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Appendix 5

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037

Post-Adoption Statement

March 2023

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037

Post-Adoption Statement

Client:	Fareham Borough Council	
Report No.:	UE0192_SEA_PostAdoption_1_230315	
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Revision No.:	Status/Comment:	Date:
0	First issue to client	07 March 2023
1	Final	15 March 2023

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Abbreviations

DAM	Detailed Assessment Matrix
HLA	High-level Assessment
NPPG	National Planning Policy Guidance
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SHELAA	Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment
SHLAA	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Post-Adoption Statement

- 1.1.1 This Post-Adoption Statement has been prepared for Fareham Borough Council as part of the combined Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037.
- 1.1.2 The Post-Adoption Statement incorporates the requirements for an SEA Environmental Statement and has been prepared in the accordance with the following:
- ▶ Regulation 16 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans & Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations);
 - ▶ Regulation 26 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012; and
 - ▶ Paragraph 32 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021.

1.2 The Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037

- 1.2.1 The Local Plan sets the planning strategy for the Borough and addresses emerging housing and employment needs for a period of 16 years from 2021 to 2037. The adopted Welborne Plan has not been replaced by the 2037 Plan, but together with the Local Plan forms the new Development Plan for the Borough.
- 1.2.2 The Local Plan sets out proposed strategic and development management policies, development allocations and actions to meet the environmental, social and economic challenges facing the Borough. The Local Plan provides a strategy for the distribution, scale and form of development and supporting infrastructure, a set of proposals to deliver the strategy, policies against which to assess planning applications, and proposals for monitoring the success of the plan.
- 1.2.3 The spatial development strategy within the Local Plan includes:
- ▶ Provision for 9,556 new dwellings and 122,000 m² of new employment floorspace;
 - ▶ The strategic employment site at Daedalus to support the Solent Enterprise Zone and deliver an additional 77,200m² over and above that already planned;
 - ▶ Strategic opportunities at Fareham Town Centre that contribute to the delivery of at least 684 dwellings as part of a wider regeneration strategy; and
 - ▶ Development allocations on previously developed land where available, and on greenfield land around the edges of existing urban areas in order to meet remaining housing and employment needs, but otherwise managing appropriate levels of development outside of urban areas.

1.2.4 Box 1 sets out the key facts relating to the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037.

Box 1: Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037 – Key Facts	
Name of Responsible Authority:	Fareham Borough Council
Title of programme:	Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037
What prompted the plan (e.g. legislative, regulatory or administrative provision):	It is a Local Development Document prepared in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
Subject (e.g. transport):	Spatial development planning
Period covered:	2021 to 2037
Frequency of updates:	As needed to maintain currency and relevance
Area covered:	The administrative area of Fareham Borough
Purpose and scope of the plan:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Establishes the strategic spatial strategy▪ Allocates sites to meet the Borough’s development needs between 2021 and 2037▪ Sets development management policies against which individual proposals can be assessed
Contact point:	Planning Strategy Fareham Borough Council Civic Offices, Civic Way, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 7AZ Telephone: 01329 824601 Email: planningpolicy@fareham.gov.uk

1.3 Content of this Post-Adoption Statement

1.3.1 The Post-Adoption Statement explains how environmental and sustainability considerations were incorporated into the Local Plan, and how the SA/SEA was taken into account during decision making, in compliance with SEA Regulations 16.3c)(iii) and 16.4. It presents the following:

1. How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan;
2. How the findings of the Sustainability Report were taken into account;
3. The reasons for choosing the Local Plan as adopted in light of the alternatives considered;
4. How opinions expressed and the representations received through the consultation process were taken into account; and
5. Measures that will be taken to monitor the significant sustainability effects of implementing the Local Plan.

1.3.2 Chapter 2 of this Post-Adoption Statement summarises how the SA/SEA has informed and influenced the Local Plan, in light of the other alternatives proposed, addressing points one to three in the list above. Chapter 3 discusses how consultation was carried out and taken into account during the SA/SEA, addressing point four. Finally, Chapter 4 sets out the proposed monitoring regime in response to the SA/SEA, which will be carried out alongside monitoring for the Local Plan, addressing point five.

