

Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan

Part 4



Strategic Environmental Assessment

November 2022

Quality information

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Non-Technical Summary

What is Strategic Environmental Assessment?

A strategic environmental assessment (SEA) has been undertaken to inform the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan. This process is required by the SEA Regulations.

Neighbourhood Plan groups use SEA to assess Neighbourhood Plans against a set of sustainability objectives developed in consultation with interested parties. The purpose of the assessment is to avoid adverse environmental and socio-economic effects through the Neighbourhood Plan, and identify opportunities to improve the environmental quality of the area covered by the Neighbourhood Plan and the quality of life of residents.

What is the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan?

The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan is currently being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the emerging City of York Local Plan and covers the time period up until the year 2037.

Purpose of this Environmental Report

This Environmental Report, which accompanies the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan, is the latest document to be produced as part of the SEA process. The first document was the SEA Scoping Report (2016), which includes information about the Neighbourhood Plan area's environment and community.

The purpose of this Environmental Report is to:

- Identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan and alternatives; and
- Provide an opportunity for consultees to offer views on any aspect of the SEA process which has been carried out to date.

The Environmental Report contains:

- An outline of the contents and main objectives of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan and its relationship with other relevant policies, plans and programmes;
- Relevant aspects of the current and future state of the environment and key sustainability issues;
- The SEA Framework of objectives against which the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan has been assessed;
- The appraisal of alternative approaches for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan;
- The likely significant environmental effects of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan;
- The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects as a result of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan; and
- The next steps for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan and accompanying SEA process.

Assessment of reasonable alternatives for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan

Housing numbers

To support the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan, a Housing Needs Survey and a Housing Quantity Survey was undertaken. This highlighted that a total of 135 homes should be taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan.

In light of this, and the City of York Council’s strategy that 10% of the total housing figure should be directed towards the villages in the City, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group have established that a figure of 135 dwellings for Copmanthorpe is an appropriate housing number to take forward through the Neighbourhood Plan.

Assessment of potential sites for housing allocations

To support the development of a spatial strategy to deliver the proposed 135 dwellings through the Neighbourhood Plan, as well as potential employment land provision, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group was keen to consider alternative locations for delivering development in the parish.

To support this process, potential sites for development were identified in the immediate vicinity of the built up area of Copmanthorpe village. This considered all land potentially available directly adjoining the settlement boundary.

Nine sites were identified for the purposes of the SEA process: Site A – Site I. The location of these sites is presented in Section 4.13 in the main body of the Environmental Report.

These sites were then considered in terms of their suitability for delivering development. To inform this process, the SEA process undertook an appraisal of the key environmental constraints present at each of the sites and potential effects that may arise as a result of delivering development through the Neighbourhood Plan. The sites were therefore considered in relation to the SEA Framework of objectives and decision making questions developed during SEA scoping (Chapter 3) and the baseline information.

Tables 4.1 to 4.9 in the main body of the Environmental Report present the findings of the appraisals. A summary of the appraisal findings is presented below:

Table NTS 1: Summary of SEA site appraisal findings

Site	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Landscape	Historic Env	Land, soil and water resources	Population and Community	Health and Wellbeing	Transport
Site A	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Green
Site B	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Green
Site C	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Green
Site D	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Blue
Site E	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Green	Green	Blue
Site F	Blue	Blue	Red	Yellow	Red	Blue	Green	Blue
Site G	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Blue	Green	Blue
Site H	Blue	Blue	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Blue
Site I	Red	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Green	Blue	Green

Key NTS 1		
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects

Assessment of reasonable alternatives for the allocations proposed in the emerging Local Plan

A further element which the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group have been keen to consider is the potential for delivering a lower level of growth on the two sites proposed as allocations through the emerging Local Plan. The level of growth proposed through the emerging Local Plan on the sites is as follows:

- 158 dwellings at Land at Tadcaster Road, Copmanthorpe (allocation reference ST31)
- 88 dwellings at Land at Moor Lane, Copmanthorpe (allocation reference H29)

To explore the potential implications of taking forward a lower level of housing growth on these two sites, two options have been considered as reasonable alternatives through the SEA process. These are as follows:

- Option A: Delivery of the proposed allocations put forward through the emerging Local Plan in full.
- Option B: Delivery of a lower quantum of development on the sites put forward through the emerging Local Plan.

The findings of the appraisal are presented in Table 4.10 in the Environmental Report. To summarise however, both Option A and B would enable an element of growth to take place in Copmanthorpe. However the increased level of growth through Option A is more likely to deliver enhanced housing provision and, potentially, community infrastructure. The option also has the potential to support the viability of services and facilities in the village.

However, Option B, through delivering a more limited level of housing growth on the two sites, has the potential to limit potential impacts on biodiversity assets present locally. This is significant given the presence of the Askham Bog SSSI close to the Land at Tadcaster Road site. Option B also has the potential to limit impacts on historic landscape character and the setting of the villagescape. The option will also reduce land take on productive agricultural land in the village, and may support the availability of minerals resources locally.

Impacts of the options however depend on the design and layout of development, the type and tenure of housing delivered, and the provision of additional and improved community and green infrastructure alongside new housing.

Current approach in the Neighbourhood Plan

In light of consultation undertaken to date on the Neighbourhood Plan, evidence base studies undertaken for the Neighbourhood Plan and consideration of the appraisal findings presented above, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group took the decision to deliver the two sites put forward through the Local Plan for residential development, but with a reduced level of growth. In addition the Neighbourhood Plan takes forward a very small area of Site F above for employment uses.

The following three sites have therefore been allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan for residential and employment uses:

- Tadcaster Road Link (including land to the south of Yorkfield Lane): 75 residential dwellings
- Old Moor Lane: 60 residential dwellings
- New Moor Lane: 20 employment units.



Figure NTS1: Sites allocated for residential uses through the Neighbourhood Plan



Figure NTS2: Site allocated for employment uses through the Neighbourhood Plan

Assessment of the current version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan

The submission version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan presents nine planning policies for guiding development in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Utilising the SEA Framework of objectives and assessment questions developed during the earlier scoping stage of the SEA, the SEA process has assessed the policies put forward through the current version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan. The Environmental Report has presented the findings of the assessment under the following SEA themes:

- Biodiversity;
- Climate change;
- Landscape
- Historic environment;

- Land, soil and water resources;
- Population and community
- Health and wellbeing; and
- Transportation.

The assessment has concluded that the current version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan is likely to lead to significant long term positive effects in relation to the 'population and community' and 'health and wellbeing' SEA themes. These benefits largely relate to the Neighbourhood Plan's focus on providing new housing to meet local needs, the provision of new open spaces and enhancement of green infrastructure networks in the area, and the protection and enhancement of the quality of the public realm and neighbourhood distinctiveness.

The Neighbourhood Plan also has a close focus on conserving and enhancing landscape and villagescape character in the parish, and on protecting and enhancing the setting and fabric of the historic environment. Taken together, these will have the potential to lead to long term positive effects in relation to the 'landscape' and 'historic environment' SEA themes. Longer term, this includes through limiting negative effects from potential new development areas in the Parish, and securing enhancements to local distinctiveness.

In relation to the 'biodiversity' SEA theme, the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to implement measures which will avoid potential effects from new development on the Askham Bog SSSI. It also supports the premise of biodiversity net gain within the Neighbourhood Plan area. The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan will also initiate a number of beneficial approaches regarding the 'climate change' SEA theme given provisions which will support mitigation and adaptation. These are not though considered to be significant in the context of the SEA process given the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan and the scale of proposals.

In conformity with the provisions of the Local Plan, the Neighbourhood Plan takes forward allocations on significant areas of greenfield land. This land has been assessed as comprising areas of the best and most versatile agricultural land. Given the loss of productive agricultural land at these locations, this will lead to significant negative effects in relation to the 'land, soil and water resources' SEA theme.

Next Steps

This Environmental Report accompanies the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan for submission to the Local Planning Authority, City of York Council, for subsequent Independent Examination.

At Independent Examination, the Neighbourhood Plan will be considered in terms of whether it meets the Basic Conditions for Neighbourhood Plans and is in general conformity with the City of York Local Plan.

If Independent Examination is favourable, the Neighbourhood Plan will be subject to a referendum, organised by City of York Council. If more than 50% of those who vote agree with the Neighbourhood Plan, then it will be 'made'. Once made, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the Development Plan for Copmanthorpe Parish.

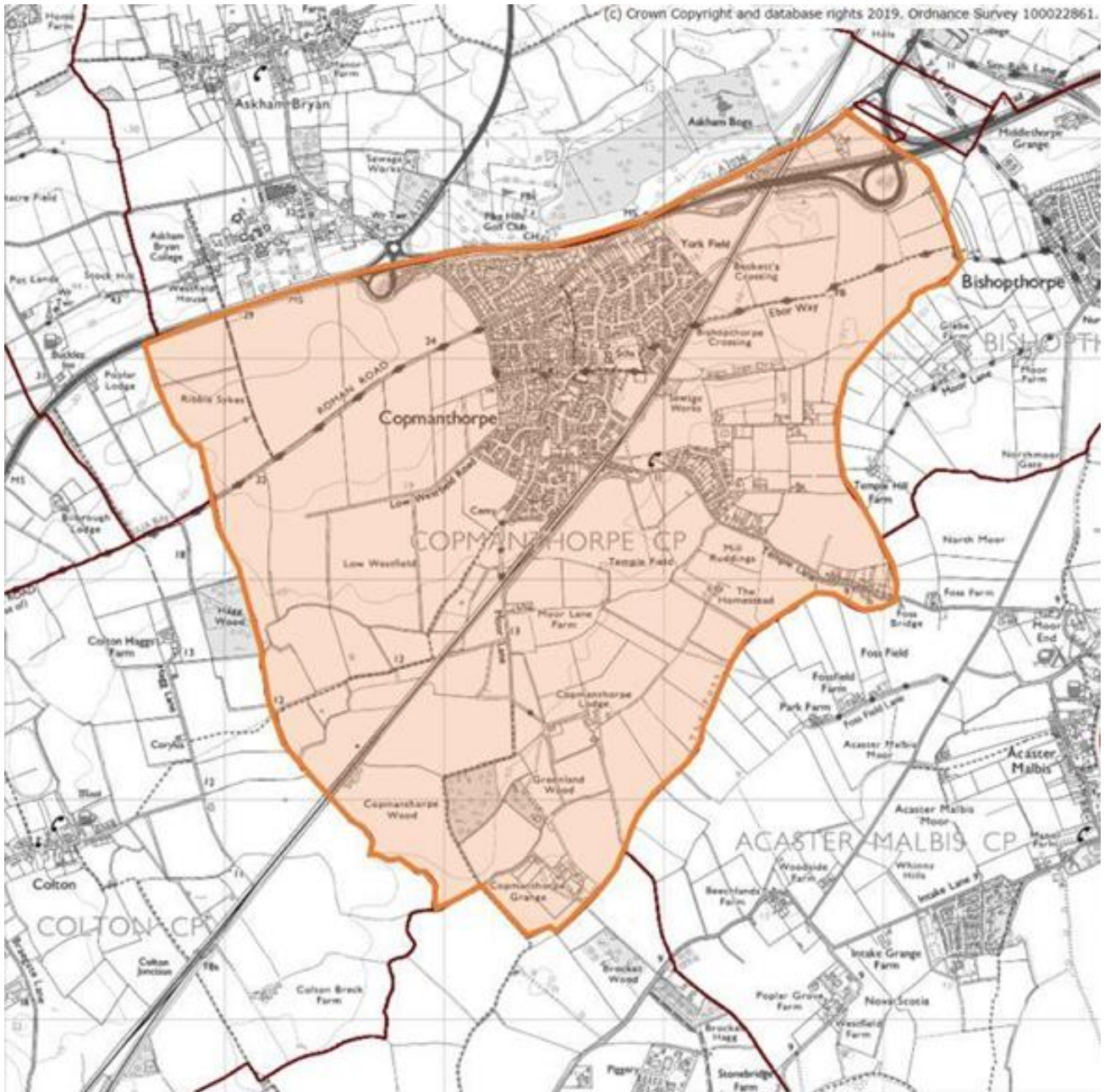


Figure 1.1: Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan area

1. Introduction

Background

- 1.1 AECOM has been commissioned to undertake an independent Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in support of Copmanthorpe’s emerging Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan for Copmanthorpe is currently being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the emerging City of York Local Plan.
- 1.3 Key information relating to the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan is presented in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Key facts relating to the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan

