being. Being outdoors and in touch with nature, all good for mental health and well-being. Can also exercise in these places. Overall, this can help reduce costs to local health service and reduce pressures on local health facilities. Option enables new local sites to be designated so option could deliver more for this objective particularly if sites were chosen based on sustainability and targeted active travel routes or blue/green infrastructure.	+	-	-	Provides places for people to visit with benefits for both mental and physical well-being. Being outdoors and in touch with nature, all good for mental health and well-being. Can also exercise in these places. Overall, this can help reduce costs to local health service and reduce pressures on local health facilities. Enabling development everywhere else with no obvious restrictions could have a serious impact on people's health and well-being particularly if local sites are lost and local level features that people can see or easily visit. This option would probably have impacts that are more negative over time.
2... strengthen society	+	+	+	Provides places for people to meet which helps strengthen society at local level particularly	+	+	+	Provides places for people to meet which helps strengthen society at local level particularly	+	-	-	Provides places for people to meet which helps strengthen society at local level particularly

				when sites/places are shared by all age groups. Local level projects can also help with this objective and help cross societal barriers like religion and class.				when sites/places are shared by all age groups. Local level projects can also help with this objective and help cross societal barriers like religion and class. Option enables new local sites to be designated so option could deliver more for this objective particularly if sites were chosen based on sustainability and targeted shared spaces/ownership.				when sites/places are shared by all age groups. Local level projects can also help with this objective and help cross societal barriers like religion and class. This option with development everywhere else could reduce the amount of opportunities for these shared spaces and impact on the attractiveness and accessibility to existing designated sites. This option would probably have impacts that are more negative over time.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	It is noted that in some places the option may be restrictive to local housing projects but overall it should not be restrictive to the delivery of this objective. As there is no real link between the option and delivery of the objective, the option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	It is noted that in some places the option may be restrictive to local housing projects at a site specific level but overall it should not be restrictive to the delivery of this objective. This option also enables appropriate development, which could include housing. As there is no real link between the option and delivery of the objective, the option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	It is noted that in some places immediate to existing designated sites that the option may be restrictive to local housing projects but overall it should not be restrictive to the delivery of this objective. This option also enables development everywhere else, which could include housing. As there is no real link between the option and delivery of the objective, the option would have a negligible effect on the objective.

4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective, as there is no link to its delivery.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective, as there is no link to its delivery.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective, as there is no link to its delivery.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Option protects designated sites and habitats/species/features of natural heritage importance. This approach does not stop development or business and can help to stimulate or sustain related economic growth such as tourism and recreation. These areas can also attract investors and developers particularly in the house building and leisure industries.	+	+	+	Option protects designated sites and habitats/species/features of natural heritage importance. This approach does not stop development or business and can help to stimulate or sustain related economic growth such as tourism and recreation. These areas can also attract investors and developers particularly in the house building and leisure industries. This option could stop inappropriate developments, which would maintain the sites for their natural heritage value and maintain existing or future appropriate businesses/developments. This approach could also support economic ventures such as housing projects invested in because of the attractive locality.	+	-	-	Option protects already existing designated sites. This approach does not stop development or business in any other location. Although the sites would be able to support certain types of associated economic growth such as tourism or leisure businesses, the option would also present a risk of inappropriate and/or excessive development that could negatively affect the sites and areas in between. The repercussions could be a loss of interest in visiting the areas and a lack of investment for future economic ventures. The risk of inappropriate development could be difficult to manage and this could transform a natural heritage asset into a natural heritage loss. This option would probably have impacts that are more negative over time.

6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	Retains land and soil predominantly in wider countryside including coastal areas but also within urban areas. Retains this land for other uses other than building on it. At same time earth science sites and mineral reserves may be encompassed.	+	+	+	Retains land and soil predominantly in wider countryside including coastal areas but also within urban areas. Retains this land for other uses other than building on it. At same time earth science sites and mineral reserves may be already encompassed. This option also enables new local sites to be designated which could deliver more for this objective.	+	-	-	Sites conservation helps to retain land and soil and areas may encompass minerals and/or earth science sites. The option allows development everywhere else so loss of greenfield sites very likely. Option does not encourage any further type of conservation so loss of biodiversity likely although mitigation still feasible.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	It is noted that greenways can be integrated to sites/reserves and local nature conservation areas. Blue infrastructure can also be considered for access to and across these areas. Overall thought that this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	It is noted that greenways can be integrated to sites/reserves and local nature conservation areas. Blue infrastructure can also be considered for access to and across these areas. Overall thought that this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	It is noted that greenways can be integrated to sites/reserves and local nature conservation areas. Blue infrastructure can also be considered for access to and across these areas. Overall thought that this option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
9... improve air quality.	+	+	+	Helps to maintain areas without air pollutants and retains semi-natural land cover that can absorb air pollution. Local parks, rivers, woods and more	+	+	+	Helps to maintain areas without air pollutants and retains semi-natural land cover that can absorb air pollution. Local parks, rivers and woods and	+	-	-	Option helps to maintain existing areas that do not emit air pollutants and retain semi-natural land cover that can absorb air pollution. Local

