

APPENDIX D

Sustainability Appraisal Addendum

June 2016



West Somerset Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Addendum

June 2016

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Annex A: Results of the SA assessments

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This document constitutes the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Addendum for the West Somerset Local Plan. This document should be read alongside all other SA reports that have been prepared previously in association with assessment of the West Somerset Local Plan.
- 1.2 Since the Plan's submission, and particularly through the formal examination hearings, the need for a number of changes to the Plan has been identified. These changes comprise a series of minor alterations which are unlikely to have sustainability implications, and more significant changes, so of which most certainly would impact on sustainability objectives.
- 1.3 This document sets out the Sustainability Appraisal of those modifications which it is considered are most likely to have significant sustainability implications. Since there are a number of policies which are 'new' it is essential that an SA of these policies has been undertaken. The previous SA Addendum published in December 2015 which included the assessment of 'Early Release' Housing Sites should be disregarded as the Council is now no longer proposing the allocation of additional sites through the Plan.
- 1.4 Consultation on this SA Addendum will be carried out alongside public consultation on modifications to the West Somerset Plan to 2032.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal ¹(SA) is to ensure that plans achieve sustainable development through the simultaneous integration of social, economic and environmental objectives in plan preparation and adoption. Sustainability Appraisal needs to compare alternative options and assess these against the baseline environmental, economic and social objectives. In the UK, reasonable alternatives are commonly referred to as 'options'. It also provides an assessment of detailed policies.
- 2.2 This document should be read alongside the Proposed Main Modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032 set out in the accompanying Proposed Modifications documents which set out the preferred policy wording in relation to some of the Local Plan's development management policies.

¹ Under section 39(2) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Planning Act 2008 and Localism Act 2011), carrying out SA is mandatory for any new or revised Development Plan Documents (DPDs).

2.3 **CD6** provided the assessment of Reasonable Alternatives used to inform the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032. It summarised how reasonable alternatives had been considered against the eight 'key themes' listed below:

- Settlement policy
- Transport
- Housing
- Climate change
- Economy
- Biodiversity
- Heritage
- Other important issues (including Hinkley Point C)

2.4 It is considered that all of the proposed amendments to policies accord with the Council's preferred strategy and policy approach as outlined in CD6. They do however, provide helpful further amplification and detail on certain matters; responding to soundness concerns expressed at examination. As such, no further work is felt necessary around reasonable alternatives

3.0 Appraisal Methodology

3.1 The methodology used in this SA addendum is the same as the one used to assess the sustainability of the West Somerset Local Plan. Table 2 presents the SA framework used to assess the sustainability of a number of development management policies. Table 3 presents the scoring matrix and guidelines for assessment criteria. The results of this assessment can be found in Annex A of this report.

3.2 The findings of the SA assessments (Annex A) are presented in a matrix format and are accompanied by a commentary on identified effects. The matrix is not a conclusive tool. Its main function is to show visually whether or not the development management policy options are likely to bring positive, adverse or uncertain effects in relation the SA objectives. The commentary is then used as an interpretation of the matrix findings. Some effects have been associated with uncertain sustainability performance. This is used when it is unclear whether there is the potential for a negative or positive effect.

Table 2.

Table. SA Framework	
SA objective	Appraisal questions. Will the Plan lead to...
1. Air and Noise	
1a. Reduce impacts on tranquillity from noise and visual intrusion.	Potential changes in areas currently identified as tranquil areas?
1b. Reduce the need to travel and facilitate modal shift (particularly with regard to reducing the impact of traffic during peak summer months).	A reduction in the number of private motor vehicle trips and/ or a reduction in the number of existing traffic congestion hotspots? Potentially incompatible land use with relation to noise and air quality for local residents.
2. Climate and energy	
2a. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	A change in CO2 emissions per person?
2b. Improve adaptation for unavoidable climate change including consideration of the location of development.	A change in the amount of energy used per person through promotion of energy efficient materials use, design and construction and environmental standards e.g Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM)?
2c. Increase energy efficiency and the amount of energy generated from renewable sources.	A change in numbers of renewable energy projects? Better adaptation of development to the effects of climate change?
3. Crime	
3a. Reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime.	A reduction in fear of crime and level of anti-social behaviour.
4. Public infrastructure	
4a. Ensure equitable access to viable facilities and services for all sectors of the community including those in rural areas.	Improved access to services and facilities (including open space, recreation and sports facilities, cultural and educational facilities)?
5. Population and social inclusion	
5a. To develop and maintain a balanced and sustainable population structure with good access to services, facilities and homes for all sectors of the society.	The development and maintenance of a balanced and sustainable population structure within the District Meeting the need for affordable housing across the District and particularly in the areas where the need is greatest?