Name of Responsible Authority	Copmanthorpe Parish Council
Title of Plan	Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan
Subject	Neighbourhood planning
Purpose	<p>The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The plan will be in general conformity with the City of York Local Plan.</p> <p>The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan will be used to guide and shape development within the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>
Timescale	To 2033
Area covered by the plan	The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the parish of Copmanthorpe in the City of York (Figure 1.1)
Summary of content	The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan will set out a vision, strategy and range of policies for the Neighbourhood Plan area.
Plan contact point	Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group Email address: copmanpc@gmail.com

SEA explained

- 1.4 The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan has been screened in by City of York Council as requiring a Strategic Environmental Assessment
- 1.5 SEA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the likely significant effects of an emerging plan, and reasonable alternatives in terms of key environmental issues. The aim of the SEA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding or mitigating negative environmental effects and maximising positive effects. Through this approach, the SEA for the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to maximise the emerging Neighbourhood Plan's contribution to sustainable development.
- 1.6 The SEA has been prepared in line with the procedures prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations) which transpose into national law the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive¹.
- 1.7 The SEA Regulations require that a report is published for consultation alongside the draft plan which 'identifies, describes and evaluates' the likely significant effects of implementing 'the plan, and reasonable alternatives'. The report must then be taken into account, alongside consultation responses, when finalising the plan.
- 1.8 In line with the SEA Regulations this Environmental Report must essentially answer four questions:
 - What is the scope of the SEA?
 - What has plan-making/SEA involved to up to this point?
 - 'Reasonable alternatives' must have been appraised for the plan.
 - What are the appraisal findings at this stage?
 - i.e. in relation to the draft plan
 - What happens next?
- 1.9 These questions are derived from Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, which present 'the information to be provided in the report'. Table 1.2 presents the linkages between the regulatory requirements and the four SEA questions.

Structure of this Environmental Report

- 1.10 This document is the Environmental Report for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan and hence needs to answer all four of the questions listed above with a view to providing the information required by the SEA Regulations.
- 1.11 Each of the four questions is answered in turn within this report, as follows:

¹ Directive 2001/42/EC

Table 1.2: Questions that must be answered by the Environmental Report in order to meet regulatory² requirements

Environmental Report question	In line with the SEA Regulations, the report must include... ³
What is the plan seeking to achieve?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes
What is the sustainability 'context'?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relevant environmental protection objectives, established at international or national level Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance
What's the scope of the SEA?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance
What are the key issues & objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key problems/issues and objectives that should be a focus of (i.e. provide a 'framework' for) assessment
What has plan-making/SEA involved up to this point?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with (and thus an explanation of the 'reasonableness' of the approach) The likely significant effects associated with alternatives Outline reasons for selecting the preferred approach in-light of alternatives appraisal/a description of how environmental objectives and considerations are reflected in the draft plan.
What are the assessment findings at this stage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The likely significant effects associated with the submission version of the plan The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the submission version of the plan
What happens next?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next steps for plan making/SEA process.

² Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

³ NB this column does not quote directly from Schedule II of the Regulations. Rather, it reflects a degree of interpretation.

2. Local Plan context and vision for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan

Local Plan context for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.1 The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the emerging City of York Local Plan⁴, which will cover the time period up until the year 2037. The emerging Local Plan will set out the overarching strategy for the City, setting out where development will take place, what areas should be protected and how the area will change.
- 2.2 Neighbourhood plans will form part of the development plan for the City alongside, but not as a replacement for the Local Plan. The Local Plan seeks to give communities a solid framework within which appropriate community-led planning policy documents, including neighbourhood plans, can be brought forward. Neighbourhood plans are required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and can develop policies and proposals to address local place-based issues. In this way it is intended for the Local Plan to provide a clear overall strategic direction for development in the City of York, whilst enabling finer detail to be determined through the neighbourhood planning process where appropriate.
- 2.3 The Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State in May 2018 for Examination. In March 2019, following consideration of the issues raised at Examination, the City of York presented proposed modifications to the new Local Plan to the Planning Inspector. This was given the result of the availability of new evidence, including relating to Objectively Assessed Housing Need and the Green Belt.
- 2.4 Consultation on the *City of York Local Plan Proposed Modifications June 2019* is being undertaken from the 10th June 2019 to 22nd July 2019.
- 2.5 Through the Local Plan, the Council aims to meet an objectively assessed housing need in the City of 790 new dwellings per annum for the plan period to 2032/33 and post plan period to 2037/38. This was reduced from 867 dwellings per annum following the establishment of an updated housing requirement for the City in January 2019.
- 2.6 In relation to specific proposals for Copmanthorpe, two allocations are included in the Local Plan. These are as follows:
 - 158 dwellings at Land at Tadcaster Road, Copmanthorpe (allocation reference ST31)
 - 88 dwellings at Land at Moor Lane, Copmanthorpe (allocation reference H29)
- 2.7 The location of these sites, as set out in the Local Plan, are as follows:

⁴ City of York Local Plan [Online] Available at: <https://www.york.gov.uk/LocalPlanSubmission>

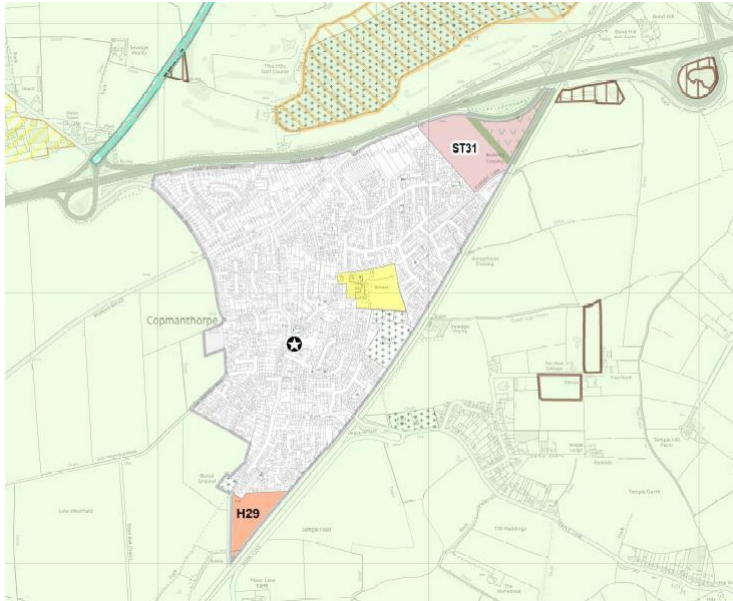


Figure 2.1: Location of sites allocated in the Local Plan (source City of York Publication Draft Local Plan Policies Maps – South)

Vision for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan

2.8 The vision for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan, which was developed during earlier stages of plan making is as follows:

"...to maintain Copmanthorpe as a distinct settlement within the York Green Belt, offering a safe and attractive place in which to live and providing the broadest range of opportunities and facilities for all sections of the community whilst preserving the character, setting and identity of Copmanthorpe."

2.9 Following from this, four objectives were identified to guide the plan:

- maintain the character, setting and identity of Copmanthorpe
- manage the growth of new development, particularly housing
- ensure that any new development takes place on a sustainable basis
- support and develop community facilities and organisations.

3. What is the scope of the SEA?

SEA Scoping Report

- 3.1 The SEA Regulations require that: "When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the report, the responsible authority shall consult the consultation bodies". In England, the consultation bodies are Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England.⁵
- 3.2 The purpose of scoping was to outline the 'scope' of the SEA through setting out:
 - A context review of the key environmental and sustainability objectives of national, regional and local plans and strategies relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan;
 - Baseline data against which the Neighbourhood Plan can be assessed;
 - The key sustainability issues for the Neighbourhood Plan; and
 - An 'SEA Framework' of objectives against which the Neighbourhood Plan can be assessed.
- 3.3 SEA Scoping for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan was undertaken by Kate Bellwood Associates in 2016. Consultation on an initial draft version of the Scoping Report was undertaken between 17th July 2016 and 18th August 2016. The Scoping Report was updated upon considering the comments from the consultation bodies, with a secondary 'formal' consultation on the final version of the Scoping Report undertaken between 17th October 2016 and 21st November 2016.
- 3.4 Responses received on the formal consultation of the Scoping Report, and how they were addressed, have been summarised below.

Table 3.1: Consultation responses received on the SEA Scoping Report

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
Natural England <i>Merlin Ash, Lead Adviser (email response provided to Kate Bellwood Associates on 21st November 2016)</i>	
Natural England welcomes the scoping report which we consider to be compliant with the SEA Directive in so far as our strategic environmental interests are concerned. We particularly welcome the baseline data and key sustainability issues identified regarding nature conservation and biodiversity and soils. We also welcome the conservation objectives regarding these two topic areas.	Comment noted
Historic England <i>Craig Broadwith, Historic Places Adviser (email response provided to Kate Bellwood Associates on 21st November 2016)</i>	

⁵ In-line with Article 6(3).of the SEA Directive, these consultation bodies were selected because 'by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities,[they] are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programme'.

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
<p>Thank you for consulting Historic England on the amended draft Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report, attached to your e-mail of 17 October 2016.</p> <p>We commented previously on the earlier draft, concurring with its conclusion, but suggesting a refinement, which has now been incorporated into the revised document. We therefore confirm that we concur with the opinion set out on page 21 of the report that:</p> <p>"A Detailed Heritage Assessment is required to further consider the impact of the possible site allocations on the character and setting of York, including the special character and significance of York, as identified in the Heritage Topic Paper."</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>The SEA has been informed by the Village Design Statement for Copmanthorpe and by the baseline information in Appendix A.</p> <p>Consideration of the historic environment is presented through the assessment of reasonable alternatives (Chapter 5) and the appraisal of the Neighbourhood Plan (Chapter 6) in this SEA Environmental Report.</p>
<p>Environment Agency <i>Clare Dance, Planning Adviser (email response provided to Kate Bellwood Associates on 21st November 2016)</i></p>	
<p>Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the updated SEA scoping report for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan. We would highlight that objective 13 (minimise flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding to people and property in York) of the City of York Council interim SA (2016) is also of relevance to the water and flood risk section. Otherwise we note that the baseline has been updated to take into consideration the issues that we raised at the draft stage of consultation and have no further comments to make.</p>	<p>Comment noted</p>
<p>3.5 Baseline information (including the context review and baseline data) is presented in Appendix A. Where appropriate, the context review has been updated to reference any policies, plans or programmes which have been adopted between November 2016 (i.e. subsequent to the scoping consultation) and in the period up to early 2019 (i.e. coinciding with the preparation of the SEA Environmental Report).</p>	
<p>3.6 The SEA Framework is presented below. Due to the absence of any significant air quality issues within the Neighbourhood Plan area, the air quality theme has been scoped out for the purposes of the SEA process.</p>	

SEA Framework

3.7 The SEA Framework provides a way in which environmental effects can be defined and subsequently analysed based on standard 'tests'. Each proposal within the submission version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan will be assessed consistently using the framework.

SEA Objective	Assessment questions
Biodiversity	
Conserve or enhance green infrastructure, biodiversity, geodiversity, flora and fauna for accessible high quality and connected natural environment	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the status of the nationally designated sites of significance within and/or adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary? • Protect and enhance locally important nature conservation sites? • Create new areas or site of biodiversity / geodiversity value? • Protect and enhance semi-natural habitats? • Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species? • Achieve a net gain in biodiversity? • Support enhancements to multifunctional green infrastructure networks? • Support access to, interpretation and understanding of biodiversity?
Climate change	
Reduce the contribution to climate change made by activities within the Neighbourhood Plan area	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the number of journeys made? • Reduce the need to travel? • Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport? • Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria? • Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources? • Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?
Support the resilience of the Neighbourhood Plan area to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that inappropriate development does not take place in areas at higher risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change? • Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the plan area to support adaptation to the potential effects of climate change? • Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the plan area or downstream)? • Ensure the potential risks associated with climate change are considered through new development in the Neighbourhood Plan area? • Increase the resilience of biodiversity in the area to the effects of climate change, including through enhancements to ecological networks?