				formally designated sites can all act as green lungs.				designated sites can all act as green lungs. This option also enables new local sites to be designated, which could deliver more for this objective particularly if sites have peatlands or woodlands that can absorb pollution.				parcs, rivers and woods can all act as green lungs but under this option, there may be the risk of loss of these sites if not formally designated. Option does not encourage any further conservation of sites or natural heritage species/habitats/features that can help with local air quality i.e. trees, woods, peatlands. This option would probably have impacts that are more negative over time.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	+	+	+	Helps to retain semi-natural land without development on it. This helps to reduce any emissions usually associated with development. Retaining land in this way can also enable flooding to occur and for carbon to be stored in peatland and woodland habitats.	+	+	+	Helps to retain semi-natural land without development on it. This helps to reduce any emissions usually associated with development. Retaining land in this way can also enable flooding to occur and for carbon to be stored in peatland and woodland habitats. This option also enables new local sites to be designated, which could deliver more for this objective particularly if sites are floodplains or peatlands.	+	-	-	Helps to retain semi-natural land without development on it. This helps to reduce any emissions usually associated with development. Retaining land in this way can also enable flooding to occur and for carbon to be stored in peatland and woodland habitats. This option enables development everywhere outside of formally designated sites which presents the risk of losing many adaptation features that can help reduce the effects of climate change. This option would probably have impacts that are more negative over time.

<p>11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.</p>	+	+	+	<p>Aquatic sites/reserves/features and coastal areas can all act as natural flood defences, natural water storage areas and help to filter pollutants. Option helps to conserve these areas within the landscape.</p>	+	+	+	<p>Aquatic sites/reserves/features and coastal areas can all act as natural flood defences, natural water storage areas and help to filter pollutants. Option helps to conserve these areas within the landscape.</p>	+	-	-	<p>Aquatic sites/reserves/features and coastal areas can all act as natural flood defences, natural water storage areas and help to filter pollutants. Option helps to conserve these areas if they are already protected but enables development everywhere else. This presents a risk of losing sites that aren't designated and impacting on ones that are through pollution, disturbance, fragmentation and unforeseen impacts. This option would probably have impacts that are more negative over time.</p>
<p>12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.</p>	+	+	+	<p>Retains appropriate land for nature conservation purposes and continues to protect appropriate habitats/species/features.</p>	++	++	++	<p>Retains appropriate land for nature conservation purposes and continues to protect appropriate habitats/species/features. Option also enables new sites to be designated at the local level, which could deliver more for this objective particularly if priority habitat and species are encompassed.</p>	+	--	--	<p>Retains appropriate land for nature conservation purposes and continues to protect appropriate habitats/species/features if in already designated areas. Option enables development everywhere else and presents a high risk to local biodiversity across the wider countryside and within urban areas. Designated sites are connected by habitats and wildlife corridors and the approach of this option would present a high risk of dissecting these ecological links with negative</p>

9B - Landscape Character

Options	Option 1: Informed by the existing NI / Regional Landscape Character Area Assessments and their associated Sensitivity Considerations, permit further sustainable development accordingly on a case by case basis.			Option 2: Informed by LDP Development Pressure Analysis and relevant Landscape Character Assessments, identify those areas of our landscape with higher sensitivity or 'at capacity' and identify development that may be inappropriate in these areas.			Option 3: Accommodate growth / development wherever possible, utilising the minimal number of protected landscape designations in the LDP.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	Countryside and scenic areas are places to walk, run, cycle and experience tranquility. This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Countryside and scenic areas are places to walk, run, cycle and experience tranquility. This option has potential to deliver more for this objective. This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Potential to lose aspects of the scenic value which could reduce the attractiveness of parts of the council area, as tranquil places for relaxation and exercise. A dispersed rural population provide a challenge for the efficient delivery of health care services. However this could help care to be provided by family.
2... strengthen society	+	+	+	Development that is considered on a case by case basis will allow rural population to be maintained at a sustainable level. This will have positive effects for maintaining and strengthening society in rural areas.	0	0	0	Prohibiting some rural development could have negative impacts for intergenerational contact and supporting family carers in those areas. However it may lead similar development in the small rural settlements, which will allow those needs to be met, and will positively contribute to the community life of that	0	0	0	This option has the potential to assist intergenerational contact and support caring for dependents within families. However it also has the potential to mean that more of the population live in scattered locations which can lead to a sense of isolation and dis-connection from local community, especially for older people. Overall it is considered to have a neutral effect.

							village. Overall this objective is considered to have a neutral effect on balance.					
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	No loss in ability to meet housing needs overall.	0	0	0	No loss in ability to meet overall housing needs.	0	0	0	No loss in ability to meet overall housing needs
4.... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option will allow rural areas to continue a sustainable level of growth, which will help to support schools in rural areas.	0	0	0	This option may mean some isolated rural schools with diminishing numbers may continue this trend, and children living in those areas would have to travel greater distances to school. However if it leads to greater population in rural villages it will help to keep them sustainable.	-	-	-	This option may mean more children will be attending school at isolated rural schools which would help them to be sustainable in terms of numbers. However, it does mean for particularly for post-primary, higher and further education, children and young people living in those areas would have to travel greater distances to school.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	++	++	++	This option provides a sound level of protection for sensitive and scenic landscapes, which are important for tourism, one of the key drivers for the local economy. It also could slightly contribute to improving vitality and vibrancy in small rural settlements in terms of use of local shops and services.	+	+	+	This option provides a high level of protection for sensitive and scenic landscapes, which are important for tourism, one of the key drivers for the local economy. It also could improve vitality and vibrancy in small rural settlements in terms of use of local shops and services. It	+	-	-	This option may initially allow for more economic development to take place in rural areas, however medium and long term this growth may bring negative impacts to other aspects of the rural economy. For example this could lead to degradation of the visual environment which contributes to making the district an attractive place to live in, visit and invest in.