1.4 The Study Area

- 1.4.1 Fareham Borough is a coastal area lying between the two cities of Portsmouth and Southampton on the south coast of Hampshire. It covers an area of over 77 square kilometres and has a population of approximately 115,000¹. Whilst over half of the land area is still rural, the Borough is mainly urban in character consisting of a number of sizeable settlements which are located close to each other. The majority of the population reside within Fareham which is the largest town with a population of around 42,200.
- 1.4.2 The Borough is well connected to the M27 motorway giving easy access to Southampton and Portsmouth, the rest of Hampshire and beyond. Good rail links exist between Fareham, Portchester and Swanwick, particularly to Portsmouth and Southampton and further afield to Winchester, London and other major centres. The international airport near Southampton and the ferry port at Portsmouth give easy access to continental destinations. Regular passenger and vehicle ferry services also operate from Portsmouth and Southampton to the Isle of Wight.
- 1.4.3 The large flows of commuters in and out of the Borough contribute to traffic congestion in and around Fareham and associated air quality issues. The Borough contains attractive countryside and coastal areas, its boundaries being defined by the river Hamble, the Solent and Portsmouth Harbour. There is an extensive variety of semi-natural landscapes including chalk downland, coastal saltmarsh and mudflats, grasslands, wetlands and ancient woodlands. The Borough has a rich cultural heritage as represented by the range of protected historic features, which extends to 432 listed buildings, 13 conservation areas, five scheduled monuments and one protected wreck.
- 1.4.4 Approximately 60% of the Borough is rural and it benefits from an overall surplus of open space, although there is a varying shortfall in certain types of open space from settlement to settlement. The Borough's coastal location results in parts of it being subject to periodic tidal flooding, though this is not widespread. The Borough is crossed by three rivers, the Meon, Hamble and Wallington. Localised flooding is experienced along these, some of which is also tidal.

¹ NOMIS (2023): [Labour Market Profile – Fareham \(Total Population 2021\)](#). Accessed online [27/02/2023].

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2 How the SA has Informed and Influenced the Fareham Borough Local Plan

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The SA/SEA informed and influenced the Fareham Borough Local Plan throughout all stages of plan-making. Table 2.1 sets out those key SA documents produced at, and informing, each stage in the plan-making process. This Post-Adoption statement should be read with reference to these predecessor documents.

Table 2.1: Key SA Documents at each Stage of Plan-Making

Date	Plan-Making Stage	SA Report
February 2016	-	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan Review, Scoping Report
October 2017	Draft Plan	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2036, Sustainability Report for the Draft Plan
October 2017	Draft Plan	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2036, Site Options Assessment
January 2020	Supplement to the Draft Plan	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2036, Interim Sustainability Report
January 2020	Supplement to the Draft Plan	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2036, Site Options Assessment
November 2020	Publication Plan	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037, Sustainability Report for the Publication Plan
May 2021	Revised Publication Plan	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037, Sustainability Report for the Revised Publication Plan
September 2022	Main Modifications Plan	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan 2037, Sustainability Report for the Main Modifications Local Plan

2.2 Scoping

2.2.1 The SA/SEA of the Fareham Borough Local Plan commenced in 2016. A Scoping Report was published for consultation in February 2016 for a period of six weeks. Its purpose was to establish

the scope and level of detail to be included in the Sustainability Report and included a methodology, a policy, plan and programme review, an evidence base for the assessment, key issues and sustainability challenges to address, and an SA Framework of objectives and decision-making criteria against which the Local Plan could be assessed.

2.2.2 Responses were received from the three statutory consultation bodies (Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England) and a range of other respondents. Following receipt of responses, the SA information, including baseline data and the SA Framework, was updated. The updated SA information was included in the Sustainability Report. All consultation responses were included in Appendix B of the Sustainability Report at the next available stage.

2.2.3 A further update to the environmental baseline, included within the 2016 Scoping Report, was undertaken in late 2019. It was agreed with statutory bodies that the updates were not so significant as to warrant a further round of scoping consultation; however, the updated baseline was included as part of the consultation on the Supplement to the Draft Plan which took place between 13 January and 1 March 2020. This provided an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the updated information. Consultation responses from this consultation event were also included within Appendix B of the Sustainability Report.

2.3 Assessment of Reasonable Alternatives

2.3.1 The SEA Regulations require that the Environmental Report should consider:

'Reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme' and give 'an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with' (Regulation 12(2)(b) and Schedule 2(8)).

