Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Sustainability Appraisal

Non-Technical Summary

Updated October 2026

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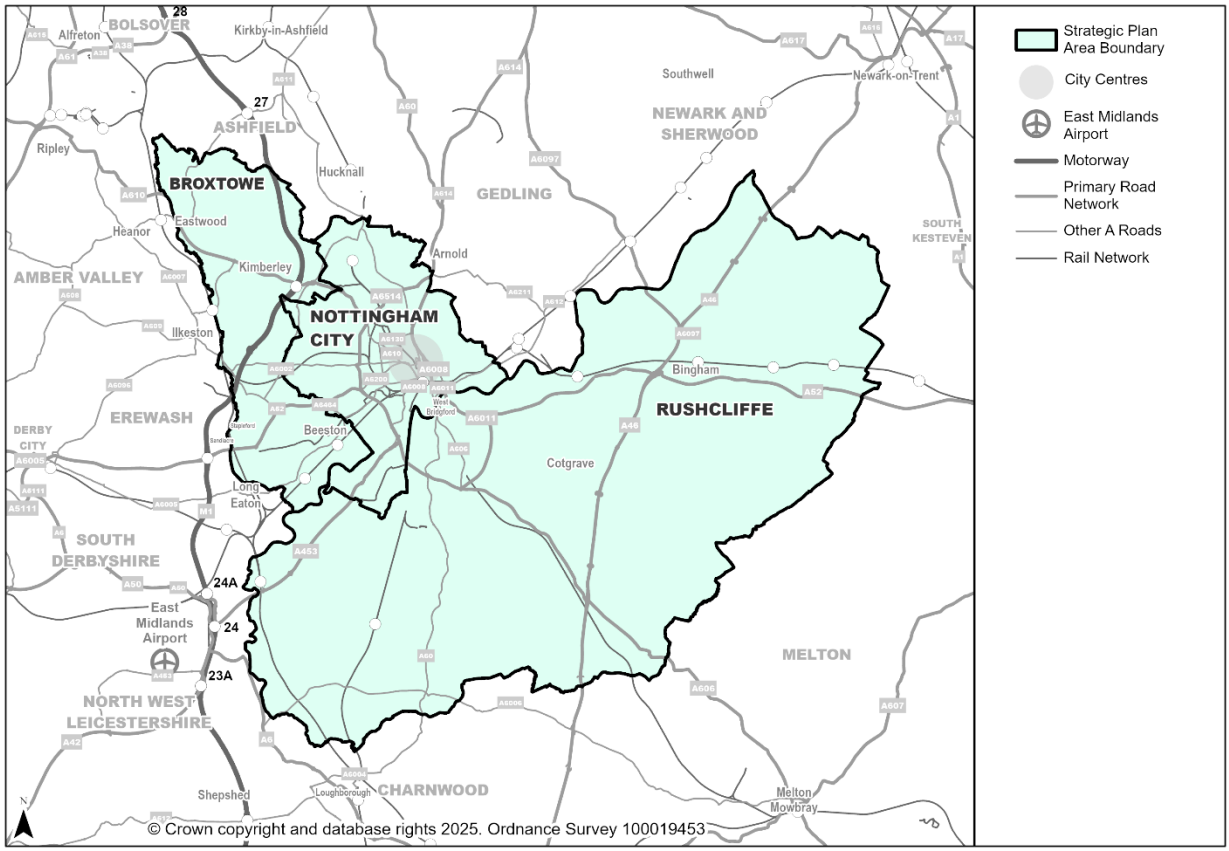
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1. Introduction

1.1. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan (GNSP) is being prepared by the following Greater Nottingham councils:

- Broxtowe Borough Council,
- Nottingham City Council, and
- Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Map 1: Council administrative areas



1.2. The GNSP sets out strategic planning policies and allocations for growth up to 2041. It forms part 1 of the Local Plan for each of the participating councils and when adopted it will replace the existing Core Strategies for Broxtowe, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe Councils.

1.3. This is the Non-Technical Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal Report (SA). It provides an overview of the SA process and findings in accordance with the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and national planning policy and guidance.

1.4. The Non-Technical Summary has been updated to reflect the Inspectors' comments and recommendations outlined within Post Hearing Note 2 (ID/7). The updated Sustainability Appraisal (SA) takes into account the Plan's revised geographical scope, reassesses any reasonable alternatives which included Gedling Borough Council and explains how those outcomes have informed the conclusions of the SA and the preferred strategy. It also provides greater clarity why options were selected or rejected, explains differences in the scoring of options between the Preferred Approach and the Publication Document SA and explains the site thresholds used. **Changes made to the SA Main Report in response to Post Hearing Note 2 are shown in red.**

Gedling Borough Council's withdrawal from the Strategic Plan

1.5. In January 2025, Gedling Borough Council withdrew from the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan to prepare its own Local Plan. The Strategic Plan is therefore now being prepared jointly by Broxtowe Borough Council, Nottingham City Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council. The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) has been updated to reflect this change, including revisions to baseline information, policies, site allocations and monitoring arrangements. Previous appraisal work involving Gedling has been retained where necessary to provide a clear audit trail of the alternatives considered during plan preparation. Cross-boundary effects involving Gedling, such as transport, housing, infrastructure, flood risk, air quality and biodiversity, continue to be considered where relevant.

1.6. The review concluded that Gedling's withdrawal does not materially alter the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal, the measures required to avoid or mitigate significant adverse effects, or the preferred strategy for Broxtowe, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe.

1.7. Further explanation is provided in paragraphs 1.13 to 1.20 of the Main Report (October 2026 update).

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

1.8. The SA is an on-going process undertaken alongside the preparation and development of the Local Plan. Its purpose is to assess the social, economic and environmental impacts of the Local Plan, when judged against reasonable alternatives, so that the chosen plan promotes sustainable development. It also aims to minimise negative impacts and to consider how the Local Plan can contribute to improvements in social, economic and environmental conditions.

1.9. The SA is a legal requirement introduced by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). The Local Plan has therefore been subject to SA under the requirements of this Act and paragraph 32 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Local Plans must also be subject to SEA. Government

guidance advises that the SA may integrate the requirements of SEA. SEA and SA are similar processes that involve a comparable series of tasks. The main difference is that SEA focuses on environmental effects, whereas SA covers environmental, social and economic issues. SA guidance specifies five main stages of work (Stages A to E) that have to be undertaken during the SA of any Local Plan.

2. Stage A Deciding on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal

2.1. The first stage of the SA process is known as the 'Scoping Stage' and is undertaken to identify the extent and detail of the information to be included in the SA Report. The Scoping Stage involved a review of relevant policies, plans and programmes, to identify their relationship to the Local Plan, identifying key issues for the Local Plan to address, collecting information on the current state of the environment and identifying future trends without the Local Plan. This work helped to inform the development of the SA Framework; a set of sustainability objectives and key questions that are used to consistently predict and describe the impacts of the Local Plan.

2.2. For stage A of the SA process, the Scoping Report published in July 2020 summarised the review of all plans, policies and programmes considered relevant to the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan by looking at the issues and objectives, targets, the implications for the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan and the implications for the Sustainability Appraisal. The review in the Scoping Report included the documents related to Erewash Borough Council and Gedling Borough Council who no longer form part of the GNSP.

A.1 Relevant policies, plans and programmes

2.3. Responses from the consultation on the Scoping Report highlight a number of documents missing from the list of plans, policies and programmes. These comments and the Greater Nottingham councils' response are included in **Appendix C** which has been updated for the appraisal of the Publication Draft. The list of plans, policies and programmes has been updated to reflect the consultation comments and any recent publications of new or revised planning documents to date are included in **Appendix A**. Policy documents relating to Gedling Borough Council have also been removed. The key messages which are pertinent to the Strategic Plan and Sustainability Appraisal are summarised in **Table 1**. The list of relevant documents has been kept under review during the SA process.

Table 1: Key messages

Key messages	Implications for the SA Framework
Delivering a sufficient supply of homes • Reduce homelessness • Reduce the number of empty homes • Improve affordability across the housing market • Increase the supply of homes • Promote self-build or custom build homes • Provide a supply of high quality, well designed, energy efficient housing appropriate to needs of the community including family homes, homes to meet the needs of the ageing population and social housing	Requires objectives to ensure that the housing stock is of a high quality and meets the requirements of all sectors of the community.
Building a strong, competitive economy • Consider the location of new business with regard to accessibility and the local environment • Ensure that the location of industry and commerce brings benefit and not harm to local communities • Regenerate deprived areas through business development • Ensure location of development makes efficient use of existing infrastructure • Understand future demands for business land • Develop economic capacity and expertise • Increase economic diversity • Maximise economic benefit from tourism • Encourage growth in high value, high growth, high knowledge economic activities • Ensure that economic growth goes hand-in-hand with high quality environment	Requires objectives to improve employment skills and levels; to ensure there is sufficient supply of land for business development; to ensure that businesses are located in the correct places and that local communities (especially deprived communities) benefit from them; to ensure that businesses do not cause harm to the communities in which they are situated; and to encourage diversity and high value, high growth, knowledge intensive economic activities, including tourism. Requires objectives to ensure sustainable communities in the countryside.

Key messages	Implications for the SA Framework
• Develop flourishing local economies • Understand future demands for land including type of land and location • Encourage inward investment • Reduce worklessness • Improve skills to help reduce unemployment and deprivation • Ensure supply of employment land • Prevent decline in some rural communities • Promote rural renewal • Development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside • Connect to fast broadband services and communications	
Ensuring the vitality of town centres • Support efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure and other sectors • Promote the vitality of town centres by promoting and enhancing existing centres	Requires objectives to support the growth and diversity of town and local centres.
Promoting healthy and safe communities • Promote social cohesion and inclusion in both urban and rural communities • Support vulnerable groups • Reduce deprivation, focusing on most deprived areas • Tackle poverty in urban and rural areas • Increase social interaction • Improve social development of children • Improve quality of life • Create clean, attractive, quality, safe urban spaces	Requires objectives to improve health by providing opportunities for walking, cycling, sport and leisure activities and local food growing opportunities. Requires objectives to create attractive, safe, sustainable communities. Requires objectives to reduce crime and the fear of crime and change behaviour that is often linked with crime.

Key messages	Implications for the SA Framework
• Access to quality health, education, housing, transport, shopping and leisure services • Ensure equality of opportunity in housing, employment and access to services • Recognise that different people have different needs • Improve the quality of educational facilities • Improve health and access to quality health facilities • More opportunities for walking and cycling • Improve access to open space and leisure opportunities • Understand the economic benefits of better health in the community • Encourage and support local food growing opportunities • Reduce crime and the fear of crime • Design out crime	
Promoting sustainable transport • Embed accessibility in decisions affecting provision, location, design and delivery of services in both urban and rural areas • Improve social inclusion by making services more accessible • Tackle crime and fear of crime on public transport • Improve the quality and safety of pedestrian and cycling networks • Improve public transport networks • Encourage more people to walk and cycle • Reduce impact of travel on the environment • Maximise the use of existing roads infrastructure and avoid inappropriate development	Requires objectives to enable the development of a sustainable transport infrastructure that reduces overall levels of travel and ensures accessibility to key services (e.g. health services, education, employment sites, and leisure facilities), the provision of safe walking and cycling routes, and safe accessible public transport.