				It will permit further sustainable development associated with economic growth which is important for innovation and small scale job creation. Overall it is considered to have a significantly positive impact on this objective.				however will constrain some types of development associated with economic growth in some areas. Overall it is considered to have a positive impact on this objective.				
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option could allow consideration of the impact of delivery of services and infrastructure.	+	+	+	This option will limit development in the most sensitive locations which will allow development to focus in locations that are well serviced.	-	-	-	A dispersed rural population provides a challenge for the efficient delivery of infrastructure and services.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	This option will result in some loss of greenfield and semi-natural land.	0	0	0	This option will result in loss of some greenfield and semi-natural land. However, it is considered to have a negligible effect on this objective.	--	--	--	This option could significantly increase the loss of green-field and semi-natural land.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	-	-	-	This option will continue the current patterns of high car use in rural areas.	+	+	+	This option has potential to reduce the level of car use, and allow active travel and public transport use to become more convenient.	--	--	--	The current patterns of high car use in rural areas of the district will continue and could increase.
9... improve air quality.	-	-	-	This option will not improve air quality and will continue the current trends with poor air quality in parts of the district with a high flow of traffic and congestion.	0	+	+	This option has the potential to improve air quality over time, provided that public transport options are	0	-	-	This option will not improve air quality and will continue the current trends with poor air quality in parts of the district with a high flow of traffic and congestion. This option has the

							available and convenient.				potential to make this trend become worse over time.	
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective	-	-	-	Increased car use will lead to increased green-house gas emissions.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	-	-	-	Some development will require septic tanks and this will result in risks to water quality. However these risks can be managed through the use of discharge consents.	0	0	0	Some development will require septic tanks and this will result in risks to water quality. However these risks can be managed within the planning process through mitigation.	-	-	-	This option will increase the number of septic tanks and could lead to development in sensitive locations for water quality.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	+	+	+	The landscape character area assessments allow for some consideration of the impact on natural resources and biodiversity. However loss to wildlife corridors and possible disturbance to wildlife from development is also likely.	+	+	+	The landscape character area assessments allow for some consideration of the impact on natural resources and biodiversity. However loss to wildlife corridors and possible disturbance to wildlife from development is also likely. Additionally, this option has the potential to have a significantly positive effect on natural resources and biodiversity in the areas	-	--	--	This approach has potential to lead to loss of natural resources and biodiversity, and this could become a significant negative effect over the medium and long term.

						where development is constrained.						
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	+	+	+	This approach has potential to positively maintain and protect landscape character in the council area.	++	++	++	This approach has potential to significantly maintain and protect landscape character in the council area.	-	--	--	This approach has potential to have a negative impact on the quality of landscape in the council area and this could become a significant negative effect over the medium and long term.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	This option has potential to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment in the council area.	+	+	+	This option has potential to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment in the council area.	-	-	-	This option has potential to negatively affect the historic environment and cultural heritage in the council area.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	<p>Option 1 is considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society, protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. It was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth, through encouraging economic growth associated with innovation and small scale job creation. However the option is considered to have a negative effect on protecting physical resources through the potential loss of green-field and semi-natural land. It will also continue the trend of high car use in rural areas, which will have a negative effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel and on air quality.</p> <p>Option 2 is considered to have a positive effect for many of the sustainability objectives including enabling sustainable economic growth, managing material assets sustainably, encouraging active and sustainable travel and improving air quality in the medium and long term. It is also considered to have a positive effect on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and protecting and enhancing landscape character and historic and cultural heritage. The option also was considered to have potential to deliver significantly positive effects for maintaining and enhancing landscape character.</p> <p>Option 3 gives a largely negative scoring with some objectives being determined to be significantly negatively affected. It did have a short term positive effect for enabling sustainable economic growth however this effect was considered to become negative over time.</p>											
The preferred option	Option 2											

What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	The preferred option has significant positive effects for maintaining and enhancing landscape character. No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Other planning policy, planning conditions, local level impact assessments, landscaping.

9C - Coastal Development

Option	Option 1: Accommodate appropriate development, as per new Marine Plan and Policy and all coastal relevant designations.			Explanation
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
2... strengthen society.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
3.... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
4... enable access to high quality education	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	Enables focus on potential developments linked to local ports, harbours, airports and other activities located on the coast i.e. tourism or transport related businesses. Option helps to enable appropriate development in areas where there are many other considerations including the marine plan and marine policy statement.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.

