

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

IMPLICATIONS/CONSULTATIONS

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives	<p>Priority 1 – Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities</p> <p>Priority 2 – Enhance the quality of people's lives</p> <p>Priority 3 – Enable a flourishing local economy</p>
Consultation:	<p>A wide range of consultation has been undertaken in preparing the District Plan, and at each stage a Sustainability Appraisal has accompanied the Plan as a consultation document.</p>
Legal:	<p>The process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is undertaken in line with the procedures prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations), which transpose into national law the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'.</p> <p>The process of SA is therefore also undertaken in line with the process of preparing a local plan. Preparation of a local plan is a statutory duty upon every Local Planning Authority. Local plans are prepared within the framework set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 ('the Act'), as amended by the Localism Act 2011, and in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.</p> <p>The District Plan and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal has been prepared in accordance with the Council's Local Development Scheme. And Statement of Community Involvement.</p>

Financial:	The cost of the preparing a District Plan is significant and has been budgeted over the duration of its preparation. The cost of the adoption process, notification, publicity and printing of the adopted Plan and associated documents is to be met within existing budgets. Additional costs may be incurred if there is a legal challenge following adoption.
Human Resource:	Staff resource is in place to ensure the ongoing timely adoption of the District Plan and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal.
Risk Management:	The Sustainability Appraisal process is a legal requirement. To not publish the SA will leave the Council at risk of legal challenge. The SA process is subject to the same Examination process as the District Plan and has therefore been found to be an adequate assessment in this context.
Health and wellbeing – issues and impacts:	The link between planning and health has long been established. The built and natural environments are major determinants of health and wellbeing. The District Plan will have positive impacts on health and wellbeing through a range of policy approaches that seek to create sustainable communities. The SA process incorporates an assessment of the implications of the District Plan on health and wellbeing matters.
Equality Impact Assessment required:	No. The policies of the plan, including the development strategy and design and housing policies make provision for the disabled and for other protected groups. The preparation of the plan and the examination has had due regard to its impact on equality in accordance with the Public Sector Equality duty. The SA process incorporates an assessment of the implications of the District Plan on equality matters.