SEA Objective	Assessment questions
Landscape	
Protect and enhance the character and quality of Copmanthorpe and York's natural and built landscape	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve or enhance the landscape including areas of landscape value; • Conserve and enhance locally important landscape and villagescape features within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including the PLCAs? • Conserve and enhance local diversity and character? • Protect locally important viewpoints contributing to the sense of place and visual amenity of the Neighbourhood Plan area?

Historic Environment

<p>Conserve or enhance Copmanthorpe and York's historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance the significance of buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest, both designated and non-designated, and their setting? • Conserve and enhance the special interest, character and appearance of locally important features and their settings? • Support the integrity of the historic setting of key buildings of cultural heritage interest as listed on the York HER? • Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic evolution and character of the environment? • Conserve and enhance archaeological remains, including historic landscapes? • Support the undertaking of archaeological investigations and, where appropriate, recommend mitigation strategies? • Preserve or enhance the special character and setting of the historic city? • Preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to the 6 Principle Characteristics of the City as identified in the Heritage Topic Paper? • Assess the impact of allocation on Heritage Assets at both local and larger scale with regard to impact on the setting of York and its Green Belt?
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Land, Soil and Water Resources

<p>Ensure the efficient and effective use of land.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the use of previously developed land? • Avoid the development of the best and most versatile agricultural land, which in the parish may comprise Grade 2 and 3a agricultural land?
<p>Promote sustainable waste management solutions that encourage the reduction, re-use and recycling of waste.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of waste produced? • Support the minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste? • Maximise opportunities for local management of waste in order to minimise export of waste to areas outside? • Encourage recycling of materials and minimise consumption of resources during construction?
<p>Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support improvements to water quality? • Minimise water consumption? • Protect surface water resources?

Population and Community

<p>Cater for existing and future residents' needs as well as the needs of different groups in the community, and improve access to local, high-quality community services and facilities.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and promote social cohesion and encourage active involvement of local people in community activities? • Minimise fuel poverty? • Maintain or enhance the quality of life of existing local residents? • Improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities, including specialist services for disabled and older people? • Support the provision of land for allotments and cemeteries?
<p>Reduce deprivation and promote a more inclusive and self-contained community.</p>	
<p>Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing, and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the provision of a range of house types and sizes? • Support enhancements to the current housing stock? • Meet the needs of all sectors of the community? • Provide quality and flexible homes that meet people's needs? • Promote the use of sustainable building techniques, including use of sustainable building materials in construction? • Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?

Health and Wellbeing

<p>Improve the health and wellbeing residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote accessibility to a range of leisure, health and community facilities, for all age groups? • Provide and enhance the provision of community access to green infrastructure, in accordance with Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards? • Promote the use of healthier modes of travel? • Improve access to the countryside for recreational use?
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Transportation

<p>Promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel.</p>	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel? • Facilitate working from home and remote working? • Improve road safety? • Reduce the impact on residents from the road network?
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4. What has plan making / SEA involved up to this point?

Introduction

- 4.1 In accordance with the SEA Regulations the Environmental Report must include...
- An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with; and
 - The likely significant effects on the environment associated with alternatives / an outline of the reasons for selecting the preferred approach in light of alternatives appraised.
- 4.2 The 'narrative' of plan-making / SEA up to this point is told within this part of the Environmental Report. Specifically, this chapter explains how preparation of the current version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan has been informed by an assessment of alternative locations for development in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Overview of plan making / SEA work undertaken since 2013

- 4.3 The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group has sought to encourage discussion and debate within the community about the issues and opportunities for the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 4.4 The key methods which the Neighbourhood Planning Group have used within the consultation process have included:
- Public exhibitions, meetings and events;
 - Parish surveys;
 - Local newspaper and noticeboards;
 - Workshops;
 - Survey and discussion with local businesses;
 - Consultation 'windows' during which comments have been invited on draft documents.
- 4.5 The outcomes of these consultation events have informed and influenced the Neighbourhood Plan's development process.

Assessment of reasonable alternatives for the Neighbourhood Plan

- 4.6 A key element of the SEA process is the appraisal of 'reasonable alternatives' for the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan. The SEA Regulations⁶ are not prescriptive as to what constitutes a reasonable alternative, stating only that the Environmental Report should present an appraisal of the '*plan and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan*'.
- 4.7 The following sections therefore describe how the SEA process to date has informed the preferred development strategy for the Neighbourhood Plan area and potential locations for housing development. Specifically, this chapter explains how the Neighbourhood Plan's development strategy has been shaped through considering alternative approaches for the location of development in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

⁶ Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

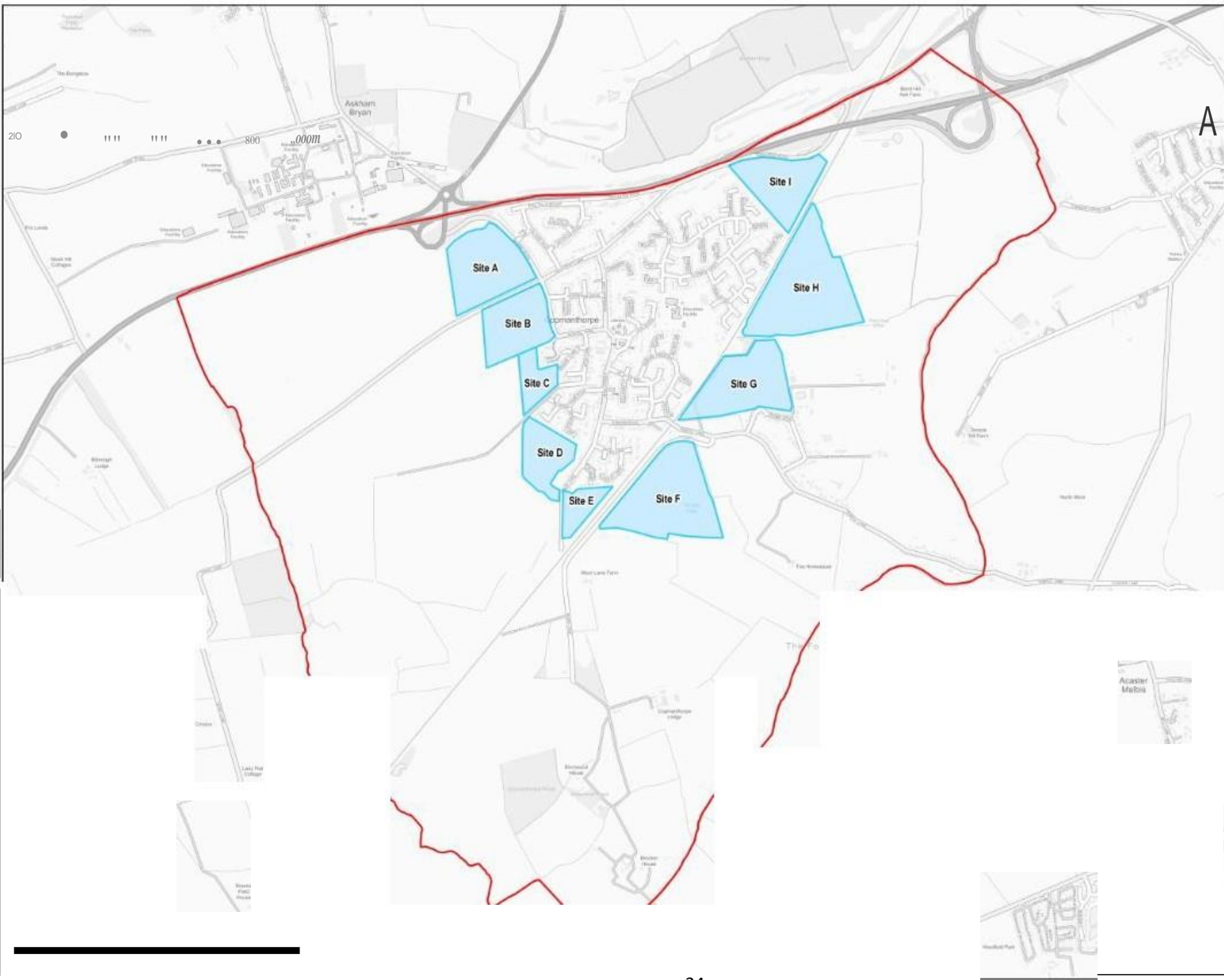
Housing numbers to deliver through the Neighbourhood Plan

- 4.8 To support the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan, a Housing Needs Survey and a Housing Quantity Survey was undertaken. This highlighted that a total of 135 homes should be taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 4.9 In light of this, and the City of York Council's strategy that 10% of the total housing figure should be directed towards the villages in the City, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group have established that a figure of 135 dwellings for Copmanthorpe is an appropriate housing number to take forward through the Neighbourhood Plan.

Assessment of reasonable alternatives for site allocations

- 4.10 To support the development of a spatial strategy to deliver the proposed 135 dwellings through the Neighbourhood Plan, as well as potential employment land provision, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group was keen to consider alternative locations for delivering development in the parish.
- 4.11 To support this process, potential sites for development were identified in the immediate vicinity of the built up area of Copmanthorpe village. This considered all land potentially available directly adjoining the settlement boundary. Nine sites were identified for the purposes of the SEA process: Site A – Site I.
- 4.12 To support the consideration of the suitability of these sites for allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan, the SEA process has undertaken an appraisal of the key environmental constraints present at each of the sites and potential effects that may arise as a result of development. In this context the sites have been considered in relation to the SEA Framework of objectives and decision making questions developed during SEA scoping and the baseline information. This SEA site assessment was undertaken separately to the site assessment undertaken by the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group.
- 4.13 The locations of the nine sites assessed through the SEA process are presented in the figure below. The tables which follow present a summary of this appraisal, and provide an indication of each site's sustainability performance in relation to the seven SEA themes.

i



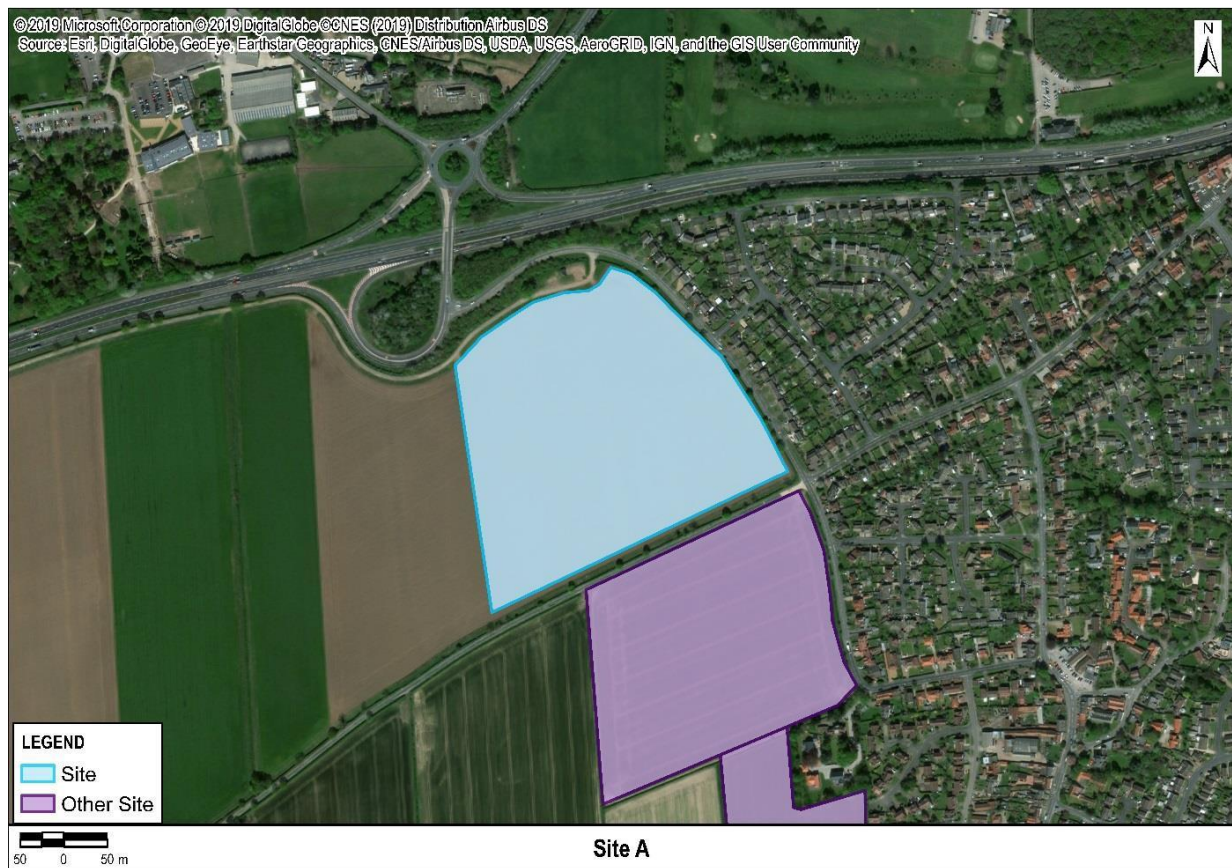
A FIGURE 1.2

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Drawn	Checked	Approved	Date
C.N.	J.W.	P.P.	27/03/2019
ACCOM Project No:		Scale: A3	
60571087		1:14.725	
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SEA site assessment findings

Table 4.1: Site A



Site size: 9.93 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity

There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located approximately 550m to the north east of the site (at its nearest point). Most of the site overlaps with a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'.