2.3.2 The NPPG (DCLG, 2020) additionally states that SA should compare the reasonable alternatives, including the preferred approach, and assess these against the baseline environmental, economic and social characteristics of the area and the likely situation if the Local Plan were not to be adopted. It should predict and evaluate the effects of the preferred approach and reasonable alternatives, and identify the significant positive and negative effects of each alternative. It should outline the reasons the alternatives were selected, the reasons the rejected options were not taken forward and the reasons for selecting the preferred approach in light of the alternatives.

2.3.3 The SA/SEA was an iterative process with assessment work at each stage informing the development of reasonable alternatives and informing which alternatives to take forward. The following sections explain how the SA/SEA has informed the plan and its option at each stage. These interactions are also summarised in Figure 2.1.

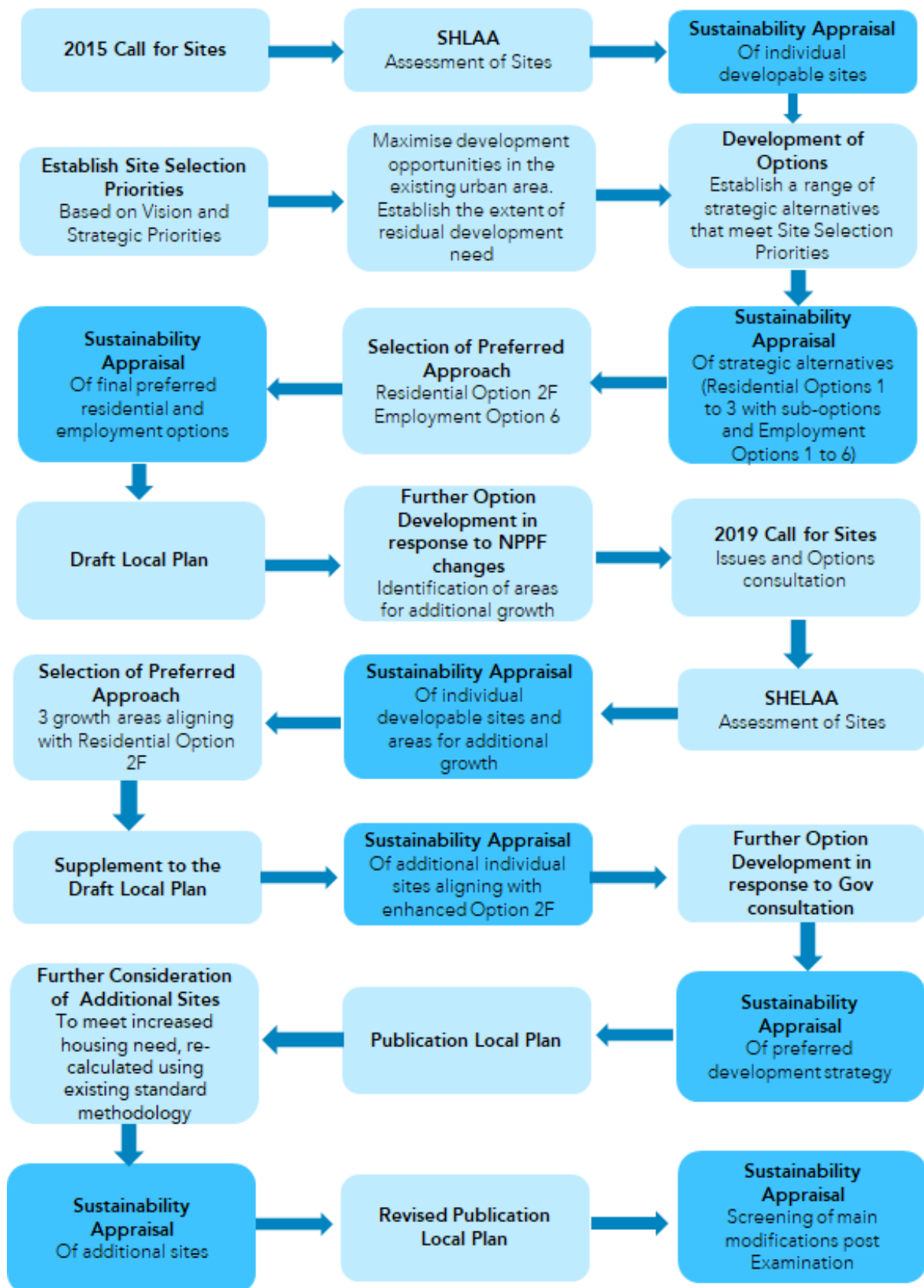


Figure 2.1: Interaction between Plan Development and the Sustainability Appraisal