Table. SA Framework	
SA objective	Appraisal questions. Will the Plan lead to...
	Flexibility in the use of homes, e.g. by use of lifetime homes standard etc? Reduced deprivation across the district?
6. Soils and geology	
6a. Reduce land contamination, and safeguard soil and geological quality and quantity.	The remediation of contaminated sites? Levels of development on brownfield sites that are above the national target of 60%? Development that protects soil processes and functions and sites valued for their geological characteristics?
7. Waste	
7a. To reduce waste generation and disposal, increase recycling and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	A reduction in the amount of waste generated by development and land use change? Encouragement for development to use recycled materials and make provision for recycling/composting in all new developments?
8. Water	
8a. Maintain and improve the quality of ground/river/coastal water. 8b. Reduce risk of flooding including coastal flooding. 8c. Improve efficiency of water use.	Development where adequate water supply, foul drainage, sewage treatment facilities and surface water drainage is available or where suitable arrangements are made for their provision? A reduction in per capital water consumption or help to reduce the demand of water through measures such as water efficient design (e.g. rainwater recycling/grey water reuse and BREEAM/Code for Sustainable Homes standards? Development which avoids areas of high and medium flood risk and adheres to coastal policy? Development likely to affect the status of groundwater and surface water? An increase in the use of SUDS?

Table. SA Framework	
SA objective	Appraisal questions. Will the Plan lead to...
9. Cultural heritage	
9a. Protect the fabric and setting of designated and undesignated archaeological sites, monuments, structures and buildings, recorded Historic Parks and gardens, maritime and coastal heritage, listed buildings and conservation areas.	<p>Development that affects listed buildings, scheduled ancient monuments, historic parks and gardens?</p> <p>Development being steered to where it can be accommodated in less sensitive areas?</p> <p>Distinctive development that is well related to the natural environment and characteristics scale, form, materials and detailing of the settlement and contributes to a sense of place?</p> <p>The enhancement (and re-use of) of the archaeological resource and other aspects of heritage, such as, parks and open spaces, and areas with particular historic or cultural association?</p>
10. Human Health	
10a. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population and improve access to health and services for all.	<p>Healthier lifestyles?</p> <p>Improved access to healthcare?</p>
11. Landscape	
<p>11a. Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are conserved and enhanced.</p> <p>11b. Enhance the form and design of the built environment.</p> <p>11c. Ensure provision is made to incorporate green infrastructure into spatial planning.</p>	<p>Provide the AONB/Exmoor National Park with the highest level of protection, make appropriate provision for their economic and social wellbeing and reflect AONB Management Plan objectives?</p> <p>Encourage the use of Town Design Statements, Village Design Statements, Parish Plans, Conservation Area Appraisal, Concept Statements, and Master Plans to raise the standard of design in new development?</p> <p>Encourage development which considers the existing character, form and pattern of the landscape, building and settlements?</p> <p>Encourage development which incorporates green infrastructure, woodland into the</p>

Table. SA Framework	
SA objective	Appraisal questions. Will the Plan lead to...
	design e.g. green corridors, linking open space etc?
12. Labour market, economic and regeneration	
12a. Improve sustainable economic activity within West Somerset enabling regeneration of key areas.	<p>Improved access to skills and training to encourage young people to remain in the district.</p> <p>Increased wage rates?</p> <p>An increase in the District's self-sufficiency in terms of employment?</p> <p>Diversification of employment opportunities?</p> <p>An increase in available employment land/workspace, industrial and commercial properties?</p>
13. Biodiversity	
<p>13a. Protect and enhance biodiversity at all levels.</p> <p>13b. Maintain, restore and enhance populations of focal species.</p> <p>13c. Increase the land area of UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats within the district.</p> <p>13d. Maintain and improve the conservation status of selected designated and non-designated nature conservation sites.</p>	<p>Avoidance of net loss, damage to, or fragmentation of designated wildlife sites and the qualifying habitats and species?</p> <p>Avoidance of loss of 'Favourable Conservation Status' of species afforded protection at a European Level?</p> <p>Fragmentation of habitat networks?</p> <p>Opportunities for people to come into contact with robust wildlife places whilst encouraging respect for and raising awareness of the sensitivity of these sites?</p> <p>A maintenance and increase of biodiversity and the variety of habitats?</p> <p>Protection and enhancement of conditions for focal species (with recognition of the fact that the SEA will also take account of species assemblages associated with key habitats for which there is an Action Plan)?</p> <p>Development which includes the integration of ecological conditions?</p>

3.3 In order to assess the sustainability of policy options we will need to establish an appropriate mechanism against which we can measure performance. The SA scoring matrix used in this SA addendum is the same as the one used to assess all reasonable alternatives in the SA of the West Somerset Local Plan.