The north western section of the site is within 100m of an area of Deciduous Woodland BAP Priority Habitat, which is located on the northern side of the A64. Given it is located on the far side of this major road, development of the site is unlikely to impact the woodland.

The A64 is part of the 'Ring Road Corridor' Local Green Infrastructure Corridor (LGIC).

Climate change

In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. However, there is an area of land towards the south eastern corner of the site which has a 'high' surface water flood risk. Most of the site though has a 'very low' risk of surface waterflooding.

The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities. This will support climate change mitigation.

Landscape

The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.

The site is located within PLCA 1 'Copmanthorpe to Ribblesdale Open Arable Farmland'. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA is particularly sensitive to built development or planting which would diminish the sense of openness or intervisibility with the western edge of the settlement.

Historic Environment	<p>The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. There is a Grade II listed structure located approximately 200m to the west of the site, adjacent to the A64. The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 350m to the south east of the site (at its nearest point).</p> <p>Listed on the City of York Historic Environment Record (HER), Monument ID MYO2332 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe' is a locally important heritage feature which directly overlaps with most of the site. Additionally, the course of a Roman Road passes alongside the southern site boundary.</p>		
Land, soil and water resources	<p>The whole of the site is underlain by Grade 2 (very good quality) best and most versatile agricultural land with only minor limitations which affect crop yield, cultivations or harvesting. As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p>		
Population and community	<p>The site is located approximately 500m to the north west of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 800m to the south east of the site.</p>		
Health and Wellbeing	<p>Access to the local services and facilities in the village centre and to Copmanthorpe Primary School is possible via the Ebor Way footpath. Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec') is also accessible via the Ebor Way, and is located approximately 1km to the south east of the site.</p> <p>Although the site is sensitive to noise pollution from the A64, the corridor of trees which border the northern site boundary provide to an extent a natural sound barrier.</p>		
Transport	<p>The site is well connected to the local road network and is within proximity to the A64 strategic corridor. The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre, with the nearest bus stops located along Manor Heath and Hallcroft Lane within walking distance from the site.</p>		
Key			
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect	
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects	

Table 1.2: Site B



Site size: 7.22 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity	<p>There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located approximately 575m to the north east of the site (at its nearest point). The whole site overlaps with a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'.</p> <p>The south eastern section of the site is adjacent to an area of Deciduous Woodland BAP Priority Habitat, which surrounds an area of residential properties. Whilst direct impacts on the woodland from landtake and fragmentation are not anticipated, disturbance may take place from noise, light pollution or trampling from enhanced access.</p>
Climate change	<p>In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. The site has a 'very low' risk of surface water flooding.</p> <p>The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.</p>
Landscape	<p>The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.</p> <p>The site is located within PLCA 1 'Copmanthorpe to Ribblesdale Open Arable Farmland'. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA is particularly sensitive to built development or planting which would diminish the sense of openness or intervisibility with the western edge of the settlement.</p>

Historic Environment	The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 200m to the east of the site (at its nearest point), which contains a variety of Grade II listed structures. Listed on the City of York HER, Monument ID MYO3302 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe' is a locally important heritage feature which directly overlaps with the whole site. Additionally, the course of a Roman Road passes alongside the northern site boundary.		
Land, soil and water resources	The whole of the site is underlain by Grade 2 (very good quality) best and most versatile agricultural land with only minor limitations which affect crop yield, cultivations or harvesting. As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.		
Population and community	The site is approximately 300m to the west of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 600m to the east of the site.		
Health and Wellbeing	Access to the local services and facilities in the village centre and to Copmanthorpe Primary School is possible via the Ebor Way footpath. Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec') is also accessible via the Ebor Way, and is located approximately 750m to the east of the site.		
Transport	The site is well connected to the local road network and is within proximity to the A64 strategic corridor. The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre, with the nearest bus stops located along Horseman Lane within walking distance.		
Key			
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect	
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects	

Table 1.3: Site C



Site size: 6.97 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity	<p>There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located approximately 825m to the north east of the site (at its nearest point). The northern and eastern sections of the site overlap with a SSSI Impact RiskZone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'.</p> <p>The north eastern section of the site is adjacent to an area of Deciduous Woodland BAP Priority Habitat, which encases an area of residential properties. Whilst direct impacts on the woodland from landtake and fragmentation are not anticipated, disturbance may take place from noise, light pollution or trampling from enhanced access.</p>
Climate change	<p>In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. Located directly to the south of the site, Low Westfield Road has a 'high' surface water flood risk. Most of the site has a 'very low' risk of surface water flooding.</p> <p>The site is within proximity to Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.</p>
Landscape	<p>The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.</p> <p>The site is located within PLCA 1 'Copmanthorpe to Ribble Skyes Open Arable Farmland'. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA is particularly sensitive to built development or planting which would diminish the sense of openness or intervisibility with the western edge of the settlement.</p>

Historic Environment	<p>The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 200m to the east of the site (at its nearest point), which contains a variety of Grade II listed structures.</p> <p>Listed on the City of York HER, Monument ID MYO3303 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe' is a locally important heritage feature which directly overlaps with the eastern half of the site.</p>	
Land, soil and water resources	<p>The whole of the site is underlain by Grade 2 (very good quality) best and most versatile agricultural land with only minor limitations which affect crop yield, cultivations or harvesting. As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p>	
Population and community	<p>The site is approximately 400m to the south west of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 700m to the north east of the site.</p>	
Health and Wellbeing	<p>The site is within proximity to Copmanthorpe village centre and benefits from pedestrian links. The Ebor Way footpath is accessible from the village centre and connects to Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec'), which is located approximately 800m to the east of the site.</p>	
Transport	<p>The site is connected to the local road network and is approximately 1km to the south of the A64 strategic corridor. The site is within proximity to bus stops located along Main Street.</p> <p>Other than a 100m section of Low Westfield Road which extends eastwards from the existing site entrance to the footway connecting to Wilstrop Farm Road, the site benefits from pedestrian links into Copmanthorpe village centre which is within walking distance from the site. However, as Low Westfield Road is a no through road providing vehicular access to approximately 3-5 residential dwellings, the 100m section is likely used by existing residents as an informal footpath.</p>	
Key		
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects

Table 1.4: Site D

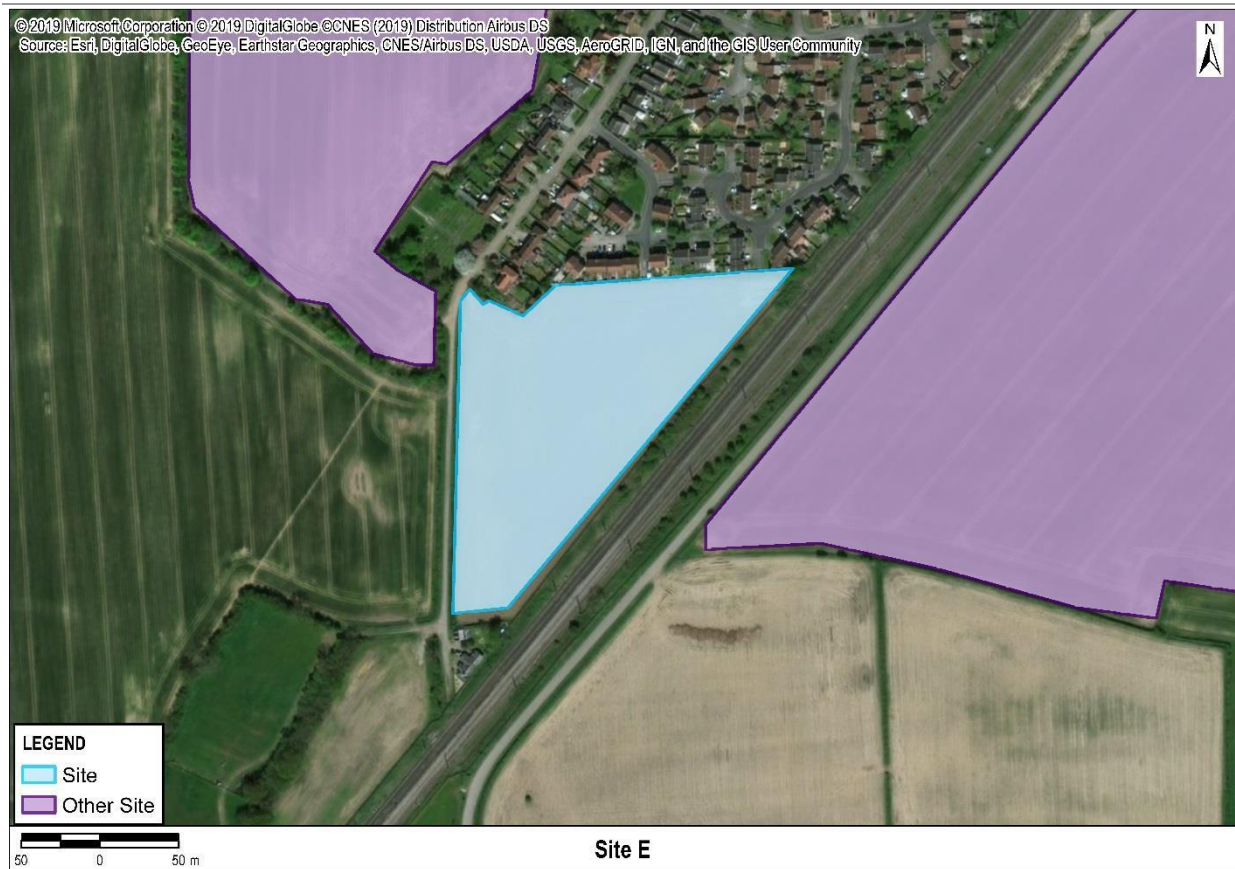


Site size: 5.19 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity	There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site. The site is not within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential, rural residential or rural non-residential development types. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located over 1km to the north east of the site. There is an area of Deciduous Woodland BAP Priority Habitat located approximately 225m to the north east of the site.
Climate change	In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. Located to the north of the site, Low Westfield Road has a 'high' surface water flood risk; however most of the site has a 'very low' risk of surface water flooding. The site benefits from pedestrian links along Moor Lane towards Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.
Landscape	The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. The site is located within PLCA 1 'Copmanthorpe to Ribble Skyes Open Arable Farmland. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA is particularly sensitive to built development or planting which would diminish the sense of openness or intervisibility with the western edge of the settlement.
Historic Environment	The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 125m to the north east of the site (at its nearest point), which contains a variety of Grade II listed structures. Listed on the City of York HER, Monument ID MYO3309 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe' is a locally important heritage feature which directly overlaps with the eastern half of the site.