2.4 Alternatives to the Plan as Proposed: Draft Plan Stage

2.4.1 Following conclusion of the scoping stage, the assessment team contributed to the development of reasonable alternatives. The purpose of this interaction between the SA and the plan was to inform and influence its development and to provide an early and effective sustainability input. This commenced with an assessment of individual sites brought forward through a 'Call for Sites', providing a broad overview of the sustainability performance of each site. From here, the selection of strategic alternatives to the development strategy used an understanding of overall development needs, the extent to which they are already met and what existing commitments might contribute during the plan period. A series of strategic alternatives, comprising different combinations of individual site options, were devised by the Council which would meet the housing and employment needs of the Borough.

Individual developable sites

2.4.2 All of the sites submitted during the Call for Sites exercise were assessed for their development potential as part of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). This exercise identified those sites which were suitable, available and achievable for development uses over the plan period. Following the Call for Sites and SHLAA, the Council identified a long list of 174 developable sites that could help to meet identified housing and employment land needs.

2.4.3 Each of these sites were subject to a high-level assessment (HLA) against the eleven SA Objectives. The HLA gives a broad overview of the sustainability performance of each site, categorising each effect as strongly positive, positive, neutral, mixed/uncertain, negative or strongly negative. The primary benefit in the HLA is to allow high volumes of data to be processed, and to give an indication of the relative (not absolute) sustainability performance of a long list of sites. This process was carried out iteratively as the Council continued to identify all potentially available sites, with the results fed back to the Council in November 2016 and January, March, June and September 2017.

2.4.4 Where potential negative effects or uncertainties were identified through the HLA in association with a particular site, a secondary level of assessment took place to examine the proposal in more detail. This process used Detailed Assessment Matrices to scrutinise potential negative or uncertain effects identified by the HLA. Detailed Assessment Matrices (DAMs) addressed the range of criteria identified in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations when determining the likely (positive or negative) significance of effects, providing a greater level of detail than the HLA stage and providing recommendations for mitigation measures to limit predicted adverse effects where they arise (section 2.9).

2.4.5 During this process 27 sites were excluded from the long list of developable sites. The final assessment results for the remaining 147 were presented in a Site Options Assessment report in October 2017, a summary of which was provided at section 5.1 and Appendix F of the Sustainability Report. The reasons for selecting or rejecting each individual site as reasonable alternatives were listed in Appendix G of the Sustainability Report.

Strategic alternatives for residential and employment land

2.4.6 In total, eleven reasonable alternatives for a preferred residential development strategy for the Draft Plan were devised by the Council comprising different combinations of the short-listed developable sites. The alternatives were formed of three main options each with a series of sub-options. These alternatives were subject to HLA and the appraisal of the strategic alternatives for both residential and employment land was presented in section 5.2 of the Sustainability Report. The alternatives were summarised in Table 4.3 and Table 4.4 of the Sustainability Report, together with an outline of the reasons for their selection and, where relevant, eventual rejection at the Draft Plan stage.

2.5 Alternatives to the Plan as Proposed: Supplement to the Draft Plan Stage

2.5.1 Following the introduction of the standard methodology for calculating housing need and the subsequent need to review the housing numbers proposed for the Local Plan, the preferred residential development strategy was reviewed. This included supplementing the strategy with additional sites and revisiting previously discounted sites to meet the shortfall in housing need.

2.5.2 In the summer of 2019, the Council undertook a further Issues and Options consultation, including a renewed 'Call for Sites'. The Council used the responses to help formulate the revised Development Strategy set out in the Supplement to the Draft Local Plan. Additional sites were selected to align with the preferred strategy focusing on larger development sites and sustainable urban fringe locations.

2.5.3 Eight potential areas of growth were presented in the 2019 Issues and Options Consultation. These eight areas were subject to HLA. An appraisal of these strategic alternatives was provided in Chapter 4 of the Interim Sustainability Report (January 2020).

2.5.4 All of the sites submitted during the original Call for Sites were also re-appraised at this stage, together with additional sites which came forward as part of the 2019 Issues and Options consultation. During this process, 266 sites were considered on the long list of developable sites aligning with those considered for inclusion in the Council's 2019 Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA), which replaced the 2017 SHLAA. HLAs were carried out for these sites, the results of which were presented in an updated Site Options Assessment Report (January 2020). This report formed part of the evidence base for the Supplement to the Draft Local Plan consultation in early 2020. A summary of the site assessment was provided at section 5.1 and Appendix F of the Sustainability Report. The reasons for selecting or rejecting each individual site as reasonable alternatives were listed in Appendix G of the Sustainability Report.