Key messages	Implications for the SA Framework
• Reduce traffic and in particular journeys made by car • Improve public transport • Reduce traffic noise, pollution and congestion • Improve the freight network to reduce amount of road freight • Promote sustainable transport • Ensure that the rights of way meet the present and future needs	
Supporting high quality communications • Support expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology, and full fibre broadband connections to existing and new developments	Requires objectives to ensure electronic communications networks.
Making effective use of land • Maximise the use of brownfield land for housing, business and commercial development • Prioritise the re-use of existing buildings	Requires objectives to ensure that best use of land is made prioritising the re-use of land and buildings.
Achieving well-designed places • Ensure developments are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping, sympathetic to local character and history • Establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit	Requires objectives to ensure good design for new development to maintain a sense of place and to reflect local character.
Protecting Green Belt land • Need to maintain the openness and prevent coalescence between Nottingham, Derby and other settlements	Requires objectives to ensure that the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt maintain the openness and prevent coalescence between Nottingham, Derby and other settlements.

Key messages	Implications for the SA Framework
• Protect Green Belt from inappropriate development • Exceptional circumstances are required for the Green Belt boundaries to be altered	
Meeting the challenge of climate change and flooding • Encourage low or zero carbon communities • Minimise the effects of climate change on human health and on the environment • New homes to be energy efficient and able to cope with the effects of climate change • Ensure that new development can cope with climate change • Spatial planning should contribute to sustainable communities and the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions • Seek secure, clean affordable energy • Reduce amount of energy consumed • Generate energy at local levels • Increase energy efficiency of homes and businesses • Increase the amount of renewable energy produced • Invest in the energy infrastructure • Recover energy from waste • Reduce existing levels of flood risk • Safeguard land used to manage floodwater • Avoid inappropriate development on floodplains • Ensure new development does not afford flood risk elsewhere	Requires objectives to reduce carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to climate change and to ensure that new development can cope with the effects of climate change. Requires objectives to improve energy efficiency of new development and to encourage alternative ways of generating energy. Requires objectives to minimise flood risk by considering where development should take place and by protecting floodplains.
Conserving and enhancing the natural environment • Protect and promote biodiversity net gains • Conserve threatened species	Requires objectives to protect, enhance and improve biodiversity, habitats and green infrastructure.

Key messages	Implications for the SA Framework
• Ensure that land uses (including agriculture) does not threaten biodiversity • Protect, restore and improve habitats including woodland and aquatic ecosystems • Create and integrate habitats in urban spaces and in the built environment • Protect and extend heathland • Protect, enhance and extend networks of green spaces and natural elements • Prevent loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land • Conserve and enhance the rural landscape • Preserve and enhance local landscape character • Protect, maintain and enhance geological diversity • Open up access to the countryside • Bring improvements to the physical environment through quality design • Promote the creation of a Sherwood Forest Regional Park • Protect geological heritage • Mitigation against harm to the landscape • Prevent and reduce the detrimental impact on human health, quality of life and the environment • Reduce pollution • Ensure that new development does not reduce air quality • Improve water efficiency • Reduce amount of water used by domestic properties • Lessen effects of flood and drought	Requires objectives to protect and enhance the natural environment; and to encourage people to enjoy the countryside. Requires objectives to prevent pollution and protect air quality. Requires objectives to improve water efficiency, protect water systems and to lessen the effects of flood and drought.

Key messages	Implications for the SA Framework
• Reduce water pollution • Enhance and protect aquatic water systems • Promote the use of SuDS where appropriate	
Conserving and enhancing the historic environment • Conserve and enhance the townscape • Provide opportunities to value local heritage • Bring improvements to the physical environment through quality design • Conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments	Requires objectives to protect and enhance the built environment and to encourage people to enjoy their local heritage.
Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals • Promote development that minimises the use of resources • Prevent soil loss • Prevent contaminated land • Safeguarding mineral resources	Requires objectives to promote development that minimises the use of resources and safeguarding minerals resources to meet future needs.
Planning and delivering traveller sites • Provide adequate amount of land for gypsies and travellers	Requires objectives to ensure adequate amount of land for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.
Achieving sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and waste management • Reduce amount of municipal and commercial waste produced • Recycle, compost or re-use waste • Minimise harm to the environment and human health from waste treatment and handling • Disposal of waste to be considered the last option	Requires objectives to reduce or re-use waste, and to prevent harm to human health and the environment from waste.

A.2 Baseline information

2.4. The SEA requires the consideration of baseline information. The NPPG advises that the term 'baseline information' refers to "the existing environmental, economic and social characteristics of the area likely to be affected by the plan, and their likely evolution without implementation of new policies." Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires data to be gathered on: biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage and landscape.

2.5. The Councils have baseline information on social, economic and environmental characteristics of the area in order to provide the basis for predicting and monitoring effects of the strategic policies in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. The baseline information will also help to identify sustainability issues and potential ways of dealing with them.

2.6. For stage A of the SA process, the Scoping Report published in July 2020 summarised the baseline data and characteristics of the participating Greater Nottingham councils including Erewash Borough Council and Gedling Borough Council. The baseline data has now been updated and included in **Appendix B**. All data related to Erewash Borough Council and Gedling Borough Council have now been removed in this section and Appendix B.

2.7. The baseline data has been collected for the following themes:

- Characteristics of the council administrative areas
- Population and demographics
- Homes
- Economy
- Town centres
- Healthy and safe communities
- Transport
- High quality communications
- Effective use of land
- Well-designed places
- Green Belt
- Climate change and flooding
- Natural environment
- Historic environment
- Sustainable use of minerals
- Traveller sites
- Waste

A.3 Key Sustainability issues and problems

2.8. The Scoping Report published in July 2020 included a table which summarised the key sustainability issues which affected the Greater Nottingham councils. Responses from the consultation on the Scoping Report highlight a number of comments on the key sustainability issues. These comments and the Greater Nottingham councils' response are included in **Appendix C**.

2.9. It is considered that the amended list of plans, policies and programmes and the updated baseline data (which no longer include Gedling Borough Council or Erewash Borough Council) do not change the sustainability issues identified in the Scoping Report and the issues remain the same for the Greater Nottingham councils.

2.10. Table 2 provides a summary of these key sustainability issues. Without the Local Plan, existing trends are likely to continue. It therefore also appraises the effects upon the key sustainability issues of not adopting the Strategic Plan.

Table 2: Key sustainability issues identified

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
Further population growth is projected. Different areas would require specific types of housing.	The impacts of the projected population increases for each council are likely to be significant. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that an appropriate number of new dwellings are developed in appropriate locations. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring the right types of housing are delivered. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can also make provision for appropriate employment opportunities and deliver adequate infrastructure for existing and future residents.	Population growth and additional housing would not be coordinated across the three Greater Nottingham Authorities, or with planned economic development, infrastructure, or services and facilities. Housing needs would not be met and may lead to unsustainable patterns of development if not coordinated across Greater Nottingham Existing Core Strategy policies would become out of date (notably in Rushcliffe which sets affordable housing requirements in its Core Strategy), and affordable housing requirements agreed on a case by case basis, leading to more profitable forms of house types and tenures. Some residents would then be excluded from housing. Individual Local Plans for each LPA could identify different housing type requirements. Without coordination however, house types could become imbalanced, and the housing needs of residents not met in some areas.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
There is a need to ensure that adequate amount of land is provided for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring that the right pitches and plots are delivered for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.	Existing Core Strategy policies identify pitch requirements and in some cases sites. These are now out of date as pitches have been delivered and a revised need established in an updated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment. Without a revised requirement and allocation of sites, the needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople will not be met.
Some of the rural settlements are very isolated and suffer from poor transport links. The access to facilities is vital.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can help reduce the need to travel by allocating strategic sites in areas well served by public transport and ensure that they benefit from a range of services and employment.	The Strategic Plan identifies a hierarchy of sustainable settlements that are compact and connected, and where opportunities for development during the plan period exist. Without the identification of sustainable settlements, development may be located where there are poor transport links.
There is a need to reduce the reliance on the private car and increase the use of alternative transport modes, including public transport.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can help reduce the need to travel by allocating sites in areas well served by public transport.	The Strategic Plan ensures that development is distributed across Greater Nottingham in sustainable locations which have access to active travel infrastructure and public transport. Without these embedded principles, development would result in increased private car usage. It is critical that sustainable transport infrastructure is planned across Greater Nottingham, given the connections across LPA boundaries. This includes active travel green infrastructure. This must be coordinated with development in the Strategic Plan which can contribute to its delivery.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
There are different areas that have relatively high deprivation.	The provision of new allocations for housing and employment with improved linkages to existing communities alongside improvements to facilities and the local environment can help to address deprivation.	Without coordination across Greater Nottingham of housing, employment, services and facilities the significant imbalance between deprived and nondeprived areas will increase.
The house prices are high and there is a significant need for affordable housing provision.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that new affordable dwellings are provided in appropriate locations.	The Strategic Plan identifies affordable housing requirements across sub-areas, ensuring that delivery is maximised subject to viability. The tenure mix is established for individual authorities. The Housing Need Assessment has informed affordable housing requirements, and this has been undertaken for the whole plan area (plus Ashfield and Gedling).
The population is ageing.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring the right type of new homes, services and facilities are delivered to suit the needs of the ageing population.	The Strategic Plan includes requirements for accessible housing, informed by the Housing Needs Assessment. Subject to viability, these meet current levels of identified need. If the plan is not adopted, extant policies that identify requirements for accessible homes may become out of date. This could result in needs not being met.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
There is a need to maintain the employment base.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that an appropriate supply of good quality employment land is provided in appropriate locations to serve projected demands and ensure a range and choice of employment locations.	The Employment Land Study and subsequent Logistics Study identify required floorspaces for employment use. The Strategic Plan identifies sufficient employment land to meet these employment needs and contribute to logistics needs across the Greater Nottingham Core and Outer HMA. Given the employment and commuting patterns across Greater Nottingham, the delivery of employment land must be coordinated through the Strategic Plan to meet plan wide needs and ensure sustainable patterns of development.
The proportion of the workforce employed in the service sector is very large.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can provide for different types of employment to ensure that the economic base does not continue to narrow as this could have a detrimental effect on the economy as a whole.	The Employment Land Study and subsequent Logistics Study identify required floorspaces for employment use, including general employment and logistics. This is being delivered and coordinated across Greater Nottingham through the Strategic Plan, without which delivery would be delayed and the current imbalance of employment in the service sector continued.
There is a need to support the growth and diversity of town and local centres.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can have a role in ensuring that the vitality and viability of centres is protected.	The Strategic Plan identifies a hierarchy of centres, within which policies ensure their vitality is maintained. This includes diversifying uses and the provision of non-retail activities. Without the Strategic Plan, the hierarchy would not be maintained and the levels and types of development within the centres could conflict with each other.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
A high proportion of land within Broxtowe Borough, and Rushcliffe Borough areas is Green Belt. There is therefore potential for conflict between the need to protect Green Belt from inappropriate development and the need to provide sufficient land for new homes in line with the housing requirement.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan needs to balance the need to provide sufficient land for housing growth with the need to protect the Green Belt where possible. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can address a revision of the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt. For clarification, the Green Belt is a policy tool and not an environmental protection designation. As such it will not be included as part of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework to be used to test the sustainability of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. However, careful consideration will be given to the impact of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan on the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt based on the Green Belt assessment and through the site selection process.	Except for the release of land for employment uses and a small release at Toton to enable critical transport infrastructure, the Strategic Plan proposes no amendments to the Green Belt boundary. Critically the combined authorities have sufficient supply to meet nearly the whole of Greater Nottingham housing needs. Without the Strategic Plan and the combined supply however, it would be harder for those authorities with less housing supply than their need to argue against Green Belt release.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
There is a need to maintain high rates of brownfield development.	There will be limited scope for the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan to locate strategic sites on brownfield land due to the need to locate the large proportion of the housing requirement within the urban area where the number of brownfield sites is very limited. Consequently the provision of new allocations to meet projected population increases is likely to involve significant releases of greenfield land.	The Strategic Plan maintains the focus of development within and adjacent to the main urban area. This strategic priority covers all three authorities and ensures a coordinated focus. Without the Strategic Plan this focus could be watered down, especially within those authorities who do not have a sufficient supply of housing to meet their needs.
There is a need to halt biodiversity loss and help to restore ecological networks.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can look to ensure that a net gain in biodiversity is achieved which strengthens ecological networks and works towards the Nature Recovery Network at a strategic level.	If the Strategic Plan is not adopted the ecological networks identified in the plan, which cover Greater Nottingham and connect to the wider subregional networks, would not be given the same weight in decision making and their maintenance and enhancements could be hindered.
There are a large number of sites, including isolated sites, which are important in landscape and biodiversity terms and should be conserved and enhanced where possible. There is also a need to conserve and enhance connectivity corridors.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can look to protect and enhance green infrastructure, landscape and biodiversity.	See above.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
There are a large number of heritage assets which have historic or architectural significance and should be conserved and enhanced where possible.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can look to conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting and identify opportunities to enhance or better reveal these assets. Consideration of different levels of harm and mitigation would be taken into account.	It is likely that without the Strategic Plan that these assets would be addressed within individual LPA local plans.
There is a need to conserve and enhance the distinctive character and contribute towards creating a sense of place within new developments.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can examine the function of existing settlements and set out an approach on the design of new developments.	It is likely that without the Strategic Plan that these assets would be addressed within individual LPA local plans.
There is a need to enhance and protect water systems.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can look to protect and enhance blue infrastructure.	Without the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan, which has been informed by a Water Cycle Study, the cumulative effects of development across the plan area on water systems would be harder to determine. These systems span authority boundaries and extend beyond across sub regions.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
There are significant areas which are at risk from flooding.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that sites at risk from flooding are protected from development. Where development is deemed necessary within flood risk areas, the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will help by including policies to ensure that development will be safe from flood risk over the lifetime of the development without increasing flood risk to third parties.	The Strategic Plan has considered the Greater Nottingham Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). Development has, where possible, been directed to locations at less risk of flooding. Where these areas cannot be avoided, on site avoidance and/or mitigation measures have been identified. Given the larger strategic plan area, there is greater scope to avoid areas of flood risk. Without the plan, the requirements to undertake a sequential test (avoiding flood risk areas) or mitigation (where the site is deemed the most sustainable option), would be considered within individual local authority plans.
There is a need to improve energy efficiency and reduce contributions to climate change.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can set out an approach to reduce carbon emissions.	A Carbon Reduction Study informed the development of energy efficiency measures within the plan. Commissioned by all three authorities and Gedling, this has reduced costs. Without the study of policies in the plan, there is a risk that should individual authorities determine their own standards they could undermine each other.
There are a number of Air Quality Management Areas within the council areas.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can help to reduce pollutants arising from traffic through reducing the need to travel by locating strategic sites in areas well served by public transport and close to local services and facilities. It will also help by locating potentially polluting strategic level development away from sensitive locations.	Without the Strategic Plan which coordinates development across Greater Nottingham and identifies transport infrastructure and mitigation (informed by the Transport Modelling), air quality may decline and AQMAs may increase in number and size.