Land, soil and water resources	<p>Most of the site is underlain by Grade 2 (very good quality) agricultural land, with a small area of Grade 3a (good quality) agricultural land in the southern section of the site. Therefore, a residential allocation would lead to the permanent loss of best and most versatile land.</p> <p>As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p>	
Population and community	<p>The site is approximately 700m to the south west of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 1km to the north east of the site.</p>	
Health and Wellbeing	<p>The site benefits from pedestrian links along Moor Lane to Copmanthorpe village centre. The Ebor Way footpath is accessible from the village centre and connects to Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec'), which is located approximately 1km to the north east of the site.</p>	
Transport	<p>The site is connected to the local road network and is approximately 1.5km to the south of the A64 strategic corridor. The site is within 500m of bus stops located along Main Street. Although the site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre, it is uncertain whether this will significantly reduce the reliance on privately owned vehicles for undertaking day-to-day activities considering its distance from local services and facilities.</p>	
Key		
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects

Table 1.5: Site E



Site size: 2.41 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity	<p>There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site, and the site is not within proximity to an area of BAP Priority Habitat. The site is not within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential, rural residential or rural non-residential development types. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located over 1km to the north of the site.</p> <p>Locally important ecological areas within proximity include 'Copmanthorpe Moor Lane Fields' Site of Local Interest (SLI) approximately 100m to the south west, and 'Moor Lane Railway Verge Copmanthorpe' Site of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC) approximately 100m to the north east. These are unlikely to be adversely affected by development at this location.</p>
Climate change	<p>In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. Most of the site has a 'very low' risk of surface water flooding. However, there is an area of land towards the north eastern corner of the site which has a 'medium' surface water flood risk.</p> <p>The site benefits from pedestrian links along Moor Lane towards Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.</p>
Landscape	<p>The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.</p> <p>The site is located within PLCA 2 'Temple Lane to Copmanthorpe Wood Mixed Floodplain Farmland'. As noted within the character assessment, the northern edge of the area along Moor Lane is sensitive to unplanned or poorly designed development, particularly further industrial development which might negatively affect the setting of the village.</p>

Historic Environment	<p>The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. Likewise, the site does not overlap with an archaeological feature listed on the City of York HER.</p> <p>The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 250m to the north of the site (at its nearest point), which contains a variety of Grade II listed structures.</p>		
Land, soil and water resources	<p>The whole of the site is underlain by Grade 3a (good quality) best and most versatile agricultural land capable of consistently producing moderate to high yields of arable crops. As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p>		
Population and community	<p>The site is approximately 700m to the south west of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 1km to the north east of the site.</p>		
Health and Wellbeing	<p>The site benefits from pedestrian links along Moor Lane to Copmanthorpe village centre. The Ebor Way footpath is accessible from the village centre and connects to Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec'), which is located approximately 1km to the north east of the site.</p> <p>Although the site is sensitive to noise pollution from trains using the neighbouring railway line, the noise is intermittent and short in duration.</p>		
Transport	<p>The site is connected to the local road network and is approximately 1.5km to the south of the A64 strategic corridor. The site is within 500m of bus stops located along Main Street. Although the site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre, it is uncertain whether this will significantly reduce the reliance on privately owned vehicles for undertaking day-to-day activities considering its distance from local services and facilities.</p>		
Key			
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect	
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects	

Table 1.6: Site F



Site size: 12.95 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity	<p>There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site, and the site is not within proximity to an area of BAP Priority Habitat. The site is not within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential, rural residential or rural non-residential development types. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located over 1km to the north of the site.</p> <p>Locally important ecological areas within proximity to the site include 'Moor Lane Railway Verge Copmanthorpe' SINC which is located along its north western boundary.</p>
Climate change	<p>In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. Most of the site has a 'very low' or 'low' surface water flood risk. However, there are areas of land in the eastern section of the site which have 'medium' or 'high' risk of surface water flooding.</p> <p>The site benefits from pedestrian links along Temple Lane and St Giles Way towards Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.</p>
Landscape	<p>The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.</p> <p>The site is located within PLCA 2 'Temple Lane to Copmanthorpe Wood Mixed Floodplain Farmland'. As noted within the character assessment, the northern edge of the area along Moor Lane is sensitive to unplanned or poorly designed development, particularly further industrial development which might negatively affect the setting of the village.</p> <p>Much of the existing settlement is located to the north of the railway line. Development at this location would therefore extend the built footprint of the village to the south of the railway line, which would not reflect existing settlement patterns, and would be likely to significantly impact on the rural landscape at this location.</p>

Historic Environment	<p>The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. Likewise, the site does not overlap with an archaeological monument listed on the City of York HER.</p> <p>The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 250m to the north west of the site (at its nearest point), which contains a variety of Grade II listed structures.</p>	
Land, soil and water resources	<p>The whole of the site is underlain by Grade 2 (very good quality) best and most versatile agricultural land with only minor limitations which affect crop yield, cultivations or harvesting. As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p>	
Population and community	<p>The site is separated from the village due to its location to the south of the railway line. The site is approximately 1km to the south east of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 1km to the north of the site.</p>	
Health and Wellbeing	<p>The site benefits from pedestrian links along Temple Lane and St Giles Way towards Copmanthorpe village centre. The Ebor Way footpath is accessible from the village centre and connects to Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec'), which is located approximately 1km to the north of the site. Additionally, there are established community allotments located directly to the north of the site.</p> <p>Although the site is sensitive to noise pollution from nearby rail infrastructure, the noise is intermittent and short in duration.</p>	
Transport	<p>The site is connected to the local road network and is approximately 2km to the south east of the A64 strategic corridor. The site is within 500m of bus stops located along Station Road. Although the site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre, it is uncertain whether this will significantly reduce the reliance on privately owned vehicles for undertaking day-to-day activities considering its distance from local services and facilities.</p>	
Key		
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects

Table 1.7: Site G

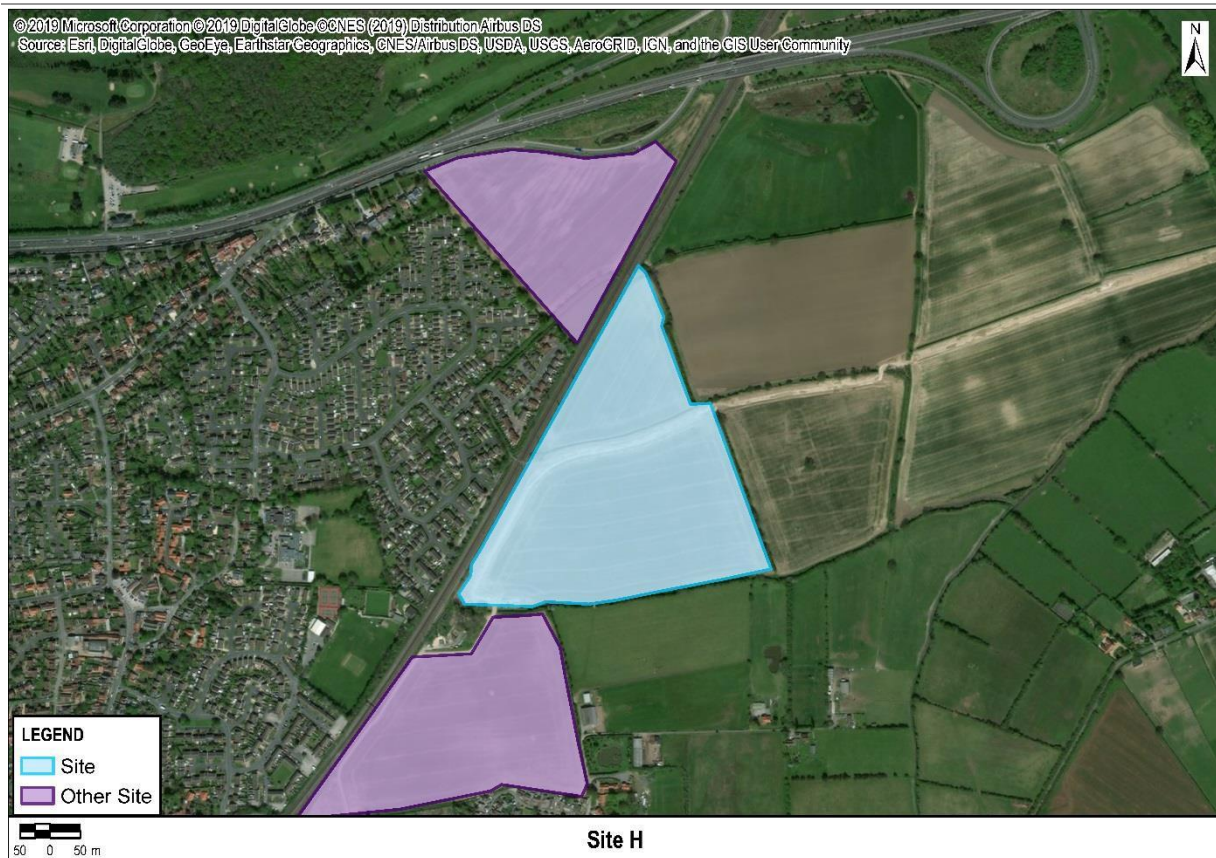


Site size: 9.63 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity	<p>There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site, and the site is not within proximity to an area of BAP Priority Habitat. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located approximately 825m to the north of the site (at its nearest point). The northern half of the site overlaps with a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'. Locally important ecological areas within proximity to the site include 'Drome Lane Field Copmanthorpe close to (5-19)' SINC which is located approximately 200m to the east.</p>
Climate change	<p>In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. Most of the site has a 'very low' or 'low' surface water flood risk.</p> <p>The site benefits from pedestrian links along Temple Lane and St Giles Way towards Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.</p>
Landscape	<p>The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.</p> <p>The site is located within PLCA 4 'Companthorpe to Bishopthorpe Enclosed Arable'. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA could accommodate future development of an appropriate scale which respects the existing pattern and strength of enclosure.</p> <p>Much of the existing settlement is located to the north of the railway line. Development at this location would therefore extend the built footprint of the village to the south of the railway line, which would not reflect existing settlement patterns. An allocation at this site would reduce the 'green gap' between Copmanthorpe and the neighbouring residential area to the north of Temple Lane.</p>

Historic Environment	<p>The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 300m to the north west of the site (at its nearest point), which contains a variety of Grade II listed structures.</p> <p>Listed on the City of York HER, locally important heritage features which overlap with the site include Monument ID MYO2325 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe' (western half of the site), Monument ID MYO3538 'Copmanthorpe Airfield' (located along the southern site boundary) and MYO3297 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe' (northern half of the site).</p>		
Land, soil and water resources	<p>Most of the site is underlain by Grade 3a (good quality) agricultural land, with a small area of Grade 2 (very good quality) agricultural land in the south western section. Therefore, a residential allocation would lead to the permanent loss of best and most versatile land.</p> <p>As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p> <p>The 'Town Ings Drain' is located alongside the northern site boundary.</p> <p>The eastern half of the site is within a brick clay surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer, as defined on the interactive policy map for the Publication Draft of the Minerals and Waste Joint Local Plan.</p>		
Population and community	<p>The site is separated from the village due to its location to the south of the railway line. The site is approximately 1km to the south east of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 1km to the north west of the site.</p>		
Health and Wellbeing	<p>The site benefits from pedestrian links along Temple Lane and St Giles Way towards Copmanthorpe village centre. The Ebor Way footpath is accessible from the village centre and connects to Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec'), which is located approximately 1km to the north west of the site. Additionally, there are established community allotments located directly to the south of the site.</p> <p>Although the site is sensitive to noise pollution from nearby rail infrastructure, the noise is intermittent and short in duration.</p>		
Transport	<p>The site is connected to the local road network and is approximately 2km to the south east of the A64 strategic corridor. The site is within 500m of bus stops located along Station Road. Although the site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre, it is uncertain whether this will significantly reduce the reliance on privately owned vehicles for undertaking day-to-day activities considering its distance from local services and facilities.</p>		
Key			
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect	
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects	

Table 1.8: Site H



Site size: 15.50 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity

There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site, and the site is not within proximity to an area of BAP Priority Habitat. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located approximately 525m to the north west of the site (at its nearest point). Most of the site overlaps with a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'.