2.5.5 No new employment sites were proposed as part of the revised Development Strategy at this stage. This is because the existing provision identified predominately at Daedalus and Welborne was sufficient to meet the needs of the Borough to 2037.

2.6 Alternatives to the Plan as Proposed: Publication Plan Stage

- 2.6.1 A number of additional sites for residential development came forward during the Supplement to the Draft Local Plan consultation in early 2020. All were subject to HLA; the results of the HLA are captured in Appendix F of the Sustainability Report. In total 17 additional sites were added into the Development Strategy set out within the Publication Plan. These sites aligned with the preferred residential development strategy set out in the Draft Plan and included urban sites or sustainable urban fringe sites.
- 2.6.2 In August 2020 the Government announced a new technical consultation proposing further changes to the way housing need is calculated, which would have seen the Borough's annual housing requirement reduce and, as a result, the overall housing need for the plan period decrease. This led to a further re-evaluation of the scale of housing growth required for the Local Plan and prompted a review of potential housing allocations in line with the preferred residential development strategy of focusing development on deliverable urban and sustainable urban fringe sites.
- 2.6.3 As a result some of the proposed allocations consulted on at the Regulation 18 stage (including both the Draft Plan and the Supplement to the Draft Plan) were no longer proposed for allocation in the Regulation 19 Publication Plan. These sites performed more adversely in sustainability terms compared to those retained for allocation and were set out in section 4.7.4 of the September 2022 Sustainability Report.
- 2.6.4 As with the Supplement to the Draft Local Plan, no new employment sites were proposed as part of the Publication Plan Development Strategy. Existing provision identified predominately at Daedalus and Welborne was still considered sufficient to meet the needs of the Borough to 2037.

2.7 Alternatives to the Plan as Proposed: Revised Publication Plan Stage

- 2.7.1 In December 2020, two days before the consultation on the Publication Local Plan closed, the Government confirmed that for Fareham, the use of the existing standard methodology was to continue. As a result, the Borough's annual housing need increased again beyond the figure of that the 2020 Publication Local Plan was based upon.
- 2.7.2 This new housing requirement warranted a re-evaluation of the scale of housing growth required for the Local Plan. A further review of potential housing allocations was undertaken, focusing development on deliverable urban and sustainable urban fringe sites in line with the preferred residential development strategy. This resulted in additional sites proposed for allocation in the Revised Publication Local Plan to meet the higher housing requirement.
- 2.7.3 A number of new sites for residential development came forward during the Publication Plan consultation in late 2020. All of these sites were subject to HLA; the results of the HLA are captured in Appendix F of the Sustainability Report. All those additional residential sites aligned with the preferred residential development strategy and were proposed for allocation in the Revised Publication Local Plan.

2.7.4 Similarly, four new employment sites were added into the preferred development strategy at the Revised Publication Stage in response to a March 2021 Employment, Economic and Business Needs study setting out updated employment floorspace requirements for each authority area in South Hampshire. All four sites were subject to HLA; the results of the HLA are captured in Appendix F of the Sustainability Report. All four sites aligned with the preferred employment development strategy.

2.8 Modifications following Examination

2.8.1 A number of Main Modifications to the Local Plan were proposed following the examination hearings. Significant changes were appraised in the Main Modifications Sustainability Report (September 2022). This summarised those main modifications warranting a change to the SA, including the nature of the change (text update or assessment update) and signposting the location of the change within the Sustainability Report.

2.8.2 In summary, the proposed Main Modifications to the Fareham Local Plan were not predicted to significantly alter the profile or scale of sustainability effects when compared to the Revised Publication Plan.

2.9 Recommendations to Incorporate Sustainability Considerations into the Fareham Borough Local Plan

2.9.1 A number of recommendations were made through the assessment process to help reduce the Local Plan’s negative effects and to further improve its sustainability performance during implementation, particularly through the Detailed Assessment Matrices (DAMs) as discussed in section 2.4.4. Representative examples of these are summarised in Table 2.2. Many of these are represented within the final suite of policies for the adopted Local Plan, while site-specific mitigation measures were incorporated into the explanatory text for site allocations.