8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	+	+	+	Coastal developments could encourage access to it and around it. Option may encourage developments to link together using active travel routes that in part already exist. Creating this type of access would have benefits for local people's health and well-being. There could be potential for river taxis and promotion of these as an alternative mode of transport to the car.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	+	+	+	Option is unlikely to reduce greenhouse gas emissions but managed approach would help developers avoid areas that act as natural floodplains and buffer zones near to areas prone to flooding. Likewise, the option should consider the likelihood of a rising sea level and promote development and design that considers this type of scenario.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	++	++	++	Option helps to manage development in coastal areas that are usually protected for nature conservation reasons, or that have a high local biodiversity value. Option would help guide appropriate development in a considered manner and should incorporate, promote and safeguard blue infrastructure. Although option could enable appropriate development, it could also help reduce risks of local water pollution.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	++	++	++	Option helps to manage development in coastal areas that are usually protected for nature conservation reasons, or that have a high local biodiversity value. Option would help guide appropriate development in a considered manner and should incorporate, promote and safeguard blue infrastructure. Although option could enable appropriate development, it could also help reduce risks of local water pollution.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	+	+	+	Option would help protect seascapes by guiding appropriate developments and help to protect views in and out of the city and other coastal areas.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	Option would enable avoidance of key sites linked to the Council. There is a wide range of historical assets such as the wartime airfields and this option would help to ensure that these are considered in new developments.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	This option was considered to have a neutral effect across many of the sustainability objectives. It was considered to have a positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth through its ability to focus on potential developments linked to coastal areas including tourism. The appraisal also reflected a positive effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel reflecting the potential to adopt a modal shift to walking and cycling. It also was determined to have a positive impact on climate change, maintaining and enhancing landscape character and protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. The option was considered to have a significantly positive effect on protecting, managing and using water resources sustainably and protecting			

	natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. It was recognised that it could help to manage and shape development in coastal areas that are protected for landscape and nature conservation, and help reduce risks to water pollution.
The preferred option	Option 1 (there is one option)
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	The option has significant positive effects for the objectives to protect, manage and use water resources sustainably and protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity. No significant negative effects were identified for the option.
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Other planning policy, key site requirements, site mitigation, ecological mitigation, building design and measures, archaeological studies, partnership working on local level projects.

9D - Built Environment / Heritage

Options	Option 1: Existing designated areas / buildings of historic environment importance will continue to be protected and development facilitated with policies in line with the SPPS.			Option 2: In addition to Option1, designate new areas / buildings of historic environment importance as part of LDP preparation and preclude all development likely to adversely impact on such sites / buildings or their setting.	Option 3: Protect only those designated areas / buildings and accommodate appropriate development where possible.							
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective, however living in a high quality environment can help to contribute to quality of life and good mental health.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective, however living in a high quality environment can help to contribute to quality of life and good mental health.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.
2... strengthen society	+	+	+	This option contributes to protecting the historic environment assets that help to shape the places that people consider important, and which give them shared spaces in which to meet and a sense of pride in their local area. This approach goes further than only protecting	+	+	+	This option contributes to protecting the historic environment assets that help to shape the places that people consider important, and which give them shared spaces in which to meet and a sense of pride in their local area. This approach goes further than only protecting the assets, in line with the SPPS, and has additional measures	-	-	-	This option contributes somewhat to protecting the historic environment assets but without the additional policy protection in line with the SPPS, there is a risk of loss to the setting of assets and impact on townscape which people consider important, and which give them shared spaces in which to meet contributing to a

				the assets, in line with the SPPS.				which could allow it to deliver more for this objective.				sense of pride in their local area.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	Designated and other historic buildings can contribute to the housing options available. Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Designated and other historic buildings can contribute to the housing options available. Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Designated and other historic buildings can contribute to the housing options available. Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	Historic environment assets provide opportunities for learning skills in relation to maintenance and repair and skills associated with archaeology and curation. However overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Historic environment assets provide opportunities for learning skills in relation to maintenance and repair and skills associated with archaeology and curation. However overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Historic environment assets provide opportunities for learning skills in relation to maintenance and repair and skills associated with archaeology and curation. However overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	++	++	++	This option has potential to have a significant effect on economic growth through recognising the role that the historic environment plays in many aspects	++	++	++	This option has potential to have a significant effect on economic growth through recognising the role that the historic environment plays in many aspects of the council area's economy,	-	-	-	This option contributes somewhat to protecting the historic environment assets but without the additional policy protection in line with the SPPS, there is a risk of loss to the setting of assets which are

				of the council area's economy, as key aspects of what makes the district an attractive place to live in, visit and invest in.				as key aspects of what makes the district an attractive place to live in, visit and invest in. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.				important for many aspects of economic growth in the council area.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.

12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	+	+	+	This option will help to support the biodiversity and natural resources which occur alongside many of the historic environment assets in the council area, such as bats in Derry's historic walls.	+	+	+	This option will help to support the biodiversity and natural resources which occur alongside many of the historic environment assets in the council area, such as bats in Derry's historic walls. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	0	0	0	This option has potential to change the surroundings for some of the historic environment assets in the council which could impact on species such as bats in Derry's historic walls. Overall this is considered to have a negligible effect.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	++	++	++	This option has potential to have a significant effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing built and cultural heritage assets and their settings, which are both in urban and village settlements but also in dispersed locations, such as mottes and baileys, bawns, and vernacular farmsteads.	++	++	++	This option has potential to have a significant effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing built and cultural heritage assets and their settings, which are both in urban and village settlements but also in dispersed locations, such as mottes and baileys, bawns, and vernacular farmsteads. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	-	-	-	This option contributes somewhat to protecting the historic environment assets but without the additional policy protection in line with the SPPS, there is a significant risk of loss to the setting of assets which contribute to the streetscapes and sense of place in many of the council areas settlements. It could also contribute to loss of rural historic environment assets which are part of the visual history of the district.