Locally important ecological areas within proximity to the site include 'Drome Lane Hayfield' SLI and 'Drome Lane Hay Meadow Copmanthorpe (5-19)' SINC, located adjacent to its south eastern corner.

Climate change

A corridor of land within the central section of the site (adjacent to and encompassing the Ebor Way footpath) is located within Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Flood Zone 2, which has between a '1 in 100' and '1 in 1000' annual probability of flooding. Most of the land to the east of the site is also within SFRA Flood Zone 2. Most of the site has a 'very low' or 'low' surface water flood risk.

The site benefits from pedestrian links along Ebor Way footpath, which passes across the railway line and on towards Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.

Landscape	<p>The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.</p> <p>The site is located within PLCA 4 'Copmanthorpe to Bishopthorpe Enclosed Arable'. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA could accommodate future development of an appropriate scale which respects the existing pattern and strength of enclosure.</p> <p>Much of the existing settlement is located to the north of the railway line. Development at this location would therefore extend the built footprint of the village to the south of the railway line, which would not reflect existing settlement patterns, and would be likely to significantly impact on the rural landscape at this location.</p>	
Historic Environment	<p>The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located approximately 400m to the west of the site (at its nearest point), which contains a variety of Grade II listed structures.</p> <p>Listed on the City of York HER, locally important heritage features which overlap with the site include three areas of 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe', namely: Monument ID MYO2327 (covering the field in the northern section), Monument ID MYO3295 (covering most of the field in the southern section) and Monument ID MYO2326 (land towards the south western corner of the site).</p>	
Land, soil and water resources	<p>Most of the site is underlain by Grade 3a (good quality) best and most versatile agricultural land, with a small corridor of Grade 3b (moderate quality) agricultural land alongside the southern boundary. As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p> <p>The 'Town Ings Drain' is located alongside the southern site boundary.</p> <p>The site is within a brick clay surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer, as defined on the interactive policy map for the Publication Draft of the Minerals and Waste Joint Local Plan.</p>	
Population and community	<p>The site is separated from the village due to its location to the south of the railway line. Nonetheless, there is pedestrian access across the railway line into Copmanthorpe. The site is approximately 800m to the east of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 400m to the west of the site.</p>	
Health and Wellbeing	<p>The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre via the Ebor Way footpath which passes directly through the site boundary and across the railway line.</p> <p>Although the site is sensitive to noise pollution from nearby rail infrastructure, the noise is intermittent and short in duration.</p> <p>The Ebor Way footpath connects to Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec'), which is located approximately 400m to the south west of the site.</p>	
Transport	<p>Although the site provides good pedestrian access, it is approximately 500m to the north of the local road network and 2.5km from the A64 strategic corridor.</p> <p>The nearest bus stop is located approximately 400m to the north west of the site, along Flaxman Croft.</p>	
Key		
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects

Table 1.9: Site I



Site size: 7.73 ha (approximately)

Biodiversity	<p>There are no European or nationally designated sites within or adjacent to the site, and the site is not within proximity to an area of BAP Priority Habitat. The nearest SSSI 'Askham Bog' is located approximately 150m to the north west of the site (at its nearest point). Most of the site overlaps with a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'.</p> <p>Areas of land within the north western section of the site overlaps with residential, rural residential and rural non-residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 50 units or more', 'any residential development of 10 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas' and 'large non-residential developments outside existing settlements/urban areas where net additional gross internal floorspace is >1,000m² or footprint exceeds 0.2ha.</p> <p>Locally important ecological areas located directly to the north and north west of the site include 'Balancing Ponds – A64 Ring Road Roundabout' SLI, 'A64/A1036 Interchange Verges' SLI, 'Bond Hill Ash Farm Fen' SINC and 'A64/A1036 Interchange Roundabout' SINC. All of these sites are either within or adjacent to the 'Ring Road Corridor' LGIC.</p>
Climate change	<p>In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, the site is not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding; the site is located entirely within Flood Zone 1. Most of the site has a 'very low' or 'low' surface water flood risk. However, there are areas of land in the north eastern half of the site which have 'medium' or 'high' risk of surface water flooding.</p> <p>The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre. An allocation at this location is therefore unlikely to significantly increase the reliance of privately-owned vehicles for completing day-to-day activities, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.</p>

Landscape	<p>The site does not overlap with and is not within the setting of a nationally designated landscape. However, the whole of the site is within the City of York Green Belt which aims to prevent the spread of urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.</p> <p>The site is located within PLCA 4 'Copmanthorpe to Bishopthorpe Enclosed Arable'. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA could accommodate future development of an appropriate scale which respects the existing pattern and strength of enclosure.</p>	
Historic Environment	<p>The site does not contain and is not within the setting of a nationally designated heritage asset. The Copmanthorpe Conservation Area is located over 600m to the south west of the site (at its nearest point).</p> <p>Listed on the City of York HER, locally important heritage features which overlap with the whole site include two areas of 'Ridge and Furrow Copmanthorpe', namely: Monument ID MYO2327 (land towards the southern corner) and Monument ID MYO3292 (northern, eastern and western sections of the site).</p>	
Land, soil and water resources	<p>The whole of the site is underlain by Grade 3a (good quality) best and most versatile agricultural land capable of consistently producing moderate to high yields of arable crops. As the site is a greenfield location, development would not make the best use of previously developed land.</p> <p>Areas of land within the northern and eastern sections of the site are within a sand and gravel surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer, as defined on the interactive policy map for the Publication Draft of the Minerals and Waste Joint Local Plan. Apart from land within the south western section of the site, the rest of the site is also within a brick clay surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer.</p>	
Population and community	<p>The site is approximately 1km to the north east of Church Street, School Lane, Horseman Lane and Main Street ('the village centre') which provides access to a variety of local services and facilities including a public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. Copmanthorpe Primary School is located approximately 500m to the south west of the site.</p>	
Health and Wellbeing	<p>The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre and Copmanthorpe sports club and recreation ground ('The Rec'), which are located to the south west of the site. The site is sensitive to noise pollution from the A64. Although the site is sensitive to noise pollution from nearby rail infrastructure, the noise from this source is intermittent and short in duration.</p>	
Transport	<p>The site is well connected to the local road network and is within proximity to the A64 strategic corridor. The nearest bus stop is located approximately 400m to the south west of the site, along Flaxman Croft.</p> <p>The site benefits from pedestrian links to Copmanthorpe village centre.</p>	
Key		
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)		Likely positive effect
Neutral/no effect		Uncertain effects

Summary of SEA site appraisal findings

4.15 The following table presents a summary of the findings of the site appraisal undertaken through the SEA process.

Table 1.10: Summary of SEA site appraisal findings

Site	Biodiversity	Climate Change	Landscape	Historic Env	Land, soil and water resources	Population and Community	Health and Wellbeing	Transport
Site A	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Green
Site B	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Green
Site C	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Green
Site D	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Blue
Site E	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red	Green	Green	Blue
Site F	Blue	Blue	Red	Yellow	Red	Blue	Green	Blue
Site G	Blue	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red	Blue	Green	Blue
Site H	Blue	Blue	Red	Blue	Red	Green	Green	Blue
Site I	Red	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Green	Blue	Green

Key		
Likely adverse effect (without mitigation measures)	Red	Likely positive effect
Neutral/no effect	Yellow	Uncertain effects

Assessment of reasonable alternatives for the allocations proposed in the emerging Local Plan

4.16 A further element which the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group have been keen to consider is the potential for delivering a lower level of growth on the two sites proposed as allocations through the emerging Local Plan. The current level of growth proposed on the sites is as follows:

- 158 dwellings at Land at Tadcaster Road, Copmanthorpe (allocation reference ST31)
- 88 dwellings at Land at Moor Lane, Copmanthorpe (allocation reference H29)

4.17 To explore the potential implications of taking forward a lower level of housing growth on these two sites, two options have been considered as reasonable alternatives through the SEA process. These are as follows:

- Option A: Delivery of the proposed allocations put forward through the emerging Local Plan in full.
- Option B: Delivery of a lower quantum of development on the sites put forward through the emerging Local Plan.

4.18 The following table presents appraisal findings in relation to the two options introduced above. These are organised by the eight SEA themes.

4.19 For each SEA theme, a commentary on the likely effects is presented. Options are also ranked numerically reflecting their relative sustainability performance, with '1' the most favourable ranking and '2' the least favourable ranking.

Table 1.11: Appraisal of options relating to the allocations proposed in the emerging Local Plan

Option A: Delivery of the proposed allocations put forward through the emerging Local Plan in full

Option B: Delivery of a lower quantum of development on the sites put forward through the emerging Local Plan

SEA theme	Discussion of potential effects and relative merits of options	Rank of preference	
		Opt A	Opt B
Biodiversity	<p>With regard to the Land at Tadcaster Road site, the Askham Bog SSSI is located approximately 150m to the north west of the site (at its nearest point). As such most of the site overlaps with a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'. Areas of land within the north western section of the site also overlap with SSSI Impact Risk Zones relating to 'residential developments of 50 units or more' and 'any residential development of 10 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'. The SSSI is sensitive to changes in the quality and quantity of surface water run-off from new development on the site. As such, a more limited scale of development on the site proposed through Option B has the potential to limit potential effects on the SSSI.</p> <p>Locally important ecological areas are also located directly to the north and north west of the site, and include 'Balancing Ponds – A64 Ring Road Roundabout' SLI, 'A64/A1036 Interchange Verges' SLI, 'Bond Hill Ash Farm Fen' SINC and 'A64/A1036 Interchange Roundabout' SINC. All of these sites are either within or adjacent to the 'Ring Road Corridor' LGIC. As such a smaller scale of development on the site through Option B may help limit potential impacts on these locally designated biodiversity sites.</p> <p>In terms of the Land at Moor Lane site, no significant biodiversity constraints are present on the site. As such a reduced level of development is unlikely to have significant implications for effects on habitats, species or ecological connections at this location.</p>	2	1

Option A: Delivery of the proposed allocations put forward through the emerging Local Plan in full
Option B: Delivery of a lower quantum of development on the sites put forward through the emerging Local Plan

SEA theme	Discussion of potential effects and relative merits of options	Rank of preference	
		Opt A	Opt B
Climate change	<p><i>Climate change mitigation</i></p> <p>The extent to which the two options would lead to increases in greenhouse gas emissions would be determined by the extent to which 1) each option stimulates growth in the built footprint of Copmanthorpe and 2) new development is supported by energy efficient design and accompanied by the delivery of infrastructure which helps limit transport emissions.</p> <p>In this respect, Option A will enable the provision of an additional level of growth when compared to Option B. However, it should be noted that the level of growth proposed through Option A may have the potential to lead to limitations in greenhouse gas emissions on a per capita basis. This is given the potential for the option to improve the viability and deliverability of additional pedestrian/cycle infrastructure, and potentially for increasing the carbon intensity of new development. Such effects are uncertain however at this level of assessment.</p> <p><i>Climate change adaptation</i></p> <p>In terms of climate change adaptation, both options offer opportunities for the delivery of new infrastructure which will help the village adapt to the likely impacts of climate change, including green infrastructure provision. However given the increased level of growth likely to be stimulated through Option A, there may be some further potential for the delivery of new green infrastructure within new growth areas under this option, including through improving the viability of delivering such provision. This could help increase the area's resilience to the likely impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events.</p> <p>In relation to adapting to the effects of climate change, both sites are not located within identified flood risk zones for fluvial flooding. However, there are areas of land in the north eastern half of the Land at Tadcaster Road site which have 'medium' or 'high' risk of surface water flooding. A more limited scale of development at the site may therefore enable these areas of surface water flood risk to be avoided and/or additional green infrastructure provision to be implemented to help limit potential effects.</p>	2	1

