

Sustainability Appraisal Section 2		Agenda No: 8
Portfolio	Planning and Housing	
Corporate Outcome:	A well connected and growing district with high quality homes and infrastructure	
Report presented by:	Emma Goodings	
Report prepared by:	Emma Goodings	
Background Papers:		Public Report: Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)</li><li>National Planning Practise Guidance (NPPG)</li><li>Braintree District Draft Local Plan (June 2016)</li><li>Draft Sustainability Appraisals</li></ul>		Key Decision: No
Executive Summary:		
<p>A Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) in respect of the Section 2 policies and sites has been prepared to consider the environmental impact of all policies and allocations within Section 2 of the Publication Draft Local Plan. The decisions undertaken for the Local Plan must take into account the Sustainability Appraisal (SA), which also incorporates the Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA), to maximise the contribution that the plan makes to sustainable development. These documents, along with the Part 1 joint SA, will assist in the full consideration of environmental impacts of the Publication Draft Local Plan.</p>		
Recommended Decision:		
<p><b>Recommendation 1: To recommend to Council the approval of the Draft Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment in respect of Section 2 of the Publication Draft Local Plan, subject to completion and minor amendments, the approval of which are delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing.</b></p>		
<p><b>Recommendation 2: To recommend to Council the publishing and making available of the Sustainability Appraisal of Section 2 to inform consultation and engagement on the Publication Draft Local Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal.</b></p>		
Purpose of Decision:		
<p>For members to take into account the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environment Assessment of section 2 of the Publication Draft Local Plan.</p>		

**Any Corporate implications in relation to the following should be explained in detail.**

<b>Financial:</b>	The cost of the production of the Local Plan and its evidence base has been met from the Local Plan budget. The costs of the consultation and examination process will be met from the Local Plan budget.
<b>Legal:</b>	The Local Plan must meet the requirements for soundness set out in the NPPF and other regulatory requirements. The Publication Draft Local Plan is considered to be sound and the relevant legal requirements have been met.
<b>Safeguarding:</b>	N/A
<b>Equalities/Diversity:</b>	The Publication Draft Local Plan is accompanied by a Equalities Impact Assessment
<b>Customer Impact:</b>	The Local Plan, once adopted, will impact all those living, working and travelling in the District.
<b>Environment and Climate Change:</b>	Policies in the Publication Draft Local Plan include those in relation to mitigating the impact of growth on the environment and climate change
<b>Consultation/Community Engagement:</b>	The Publication Draft Local Plan is subject to a period of public consultation for 6 weeks from the 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2017
<b>Risks:</b>	That the Draft Local Plan will be found unsound at examination
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## **1 Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 1.1 The preparation of the Publication Draft Local Plan has been informed by Sustainability Appraisals/Strategic Environment Assessments (SA/SEA). This is a legal requirement. The purpose of an SA/SEA is to assess the likely environmental and sustainability impacts of the allocations and policies in the Draft Local Plan and the impacts of reasonable alternatives
- 1.2 Part of the Section 2 Local Plan preparation has included preparation of a Sustainability Appraisal, which assesses the likely significant environmental implications of the policies and site allocations in Section 2. The appendix to this report includes the updated site assessment and policy assessments which have been undertaken as part of the SA/SEA process and enable members to consider these as part of their consideration of the Publication Draft Local Plan.
- 1.3 Additional work is being completed on the SA/SEA and it will be considered in full by Council. It is intended that the final form the Section 2 Sustainability

Appraisal is to be published at the same time as the Publication Draft Local Plan for consultation.

- 1.4 There is also a joint Sustainability Appraisal (which includes a Strategic Environmental Assessment) of Section 1 of the Publication Draft Local Plan which has been prepared jointly with Colchester Borough Council and Tendring District Council. This is considered as part of agenda item

**Recommendation 1: To recommend to Council the approval of the Draft Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment in respect of Section 2 of the Publication Draft Local Plan, subject to finalisation, the approval of which are delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing.**

**Recommendation 2: To recommend to Council the publishing and making available of the Sustainability Appraisal of Section 2 to inform consultation and engagement on the Publication Draft Local Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal.**