<p>Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives</p>	<p>Option 1 is considered to have a neutral effect over many of the sustainability objectives. It is considered to have a positive effect on strengthening society and on protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity. It is considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth and protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. This recognises the varied and high quality historic environment resources in the council district and the role that they play in current and potential future economic growth. Option 2 is considered to have the same pattern of positive and significantly positive effects as option 1. However some of the comments reflect a potential to deliver more for the objective. Option 3 is considered to have a neutral effect over many of the objectives, but a negative effect for enabling sustainable economic growth and protecting conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. This reflects the risks inherent in potential loss of historic environment assets and their settings, and also their role in future economic growth of the district in relation to tourism.</p>
<p>The preferred option</p>	<p>Option 1</p>
<p>What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?</p>	<p>The preferred option has significant positive effects for the objectives to enable sustainable economic growth and protect, conserve and enhance historic environment and cultural heritage. No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects</p>	<p>Other planning policy, building conservation and design guidelines, site mitigation, local level townscape consideration.</p>

9E - Urban Design/Places

Options	Option 1: Existing Design Standards accepted – reasonable designs, on a site-by-site basis.			Option 2: A comprehensive drive for Place Shaping, including high quality design of both buildings and key focal areas, in both urban and rural areas.			Option 3: Minimal design standards accepted with focus on development and investment paramount.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	M T	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	0	0	0	This option could contribute to improving health and well-being, however it allows design issues to be assessed on a case-by-case basis and does not allow the matter to be addressed comprehensively or strategically. Overall, this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	Well-designed attractive places contribute to quality of life, and good mental health.	-	-	-	Poor quality design can lead to spaces which foster antisocial behaviour and increase fear of crime. These can become factors in poor mental health and isolation for some people.
2... strengthen society	0	0	0	This option could contribute to strengthening society and well-being, however it allows design issues to be assessed on a case-by-case basis and does not allow the matter to be addressed comprehensively or strategically. Overall, this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	Well-designed places can provide an attractive and welcoming focus for the community. This can positively contribute to an improved 'sense of place', and provide opportunities for inter-generational contact in a shared space.	-	-	-	Poor quality design can lead to spaces which foster antisocial behaviour and increase fear of crime. Such places are less likely to be used as shared community spaces.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	This option could contribute to providing good quality, sustainable housing and well-being, however it allows design issues to be assessed on a case-	+	+	+	Housing developed under comprehensive drive for high quality design with a place shaping approach has the potential to meet the needs of	-	-	-	Potential for poor quality housing appearance and minimal quality design.

				by-case basis and does not allow the matter to be addressed comprehensively or strategically. Overall, this option has a negligible effect on this objective.				its occupants, and allow them to live in very high quality homes.				
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	+	+	+	This option will continue to enable economic growth.	+	+	+	This option will continue to enable economic growth. It will also help to make the council district a more attractive place to live, work and invest in.	-	-	-	This option could affect the council areas attractiveness and ability to attract shoppers, tourists, and investors.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	0	0	0	Limited opportunity to influence design and ensure that site topography, features and connectivity are built into design of new development.	+	+	+	Opportunities with compressive approach to design to ensure that site topography, features and connectivity are built into design of new development.	-	-	-	Reduced opportunity to influence design and ensure that site topography, features and connectivity are built into design of new development.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	Some connectivity will exist in new development but this will be achieved on a case-by-case basis, and will not benefit from a comprehensive approach. This will not encourage active and sustainable travel.	++	++	++	Using a comprehensive urban design approach has the potential to make the best use of green-ways, walk ways and cycle routes to connect parts of urban settlements. It also could contribute to making settlements easier to 'read', contributing to places that are	-	-	-	Reduced opportunity to influence design and make the best use of existing connectivity. This could lead to development that makes navigation of urban environments more difficult, and less appealing.

							easier to navigate when walking or cycling. Within housing development, there are opportunities to make car use less attractive which might also help to increase the frequency of active travel use especially for short journeys.					
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	This option will not encourage active and sustainable travel and will not contribute to less car use, and improved local air quality.	+	+	+	As above, where active and sustainable travel are made more convenient, these could bring a reduction in car use, contributing to improved air quality, especially within urban areas.	-	-	-	Reduced opportunity to influence design and make the best use of existing connectivity. This will continue the trend of high car and taxi use, and poor air quality.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	This option will not encourage active and sustainable travel and will not contribute to less car use, which will mean no reduction in green-house gas emissions.	+	+	+	This option could slightly reduce green-house gas emissions.	-	-	-	As above, this option could lead to greater use of the car and taxi and increase green-house gas emissions.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option may lead to measures which could positively protect, manage and use water resources sustainably, but this will be carried out in a non-comprehensive and site-by-site basis. Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	Opportunity to influence design to include measures which help to protect water quality and reduce the risks of surface water flooding, for example Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, incorporating natural features and green infrastructure.	-	-	-	Reduced opportunity to influence design to include measures which help to protect water quality and reduce the risks of surface water flooding. This option could have a negative effect on this objective.