Table 2.2: Summary of Proposed Mitigation Measures

Objective	Recommended mitigation
1. To provide good quality and sustainable housing for all	No significant negative effects predicted.
2. To conserve and enhance built and cultural heritage	It should be possible to reduce negative effects via high quality designs which respond to and enhance the setting of historical features, and through structural landscaping. Heritage Statements should be prepared for schemes with potentially significant constraints and, where evidence points to potential presence of notable features, mitigation will be required (e.g. recording of special interest features, investigative trenching, watching brief, recovery & interpretation of remains) (Policies HE1 to HE6, D1).
3. To conserve and enhance the	For sites with significant landscape constraints, Landscape Assessments should be carried out to assess and mitigate impacts to sensitive landscape features (Policy DS3).

Objective	Recommended mitigation
character of the landscape	<p>In order to protect and enhance the character and quality of landscape resources, views and visual amenity, site proposals should refer to the relevant LLCA in the Borough's landscape assessment (LDA Design, 2017).</p> <p>Other measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid damage or disturbance to features of recognised landscape/ecological value • Integrate development within existing field patterns and vegetation structure, retaining and reinforcing hedgerows, trees and other mature vegetation • Protect and extend existing cover of woodland, trees, hedgerows • Avoid tall buildings or large structures that would be difficult to mitigate • Contribute to a new, distinctive character for the area, with a strong sense of place and local identity, that reflects past uses and landscape context • Avoid ribbon development and settlement coalescence by providing strong landscape buffers • Use appropriate native species within new planting schemes • For sites in downland areas, avoid significant modification of natural contours through cut & fill operations • Maintain/enhance the function/quality of the existing GI network, taking opportunities to strengthen and extend access and habitat links
4. To promote accessibility and encourage travel by sustainable means	<p>Sustainable transport measures should be maximised (e.g. onsite cycle facilities, strengthened links to public transport). Travel Plans would help to increase use of sustainable modes and could focus on enhancing pedestrian/cycle access to railway stations, Fareham-Gosport BRT or bus routes to reduce reliance on the car transport (Policies TIN1 and TIN3).</p>
5. To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	<p>District heating type initiatives could be particularly suitable for larger cluster sites.</p> <p>Designs should consider use of renewable energy (e.g. solar thermal/PV, micro wind, ground source heat, CHP etc.) and provide electric vehicle charging points. Areas of tree cover (carbon sink, urban cooling) should be retained / re-provided (Policies D1, NE6, NE8).</p> <p>Sustainable drainage measures will be required to demonstrate how surface water run-off will be attenuated to avoid increasing flood risk on site or in surrounding area, but without resulting in impacts to groundwater quality within the SPZ (Policy CC2).</p> <p>For Warsash Maritime Academy, development layout should be directed away from the parts of the site subject to coastal erosion and flood risk.</p>
6. To minimise air, water, light and noise pollution	<p>A CEMP should include measures to reduce construction noise, contamination, water quality and air quality impacts. Following site investigation, design of remediation strategy should include measures within the CEMP to manage risk of mobilised contaminants entering surface or ground waters, and to reduce noise impacts.</p> <p>Sustainable transport measures should be incorporated as per the recommendations for SA4 (Policy TIN1).</p> <p>For sites close to the motorway, noise and pollution attenuation measures will be required to protect future occupants from the effects of the M27.</p>

Objective	Recommended mitigation
	For sites within the SPZ, specific pollution prevention measures will be required to avoid impacts to ground water resources. (Policy D5)
7. To conserve and enhance biodiversity	Ecological surveys and assessment will be required to establish which (if any) protected species may be using a site and to design a suitable mitigation strategy. Loss of Priority Habitats should be avoided, and elsewhere habitats of greatest interest should be retained, e.g. woodland, hedgerows and mature/veteran trees should be incorporated into development layout (Policies NE1, NE6). New habitats (e.g. tree and hedgerow planting, wildflower meadow and wetland associated with sustainable drainage measures) should be created via landscaping plans, both to reduce landscape & visual impacts, and to increase robustness of existing habitats. For land south of Funtley Road, Fareham, SINC and ancient woodland habitats within the site should be retained and buffered from the impacts of development, both during construction and operation.
8. To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Soils within built footprint could be removed prior to development for re-use in landscaping and habitat creation elsewhere on site. Commercially viable mineral deposits should be extracted to prevent sterilisation. Waste materials produced during demolition and groundworks should be re-used on site wherever possible, or re-processed off site for future use in aggregates. Designs should incorporate adequate storage space for recycling, and consider providing communal composting facilities. Small scale community orchards or allotments could be considered for sites with sufficient space.
9. To strengthen the local economy and provide accessible jobs	Opportunities to provide work-based training during construction should be explored; provision for live/work units may be suitable.
10. To enhance the vitality and viability of centres and respect the settlement hierarchy	No significant negative effects predicted.
11. To create a healthy and safe community	For sites with limited accessibility to open space, opportunities should be explored to provide new open spaces or improve access to existing areas (Policy NE10). On larger sites, if space permits a fitness trail or outdoor gym facilities could be provided as part of the open space proposals.