Option A: Delivery of the proposed allocations put forward through the emerging Local Plan in full
Option B: Delivery of a lower quantum of development on the sites put forward through the emerging Local Plan

SEA theme	Discussion of potential effects and relative merits of options	Rank of preference	
		Opt A	Opt B
Landscape	<p>In terms of the Land at Tadcaster Road site, the site is relatively enclosed within the wider landscape, and landscape character is affected by the existing road network. The site is located within PLCA4 'Companthorpe to Bishopthorpe Enclosed Arable'. As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA could accommodate future development of an appropriate scale which respects the existing pattern and strength of enclosure.</p> <p>In terms of the Land at Moor Lane site, the site is located within PLCA 2 'Temple Lane to Copmanthorpe Wood Mixed Floodplain Farmland'. As noted within the character assessment, the northern edge of the area along Moor Lane is sensitive to unplanned or poorly designed development, particularly further industrial development which might negatively affect the setting of the village. As such a more limited quantum of development at this location may help limit potential impacts on the villagescape and wider landscape character in the area.</p>	2	1
Historic Environment	<p>In terms of the Land at Tadcaster Road site, no nationally or locally listed buildings of historic environment interest are present on or in the setting of the site. However, in terms of the site's archaeological resource, two locally important features are listed on the on the City of York HER. Associated with areas of ridge and furrow, these are: Monument ID MYO2327 (land towards the southern corner) and Monument ID MYO3292 (northern, eastern and western sections of the site). As such a more limited scale of development at this location proposed through Option B will help limit potential effects on these areas of historic landscape importance, including potentially through avoiding the most sensitive parts of the site, or alternatively through initiating green infrastructure enhancements.</p> <p>In terms of the Land at Moor Lane site, no significant historic environment constraints are present on the site. As such a reduced level of development is unlikely to have significant implications for effects on the historic environment. Impacts on the setting of the villagescape have been discussed above under the 'landscape' SEA theme.</p>	2	1

Option A: Delivery of the proposed allocations put forward through the emerging Local Plan in full

Option B: Delivery of a lower quantum of development on the sites put forward through the emerging Local Plan

SEA theme	Discussion of potential effects and relative merits of options	Rank of preference	
		Opt A	Opt B
Land, soil and water resources	<p>Both the Land at Tadcaster Road site and the Land at Moor Lane site are underlain by land classified as the best and most versatile agricultural land. As such, a lower level of growth on the sites through Option B has the potential to lead to limitations in the loss of productive agricultural land at these locations.</p> <p>In terms of minerals resources, areas of land within the northern and eastern sections of the Land at Tadcaster Road site are within a sand and gravel surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer, as defined on the interactive policy map for the Publication Draft of the Minerals and Waste Joint Local Plan. Apart from land within the south western section of the site, the rest of the site is also within a brick clay surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer. As such, a reduced level of development of the site may support the availability of mineralsresources locally.</p>	2	1
Population and community	<p>Option A has increased potential over Option B to deliver additional housing in Copmanthorpe. This will do more to meet local (and city-wide) housing needs, and has the potential to deliver a wider range of types and tenures of housing, including affordable housing.</p> <p>Option A also has increased potential to support the vitality of the village through supporting local shops, services and facilities (although it should be noted that an additional level of growth in the village may increase existing pressures on amenities locally).</p>	1	2
Health and Wellbeing	<p>Option A, through delivering a higher level of growth, has increased potential to deliver additional green infrastructure provision, new and improved walking and cycling networks and support local amenities. This has the potential to support wider benefits for health and wellbeing.</p>	1	2
Transport	<p>Option A, through delivering a higher level of growth, has increased potential to deliver additional green infrastructure provision and new and improved walking and cycling networks. However, additional growth proposed through the option may have some negative impacts for traffic and congestion in the village.</p>	?	?

Option A: Delivery of the proposed allocations put forward through the emerging Local Plan in full

Option B: Delivery of a lower quantum of development on the sites put forward through the emerging Local Plan

SEA theme	Discussion of potential effects and relative merits of options	Rank of preference	
		Opt A	Opt B
Summary	<p>Both Option A and B would enable an element of growth to take place in Copmanthorpe. However the increased level of growth through Option A is more likely to deliver enhanced housing provision and, potentially, community infrastructure. The option also has the potential to support the viability of services and facilities in the village.</p> <p>However, Option B, through delivering a more limited level of housing growth on the two sites, has the potential to limit potential impacts on biodiversity assets present locally. This is significant given the presence of the Askham Bog SSSI close to the Land at Tadcaster Road site. Option B also has the potential to limit impacts on historic landscape character and the setting of the villagescape. The option will also reduce land take on productive agricultural land in the village, and may support the availability of minerals resources locally.</p> <p>Impacts of the options however depend on the design and layout of development, the type and tenure of housing delivered, and the provision of additional and improved community and green infrastructure alongside new housing.</p>		

Current approach in the Neighbourhood Plan

4.20 In light of consultation undertaken to date on the Neighbourhood Plan, evidence base studies undertaken for the Neighbourhood Plan and consideration of the appraisal findings presented above, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Planning Group took the decision to deliver the two sites put forward through the Local Plan for residential development, but with a reduced level of growth. In addition the Neighbourhood Plan takes forward a very small area of Site F above for employment uses.

4.21 The following three sites have therefore been allocated for the residential and employment uses:

- Tadcaster Road Link (including land to the south of Yorkfield Lane): 75 residential dwellings
- Old Moor Lane: 60 residential dwellings
- New Moor Lane: 20 employment units.

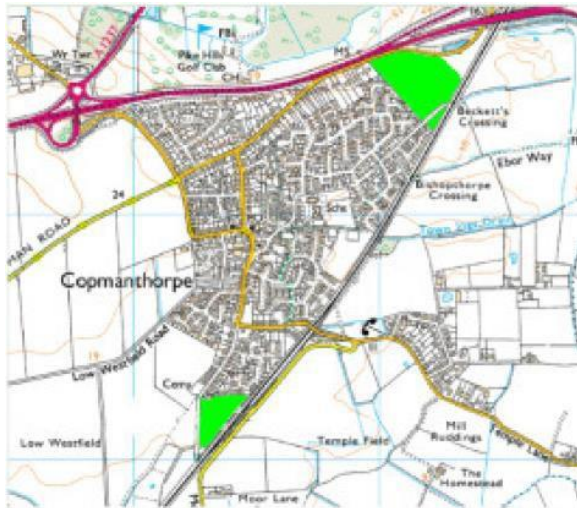


Figure 4.1: Sites allocated for residential uses through the Neighbourhood Plan



Figure 4.2: Site allocated for employment uses through the Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plan policies

- 4.22 To support the implementation of the vision, objectives and preferred spatial strategy for the Neighbourhood Plan, the submission version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan puts forward eight policies to guide development in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 4.23 The policies, which were developed following extensive community consultation and evidence gathering, are as follows:

Table 1.12: Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan policies

Policy Number	Policy Name
Policy CNP1	Housing Quantity
Policy CNP2	Allocated Sites
Policy CNP3	Affordable and Special Housing
Policy CNP4	Local Occupancy
Policy CNP5	Community Facilities and Organisations
Policy CNP6	Green Belt
Policy CNP7	Green Infrastructure
Policy CNP8	Parish Consultation

5. What are the appraisal findings at this current stage?

Introduction

- 5.1 The aim of this chapter is to present appraisal findings and recommendations in relation to the current submission version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan. This chapter presents:
- An appraisal of the submission version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan under the eight SEA theme headings; and
 - The overall conclusions at this current stage.

Approach to this appraisal

- 5.2 The appraisal is structured under the eight SEA themes taken forward for the purposes of the SEA.
- 5.3 For each theme, 'significant effects' of the current version of the plan on the baseline are predicted and evaluated. Account is taken of the criteria presented within Schedule 2 of the Regulations. So, for example, account is taken of the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of effects as far as possible. These effect 'characteristics' are described within the assessment as appropriate.
- 5.4 Every effort is made to identify / evaluate effects accurately; however, this is inherently challenging given the high level nature of the plan. The ability to predict effects accurately is also limited by understanding of the baseline and the nature of future planning applications. Because of the uncertainties involved, there is a need to exercise caution when identifying and evaluating significant effects and ensure all assumptions are explained. In many instances it is not possible to predict significant effects, but it is possible to comment on merits (or otherwise) in more general terms.

Biodiversity

- 5.5 In terms of the allocations proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan, the delivery of 75 homes at Tadcaster Road has the potential to have impacts on the Askham Bog SSSI, which is located approximately 250m to the north west of the site. In this context most of the site overlaps with a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for residential and rural residential development types, specifically: 'residential developments of 100 units of more' and 'any residential development of 50 or more houses outside existing settlements/urban areas'. As such, without appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures, residential development of this scale has the potential to lead to significant impacts on the SSSI.
- 5.6 This is recognised by Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites), which seeks to ensure that the development of the site for residential uses does not result in damage to the notified features of the SSSI through changes to the water levels at Askham Bog. In particular developers will be expected to consider potential impacts on water quality and water levels at Askham Bog from water drainage into the SSSI as a consequence of development of the site.
- 5.7 Alongside, there are a number of locally important ecological areas located to the north and north west of the site include 'Balancing Ponds – A64 Ring Road Roundabout' SLI, 'A64/A1036 Interchange Verges' SLI, 'Bond Hill Ash Farm Fen' SINC and 'A64/A1036 Interchange Roundabout' SINC. All of these sites are either within or adjacent to the 'Ring Road Corridor' LGIC. These sites are however unlikely to be affected by new development areas, particularly

given the more limited scale and extent of the site proposed for allocation through the Neighbourhood Plan.

- 5.8 In terms of the other two sites allocated through the Neighbourhood Plan, these are not in locations with sensitivity for biodiversity, and development at the locations proposed will not lead to the loss of key habitats or impact on ecological networks.
- 5.9 More broadly, the Neighbourhood Plan will help support the protection and enhancement of biodiversity habitats and ecological networks in the Neighbourhood Plan area through Policy CNP7 (Green Infrastructure), which seeks to protect, enhance and expand multifunctional green infrastructure network in the parish. Supporting this further, the policy seeks to enhance connections to surrounding habitats and expecting new development in the Neighbourhood Plan area to lead to "*...a net gain in wildlife and biodiversity for the Parish of Copmanthorpe...*". Habitats will also be supported in the rural parts of the Neighbourhood Plan area by Policy CNP6 (Green Belt), which seeks to protect the integrity of the Green Belt outside of the sites taken out of the Green Belt by the Local Plan.
- 5.10 Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites), also seeks to ensure new development meets the standards of design, construction, layout, sustainability and local distinctiveness set out in the Copmanthorpe Village Design Statement. The Village Design Statement sets out detailed provisions for new development, and includes a series of Design Guidelines for flora and fauna and green infrastructure enhancements. As such it will support the protection and enhancement of ecological networks in the parish.
- 5.11 Overall, when combined with the provisions of the emerging Local Plan, which sets out a range of provisions relating to biodiversity, the provisions of the Neighbourhood Plan will therefore 1) help limit potential effects from new development on features and areas of biodiversity interest in the Neighbourhood Plan area and 2) support enhancements to biodiversity.

Climate change

- 5.12 The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan contains a number of policies which have relevance to climate change considerations. The assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan's performance with regard to climate change is outlined below, with discussions addressing climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation.

Climate change mitigation

- 5.13 In terms of climate change contribution, per capita greenhouse gas emissions generated in the Neighbourhood Plan area may continue to decrease with the wider adoption of energy efficiency measures, renewable energy production and new technologies. However, increases in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Plan area would contribute to increases in the absolute levels of greenhouse gas emissions.
- 5.14 Whilst the delivery of homes and employment uses through the Neighbourhood Plan will increase greenhouse gas emissions either directly through construction, or indirectly through an increase in population, the built footprint of the area and associated travel and consumption behaviours, this level of development would likely be mirrored by the approval of planning applications. As such the level of development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan will not lead to increases in greenhouse gas emissions over and above that would be seen otherwise.
- 5.15 The spatial strategy for the Neighbourhood Plan will help limit per capita greenhouse gas emissions through seeking to focus new development in relatively good proximity to the village centre, which has a range of services, facilities and amenities. The allocations are also relatively accessible to local bus networks. This will help reduce the need for residents to travel and reduce car dependency, helping to limit emissions from road transport. This will be supported

by a number of the policies seeking to explicitly encourage walking and cycling through enhanced pedestrian and cycle provision. This is discussed in more detail under the 'transportation' SEA theme below.