12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	0	0	0	This option may lead to measures which protect natural resource and enhance biodiversity, but this will be carried out in a non-comprehensive and site-by-site basis. Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	+	+	+	Opportunity to influence design to include measures which help to protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity, such as planting, and keeping and enhancing the existing features of the site.	-	-	-	Reduced opportunity to influence design to include measures which help to protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity. This option could have a negative effect on this objective.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	This option may lead to design which maintains and enhances landscape character, but this will be carried out in a non-comprehensive and site-by-site basis. Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective	+	+	+	Opportunity to influence design to include measures which help to maintain and enhance landscape character.	-	-	-	Reduced opportunity to influence design to maintain and enhance landscape character. This might have an impact on the edge of settlements where landscaping can be used to soften the edges.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	Overall this option has neutral effect on built and cultural heritage as these assets will be protected by other planning policy, but this will be carried out in a non-comprehensive and site-by-site basis.	++	++	++	Opportunity to influence design which reflects and respects the historic and built heritage of the council area.	-	-	-	Reduced opportunity to influence design of new development to protect, conserve and enhance built and cultural heritage, which could risk the setting of existing features and consideration of scale and appropriate materials in new developments.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives				<p>Option 1 was considered to have a neutral effect over all of the objectives except enabling sustainable economic growth where it has a positive effect. This scoring reflects that the option has potential to contribute positively to achievement of many of the objectives but only on a case-by-case basis, and not strategically.</p> <p>Option 2 has a positive effect across almost all of the sustainability objectives including: health and well-being, strengthening society, sustainable housing, enabling sustainable economic growth, managing physical resources, air quality, reducing the causes of climate change, protecting water quality and using water sustainably, protecting</p>								

	<p>natural resources and enhancing biodiversity and enhancing landscape character. The option was considered to have a significantly positive effect on encouraging active and sustainable travel as using a comprehensive urban design approach has the potential to make the best use of greenways to connect parts of urban settlements. The option was also considered to have a significant positive effect on protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and cultural heritage. This is due to the opportunity with this option to influence design which reflects and respects the historic and built heritage of the council area.</p> <p>Option 3 scored negatively across almost all of the sustainability objectives reflecting the impact of minimal design criteria and a lack of strategic place shaping.</p>
The preferred option	Option 2
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	<p>The preferred option has significant positive effects for encouraging active and sustainable travel and protect conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, Design Guides.

9F - Renewables – Wind & Solar

Options	Option1: Maximise the Wind and Solar Resource of the District.			Option 2: Identify the most sensitive landscape Zones remaining – for protection, permitting appropriate wind and solar development elsewhere in line with SPPS.				
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation
1...improve health and well-being.	-	-	-	Potential impacts on local people’s health and well-being. Very subjective – some people like renewables and others dislike them. Noise, associated works and traffic, flicker effect and reflection all potential impacts even after mitigation. Maximising the resource would present a higher risk of impacts on people.	-	-	-	Potential impacts on local people’s health and well-being. Very subjective – some people like renewables and others dislike them. Noise, associated works and traffic, flicker effect and reflection all potential impacts even after mitigation.
2... strengthen society.	0	0	0	Potential to create cohesion at local level especially if a community shared project. Money may be made available from developer for local projects but overall this option thought to have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	Potential to create cohesion at local level especially if a community shared project. Money may be made available from developer for local projects but overall this option thought to have a negligible effect on the objective.
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	0	0	0	The option may hinder housing in some areas but at same time could enable low carbon living in some areas. Overall thought to have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	The option may hinder housing in some areas but at same time could enable low carbon living in some areas. Overall thought to have a negligible effect on the objective.
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	++	+	+	Jobs on site and with associated stakeholders at a higher level through planning and construction phases and then at a much lesser level during operation and deconstruction. Projects help to stimulate spend in areas at	++	++	+	Jobs on site and with associated stakeholders at a higher level through planning and construction phases and then at a much lesser level during operation and deconstruction. Projects help to stimulate spend in areas at construction time. Over the longer term,

				construction time. Over the longer term, savings made can help owners, businesses and investors to conduct other jobs, hire more employees or save.				savings made can help owners, businesses and investors to conduct other jobs, hire more employees or save. This option is more balanced/sustainable in its approach as it considers sensitive areas to avoid and this would help to sustain economies linked to those areas such as tourism.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	++	+	+	Option could deliver renewable energy and help to replace dependence on fossil fuels. There could be opportunities to develop vacant or derelict land for renewables. The existing infrastructure is not able to accommodate current level of approvals and this would need to be upgraded and increased to ensure all connections and efficiency within the grid.	++	++	+	Option considers sensitive areas and avoids development of those, which could reduce pressure on the grid for new connections and help maintain a steadier pace of growth. Option still able to deliver renewables and reduce reliance on fossil fuels as well as use opportunities to develop redundant land for renewables.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	-	-	-	Land take can be significant for renewables and associated infrastructure but land can still be used for farming purposes or other complimentary uses and maintain local biodiversity. Renewable projects require land and cause land cover loss and can cause soil pollution/erosion. Maximising the renewables resource would also have a higher risk of affecting mineral and earth science sites. Disturbance of peatlands also more likely.	-	-	-	Land take can be significant for renewables and associated infrastructure but land can still be used for farming purposes or other complimentary uses and maintain local biodiversity. Renewable projects require land and cause land cover loss and can cause soil pollution/erosion. Considering sensitive areas to avoid would be a more balanced approach to renewable developments.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	It is noted that access tracks can be reused and local routes improved by developers which could benefit public transport providers but overall this option thought to have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	It is noted that access tracks can be reused and local routes improved by developers which could benefit public transport providers but overall this option thought to have a negligible effect on the objective.