Table 3:

SA scoring matrix		
Score	Description	Symbol
Significant positive effect	The option strongly supports the achievement of the SA objective and has a major positive effect with relation to characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors.	++
Minor positive effect	The option generally supports the achievement of the SA objective and has a minor positive effect with relation to characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors.	+
Neutral	The option does not have an effect on the achievement of the SA objective.	0
Minor negative effect	The option conflicts with the achievement of the SA objective and has a negative effect with relation of characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors.	-
Significant negative effect	The option conflicts with the achievement of the SA objective and has a negative effect with relation of characteristics of the effect and the sensitivity of the receptors. In addition the future baseline indicates a worsening trend in the absence of intervention.	--
Uncertain	It is unclear whether there is the potential for a negative or positive effect on the SA objective.	?

4.0 Results of the SA assessment

- 4.1 Apart from the policy NH4: Green Infrastructure, none of the proposed modifications to the Plan change the scoring in the Sustainability Appraisal of the published West Somerset Local Plan. The only change relates to policy NH4 which now scores positively against the SA objective on cultural heritage.
- 4.2 Policies NH11, NH7 and NH1x are new policies not previously identified in the draft Plan while policy NH1 has been split with much of the detail previously included now transposed into new policy NH1x. Policy GT1 is a replacement policy meaning that

the wording has significantly changed from the Published Plan version. The full SA of these policies can be found in Annex A of this SA Addendum Report.

- 4.3 None of the new/amended policies subject to SA has recorded any negative impacts through the Assessment. Because these policies are generally quite detailed, impacts are generally only recorded against the sustainability objectives to which they relate (for example the historic environment).
- 4.4 In the case of policies NH1 / NH1x, the SA has been included for both policies together. The information has been recorded in this way since much of the content of the two policies was previously contained in the Publication Draft NH1, the new policy NH1x merely provides a greater level of detail.
- 4.5 The SA records no positive or negative impacts against policy NH7, this is because as a notification policy only, the policy alone is felt unlikely to give rise to sustainability impacts.

5.0 Next Steps

- 5.1 This Sustainability Appraisal Addendum will be subject to 6 weeks public consultation, and will form part of the formal consultation associated with those recommended modifications to the Plan document.