Key sustainability issue	Role of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan	Effects of not implementing the Strategic Plan
There is a need to safeguard minerals resources to meet future requirements.	The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan can ensure that there are sufficient minerals resources available to meet future development requirements.	It is likely that without the Strategic Plan that these safeguarded resources would be considered within individual LPA local plans.

A.4 Develop the sustainability appraisal framework

2.11. The identification of key sustainability issues during the Scoping Stage fed into the development of a set of sustainability objectives. No changes were made to the SA objectives based on the consultation comments received on the Scoping Report and no recommendations were made by the SA group.

Table 3: SA objectives in the SA Framework

SA objectives	SEA Directive topic
1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs, including gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.	Population Human health Material assets
2. Employment and Jobs To create employment opportunities.	Population Material assets
3. Economic Structure and Innovation To provide the physical conditions for a high quality modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies.	Population Material assets
4. Shopping Centres Increase the vitality and viability of existing shopping centres.	Population Human health
5. Health and Well-Being To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	Population Human health
6. Community Safety To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Population Human health
7. Social Inclusion To promote and support the development and growth of social capital and to improve social inclusion and to close the gap between the most deprived areas within the plan area.	Population Human health
8. Transport To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to improve travel choice and accessibility.	Air Climatic factors
9. Brownfield Land To make efficient use of previously developed land or 'brownfield' land and recognise biodiversity value where appropriate.	Soil Material assets
10. Energy and Climate Change	Climatic factors

SA objectives	SEA Directive topic
To minimise energy usage and to develop low carbon energy resources and encourage nature-based solutions to climate change.	
11. Pollution and Air Quality To manage air quality and minimise the risk posed by air, noise and other types of pollution.	Air Climatic factors Human health
12. Flooding and Water Quality To minimise the risk of flooding and to conserve and improve water quality.	Water Climatic factors
13. Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Blue-Green Infrastructure To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance blue-green infrastructure and the natural environment.	Biodiversity Fauna Flora
14. Landscape To protect and enhance the landscape character.	Landscape
15. Built and Historic Environment To protect and enhance the townscape character and the place through good design. To conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting and provide better opportunities for people to enjoy culture and heritage.	Cultural heritage
16. Natural Resources and Waste Management To prudently manage the natural resources of the area including soils, safeguarding minerals and waste.	Soil Material assets

2.12. The Local Plan policies and site allocations have been assessed using a Sustainability Appraisal Framework ('SA Framework'). This is a commonly used tool to assess the policies and site allocations in the Local Plan in terms of their contribution towards sustainable development. The SA Framework consists of the SA objectives and a set of decision-making questions, tailored to the key sustainability issues and problems for the GNSP area. There is a SA Framework for policies and one for site allocations. The full SA Frameworks can be viewed in the **Preferred Approach: Sustainability Appraisal Report**.

2.13. When doing an appraisal, a score was given to each SA objective to indicate whether the effect was likely to be positive, negative, uncertain or no impact. The score includes a colour coding system which should help to provide a visual summary of the overall results against the SA objectives.

2.14. Following Gedling Borough Council's withdrawal from the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan, the councils reviewed SA Frameworks 1 and 2 to confirm that they remained appropriate for assessing the revised Plan and its reasonable alternative strategic sites. The review concluded that the sustainability objectives,

decision-aiding questions, site criteria and scoring principles remain relevant to the environmental, social and economic characteristics of Broxtowe Borough, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe Borough. Gedling's withdrawal did not introduce or remove any sustainability issues requiring changes to either framework, which are not dependent on the participation of a particular authority or a fixed geographical area. Both frameworks have therefore continued to be used, maintaining a consistent approach to the appraisal of the Plan, proposed strategic site allocations and reasonable alternatives throughout the plan-preparation process.

A.5 Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the sustainability appraisal

2.15. Comments received on the SA Framework as part of the consultation on the Scoping Report have been considered and changes made to the SA Framework for the preparation of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. Comments on the SA Framework and the Greater Nottingham councils' response are included in **Appendix C**.

3. Stage B Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects

B.1 Test the plan objectives against the sustainability appraisal framework

3.1. Stage B1 (testing the plan's objectives) was undertaken at the Growth Options stage (scoping these objectives) and the Preferred Approach stage (housing and employment objectives), with the remaining objectives appraised at this Publication Draft stage. These can be found in the **Preferred Approach: Sustainability Appraisal Report and in Appendix D**.

3.2. **Table 4** summarises the compatibility appraisal of all the Strategic Plan's objectives against the Sustainability Appraisal objectives.

Table 4: Compatibility of Strategic Plan Objectives

SA objectives	**Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan objectives**											
	i. Climate change	ii. High quality new housing	iii. Economic prosperity for all	iv. Town centres	v. Regeneration	vi. Local distinctiveness	vii. Well-designed places	viii. Communities	ix. Opportunities for all	x. Sustainable transport systems	xi. Natural assets	xii. Infrastructure
1. Housing	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	++	+	++
2. Employment and Jobs	+	++	++	++	+	0	0	+	++	++	0	++
3. Economic Structure and Innovation	+	+	++	+	+	+	?	+	+	++	+	++
4. Shopping Centres	+	+	+	++	+	+	++	++	++	++	+	+
5. Health and Well Being	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	++	++	++	++	+
6. Community Safety	0	+	0	++	++	0	++	++	+	++	+	+
7. Social Inclusion	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	++	++	++	+	+

SA objectives	Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan objectives											
	i. Climate change	ii. High quality new housing	iii. Economic prosperity for all	iv. Town centres	v. Regeneration	vi. Local distinctiveness	vii. Well-designed places	viii. Communities	ix. Opportunities for all	x. Sustainable transport systems	xi. Natural assets	xii. Infrastructure
8. Transport	++	++	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	++	+	++
9. Brownfield Land	+	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	+	++	+	++
10. Energy and Climate Change	++	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	0	++	++	?
11. Pollution and Air Quality	++	?	?	+	?	0	+	+	+	++	++	?
12. Flooding and Water Quality	++	?	?	0	?	+	+	0	0	0	++	++
13. Natural Environment, Biodiversity, Blue-Green Infrastructure	++	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	0
14. Landscape	+	?	?	+	+	++	++	+	0	+	++	?
15. Built and Historic Environment	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+
16. Natural Resources and Waste Management	++	+	+	+	++	0	+	0	0	++	++	0

3.3. The Strategic Plan's objectives perform positively against the SA's objectives, apart from where the impact was unknown or it was considered there was no impact. None are incompatible.

3.4. The compatibility appraisal was reviewed following Gedling Borough Council's withdrawal. The review considered whether the revised geographical scope of the Strategic Plan, or any consequential changes to the plan's objectives, affected the compatibility relationships previously identified. It was concluded that the assessment remains applicable because it considers the broad relationship between the Sustainability Appraisal objectives and the strategic objectives of the Plan, rather than matters specific to an individual authority. Gedling's withdrawal did not result in any changes that would alter the compatibility scores or the conclusions of the assessment. Section 7 has therefore remained unaltered.

B.2 Develop the Local Plan options including reasonable alternatives

3.5. Identifying the different options for preparing the GNSP is a key requirement of the SEA Regulations and national planning policy and an important component of the SA process.

3.6. The development of the Local Plan involves several stages, with extensive consultations with both statutory and non-statutory organisations, developers, and members of the public. The comments received on the Local Plan and the SA can help to identify where there are 'reasonable' alternatives to the options for policies and site allocations being considered in the Local Plan. National guidance requires only "reasonable alternatives" to be taken into account, and so not every possible alternative has to be considered.

3.7. The appraisal of policy options has been undertaken in four stages, mirroring and appraising the Strategic Plan as it progresses. The first stage involved the identification of policy topics, the identification of broad policy options and their appraisal. These options were consulted upon with key stakeholders. A summary of this stage is included in the **Preferred Approach: Sustainability Appraisal Report** with the appraisals themselves included in the **Policy Options** document**.** Consultee comments can be found in **Appendix C**. Stage one was completed prior to consultation on the Preferred Approach consultations.