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3 How Consultation on the SA/SEA was taken into Account

3.1 Consultation in SA/SEA

3.1.1 The SEA Regulations require responses to consultation to be taken into account during the preparation of the plan and before its adoption or submission to a legislative procedure. Consultation has been an integral part of the SA/SEA for the Local Plan. In addition to enabling the opinions of the statutory consultation bodies and other stakeholders to be taken into account, it has provided an opportunity for the public to be informed and take part in how decisions are made.

3.2 Consultation on the Scoping Report

3.2.1 The SA/SEA Scoping Report was published for consultation with the three statutory consultation bodies (Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England) in February 2016 for a period of six weeks. A range of other parties were also invited to comment.

3.2.2 Consultation responses were received from the following organisations:

- ▶ Natural England;
- ▶ Environment Agency;
- ▶ Historic England
- ▶ Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust; and
- ▶ Hampshire County Council (Highways).

3.2.3 Appendix B of the Sustainability Report (at the next available stage) contained an analysis of scoping consultation responses including a description of how the comments were taken into account. Following receipt of responses the SA information, including baseline data and the SA Framework, was updated. The updated SA information was included in the Sustainability Report.

3.2.4 A further update to the environmental baseline, included within the 2016 Scoping Report, was undertaken in late 2019. It was agreed with statutory bodies that the updates were not so significant as to warrant a further round of scoping consultation; however the updated baseline was included as part of the consultation on the Supplement to the Draft Plan which took place between 13 January and 1 March 2020. This provided an opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the updated information. Consultation responses from this consultation event were also included within Appendix B of the Sustainability Report.

3.3 Consultation on the Sustainability Report

3.3.1 Four further rounds of consultation were undertaken prior to submission of the Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate on 30 September 2021 - see Table 3.1. A version of the Sustainability Report accompanied each consultation event. Table 3.1 also sets out those organisations from whom representations relating to the SA/SEA were received. All SA-related representations were documented in Appendix B of the Sustainability Report at the next available stage including a description of how the comments were taken into account.

Table 3.1: Consultations on the Sustainability Report and Representations Received

Plan-stage	Consultation dates	Representations received
Draft Plan, Regulation 18	25 October to 8 December 2017	Natural England
Supplement to the Draft Plan, Regulation 18	13 January to Sunday 1 March 2020	Historic England Taylor Wimpey Bargate Homes Miller Homes Lisa and Anthony King, Andrew Norris and Melanie Norris Gladman Developments
Publication Plan, Regulation 19	6 November to 18 December 2020	Natural England The Hammond Family, Miller Homes and Bargate Homes Gladman Developments
Revised Publication Plan, Regulation 19	18 June to 30 July 2021	Natural England Raymond Brown Gladman Developments Bargate Homes

3.4 Representations on the Sustainability Report for the Submission Plan and Modifications

3.4.1 Following submission of the Plan, items relating to the SA/SEA were specifically discussed under matter 1 of the first hearing session of the Examination on 8 March 2022. Following the Examination, a consultation on Proposed Modifications and associated SA was undertaken between 31 October and 12 December 2022. No specific representations relating to the SA/SEA were received.

4 Monitoring

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The SEA Regulations state that *“The responsible authority shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of each plan or programme with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action”* (Regulation 17(1)). In addition, the Environmental Report (or Sustainability Report) should provide *“... a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring”* (Schedule 2(9)).

4.1.2 Given the broad scope of SA/SEA, monitoring requirements have the potential to place heavy demands on authorities with SEA responsibilities. For this reason, the proposed monitoring framework should be targeted towards the aspects of the environmental, social and economic baseline which are assessed as likely to be significantly affected during implementation of the plan. Ideally SA monitoring proposals should be aligned with or incorporated within monitoring that is scheduled for the plan itself, both to avoid duplication and ensure that appropriate remedial action can be taken.