9... improve air quality.	-	0	0	There may be local negative impacts on air quality during construction phases with increased traffic and heavy goods vehicles. During the operation stage there should not be any impact on air quality.	-	0	0	There may be local negative impacts on air quality during construction phases with increased traffic and heavy goods vehicles. During the operation stage there should not be any impact on air quality.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	+	+	+	Renewables help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing reliance on fossil fuels. They should not be located on peatlands, which act as natural carbon stores. These areas should be avoided from the planning stage.	+	+	+	Renewables help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing reliance on fossil fuels. They should not be located on peatlands, which act as natural carbon stores. These areas should be avoided from the planning stage. By avoiding sensitive sites there is a higher opportunity of also avoiding peatlands associated with upland areas so this option could deliver more for this objective.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	--	--	--	Maximising renewables as a resource would take up many areas in the district and it could become increasingly difficult to avoid impacts on the natural environment and local biodiversity. Much would depend on location and baseline conditions but a high level of fragmentation of habitats would be likely with negative impacts on species.	-	-	-	Avoiding sensitive areas would help to reduce loss of natural features and local biodiversity. Other sites developed would have impacts on the natural environment but mitigation can be applied to avoid and reduce these. This option could deliver more for this objective.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	--	--	--	Potential for impacts across a wide area if renewables are to be maximised. Landscape character can remain subjective even with guidance and this option could lead to less control over decisions made with difficulties in approaching cases/sites fairly.	0	0	0	Able to avoid impacts in the most sensitive areas by avoiding any renewable developments. Landscape character can remain subjective even with guidance but this option safeguards most sensitive areas and then other policy remains applicable outside of these areas.

14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	This option would have a negligible effect on the objective.	0	0	0	This option would have no effect on the objective.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	<p>Option1 is considered to have a negative effect on health and well-being based on some of the potential impacts from wind and solar renewable energy projects on people. It is considered to have an overall positive impact on enabling sustainable economic growth, significantly so in the short term. It also was determined to have positive effects for managing material assets through delivery of renewable energy, and replacing dependence on fossil fuels. The option also scored positively for reducing the causes of and adapting to climate change. The option was considered to have a negative impact on protecting physical resources through the potential land-take for the renewable development and associated infrastructure. It was considered to have a significantly negative effect on both protecting natural resources and enhancing biodiversity, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character.</p> <p>Option 2 scored similarly to option 1 across the sustainability objectives however it was considered to have a significantly positive effect on enabling sustainable economic growth over the short and medium term, and long term a positive effect. This is due to its balanced approach which will help to support other economic growth areas such as tourism, through protecting the resource of landscape. Although the option is considered to have a negative effect on protecting natural heritage resources and biodiversity, it is not considered significant, recognising that there will be an ability to avoid development in the most sensitive areas, and opportunities for mitigation. The option is also considered to have a neutral effect on maintaining landscape character through the ability to avoid the most sensitive areas.</p>							
The preferred option	Option 2							
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	<p>The preferred option has significant positive effects for enabling sustainable economic growth and managing material assets sustainably.</p> <p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>							
What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.							
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Planning conditions, key site requirements, mitigation – peat / ecology / water, archaeology surveys, environmental assessments where required, other planning policy, biodiversity enhancement measures.							

9G - Flooding									
Options	Option 1: Avoid all further development in flood prone areas, or those forms of development which exacerbate flooding elsewhere.			Option 2: Precautionary approach – only allow suitable types of development in floodable areas, with appropriate mitigation.					
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	Explanation	ST	MT	LT	Explanation	
1...improve health and well-being.	+	+	+	This avoids the risk of development in the flood plain, which could bring health problems associate with flooding, and with living in areas prone to flooding. It also protects riverside flood plain areas from development which could keep areas for walking and recreation. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	+	+	+	This avoids the risk of development in the flood plain, which could bring health problems associated with flooding, and with living in areas prone to flooding. It also protects riverside flood plain areas from development which could keep areas for walking and recreation.	
2... strengthen society.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.	
3... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	+	+	+	Ensuring that housing is not built in flood prone areas will allow other more suitable areas to be considered. Also retaining flood plains will avoid further stress on surface water in adjacent areas. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	+	+	+	Ensuring that housing is not built in flood prone areas will allow other more suitable areas to be considered. Also retaining flood plains will avoid further stress on surface water in adjacent areas.	
4... enable access to high quality education.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.	
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	--	--	--	Avoiding all further development in flood prone areas will means loss of opportunity to develop land which could contribute to economic growth.	-	-	-	Loss of opportunity to develop land which could contribute to economic growth. However under this option, a more flexible approach can be taken to look at the development, its role, and the appropriate mitigation which could allow it to happen.	

6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	This option allows retention of semi-natural land, and agricultural land in flood plain areas. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	+	+	+	This option allows retention of semi-natural land, and agricultural land in flood plain areas, with some development permitted with mitigation.
8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	0	0	0	Keeping large areas of floodplain free of any development could put more pressure on other areas and the transport systems in those areas. Overall there this option has a negligible effect on this objective.	0	0	0	Keeping large areas of floodplain free of any development could put more pressure on other areas and the transport systems in those areas. Overall there this option has a negligible effect on this objective.
9... improve air quality.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.	0	0	0	There is no link with this objective.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	++	++	++	Retains flood plain as green infrastructure, which could help as an adaptation for the effects of climate change.	++	++	++	Retains flood plain as green infrastructure, which could help as an adaptation for the effects of climate change.
11... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	++	++	++	Preventing development in the flood plain will reduce the likelihood of pollution events from these areas into watercourses. It will also water flows to be maintained to assist with ecological quality, and it will allow the aquatic food reserve quality to be protected. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	++	++	++	Preventing development in the flood plain will reduce the likelihood of pollution events from these areas into watercourses. It will also water flows to be maintained to assist with ecological quality, and it will allow the aquatic food reserve quality to be protected.
12... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	++	++	++	This option could have a significant positive effect on natural resources and biodiversity because it will avoid development in flood plain areas, which could contribute to protecting biodiversity, and the areas which are	++	++	++	This option could have a significant positive effect on natural resources and biodiversity because it will mean that most development in flood plain areas will be avoided or strongly mitigated. This could contribute to protecting biodiversity, and