3.8. The second stage supported the Preferred Approach Consultation and therefore focused on the vision and spatial objectives, spatial strategy, housing distribution and employment provision and economic development. These appraisals can be found within the **Preferred Approach: Sustainability Appraisal Report.**

3.9. The third set of appraisals have developed these assessments further, appraising alternative policy approaches to the policies within in the Publication Draft Strategic Plan. Additional text has been added to the appraisals to consider the implications of the new geographical scope of the plan following Gedling's withdrawal, including how the outcomes have informed the conclusions of the SA; to explain any changes which have been made to the appraisals from earlier stages of the Sustainability Appraisal; and to provide further explanation, where required, to justify which options have been carried forward into the Plan.

3.10. The complete set of appraisals considering reasonable alternatives are in **Appendix D**. The table below summarises how each policy has been reassessed following the withdrawal of Gedling Borough Council and provides justification for selecting the preferred option.

Summary of Policy Options and Reassessment

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
Policy 1: Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction, Energy and Managing Flood Risk	A, B, C	The reasonable alternatives relate to development management requirements for climate change, sustainable design, energy efficiency and flood risk, rather than the location or distribution of development. The identified sustainability effects therefore remain applicable across the Plan area and no changes to the appraisal findings or scoring are considered necessary.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or to the Preferred Strategy.	Options B and C both perform strongly against the SA objectives and improve upon the existing policy approach. Option B is preferred as it delivers enhanced sustainability outcomes whilst avoiding the potential impact on housing affordability associated with the higher standards and build costs of Option C.
Policy 2: Spatial Strategy	A-D: alternative spatial distributions E: strategic	Option A has been amended to remove the reference to development adjacent to Hucknall. The	No further scoring change was required as a consequence	No change to the SA conclusions or Preferred Strategy. The appraisal and	Options A and E were selected in combination. Option A performs better than dispersed growth, particularly for housing,

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
	sustainability criteria	alternatives remain broad strategic approaches and are not dependent on any single authority or location. Although Gedling's withdrawal reduces the overall scale and geographical extent of development, it does not alter the key distinctions between urban concentration, dispersed growth, environmental asset-led growth, transport-led growth and the use of strategic sustainability criteria.	of Gedling's withdrawal.	reasons for selecting the preferred approach have been clarified.	access to existing infrastructure, sustainable transport and brownfield land. Option E adds strategic sustainability criteria, including integration with blue-green and transport infrastructure. Option B was rejected because of poorer effects on transport, brownfield land, pollution, landscape and natural resources; Options C and D contain useful principles but do not constitute complete spatial strategies.
Policy 3: Housing Requirements, Distribution and Strategic Sites	Delivering the identified housing targets: A-C	The alternatives concern the mechanism for delivering housing through strategic sites, future plan preparation, or a combination. These choices remain	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA conclusions. The preferred delivery mechanism remains a mix of strategic and non-strategic sites.	Option C is preferred because it combines the infrastructure and service benefits of strategic sites with the flexibility of non-strategic allocations through existing and future plans. It avoids the negative transport effects

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
		applicable to the revised Plan area and are not dependent on Gedling's inclusion.			identified for Option B and the greater greenfield and landscape effects associated with relying only on additional strategic sites under Option A.
Policy 3: Housing Requirements, Distribution and Strategic Sites	Redistribution of Nottingham City's unmet need: A-C	Gedling's withdrawal means that any redistributed need would be directed to two districts rather than three. However, overall need is also reduced and the change falls within the scope of the existing appraisal. The relative effects of meeting need in the City, redistributing it, or not meeting it in full remain applicable.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	The SA now provides a fuller explanation of the revised scoring and the balance struck between housing delivery and environmental effects. The Preferred Strategy is unchanged.	Predominantly Option C, incorporating an element of Option B. Option B performs strongly for housing but would have the greatest environmental effects if all unmet need were redistributed to greenfield locations outside the City. Option C has fewer adverse effects but a weaker housing outcome. The selected balance allows the City to meet as much need as its supply permits, with Broxtowe and Rushcliffe meeting part, but not all, of the remaining unmet need.

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
Policy 3: Housing Requirements, Distribution and Strategic Sites	Housing need and targets: A-C	The options test lower, medium and higher growth scenarios rather than authority-specific figures. They therefore remain appropriate following Gedling's withdrawal and continue to test the same strategic choices about the scale of housing growth.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	The SA now gives clearer reasons for the selected balance. The Preferred Strategy is unchanged, subject to the housing requirement modifications arising from the examination.	A combination drawing principally on Option B, with an element of Option A, was selected. Option B reduces pressure on greenfield land, landscape and environmental assets but performs less well in meeting housing need. Option C was rejected because, although it performs strongly for housing, it produces greater effects on pollution, water, landscape and natural resources. The selected approach reflects the City's constrained capacity while setting Broxtowe and Rushcliffe above their own need to help address the shortfall.
Policy 3: Housing Requirements, Distribution	Housing need and targets: 2024 transitional	This appraisal was undertaken for the Publication Draft and is retained for transparency.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence	The examination confirmed that the 2023 standard method, rather	Option D was the Publication Draft preference because it balanced housing delivery and environmental

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
and Strategic Sites	arrangements A-D	Gedling's withdrawal does not change the broad comparison between the growth scenarios.	of Gedling's withdrawal.; appraisal retained for information	than the 2024 method, should underpin the Plan, so the preceding appraisal is the relevant basis for the updated conclusions. The appraisal of the 2024 transitional options is retained as part of the audit trail.	impacts. Following the Inspectors' clarification, the 2024 transitional options are no longer the basis for the housing requirements and are retained only to explain the evolution of the Plan and SA.
Policy 4: The Green Belt	A-D	The alternatives concern the strategic approach to reviewing Green Belt boundaries, compensatory improvements and safeguarded land, rather than specific sites. The reduced extent of Green Belt following Gedling's withdrawal does not alter the fundamental	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy.	A combination of Options A and B is preferred. Reviewing boundaries is necessary to support identified housing and economic development, while compensatory improvements provide health, recreation, biodiversity and accessibility benefits. Option D would offer stronger protection for landscape and natural

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
		comparison between the options.			resources but would significantly constrain the ability to meet housing and economic needs.
Policy 5: Employment Provision and Economic Development	Employment land requirement: A-B	The options establish the overall employment land and office requirement rather than distributing development between individual authorities. The appraisal therefore remains applicable to the revised Plan area.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA conclusions or Preferred Strategy. The updated evidence and supporting text should reflect the latest identified need and explain the level of provision.	All options would have a positive impact on several of the objectives, particularly those that related to employment land. Option A was selected for the overall employment requirement because it provides for a portfolio of market-facing employment sites and establishes the minimum employment land and office requirement. The approach to strategic distribution and logistics, including specific allocations and criteria for additional proposals, was determined separately through the appraisal of Options L to O.
Policy 5: Employment Provision and	Office development: C-G	Gedling-specific sustainable urban extensions have been	No further scoring change was	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy.	Option C was selected as the preferred option, as it scored positively on

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
Economic Development		removed, but the principles of focusing offices in the City Centre, remaining sustainable urban extensions and Toton, and supporting the science and knowledge economy, remain applicable.	required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.		several objectives but also allows for more office development in locations outside of Nottingham City Centre allowing for a range and choice of sites. This option delivers a sufficient range and choice of sites to also allow for elements of option G, which will allow appropriate sites to be allocated to meet the needs of high technology users.
Policy 5: Employment Provision and Economic Development	Employment sites: H-K	The appraisal concerns the promotion, safeguarding and regeneration of employment land. Toton and Ratcliffe-on-Soar are outside Gedling, and the distinctions between support for knowledge-based sectors, SMEs, good-quality sites and	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy.	In relation to 'Sites', options H, I and J were selected due to their positive assessments. Promoting sites including Toton and Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station scored particularly well, given the nature of those sites, when compared to a more general option of promoting a wide range of sites for small and medium enterprises.

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
		regeneration remain relevant.			Retaining poor quality employment sites scored less well than redeveloping these sites, particularly in terms of the impact on community safety and air quality.
Policy 5: Employment Provision and Economic Development	Strategic distribution and logistics: L-O	The alternatives remain relevant because they test how much strategic logistics need should be met and whether provision should follow urban concentration or road and rail accessibility. Gedling's withdrawal does not alter those strategic distinctions.	Changes to scoring following reappraisal. Option M changed from major positive to minor positive for Objectives 2 (Employment and Jobs) and 3 (Economic Structure and innovation) as would deliver less logistics provision.	No change to the site-selection conclusions or Preferred Strategy. Policy wording should remain clear, internally consistent and proportionate, including how additional proposals are assessed.	Option L performed best in relation to the quantitative provision of logistics land because it would meet all identified need. However, it was not taken forward in full because meeting the whole requirement was weighed against Green Belt and other environmental and policy considerations. Option O was selected as the preferred locational approach because it directs strategic logistics development to locations with good access to the strategic road and rail networks. The Plan therefore allocates two

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
					strategic logistics sites that make a significant contribution to identified need, rather than meeting the full requirement.
Policy 6: Nottingham City Centre	A, B	The policy relates solely to Nottingham City Centre and is unaffected geographically by Gedling's withdrawal.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	Option B was selected. It allows greater flexibility and a broader mix of uses, supporting City Centre vitality and viability, housing and employment, linked trips and reduced car use, while retaining the City Centre's strategic role. Option A was not selected because retaining the existing approach would provide less flexibility to respond to changing patterns of use.
Policy 7: Role of Town and District Centres	A	The appraisal concerns a general policy approach for the remaining hierarchy of centres. Removal of Gedling's centres does not alter	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references,	Option A was selected. Allowing a wider mix of retail and non-retail uses can respond to changing shopping patterns, increase activity and diversity, support housing

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
		the effects of allowing a more flexible mix of uses.		evidence or projects where applicable.	and jobs, and encourage linked trips, while keeping uses appropriate to each centre's role.
Policy 8: Housing Size, Mix and Choice	Housing mix: A-C Affordable housing: D-G Standards: H-K	The options are policy requirements applicable across the remaining authorities rather than choices dependent on Gedling-specific locations. The appraisal conclusions remain applicable.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	Options A, E, G, I and K were taken forward through Policy 8. These options provide a flexible, locally informed approach to housing mix; set affordable housing proportions and tenure requirements at local authority level; and require accessible, adaptable and space-standard compliant homes, reflecting identified needs, viability considerations, and positive effects on housing, health and social inclusion objectives.
Policy 9: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	A-B	The need and provision figures have been reviewed for the revised Plan area. The policy approach	No further scoring change was required as a consequence	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of	Option A was selected. It plans positively for identified accommodation needs through strategic allocations and future

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
		to meeting identified need and setting criteria for sites remains appropriate.	of Gedling's withdrawal.	Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	plan preparation and provides a criteria-based framework for considering sites and windfall proposals. Option B was not selected because deferring the matter entirely to future plans would provide no strategic framework and would perform less well for housing and social inclusion.
Policy 10: Design and Enhancing Local Identity	A-B	The design alternatives are development management approaches that apply consistently across the revised Plan area. Gedling's withdrawal does not materially change their effects.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	The approach taken forward in Policy 10 reflects Option A, as the policy requires development to have regard to local context, including landscape, townscape and heritage considerations, whilst establishing a framework through which detailed design requirements can be informed by best practice guidance, design codes and Supplementary Plans. This approach was