4.2 Monitoring the Significant Effects of the Fareham Borough Local Plan

4.2.1 Monitoring is particularly useful in answering the following questions:

- ▶ Were the assessment’s predictions of sustainability effects accurate?
- ▶ Is the plan contributing to the achievement of desired sustainability objectives?
- ▶ Are mitigation measures performing as well as expected?
- ▶ Are there any unforeseen adverse effects? Are these within acceptable limits, or is remedial action required?

4.2.2 Table 4.1 outlines the framework for monitoring the effects of implementing the Local Plan in relation to the areas where the SA/SEA has identified potential for significant effects.

Table 4.1: Final Monitoring Framework

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
1. To provide good quality and sustainable housing for all	Net additional dwellings completed between 2021 and 2037 (target = 9,560)	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies; Work with partners to improve rate of delivery (if delivery falls behind trajectory)
	Sites to deliver a mix of house types and sizes in line with that recommended by the most	Every year	Refuse new or refreshed permissions for oversupplied types (if completions /

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
	recent housing market assessment – mix to be assessed against completion and the 5yr supply (% by type) and plan period (total number)		projections show oversupply of one or more types); Encourage developers to meet required mix (where there is an undersupply)
	40% greenfield / 35% brownfield on site affordable housing provision (20% in Fareham TC) for all sites exceeding 10 dwellings or 1,000m ²	Every year	Refuse permission for schemes yielding <20% (when the number of schemes within the 5yr supply failing target exceeds 10%)
	Affordable element to deliver a mix of house types and sizes in line with that recommended by the most recent housing market assessment – mix to be assessed against the 5yr supply (% by type) and plan period (total number)	Every year	Refuse oversupplied types within proposals (if completions / projections show oversupply of one or more types); Encourage developers to meet required mix (where there is an undersupply)
2. To conserve and enhance built and cultural heritage	Change in number/proportion of heritage assets on the at-risk register, the HCC Historic Environment Record and The Local List	Every two years	Case-specific
3. To conserve and enhance the character of the landscape	Number & area of planning permissions in areas of high or moderate landscape sensitivity	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies
4. To promote accessibility and encourage travel by sustainable means	Density of housing in Fareham Town Centre to be at least 75 dwellings per hectare	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies
	Length of new cycle routes adopted	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies
5. To minimise carbon emissions and promote adaptation to climate change	No. dwellings / amount of non-resi floorspace designed with district heating	Every five years	Consider introduction of stronger policies
	Kilowatt-hours of renewable energy designed for use within development	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies
	No. proposals not accompanied by SuDS	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies
	No. dwellings permitted within FZ2/3	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies (>0 dwellings)

SA Objective	Parameter	Cycle	Action (trigger)
6. To minimise air, water, light and noise pollution	No. proposals within AQMA or within 100m of M27 / other significant air pollution source	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies
	No. proposals within SPZ1/2 not accompanied by CEMP	Every two years	Consider introduction of stronger policies
7. To conserve and enhance biodiversity	Changes to the total area of locally designated sites (e.g. SINC)	Every two years	Identify opportunities for habitat management / creation (>5% loss of total area)
	Change to the total area of Priority Habitat	Every two years	Identify opportunities for habitat management / creation (>5% loss of total area)
8. To conserve and manage natural resources (water, land, minerals, agricultural land, materials)	Area of ALC Grade 3a or above sterilised by development	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies to protect remaining land (>10% loss of total area)
	Amount (tonnes) of soil reused within strategic allocations	Every five years	Consider introduction of stronger policies to protect remaining land
	Area of safeguarded minerals deposits sterilised by development	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies to protect remaining land (>10% loss of total area)
	Number/proportion of major developments (10+ units) submitted with Site Waste Management Plans to be at least 100%	Every five years	Consider introduction of stronger policies
9. To strengthen the local economy and provide accessible jobs	Level of out-commuting in relation to (2011) baseline figure of 53%	Every two years	Consider policy realignment to promote employment development suitable for to resident population
10. To enhance the vitality and viability of centres and respect the settlement hierarchy	Buoyancy of Primary / Secondary Shopping Frontages: footfall, viability, vacancy	Every two years	Work with relevant operators to understand and address reasons for decline
11. To create a healthy and safe community	Area of public open space lost to development	Every year	Consider introduction of stronger policies to protect remaining land (>10% loss of total area)

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