West Somerset Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Addendum

ANNEX A

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH1: Management of historic assets / NH1x: Management of Heritage Assets	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
1a. Reduce impacts on tranquillity from noise and visual intrusion.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
1b. Reduce the need to travel and facilitate modal shift.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2a.Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2b.Improve adaptation for unavoidable climate change including consideration of the location of development.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2c. Include energy efficiency and the amount of energy generated from renewable sources.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
3a. Reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
4a. Ensure equitable access to viable facilities and services for all sectors of the community including those in rural areas.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH1: Management of historic assets / NH1x: Management of Heritage Assets	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
5a. To develop and maintain a balanced and sustainable population structure with good access to services, facilities and homes for all sectors of the society.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
6a. Reduce land contamination, and safeguard soil and geological quality and quantity.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
7a. To reduce waste generation and disposal, increase recycling and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8a. Maintain and improve the quality of ground/river/coastal water.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8b. Reduce risk of flooding including coastal flooding.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8c. Improve efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH1: Management of historic assets / NH1x: Management of Heritage Assets	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
9a. Protect the fabric and setting of designated and undesignated archaeological sites, monuments, structures and buildings, recorded Historic Parks and gardens, maritime and coastal heritage, listed buildings and conservation areas.				The policies will have a significant positive effect in safeguarding and enhancing the district's cultural and built heritage and archaeology. Wording has been further strengthened to offer even better protection and enhancement of the historic environment in West Somerset.	None identified
10a. To improve the health and well-being of the population and improve access to health and services for all.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11a. Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are concerned and enhanced.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11b. Enhance the form and design of the built environment.				The policies are likely to make a positive contribution to the achievement of the objective. They recognise the role good design can have in conserving and enhancing heritage assets.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH1: Management of historic assets / NH1x: Management of Heritage Assets	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
11c. Ensure provision is made to incorporate green infrastructure into spatial planning.	0	0	0	The policies will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
12a. Improve sustainable economic activity within West Somerset enabling regeneration of key areas.	0	0	0	The policies are likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13a. Protect and enhance biodiversity at all levels.	0	0	0	The policies are likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13b. Maintain, restore and enhance populations of focal species.	0	0	0	The policies are likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13c. Increase the land area of UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats within the district.	0	0	0	The policies are likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13d. Maintain and improve the conservation status of selected designated and non-designated nature conservation areas.	0	0	0	The policies are likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy NH7: Development in proximity to Hinkley Nuclear Power Station	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
1a. Reduce impacts on tranquillity from noise and visual intrusion.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
1b. Reduce the need to travel and facilitate modal shift.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2a.Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2b.Improve adaptation for unavoidable climate change including consideration of the location of development.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2c. Include energy efficiency and the amount of energy generated from renewable sources.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
3a. Reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
4a. Ensure equitable access to viable facilities and services for all sectors of the community including those in rural areas.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy NH7: Development in proximity to Hinkley Nuclear Power Station	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
5a. To develop and maintain a balanced and sustainable population structure with good access to services, facilities and homes for all sectors of the society.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
6a. Reduce land contamination, and safeguard soil and geological quality and quantity.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
7a. To reduce waste generation and disposal, increase recycling and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8a. Maintain and improve the quality of ground/river/coastal water.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8b. Reduce risk of flooding including coastal flooding.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8c. Improve efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy NH7: Development in proximity to Hinkley Nuclear Power Station	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
9a. Protect the fabric and setting of designated and undesignated archaeological sites, monuments, structures and buildings, recorded Historic Parks and gardens, maritime and coastal heritage, listed buildings and conservation areas.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
10a. To improve the health and well-being of the population and improve access to health and services for all.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11a. Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are concerned and enhanced.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11b. Enhance the form and design of the built environment.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11c. Ensure provision is made to incorporate green infrastructure into spatial planning.	0	0	0	The policy will a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy NH7: Development in proximity to Hinkley Nuclear Power Station	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
12a. Improve sustainable economic activity within West Somerset enabling regeneration of key areas.	0	0	0	The policy will have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13a. Protect and enhance biodiversity at all levels.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13b. Maintain, restore and enhance populations of focal species.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13c. Increase the land area of UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats within the district.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13d. Maintain and improve the conservation status of selected designated and non-designated nature conservation areas.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH11: Nationally Designated Landscape Areas	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
1a. Reduce impacts on tranquillity from noise and visual intrusion.				The policy is likely to have a minor positive impact on the achievement of this objective. Implementation of the policy will help to ensure the continued tranquillity of these valued landscapes.	None identified
1b. Reduce the need to travel and facilitate modal shift.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2a.Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2b.Improve adaptation for unavoidable climate change including consideration of the location of development.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2c. Include energy efficiency and the amount of energy generated from renewable sources.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
3a. Reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH11: Nationally Designated Landscape Areas	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
4a. Ensure equitable access to viable facilities and services for all sectors of the community including those in rural areas.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
5a. To develop and maintain a balanced and sustainable population structure with good access to services, facilities and homes for all sectors of the society.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
6a. Reduce land contamination, and safeguard soil and geological quality and quantity.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
7a. To reduce waste generation and disposal, increase recycling and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8a. Maintain and improve the quality of ground/river/coastal water.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH11: Nationally Designated Landscape Areas	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
8b. Reduce risk of flooding including coastal flooding.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8c. Improve efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
9a. Protect the fabric and setting of designated and undesignated archaeological sites, monuments, structures and buildings, recorded Historic Parks and gardens, maritime and coastal heritage, listed buildings and conservation areas.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
10a. To improve the health and well-being of the population and improve access to health and services for all.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11a. Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are concerned and enhanced.				The policy strongly supports the achievement of the objective. It ensures that the most valued landscapes within the Plan Area are protected and that development does not detract from the National Park. Criteria	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy NH11: Nationally Designated Landscape Areas	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
				are established to ensure harm is avoided or minimised.	
11b. Enhance the form and design of the built environment.				The policy is likely to have a minor positive impact towards the achievement of this objective. It recognises the role good design can have in reducing the impact on protected landscapes.	None identified
11c. Ensure provision is made to incorporate green infrastructure into spatial planning.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
12a. Improve sustainable economic activity within West Somerset enabling regeneration of key areas.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13a. Protect and enhance biodiversity at all levels.				Although the policy does not make any specific reference to support the achievement of this objective, the policy will assist in conserving and enhancing the natural environment, and wider countryside which is likely to generally support the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability Appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan