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
					selected as it provides a flexible basis for achieving high-quality design across the Plan area while allowing locally specific design guidance and requirements to be developed through future plan preparation.
Policy 11: The Historic Environment	A-B	The policy options concern strategic protection and enhancement of heritage assets rather than Gedling-specific allocations. The effects remain applicable to the revised Plan area.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	Options A and B were selected in combination. Option A retains the established protection and enhancement of designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings, while Option B adds explicit recognition of heritage-led regeneration. Together they provide a more positive strategy than retaining the existing approach alone.
Policy 12: Local Services and Healthy Lifestyles	A-C	The options concern plan-wide protection and provision of services, facilities and healthy-lifestyle	No further scoring change was required as a consequence	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of	Options B and C were selected in combination. Option B broadens the existing approach to promote healthy lifestyles,

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
		measures. The appraisal remains relevant after the change in geography.	of Gedling's withdrawal.	Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	while Option C provides stronger protection against the loss of valued community facilities. Together they provide greater health and social-inclusion benefits than Option A alone.
Policy 13: Culture, Tourism and Sport	A-B	The options are strategic policy approaches and are not dependent on the inclusion of particular Gedling facilities. References and evidence have been updated where necessary.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	As elements of both options scored very well, a combination of both of the options has been selected and the policy wording and justification text reflects this.
Policy 14: Managing Travel Demand	A-B	The policy approaches to reducing travel demand and promoting sustainable modes continue to apply across the remaining transport network and settlements. Gedling's withdrawal	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	Both policy options would have a beneficial impact upon not only the transport objective, but a number of other objectives. Both options would secure a sustainable strategy for managing travel demand. As both options scored equally well, a

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
		does not alter their relative performance.			combination of A-B have been selected.
Policy 15: Transport Infrastructure Priorities	A	Gedling-specific schemes have been removed where no longer relevant. The principle of identifying strategic transport priorities for the remaining Plan area is unchanged.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	Option A was selected. Identifying strategic transport priorities provides a clear basis for coordinating investment, supporting planned growth and encouraging non-car modes. Scheme-level environmental effects will be assessed and mitigated through delivery processes.
Policy 16: Blue and Green Infrastructure, Parks and Open Space	Blue-green infrastructure: A-E Landscape: F-G	The strategic networks and landscape evidence have been reviewed for the reduced Plan area. Removing Gedling changes the mapped geography but not the policy choices concerning protection, enhancement, connectivity and landscape character.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	The preferred approach builds upon the framework established in the Aligned Core Strategy (Option A), while also incorporating the findings and priorities of the updated Blue and Green Infrastructure Strategy (Option B). In addition, elements of Option C have been integrated through the inclusion of a policy approach that

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
					seeks to avoid, mitigate and address harm to blue and green infrastructure assets. Option F was selected to be taken forward as it was considered that locally valued landscapes should be identified through future plan preparation rather than as part of the Strategic Plan.
Policy 17: Biodiversity	Ecological networks: A-B Biodiversity net gain: C-E	The alternatives reflect plan-wide approaches to biodiversity protection, recovery and net gain. They remain applicable despite the revised geographical scope, with references to the evidence base updated as necessary.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	A combination of Options A and B was carried forward for biodiversity protection and ecological networks. The approach to biodiversity net gain draws partly on Option E, with a minimum requirement of 10% in Broxtowe and Nottingham City and 20% in Rushcliffe. The differentiated approach reflects the SA findings alongside plan-wide viability work and local biodiversity evidence.

Policy	Options Assessed	Implications of Gedling's withdrawal	Outcome of reassessment	Implications on the SA and Preferred Strategy	Justification for selecting preferred options
Policy 18: Infrastructure and Developer Contributions	A	The policy mechanism applies to development in the remaining authorities. Gedling's withdrawal changes the geographical coverage and infrastructure schedule but not the sustainability effects of requiring timely infrastructure and proportionate contributions.	No further scoring change was required as a consequence of Gedling's withdrawal.	No change to the SA or Preferred Strategy, other than removal or updating of Gedling-specific references, evidence or projects where applicable.	Option A was selected. It links growth to the timely delivery of transport, health, education, community and blue-green infrastructure and establishes the basis for proportionate developer contributions. This supports housing and economic development while ensuring that necessary mitigation and facilities are funded and delivered.

B.3 Evaluate the likely effects of the Local Plan and alternatives

3.11. The fourth set of appraisals assessed the final policies within the Regulation 19 Publication Version of the Strategic Plan.

3.12. The GNSP Authorities have taken into account the SA when selecting the preferred policy and site options for the Local Plan. However, it is important to recognise that the SA is not the only influence in the process of selecting and rejecting options. The Local Plan must conform to national planning policy, take into account comments from public consultations and include sites that are available and deliverable.

3.13. The Preferred Approach: Sustainability Appraisal Report and Appendices appraise all of the reasonable alternatives for Local Plan policies and sites alongside and in the same way as the preferred policies and site allocations. The reasons for selecting the preferred site allocations in light of the reasonable alternatives are set out in more detail in the Site Selection Report.

3.14. The likely effects of implementing the preferred policies within the Local Plan are summarised in Table 5. This is based on the preferred options taken forward following the appraisal of the reasonable alternatives above. The assessments reflect the policies contained within the submitted version of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan which did not contain Gedling Borough Council. These appraisals have now also been reviewed and are considered to remain appropriate.

Table 5: Summary of final policies within the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan

	1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
Policy 1: Climate Change	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	+	++	+	0	+	++
Policy 2: The Spatial Strategy	++	++	++	++	+	0	+	++	++	+	?	?	++	+	?	+
Policy 3: Housing Target	++	+	+	+	0	?	+	-	?	?	?	0	?	?	?	-
Policy 4: The Green Belt	++	?	++	?	?	0	0	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Policy 5: Employment Provision	0	++	++	++	0	0	+	+	+	?	?	0	?	?	?	?
Policy 6: Nottingham City Centre	++	++	++	++	+	+	++	++	++	++	+	0	+	0	++	0
Policy 7: Role of Town and Local Centres	+	+	+	++	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0
Policy 8: Housing Size, Mix and Choice	++	0	+	+	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy 9: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	++	0	0	0	+	0	+	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	?
Policy 10: Design and Enhancing Local Identity	0	0	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	++	++	?

	1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
Policy 11: The Historic Environment	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	++	0
Policy 12: Local Services and Healthy Lifestyles	0	+	+	++	++	?	++	++	?	+	++	?	0	?	+	?
Policy 13: Culture, Tourism and Sport	0	+	0	++	++	?	++	+	?	?	?	?	+	?	+	?
Policy 14: Managing Travel Demand	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	++	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+
Policy 15: Transport Infrastructure Priorities	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	++	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	+
Policy 16: Blue And Green Infrastructure, Parks and Open Space	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	++	++	++	++	+	+	0
Policy 17: Biodiversity	?	?	?	0	++	0	++	+	+	++	+	++	++	++	++	++
Policy 18: Developer Contributions for Infrastructure	+	+	+	?	++	?	++	++	?	?	+	+	++	?	+	?

Appraisals on site options (Stages B2 to B4)

3.15. Sections 9A, 9B (now removed), 9C and 9D of the SA Report cover the scoping of reasonable alternatives (site options) for allocations of strategic sites for housing/mixed use, employment and strategic logistics in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan.

- 9A Appraisal on site options in Broxtowe;
- 9B Appraisal on site options in Gedling (now removed);
- 9C Appraisal on site options in Nottingham City; and
- 9D Appraisal on site options in Rushcliffe.

3.16. The appraisals for all site options for each council are included in **Preferred Approach: Sustainability Appraisal Report: Appendices E**, **G** and **H**. Appendix F related to Gedling Borough Council.

3.17. The role of the Sustainability Appraisal is to assist decision making in choosing option(s) by highlighting the sustainability implications of each. Certain options may (or may not) come out of the SA process as favourable but cannot be taken forward for other reasons.

3.18. Each participating council had undertaken an exercise to scope the potential housing/mixed-use site options and employment site options for allocating strategic sites in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. It was considered appropriate to review potential sites using a traffic light (RAG) system and the following approach was agreed:

- Sites identified as green are considered reasonable alternatives for strategic housing/mixed use or employment and therefore carried forward for appraisal. They include existing Part 1 Local Plan strategic sites to be rolled forward.

- Sites identified as amber are considered to be below the scale for strategic growth and may be suitable as housing/mixed use or employment sites if the preferred approach to the distribution of development changes and additional sites are required. They do not need to be appraised however they will be kept under review. They may include existing Part 2 Local Plan non-strategic sites. It is for each council to consider whether to defer an amber site for consideration within future plans; and

- Sites identified as red are not considered reasonable alternatives for strategic housing/mixed use or employment. They are not realistic options.

3.19. Regarding the threshold for sites to be considered for strategic growth, the following approach was agreed:-

- Location of the sites – whether they are within or adjacent to the main built up area of Nottingham, adjacent to a key settlement which is identified as sustainable and accessible;

- Size of site – if site is standalone, then 500 dwellings threshold is used for housing and 5 ha or more or 20,000 sq. m or more for employment. However, smaller sites may be included if they form part of a group or cluster of smaller sites that altogether meet the threshold; and

- Grouping of sites – if there is a group or cluster of smaller sites around a settlement which may be considered strategic, they may be appraised as a 'single' site.

3.20. The thresholds for strategic housing and employment sites within the Sustainability Appraisal were set at 500 + units for housing and 5 hectares or 20,000 sq m or more for employment, primarily to ensure continuity and consistency with the approaches taken within the adopted Aligned Core Strategies. Sites sharing boundaries or located very close to one another could be 'grouped' to make up the strategic thresholds.

3.21. The 500 homes site threshold within the adopted Aligned Core Strategy was used as this was considered to be a size threshold where infrastructure would be considered as a 'strategic level' (e.g. for planning of school provision where a 500 home development would support a one form entry primary school).

3.22. In terms of additional justification for the 500 home strategic site threshold, the Lichfields' 'Start to Finish' Study (Second Edition, 2020 and Third Edition, 2024) uses the 500+ homes (in effect, threshold) to focus analysis on how long it takes for 'large' housing sites to progress through the planning system and how quickly they build out.

3.23. Part of the evidence base for the (Aligned Core Strategies) Sustainability Appraisal scoping included the 'Quality of Employment Land Study' (July 2002) by Roger Tym and Partners. This references the 5 hectares / 20,000 sq. m. threshold for employment sites.

3.24. Sites for strategic logistics were based upon the Nottinghamshire Core and Outer HMA Logistics Study (Iceni, August 2022) recommendations. The study followed the approach of focusing upon "strategic warehousing" of 9,000 sq m (100,000 sq ft) or more (paragraph 6.6 of the Study) and references 25 hectares as a suitable threshold for sites capable of being considered strategic.

3.25. The sources of sites for consideration as reasonable alternatives include:

- Sites in the Greater Nottingham Growth Options Study (July 2020) which are also included in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Growth Options consultation document (May 2020);
- Sites in the Nottingham Core HMA and Nottingham Outer HMA Employment Land Needs Study (May 2021);
- Sites put forward in response to the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Growth Options consultations in July 2020 and February 2021; and
- Additional sites promoted via call for sites or the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment process.