				hydrologically connected to important designated sites in Lough Foyle and other riverine habitats. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.				the areas which are hydrologically connected to important designated sites in Lough Foyle and other riverine habitats.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	++	++	++	This option could have a significant positive effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character. It will maintain the typical landscape character in floodplain areas, and help to avoid loss or fragmentation of tranquil areas. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	++	++	++	This option could have a significant positive effect on maintaining and enhancing landscape character. It will help to maintain the typical landscape character in floodplain areas, and help to avoid loss or fragmentation of tranquil areas.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	+	+	+	This option will help to preserve the setting of the historic environment features, and will avoid disturbance of archaeological sites. This option could deliver slightly more for this objective.	+	+	+	This option will help to preserve the setting of the historic environment features, and will avoid disturbance of archaeological sites. Where it is determined that development may proceed with mitigation, the setting of the historic environment features will be an important consideration.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	The options scored very similarly across the sustainability objectives. Both options were considered to have positive effects for health and well-being, for providing access to good quality sustainable housing, protecting physical resources and using them sustainably, and protecting, conserving and enhancing our historic environment assets. Both options were considered to have significant positive effects for climate change (through helping with adaption), protecting managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and using them sustainably, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. In many of these areas it was identified that option 1 delivered more for the objective. However it was also considered that option 1 could bring about significant negative effects for enabling sustainable economic growth, where option 2 could bring also bring negatives. Both would inhibit development in flood prone areas, however option 2 allows greater flexibility which could allow some, appropriate and well mitigated development to take place.							
The preferred option	Option 2							
What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?	A number of likely significant positive effects were envisaged with the preferred option. These are: climate change (through helping with adaption), protecting managing and using water resources sustainably, protecting natural resources and using them sustainably, and maintaining and enhancing landscape character. No significant negative effects were identified.							

What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?	No likely significant adverse effects were envisaged with the preferred option.
Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects	Flood risk assessments

9H - Transport – Environmentally and People-friendly

Option	Option 1: Identify / encourage / require pedestrian accesses / footways, cyclepaths / bridlepaths and other greenways proposals			Explanation
Sustainability Objective	ST	M T	LT	
1...improve health and well-being.	++	++	++	This option has the potential to contribute significantly to improving health and well-being, through providing opportunities for recreation and leisure. This could help physical and mental wellbeing.
2... strengthen society.	+	+	+	Well-designed safe paths, cycle routes and greenways help to link communities and provide shared spaces for people to meet. They can also contribute to a sense of pride in the local area.
3.... provide good quality, sustainable housing.	+	+	+	This option will help to improve connectivity for housing locations in the council district which makes them more sustainable locations.
4... enable access to high quality education	0	0	0	This option has a negligible effect on this objective.
5...enable sustainable economic growth.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective, however it will contribute to making the Council district an attractive place to live, work and invest in.
6... manage material assets sustainably.	0	0	0	This option has no effect on this objective.
7... protect physical resources and use sustainably.	+	+	+	This option will make use of previously developed resources and features.

8... encourage active and sustainable travel.	++	++	++	This option has the potential to contribute significantly to encouraging active and sustainable travel. It will help with connectivity and could increase the likelihood of people walking or cycling to reach bus stops, railway halts and stations.
9... improve air quality.	+	+	+	Increased use of active and sustainable travel may contribute slightly to reducing car use, which could help to improve local air quality.
10... reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective, however these greenways in riverside locations could help to protect areas subject to flooding as green infrastructure.
11... protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	+	+	+	This options could significantly help to keep wildlife corridors and semi-natural areas intact, however careful consideration would be needed of possible disturbance which could result from use and potentially from lighting. Overall this option is scored as positive, but this reflects both potential positive and negative aspects.
12... protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective, however these greenways in riverside locations could help to protect areas subject to flooding as green infrastructure.
13... maintain and enhance landscape character.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective, however these greenways could positively help to keep green areas in use as part of the local landscape.
14... protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	0	0	0	Overall this option has a negligible effect on this objective.
Summary and comparison of alternative against the sustainability objectives	This option has the opportunity to significantly improve health and wellbeing, and encourage active and sustainable travel. It also could have a positive effect on housing, air quality, biodiversity and strengthening society. Overall the option would contribute to the objective of sustainable development.			
The preferred option	Option 1			

<p>What likely significant effects are envisaged with the preferred option?</p>	<p>The preferred option has significant positive effects for health and well-being and encouraging active and sustainable travel. No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>What mitigation measures are envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the preferred option?</p>	<p>No significant negative effects were identified for the preferred option.</p>
<p>Measures to reduce negative effects and promote positive effects</p>	<p>Use of planning conditions, ecological mitigation, biodiversity enhancement measures. Planting and landscaping.</p>