Policy NH11: Nationally Designated Landscape Areas	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
13b. Maintain, restore and enhance populations of focal species.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13c. Increase the land area of UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats within the district.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13d. Maintain and improve the conservation status of selected designated and non-designated nature conservation areas.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy GT1: Gypsy and Traveller Site Policy	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
1a. Reduce impacts on tranquillity from noise and visual intrusion.	0	0	0	The policy will have a neutral impact. It's wording reflects the need to ensure proposals will not give rise to amenity issues for nearby residents/communities.	None identified
1b. Reduce the need to travel and facilitate modal shift.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
2b.Improve adaptation for unavoidable climate change including consideration of the location of development.				The policy makes a specific reference to the need for proposals for the use of land for occupancy by gypsies and travellers to demonstrate that the environmental impacts of the proposal are minimised, including appropriate siting of development taking into account flood risk.	None identified
2c. Include energy efficiency and the amount of energy generated from renewable sources.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy GT1: Gypsy and Traveller Site Policy	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
3a. Reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime.	?	?	?	Gypsy and traveller sites can increase the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour in local communities although the policy has been designed to ensure settled and travelling communities can live harmoniously.	None identified
4a. Ensure equitable access to viable facilities and services for all sectors of the community including those in rural areas.				The provision of pitches ensures that the gypsy and traveller community can access pitches and local services when needed. The policy makes a specific reference for the need for proposals for the use of land for occupancy by gypsies and travellers to demonstrate that the site is well related to local services and facilities including shops, schools and doctor's surgeries as well as existing employment provision.	None identified
5a. To develop and maintain a balanced and sustainable population structure with good access to services, facilities and homes for all sectors of the society.				The provision of pitches ensures that the gypsy and traveller community can access pitches and local services when needed. The policy makes a specific reference for the need for proposals for the use of land for occupancy by gypsies and travellers to demonstrate that the site is well related to local services and facilities including	None identified

Sustainability appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy GT1: Gypsy and Traveller Site Policy	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
				shops, schools and doctor's surgeries as well as existing employment provision.	
6a. Reduce land contamination, and safeguard soil and geological quality and quantity.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
7a. To reduce waste generation and disposal, increase recycling and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	0	0		The policy is likely to have a neutral impact on the achievement of the objective.	None identified.
8a. Maintain and improve the quality of ground/river/coastal water.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
8b. Reduce risk of flooding including coastal flooding.				The policy makes a specific reference to the need for proposals for the use of land for occupancy by gypsies and travellers to demonstrate that the environmental impacts of the proposal are minimised, this will include impacts on flooding.	None identified
8c. Improve efficiency of water use.	0	0	0	The policy makes a specific reference to the need for proposals for the use of land for	None identified

Sustainability appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy GT1: Gypsy and Traveller Site Policy	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
				occupancy by gypsies and travellers to demonstrate that the site is adequately served by the appropriate infrastructure to support the development including surface water drainage.	
9a. Protect the fabric and setting of designated and undesignated archaeological sites, monuments, structures and buildings, recorded Historic Parks and gardens, maritime and coastal heritage, listed buildings and conservation areas.				The policy makes a specific reference to the need for proposals for the use of land for occupancy by gypsies and travellers to demonstrate that the environmental impacts of the proposal are minimised, this will include appropriate screening and siting of development taking into account any likely impact upon heritage assets.	None identified
10a. To improve the health and well-being of the population and improve access to health and services for all.				The provision of pitches ensures that the gypsy and traveller community can access pitches and local services when needed. The policy makes a specific reference for the need for proposals for the use of land for occupancy by gypsies and travellers to demonstrate that the site is well related to local services and facilities including doctor's surgeries.	None identified

Sustainability appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy GT1: Gypsy and Traveller Site Policy	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
11a. Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are concerned and enhanced.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11b. Enhance the form and design of the built environment.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
11c. Ensure provision is made to incorporate green infrastructure into spatial planning.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
12a. Improve sustainable economic activity within West Somerset enabling regeneration of key areas.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13a. Protect and enhance biodiversity at all levels.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13b. Maintain, restore and enhance populations of focal species.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified
13c. Increase the land area of UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats within the district.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified

Sustainability appraisal of major modifications to the West Somerset Local Plan					
Policy GT1: Gypsy and Traveller Site Policy	Short term	Med term	Long term	Commentary	Mitigation or enhancement
13d. Maintain and improve the conservation status of selected designated and non-designated nature conservation areas.	0	0	0	The policy is likely to have a neutral effect on the achievement of this objective.	None identified