Selecting the reasonable alternative strategic distribution and logistics site options

3.26. The assessment of strategic distribution sites has been undertaken separately from other housing/mixed use and employment sites due to their scale, specific locational and infrastructure requirements and their environmental impacts. Reasonable alternatives were identified from a pool of sites that were either: submitted to the Councils during a call for sites exercise; promoted by landowners for employment and may be suitable for strategic B8 use; or within Strategic Employment Land Assessments. Some sites are also appraised for mixed use and employment uses within this Sustainability appraisal (and the previous Preferred Approach Sustainability Appraisal (December 2022).

3.27. The identification of sites as reasonable alternatives was previously undertaken within the Preferred Approach Strategic Distribution Background Paper (December 2023). This has been repeated following consultation on the Preferred Approach. Both exercises considered each site's:

- scale (sites should be around 25 hectares or more);
- access to the strategic highway network; and
- location (within Areas of Opportunity as identified in the Nottinghamshire Core & Outer HMA Logistics Study).

3.28. This determined whether they were either reasonable alternatives (green) or not reasonable alternatives (red). Only sites that meet all three criteria are determined to be reasonable alternatives.

3.29. As with housing and mixed-use sites, those identified as reasonable alternatives have been assessed against the SA's sustainability objectives within this appraisal.

Difficulties encountered in undertaking the appraisals

3.30. Further studies were carried out where information was lacking and they have informed and will inform the development of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. For example, the Greater Nottingham Blue-Green Infrastructure Strategy, which includes the identification of strategic blue-green infrastructure networks across the plan area, was completed in 2022 and has informed the appraisal of a site's effects on the natural environment. In addition, the Centres Study was not completed until March 2024, and this delayed the appraisal of site's effects on retail centres.

3.31. The difficulties encountered in undertaking the appraisals for site options were: identifying the potential scale of development; assessing the impact of development where details of the form and exact scale of the development are not known; and the identification of effective and deliverable mitigation measures where the scale of effects are uncertain. This made it difficult to assess against the SA Framework 2 where some of the criteria questions could not be answered for example:

- Details on meeting housing need for SA objective 1: housing.
- Details on new job opportunities for unemployed people and in areas of deprivation for SA objective 2: employment and jobs.
- Details on employment uses, educational buildings and mixed live-work units for SA objective 3: economic structure and innovation.
- Details regarding renewable energy provision or energy efficiency measures or nature-based solutions for SA objective 10: energy and climate change.
- Details on effects on Air Quality Management Areas for SA objective 11: pollution and air quality.
- Details regarding river habitat in-stream and the riparian zone and flood prevention measures for SA objective 12: flooding and water quality.
- Details regarding loss of existing habitats or tree/hedgerows/woodland or loss of connectivity and provision of on-site and off-site open space for SA objective 13: natural environment, biodiversity and blue-green infrastructure. Natural capital and ecological condition of sites are unknown without detailed site surveys.
- Details on whether the development will conserve, enhance or restore the features and characteristics of the landscape or create a new landscape character for SA objective 14: landscape as the effect of new development would be heavily influenced by the density, design and layout of development.
- Details in relation to the built and historic environment for SA objective 15: built and historic environment.
- Details on agricultural land and existing mineral resources for SA objective 16 natural resources and waste management.

3.32. A range of assumptions have been identified in the appraisals:

- SA objective 1: housing. It is assumed that new development on all sites provides a mix of housing (in terms of size, type and tenure) to meet housing need.
- SA objective 2: employment and jobs. Job generation assumptions are based on permanent jobs and relate to the operational phase of the development, and do not include temporary construction jobs. Where available, permanent jobs are taken from the economic assessment supporting the relevant planning application.
- SA objective 6: community safety. It is assumed that design issues would be addressed at the planning application stage.
- SA objective 8: transport. It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a transport assessment at the planning application stage.
- SA objective 10: energy and climate change. It is assumed that climate change issues would be addressed at the planning application stage.
- SA objective 11: pollution and air quality. It is assumed where development is likely to increase traffic in these areas.
- SA objective 12: flooding and water quality. It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment at the planning application stage and that suitable flood alleviations measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.
- SA objective 13: natural environment, biodiversity and blue-green infrastructure. It is assumed that development proposals would create at least 10% biodiversity net gain.
- SA objective 15: build and historic environment. It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a heritage assessment at the planning application stage.
- SA objective 16: natural resources and waste management. It is assumed that the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Joint Waste Local Plan will make sufficient waste infrastructure provision available.

4. Appraisal on site options in Broxtowe

Table 6: Site options for housing/mixed use development in Broxtowe

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
B01.1PA	East of Church Lane, Brinsley	Amber
B02.1PA	West of Moorgreen	Green
B02.2PA	Land to the East of Mansfield Road, Eastwood	Amber
B03.1PA	West of Hucknall	Green
B03.2PA	West of Bulwell	Green
B04.1PA	West of M1 / Watnall	Green
B04.2PA	North of Watnall	Green

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
B05.1PA	East of Nuthall	Green
B05.2PA	Land south of Nottingham Road, Nuthall	Amber
B06.1PA	East of Awsworth	Green
B06.2PA	Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point	Green
B06.3PA	Land north east and south west of Shilo Way	Amber
B07.1PA	North of Trowell	Green
B07.2PA	Land west of Cossall Road, Trowell	Amber
B07.3PA	Land at Cossall Road, Trowell	Amber
B08.1PA	Catstone Green	Green
B08.2PA	West of Coventry Lane	Green
B08.3PA	West of Woodhouse Way	Green
B08.4PA	Field Farm	Green
B09.1PA	Hill Top Farm, Stapleford	Green
B09.2PA	North of Toton	Green
B09.3PA	Toton Strategic Location for Growth	Green
B09.4PA	Chetwynd Barracks	Green
B09.5PA	West of Chilwell Lane	Green
B10.1PA	Between Eastwood and Kimberley	Green
B11.1PA	Boots	Green

Table 7: Site options for employment development in Broxtowe

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
BBC-EMP-19	New Farm, Nuthall	Green
BBC-EMP-20	Land at Nuthall	Green
BBC-EMP-21	North of Nottingham Business Park	Green

Table 8: Site options for strategic distribution

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
BBC-L01	Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point	Green
BBC-L02a	Gilt Hill (smaller site)	Green
BBC-L02b	Gilt Hill (larger site)	Green
BBC-L03	Gin Close Way	Red
BBC-L04	Land at Kimberley Eastwood Bye Pass	Green
BBC-L05	Land at Low Wood Road, Nuthall	Green
BBC-L06	Land at New Farm Nuthall	Green
BBC-L07	Land at Shilo Way	Red
BBC-L08	Land to the south-east of M1 junction 26, Nuthall	Green

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
BBC-L09	Land at Waterloo Lane, Trowell	Red

4.1. The Strategic Plan has merged sites B09.3PA Toton Strategic Location for Growth and B09.4PA Chetwynd Barracks and includes an additional parcel of land to the north of the tram line (which forms part of B09.2PA). An additional, combined assessment of both sites has therefore been undertaken (B09.4COM).

4.2. The **Publication Draft Site Selection Report (2024)** explains that the following sites have been allocated as strategic sites:

- B08.4PA Field Farm
- B09.4COM Toton and Chetwynd Barracks
- B11.1PA Boots
- BBC-L01 Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point

Table 9: Appraisal outcomes of reasonable alternative sites for housing/mixed use, employment and distribution development in Broxtowe

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
B02.1PA	West of Moorgreen	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	0	-
B03.1PA	West of Hucknall	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	++	-	?	-	+	--	-	0	--
B03.2PA	West of Bulwell	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	0	--
B04.1PA	West of M1 / Watnall	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	-	+	-	-	0	--
B04.2PA	North of Watnall	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	?	+	--	-	--	--
B05.1PA	East of Nuthall	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	-	-	-	0	--
B06.1PA	West of Awsworth	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	+	--	?	?	+	-	-	0	-
B06.2PA	Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	+	+	?	?	-	--	-	--	-
B07.1PA	North of Trowell	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	++	--	?	-	+	-	--	0	-
B08.1PA	Catstone Green	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	--	--
B08.2PA	West of Coventry Lane	++	-	-	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	-	-
B08.3PA	West of Woodhouse Way	++	0	0	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	0	--
B08.4PA	Field Farm	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	0	0	0	-

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
B09.1PA	Hill Top Farm, Stapleford	++	0	0	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	--	0	--
B09.2PA	North of Toton	++	0	0	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	0	--
B09.3PA	Toton Strategic Location for Growth	++	++	++	+	++	?	++	++	-	?	-	-	-	-	0	--
B09.4PA	Chetwynd Barracks	++	+	0	+	++	?	++	++	+	?	-	+	++	0	++	-
B09.5PA	West of Chilwell Lane	++	0	0	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	--	--	-	--
B10.1PA	Between Eastwood and Kimberley	++	0	0	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	-	-	-	--	-	-
B11.1PA	Boots	++	++	++	+	+	?	++	++	++	?	--	-	0	0	0	-
B09.4COM	Toton and Chetwynd Barracks (combined site)	++	++	+	+	++	?	++	++	-	?	-	-	-	-	++	--
Employment Sites																	
BBC-EMP-19	New Farm, Nuthall	0	++	++	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	0	--
BBC-EMP-20	Land at Nuthall	0	++	++	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	-	+	-	-	0	--
BBC-EMP-21	North of Nottingham Business Park	0	++	++	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	?	+	-	-	0	--
Distribution Sites																	

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
BBC-L01	Former Bennerley Coal Disposal Point	0	++	++	+	+	?	++	++	+	?	?	-	--	-	--	-
BBC-L02a	Gilt Hill (smaller site)	0	+	++	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	-	-	-	--	0	-
BBC-L02b	Gilt Hill (larger site)	0	++	++	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	-	-	--	--	0	-
BBC-L04	Land at Kimberley Eastwood Bye Pass	0	+	+	0	0	?	0	--	--	?	?	++	-	-	?	--
BBC-L05	Land at Low Wood Road, Nuthall	0	++	++	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	0	--	-	?	--
BBC-L06	Land at New Farm, Nuthall	0	++	++	+	+	?	++	++	--	?	-	++	--	-	?	--
BBC-L08	Land to the south-east of M1 junction 26, Nuthall	0	++	++	+	++	?	++	++	--	?	?	++	--	-	?	--

5. Appraisals on site options in Gedling (Removed)

Due to the withdrawal of Gedling Borough Council from the Plan, this section has been removed.

6. Appraisals on site options in Nottingham City

Table 14: Site options for housing/mixed use development in Nottingham City

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
NC1.1PA	Broad Marsh	Green
NC1.2PA	Stanton Tip	Green
NC1.3PA	Former Chromoworks Site, Wigman Road	Red
NC1.4PA	Extension to Woodhouse Way	Red
NC1.5PA	Boots	Green
NC1.6*	The Victoria Centre	Amber
NC1.7*	North Ruddington	Green
NC1.8*	Former City College	Red

* indicates that the site was added to the pool of potential allocations after consultation on the preferred approach.

6.1. No employment sites of a strategic scale have been identified and therefore there are no appraisal.

6.2. Both the NC1.5PA Boots site and NC1.7* sites span Nottingham City's boundary. The NC1.5PA Boots site also lies within Broxtowe and NC1.7* North Ruddington also lies within Rushcliffe. Joint appraisals, assessing the sites as a whole, have therefore been produced in relation to the Sustainability Appraisal. The joint appraisals are included in the Broxtowe Appendix E, Rushcliffe Appendix H and in the Nottingham City Appendix G.

6.3. The Publication Draft Site Selection Report (2024) explains that the following sites have been allocated as strategic sites:

- NC1.1PA Broad Marsh
- NC1.2PA Stanton Tip
- NC1.5PA Boots

Table 15: Appraisal outcomes of reasonable alternative sites for housing/mixed use development in Nottingham City

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
NC1.1PA	Broad Marsh	++	++	+	++	++	?	+	++	++	?	--	?	++	0	?	-
NC1.2PA	Stanton Tip	+	+	+	+	++	?	0	++	++	?	?	?	0	?	0	-
NC1.5PA	Boots	++	++	++	+	+	?	++	++	++	?	--	-	0	0	0	-
NC1.7*	North Ruddington	+	0	0	0	-	?	+	-	--	?	-	-	-	?	0	--

* indicates that the site was added to the pool of potential allocations after consultation on the preferred approach.

7. Appraisals on site options in Rushcliffe

Table 16: Site options for housing/mixed use development in Rushcliffe

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
R01.1PA	East of East Bridgford	Amber
R01.2PA	Land West of Kneeton Road	Red
R01.3PA	Land at Springdale Lane	Red
R02.1PA	West of RAF Newton	Green
R02.2PA	Former RAF Newton Strategic Allocation	Green
R03.1PA	North and East of Bingham	Green
R03.2PA	Land Southwest of Car Colston	Amber
R03.3PA	Land North of Bingham	Green
R04.1PA	Land North of Abbey Road Site B	Red
R04.2PA	Land North of Abbey Road Site A	Red
R04.3PA	Land West of Aslockton	Red
R04.4*	Land at Old Grantham Road	Red
R05.1PA	Orston Strategic Location for Growth	Amber
R06.1PA	Hall Farm, Grantham Road	Green
R06.2PA	East of Radcliffe on Trent	Green
R06.3PA	North of Shelford Road	Red
R07.1PA*	East of Lady Bay	Green
R07.2PA	North of Gamston	Green
R08.1PA	Colston Gate	Green
R08.2PA	Cotgrave East	Red
R08.3PA	Cotgrave West	Red
R08.4PA	Cotgrave North	Red
R08.5PA	Former Cotgrave Colliery Strategic Allocation	Green
R09.1PA	Langar Airfield	Amber
R10.1PA	West of Sharphill Wood	Green
R10.2PA	Edwalton Golf Course	Green
R10.3PA	Land at Wilford Road	Green
R10.4PA	Land south of Wheatcroft Island	Green
R10.5PA	Land at Melton Road	Green
R11.1PA*	South of Gamston	Green
R11.2PA	East of Tollerton	Amber
R11.3PA	Burnside Grove	Red
R11.4PA	Land West of Tollerton	Red
R11.5PA	East of Gamston North Tollerton Strategic Allocation	Green
R11.6*	North of Tollerton	Amber
R12.1PA	West of Pasture Lane	Green
R12.2PA	East of Ruddington	Green
R12.3PA*	North Ruddington	Green
R12.4PA	Land to West of Loughborough Road	Red
R13.1PA	West of Keyworth	Green

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
R13.2PA	Land off Nicker Hill	Red
R13.3PA	South of Keyworth	Red
R14.1PA	Land at Jericho Farm	Amber
R14.2PA	Land at Owthorpe Lane	Amber
R15.1PA	East of A453	Green
R15.2PA	East of Kingston on Soar	Amber
R15.4PA	Land East of Gypsum Way, Gotham	Red
R15.5PA	South of Clifton Strategic Allocation	Green
R16.1*	Land off Stonebridge Drive	Red
R16.2*	Land off West Leake Road	Green
R16.3*	Land to the south of Rempstone Road	Green
R18.1PA	Land West of Cropwell Bishop	Amber
R19.1*	Land north of Bunny School	Red
R20.1*	Land south of Landcroft Lane	Red

* indicates that the site was added to the pool of potential allocations after consultation on the preferred approach.

PA* indicates that the site has been amended after consultation on the preferred approach.

Table 17: Site options for employment development in Rushcliffe

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
RBC-EMP-01	Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station	Green
RBC-EMP-02	Nottingham 'Gateway'	Green
RBC-EMP-03	South of Owthorpe Lane	Green
RBC-EMP-04	North of Owthorpe Lane	Green
RBC-EMP-05	Stragglethorpe Junction	Green
RBC-EMP-06	Margidunum Business Park	Green
RBC-EMP-07	South of A52, Whatton	Green
RBC-EMP-08*	Melton Road, Edwalton	Green

Table 18: Site options for strategic distribution in Rushcliffe

Site ref	Site name	Outcome
RBC-L01	Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station	Green
RBC-L02	Rushcliffe 'Gateway'	Green
RBC-L03	South of Owthorpe Lane	Red
RBC-L04	North of Owthorpe Lane	Red
RBC-L05	Stragglethorpe Junction	Red
RBC-L06	Margidunum Business Park	Red
RBC-L07	Jerico Farm	Red
RBC-L08	Butt Lane (Fosse Way), East Bridgford	Red
RBC-L09	Land south of A52	Red
RBC-L10*	Melton Road, Edwalton	Red

7.1. The Publication Draft Site Selection Report (2024) explains that the following sites have been allocated as strategic sites:

- R02.2PA Former RAF Newton Strategic Allocation
- R03.3PA Land North of Bingham Strategic Allocation
- R08.5PA Former Cotgrave Colliery Strategic Allocation
- R10.5PA Melton Road, Edwalton Sustainable Urban Extension
- R11.5PA East of Gamston North of Tollerton Sustainable Urban Extension
- R15.5PA Land South of Clifton Sustainable Urban Extension
- RBC-EMP-01/RBC-L01 Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station

Table 19: Appraisal outcomes of reasonable alternative sites for housing/mixed use and employment development in Rushcliffe

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
Housing and Mixed-Use Sites																	
R02.1PA	West of RAF Newton	++	+	+	+	+	?	+	--	--	?	?	?	+	-	-	-
R02.2PA	Former RAF Newton Strategic Allocation	++	+	0	+	++	0	+	+	+	?	?	0	0	0	0	-
R03.1PA	North and East of Bingham	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	?	--	?	?	-	-	-	-	--
R03.3PA	Land North of Bingham	++	++	++	+	++	?	++	++	-	?	0	0	0	0	?	-
R06.1PA	Hall Farm, Grantham Road	++	+	0	+	+	?	+	--	--	?	?	-	0	-	?	-
R06.2PA	East of Radcliffe on Trent	++	+	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	?	-	-	-	0	--
R07.1PA*	East of Lady Bay	++	0	0	+	-	?	-	+	--	?	-	--	-	-	?	--
R07.2PA	North of Gamston	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	-	+	-	-	-	-
R08.1PA	Colston Gate	+	0	0	+	+	?	+	-	--	?	?	-	0	-	0	-

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
R08.5PA	Former Cotgrave Colliery Strategic Allocation	0	+	+	+	+	?	+	++	++	?	0	++	0	0	0	0
R10.1PA	West of Sharphill Wood	+	0	0	+	+	?	+	-	--	?	?	-	-	--	0	--
R10.2PA	Edwalton Golf Course	+	0	0	+	-	0	+	++	--	?	?	--	--	-	?	-
R10.3PA	Land at Wilford Road	+	0	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	?	-	-	?	?	--
R10.4PA	Land South of Wheatcroft Island	++	0	0	?	?	?	-	--	--	?	?	-	-	-	?	--
R10.5PA	Melton Road Strategic Allocation	++	+	0	+	+	?	++	++	-	?	?	++	-	-	0	-
R11.1PA*	South of Gamston Allocation	++	0	0	0	+	?	0	--	--	?	?	-	-	-	?	--
R11.5PA	East of Gamston North of Tollerton Strategic Allocation	++	+	++	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	?	0	?	--	?	--
R12.1PA	West of Pasture Lane	+	0	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	?	-	-	-	0	--
R12.2PA	East of Ruddington	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	-	--	?	?	+	-	--	?	--
R12.3PA*	North Ruddington	+	0	0	+	-	?	+	-	--	?	-	-	-	?	0	--
R13.1PA	West of Keyworth	++	0	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	?	-	-	-	-	-
R15.1PA	East of A453	++	0	0	?	-	?	0	--	--	?	?	-	-	-	--	--

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
R15.5PA	Land south of Clifton Strategic Allocation	++	++	++	+	+	?	+	++	--	?	?	+	0	?	0	--
R16.2*	Land off West Leake Road	+	0	0	+	+	?	+	-	--	?	?	-	-	?	0	--
R16.3*	Land to the South of Rempstone Road	+	0	0	+	+	?	+	+	--	?	?	++	0	?	0	--
Employment Sites																	
RBC-EMP-01*	Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station	0	++	++	+	+	?	0	++	+	++	?	-	-	?	-	--
RBC-EMP-02*	Nottingham 'Gateway'	0	++	++	+	+	?	0	+	--	?	?	-	-	-	-	--
RBC-EMP-03	South of Owthorpe Lane	0	+	+	0	0	?	+	--	--	?	?	-	--	-	0	-
RBC-EMP-04	North of Owthorpe Lane	0	+	+	0	0	?	+	--	--	?	?	0	-	-	0	-
RBC-EMP-05	Stragglethorpe Junction	0	+	+	0	+	?	-	-	--	?	?	-	-	-	-	--
RBC-EMP-06	North of Margidunum	0	+	+	0	0	?	-	-	--	?	?	-	-	-	--	--
RBC-EMP-07	Land South of A52, Whatton	0	+	+	0	0	?	-	-	--	?	?	--	-	-	-	--

		1. Housing	2. Employment and jobs	3. Economic structure and innovation	4. Shopping centres	5. Health and well-being	6. Community safety	7. Social inclusion	8. Transport	9. Brownfield land	10. Energy and climate change	11. Pollution and air quality	12. Flooding and water quality	13. Natural environment, biodiversity and BGI	14. Landscape	15. Built and historic environment	16. Natural resources and waste management
RBC-EMP-08*	Melton Road, Edwalton	0	+	+	0	0	?	-	+	--	?	?	-	-	-	-	--
Strategic Distribution Sites																	
RBC-L01	Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station	0	++	++	+	+	?	-	++	+	++	?	-	-	?	-	--
RBC-L02	Nottingham 'Gateway'	0	++	++	+	+	?	0	+	--	?	?	-	-	-	-	--

8. Monitoring

8.1. The SEA Directive requires the significant environmental effects of implementing the plan or programme to be monitored "in order, inter alia, to identify … unforeseen adverse effects and to be able to undertake remedial action".

8.2. The significant effects indicators should be developed to ensure a robust assessment of policy implementation. The SA monitoring will cover significant social, economic and environmental effects.

8.3. A monitoring framework has been created for monitoring the sustainability effects of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan when adopted. It is considered that the monitoring indicators remain appropriate following the withdrawal of Gedling Borough Council from the Plan. Gedling Borough Council has also taken forward the monitoring indicators for the Sustainability Appraisal for the Gedling Local Plan and this will allow for a consistent monitoring framework across a wider geographical area. The indicators included in the monitoring framework will be monitored in the each of the participating councils' Authority Monitoring Reports at least yearly.

8.4. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan policies will be reviewed in the light of the results of monitoring and any other significant changes.

8.5. The monitoring framework is shown in **Table 20**.

Table 20: Indicators that Monitor Policy Performance Against SA Objectives

Effects to be monitored (SA objectives)	Strategic Plan Policies to monitor	Indicators	Target
1. Housing To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs, including gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople.	Policy 2 – Spatial Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy Policy 3 – Housing Policy 8 – Housing Size, Mix and Choice Policy 9 – Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	Population (by group)	Monitor
		Net additional homes	Increase
		Net additional affordable homes	Increase
		Net additional homes by dwelling type, size and tenure	Monitor
		Average house prices	Monitor
		Number of homelessness	Reduce
		Number of vacant dwellings	Reduce
		Number of new gypsy and traveller pitches delivered	Increase
		Progress on the delivery of sites allocated for housing (including mixed use sites)	Monitor
2. Employment and Jobs To create employment opportunities. **3. Economic Structure and Innovation** To provide the physical conditions for a high quality modern economic structure including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies.	Policy 2 – Spatial Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy Policy 5 – Employment Provision and Economic Development Policy 6 – Nottingham City Centre Policy 7 – Role of Town and Local Centres Policy 12 – Local Services and Healthy Lifestyles Policy 13 – Culture, Tourism and Sport Policy 14 – Managing Travel Demand Policy 15 – Transport Infrastructure Priorities Policy 18 – Infrastructure and Developer Contributions	Progress on the delivery of sites allocated for employment (including mixed use sites)	Monitor
		Net additional floor space (by employment type)	Increase
		Employment and unemployment rate	Improve
		Earnings (by type)	Monitor
		Employment profile (by type)	Monitor
		Qualifications (by equivalent level)	Monitor

Effects to be monitored (SA objectives)	Strategic Plan Policies to monitor	Indicators	Target
		Type and area of employment land availability	Monitor
		Area of employment land lost to housing and other uses	Monitor
4. Shopping Centres Increase the vitality and viability of existing shopping centres.	Policy 6 – Nottingham City Centre Policy 7 – Role of Town and Local Centres Policy 10 – Design and Enhancing Local Identity Policy 11 – The Historic Environment Policy 12 – Local Services and Healthy Lifestyles Policy 13 – Culture, Tourism and Sport Policy 14 – Managing Travel Demand	Planning permissions for retail and other town centre use development	Monitor
		Centre health checks	Monitor
		Planning permissions for residential development within the City, Town and District Centres	Monitor
		Amount of office space created in City, Town and District Centres	Monitor
		Amount of retail floor space approved outside of defined centres	Reduce
		Proportion of vacant units	Reduce
5. Health and Well-Being To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	Policy 8 – Housing Size, Mix and Choice Policy 10 – Design and Enhancing Local Identity Policy 12 – Local Services and Healthy Lifestyle Policy 13 – Culture, Tourism and Sport Policy 14 – Managing Travel Demand	% of all households with access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling within 30 minutes travel time with no more than a 400m walk to a stop.	Increase
		Number of planning permissions that will result in a loss of major existing cultural, tourism or sporting facilities	Monitor
		Number of major sporting facilities	Increase

Effects to be monitored (SA objectives)	Strategic Plan Policies to monitor	Indicators	Target
	Policy 16 – Blue and Green Infrastructure and Landscape Policy 17 – Biodiversity	Life expectancy at birth	Increase
		Resident's participation in sport (% inactive, fairly active, active)	Increase
6. Community Safety To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Policy 10 – Design and Enhancing Local Identity	Levels of reported crime by type	Reduce
7. Social Inclusion To promote and support the development and growth of social capital and to improve social inclusion and to close the gap between the most deprived areas within the plan area.	Policy 12 – Local Services and Healthy Lifestyle	Number of community centres, leisure centres and libraries	Increase
		Community facilities or contributions secured through s106 agreements	Monitor
		Number of planning permissions granted that will result in a loss of existing community facilities	Monitor
8. Transport To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to improve travel choice and accessibility.	Policy 2 – Spatial Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy Policy 14 – Managing Travel Demand Policy 15 – Transport Infrastructure Priorities Policy 18 – Infrastructure and Developer Contributions	Railway Station Usage	Increase
		Proportion of households within a 400m walk to a bus or tram stop with an hourly or better daytime service	Monitor
		Number of permissions granted with contributions secured through s106 agreements to improve active travel and public transport	Monitor
		Number of travel plans agreed	Monitor
		Implementation of individual schemes as listed in Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Monitor
		NET (Tram) usage (passenger miles (by system (e.g. NET))	Increase

Effects to be monitored (SA objectives)	Strategic Plan Policies to monitor	Indicators	Target
		Number of park and ride facilities	Increase
		Number of cycling trips	Increase
		Transport schemes (Policy 15) delivered	Monitor
9. Brownfield Land To make efficient use of previously developed land or 'brownfield' land and recognise biodiversity value where appropriate.	Policy 4 – Green Belt Policy 2 – Spatial Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy Policy 3 – Housing Policy 5 – Employment Provision and Economic Development	Amount of greenfield land lost to new development	Monitor
		Number of housing completions on previously developed land	Monitor
10. Energy and Climate Change To minimise energy usage and to develop low carbon energy resources and encourage nature-based solutions to climate change. **11. Pollution and Air Quality** To manage air quality and minimise the risk posed by air, noise and other types of pollution. **12. Flooding and Water Quality** To minimise the risk of flooding and to conserve and improve water quality.	Policy 1 – Climate Change Policy 14 – Managing Travel Demand Policy 15 – Transport Infrastructure Priorities	Renewable energy capacity installed by type	Increase
		Average electricity and gas use per meter in kilowatt hours	Reduce
		Energy consumption by tonnes of oil equivalent	Reduce
		Department of Energy & Climate Change's 'Carbon dioxide emissions within the scope of influence of local authorities'	Reduce
		Area and households within Flood Zones 2 and 3	Reduce
		Planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency	Reduce
13. Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Blue-Green Infrastructure	Policy 16 – Blue and Green Infrastructure and Landscape Policy 17 – Biodiversity	Net change in Sites of Special Scientific Interest	Monitor
		Number of SSSIs in favourable conditions	Increase
		Number, area and net change of Local Nature Reserves	Increase

Effects to be monitored (SA objectives)	Strategic Plan Policies to monitor	Indicators	Target
To increase biodiversity levels and protect and enhance blue-green infrastructure and the natural environment.		Number, area and net change in Local Wildlife Sites	Increase
		Number, area and net change in Local Geological Sites	Increase
		Area of woodland	Increase
		New areas of open space by type, over 0.5 hectares	Increase
		Areas of Local Green Spaces	Increase
		Green Flag awarded open spaces	Increase
		Percentage of net gain projected for major development schemes	Monitor
14. Landscape To protect and enhance the landscape character.	Policy 16 – Blue and Green Infrastructure and Landscape	Adoption of local Design Codes	Increase
15. Built and Historic Environment To protect and enhance the townscape character and the place through good design. To conserve designated and non-designated heritage assets and their setting and provide better opportunities for people to enjoy culture and heritage.	Policy 10 – Design and Enhancing Local Identity Policy 11 – The Historic Environment	Number and area of Conservation Areas	Monitor
		Number of Conservation Area appraisals	Monitor
		Number of listed buildings	Monitor
		Heritage assets at Risk	Reduce
		Number of Registered Parks and Gardens	Monitor
		Number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Monitor
		Number of Designated Heritage Assets	Monitor
		Number of Designated Heritage Assets at risk	Reduce
		Monitor achievement of development proposals against best practice guidance and standards for design, including design codes	Monitor
		Adoption of local Design Codes	Increase
16. Natural Resources and Waste Management To prudently manage the natural resources of the area	Policy 2 – Spatial Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy Policy 3 – Housing	New waste management facilities by type	Monitor

Effects to be monitored (SA objectives)	Strategic Plan Policies to monitor	Indicators	Target
including soils, safeguarding minerals and waste.	Policy 5 – Employment Provision and Economic Development		

9. Habitats Regulations Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment

9.1. In addition to the Sustainability Appraisal process, the councils are also required to carry out a Habitats Regulations Assessment and an Equality Impact Assessment. Nottinghamshire County Council has prepared a Planning and Health engagement protocol setting out arrangements for how health partners including Nottinghamshire County Council should be consulted on local plans and planning applications. These are not part of the SA process however they cover sustainability issues.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (Appropriate Assessment)

9.2. The EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) requires that a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is made of the effects of land-use plans on sites of European importance for nature conservation.

9.3. The sites that are subject to a HRA are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive, and/or as Special Protection Area (SPAs) designated under the EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC (Birds Directive).

9.4. A HRA should be carried out on sites that are within and outside the plan area that could potentially be affected by the plan. During the previous Core Strategy's process, a potential significant effect on an area of land that may be designated in the future as a European site was identified. It found that there could be potentially significant effects of the Core Strategies on the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area. The screening process followed a precautionary approach, as advised by Natural England, and assumed the prospective Sherwood Forest Special Protection Area is progressed through the normal classification process, via potential Special Protection Area and classified Special Protection Area status, but it is not known when a decision on its final status is expected.

9.5. The HRA review recommended that a new HRA screening exercise be commissioned at Regulation 19 to consider the in-combination effects of sites within and adjoining Hucknall, including those in Ashfield District's revised Local Plan, on the Sherwood Forest possible potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA). Unlike Strategic Environmental Assessment that is incorporated with the Sustainability Appraisal, HRA must be reported on separately to the Sustainability Appraisal. Further details are therefore provided within the separate HRA report.

9.6. It is not considered that the withdrawal of Gedling has implications for the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The HRA assessed the Plan

(which included Gedling at the time). However, the submitted version of the Plan has substantially the same effect on the three remaining plan making authorities, there is no change in strategy, apart from the deletion of Gedling policies and references, other changes to policies are de minimis, and there are no changes in allocations. The HRA is therefore considered to remain appropriate to the Plan.

Equality Impact Assessment

9.7. Under the Equality Act 2010, the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan is required to be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment to ensure that it meets the needs of all members of the community. There are ten protected characteristics:-

- Age
- Care Experience
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

9.8. Undertaking Equality Impact Assessments allows the councils to identify any potential discrimination caused by their policies or the way they work and take steps to make sure that it is removed.

9.9. An assessment undertaken shows that the emerging strategic plan is likely to result in positive outcomes including for people with protected characteristics. The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan is subject to consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and the participating councils. Responses will be carefully considered and assist with providing evidence on particular needs and issues relating to people with protected characteristics which may be addressed in strategic planning policy.

Health Impact Assessment

9.10. Nottinghamshire County Council has prepared a Planning and Health engagement protocol setting out arrangements for how health partners including Nottinghamshire County Council should be consulted on local plans and planning applications. This initiative to improve engagement between the health partners and local planning authorities builds on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy previously produced by Nottinghamshire County Council which recommended the use of the Planning and Health checklist to assess development proposals. The councils agreed the use of the Health and Well-being Checklist in relation to local plan policy preparation.

10. Consultation and next steps

10.1. This report explains the consultation stages and what will happen regarding the next stages of the Sustainability Appraisal process.

10.2. This report summarises the work done for the Sustainability Appraisal process for the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. The Publication Draft consultation sought views on the proposed strategy and vision and the proposed policies and strategic sites in the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. It has been updated to reflect the withdrawal of Gedling Borough Council from the Plan.

10.3. The remaining Stage E of the Sustainability Appraisal will be completed at the adoption stage.