- 5.16 The Neighbourhood Plan does not directly seek to apply energy efficiency standards within new development. In this context the Code for Sustainable Homes was formally withdrawn in a Ministerial Statement published on 25th March 2015, which outlined the Government's new national planning policy on the setting of technical standards for new dwellings and Local Plan making. In addition to this, the Deregulation Act also brought in a clause which amended the Planning and Energy Act 2008 to prevent local authorities from requiring higher levels of energy efficiency than existing Building Regulations. On this basis, it would not be appropriate for the Neighbourhood Plan to set specific targets for energy efficiency as part of a design policy.
- 5.17 The enhancement of green infrastructure networks in the parish facilitated by the Neighbourhood Plan (discussed below under climate change adaptation) also has the potential to increase the ability of the area's landscape and villagescape to act as a carbon sink.

Climate change adaptation

- 5.18 The sites allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan do not have significant flood risk issues. It is also recognised that the provisions of the NPPF and national policy will help guide development away from flood risk areas and ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented.
- 5.19 The Natural Environment White Paper recognises that green infrastructure is '*one of the most effective tools available*' to manage '*environmental risks such as flooding and heat waves*' and the 25 Year Environment Plan highlights that green infrastructure '*brings wider benefits, including sequestering carbon, absorbing noise, cleansing pollutants, absorbing surface water and reducing high temperatures*'. Enabling and providing for green infrastructure within the Neighbourhood Plan area is therefore a key way in which the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan can help to promote climate change adaptation measures. Responding to this, Policy CNP7 (Green Infrastructure) seeks to protect, enhance and expand multifunctional green infrastructure networks in the parish. Land is also allocated under Policy CNP2 for the provision of playing fields, recreational open space, children's play areas and additional allotments, and the same policy also highlights that the Village Design Statement, which seeks to implement green infrastructure enhancements through new development, should be a key consideration in new development areas. These green infrastructure enhancements should support therefore positive gains with regard to climate change adaptation measures within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Landscape

- 5.20 All of the proposed allocations taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan are located on greenfield land. In terms of the Tadcaster Road Link site allocation for 75 homes, the site is located within PLCA 4 'Companthorpe to Bishopthorpe Enclosed Arable' (as determined through the Parish Landscape Character Assessment). As noted within the character assessment, the PLCA could accommodate future development of an appropriate scale which respects the existing pattern and strength of enclosure. Given the presence of the A64 and existing development, the site is also relatively enclosed in the landscape, limiting the potential for significant impacts on landscape character.
- 5.21 In relation to the allocation for 60 homes at Old Moor Lane, The site is located within PLCA 2 'Temple Lane to Copmanthorpe Wood Mixed Floodplain Farmland'. As noted within the character assessment, the northern edge of the area along Moor Lane is sensitive to unplanned or poorly designed development.
- 5.22 With regard to the proposed employment site, whilst the location of the site is of some sensitivity in landscape terms, development would take place opposite existing employment

uses, and comprise a relatively small area of development. This will limit impacts on landscape character.

- 5.23 More broadly, the Neighbourhood Plan has a strong focus on protecting and enhancing landscape character, the quality of the public realm and local distinctiveness. This includes through Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites), which makes a commitment for new development to meet the standards of design, construction, layout, sustainability and local distinctiveness set out in the Copmanthorpe Village Design Statement. Given the Village Design Statement sets out detailed provisions for new development, with the aim of guiding and influencing the design of development in a way that preserves and enhances the character and distinctiveness of Copmanthorpe, this will provide an appropriate means of protecting and enhancing the villagescape and landscape character of the Neighbourhood plan area. This includes through presenting a series of design guidelines for supporting the landscape setting of the village and settlement pattern character.
- 5.24 Local character and distinctiveness will also be supported by Policy CNP7 (Green Infrastructure), which sets out a range of provisions for protecting and enhancing green infrastructure networks in the Neighbourhood Plan area and Policy CNP6 (Green Belt), which seeks to protect the integrity of the Green Belt in the Neighbourhood Plan area outside of those areas allocated in the Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan, with a view to *"maintaining the identity, character and setting of Copmanthorpe village"*.

Historic environment

- 5.25 Parts of the Neighbourhood Plan area have a rich historic environment, as highlighted by the presence of the Copmanthorpe Conservation Area and a number of nationally listed buildings. The area has a rich archaeological resource, including associated with historic landscape character.
- 5.26 The residential and employment allocations taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan are unlikely to lead to significant effects on the fabric or setting of the historic environment. However in terms of the local archaeological resource, two features listed on the City of York HER, are present on the Tadcaster Road Link site, which comprise features of historic landscape interest. These are associated with two areas of ridge and furrow, and comprise: Monument ID MYO2327 (land towards the southern corner); and Monument ID MYO3292 (northern, eastern and western sections of the site).
- 5.27 Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites) makes a commitment for new development to meet the standards of design, construction, layout, sustainability and local distinctiveness set out in the Copmanthorpe Village Design Statement. Given the Village Design Statement sets out detailed provisions for new development, with the aim of guiding and influencing the design of development in a way that preserves and enhances the character and distinctiveness of Copmanthorpe, this will provide an appropriate means of protecting and enhancing the setting of the historic environment in the Neighbourhood plan area. Key provisions in the Village Design Statement relating to the historic environment include a series of design guidelines relating the historic landscape and villagescape character, historic buildings and the conservation area.
- 5.28 In the context of the above, the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan provides a robust basis for the conservation and enhancement of historic environment assets and their settings.

Land, soil and water Resources

- 5.29 The three residential and employment allocations will take place on undeveloped greenfield land. This will not support the efficient use of land.

- 5.30 Development of the sites will also lead to the loss of productive agricultural land. In this context the allocation of 75 homes on the Tadcaster Road Link site and the allocation of 60 homes at Old Moor Lane will both lead to the loss of land classified as Grade 3a agricultural land. This is land classified as the 'best and most versatile' agricultural land. Whilst the employment allocation will take place on higher grade Grade 2 land (also classified as the best and most versatile agricultural land), the area of land lost to development is likely to be relatively limited.
- 5.31 Overall however, given the overall loss of 8.5ha land classified as the best and most versatile agricultural land, the allocations proposed through Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant negative effects on soils resources in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 5.32 In terms of water quality, there are no groundwater Source Protection Zones which have the potential to be affected by Neighbourhood Plan proposals. The Neighbourhood Plan also has a strong focus on green infrastructure enhancements, new planting, and improvements to existing areas of open space. It also seeks to enhance ecological networks and secure biodiversity net gain. This will support the capacity of the landscape and the built and natural environment to help manage surface water run-off (and associated pollutants), and provide regulating ecosystems services which support water quality.

Population and community

- 5.33 The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan sets out a range of provisions which will support the quality of life of the parish's residents.
- 5.34 In terms of housing numbers, the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to deliver at least 135 homes. Given this reflects the findings of the Housing Needs Survey and a Housing Quantity Survey, which were undertaken to support the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan, it is considered that this number will meet local needs.
- 5.35 It is recognised though that this figure is less than the number proposed through the Local Plan allocations. However it should be noted that the housing delivery number taken forward through the Local Plan allocations reflects the delivery of sufficient land to deliver 867 dwellings per annum rather the 790 dwellings per annum than has been recently established by the *City of York – Housing Needs Update January 2019*.
- 5.36 In terms of the type and tenure of housing, Policy CNP3 (Affordable and Special Housing) sets out a range of provisions for delivering affordable housing and housing for older people. This reflects the findings of the Housing Needs Assessment undertaken for the Neighbourhood Plan, which highlights that there is a lack of an appropriate range of affordable housing options in the parish, particularly for younger people, as well as a significant demand for older people's housing. The Neighbourhood Plan also seeks to ensure that affordable housing and older people's housing is delivered for local people. In this respect Policy CNP4 (Local Occupancy) sets out a range of criteria for such housing to ensure that it is directed to local people.
- 5.37 The Neighbourhood Plan also contains several policies which will positively support the quality of life of residents and the satisfaction of residents in the Neighbourhood Plan area as a place to live. In terms of the quality of new development, Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites) highlights all new development will be required to meet the appropriate standards of design, construction, layout, sustainability and local distinctiveness as set out in the Copmanthorpe Village Design Statement. The Village Design Statement sets out a range of guidelines in relation to design, layout, local distinctiveness, settlement patterns, open space, walking and cycling networks, road safety and a range of other factors. This will help ensure that new development areas in the parish will comprise high quality neighbourhoods which benefit the quality of life of residents.
- 5.38 In terms of community facilities, local services and facilities in the Neighbourhood Plan area include a primary school, public house, post office, church, library, convenience store, youth club and GP surgery. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to add to local amenities through allocating

land through Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites) and Policy CNP5 (Community Facilities and Organisations) for the provision of playing fields, recreational open space, children's play areas and additional allotments. It also seeks to ensure that any off-site financial contribution obligations on developers to provide public open space or recreation facilities will be ring-fenced to deliver further recreational facilities within Copmanthorpe. This will be further supported by Policy CNP7 (Green Infrastructure) which seeks to protect, enhance and expand multifunctional green infrastructure networks in the parish.

- 5.39 Accessibility to services and facilities is a key influence on the quality of life of residents and community cohesion. This has been discussed further under the 'transportation' SEA theme below.

Health and wellbeing

- 5.40 There is robust evidence that access to the natural environment improves people's health and wellbeing through encouraging healthy outdoor recreation and relaxation. In this context an expansion of recreational and sports facilities in the village promoted by the Neighbourhood Plan will be supported through Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites) and Policy CNP5 (Community Facilities and Organisations) which allocates land for the provision of playing fields, recreational open space, children's play areas and additional allotments. Policy CNP5 also seeks to ensure that any off-site financial contribution obligations on developers to provide public open space or recreation facilities will be ring-fenced to deliver further recreational facilities within Copmanthorpe. This will be further supported by Policy CNP7 (Green Infrastructure) which seeks to protect, enhance and expand multifunctional green infrastructure networks in the parish. These provisions will promote recreational opportunities, with benefits for health and wellbeing.
- 5.41 Health and wellbeing will also be supported by the Neighbourhood Plan's focus on delivering high quality neighbourhoods (discussed under the 'population and community' SEA theme above) and on enhancing pedestrian and cycle networks (which has been discussed under the 'transportation' SEA theme below).

Transportation

- 5.42 The Neighbourhood Plan has a close focus on supporting the use of sustainable modes of transport. In terms of the proposed allocations taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan, these are accessible to the key services and facilities present in the village, and are also accessible to key bus routes. As discussed under the 'population and community' SEA theme, accessibility will be further supported by the Neighbourhood Plan's focus on the expansion of community provision in the village. This will help reduce the need to travel for key services and facilities, and promote accessibility to key amenities by alternative modes of transport to the private car.
- 5.43 Supporting this further, the Neighbourhood Plan directly seeks to promote the use of sustainable modes of transport. In this context Policy CNP2 (Allocated Sites) highlights all new development will be required to meet the appropriate standards of design, construction, layout, sustainability and local distinctiveness as set out in the Copmanthorpe Village Design Statement. The Village Design Statement sets out a range of guidelines for development in relation to transport. This includes: the provision of safe cycling and walking routes to the school and other children's facilities; the retention and extension of the existing network of footpaths alongside new development; the encouragement of walking and cycling by safe and direct routes to the rest of the village; maintaining ease of access to the surrounding countryside; and measures to improve road safety for vulnerable users through a reduction of vehicle movements and speed. Developments will also be expected to closely consider the impact of increased traffic into Copmanthorpe, particularly in and around the village centre.

- 5.44 Pedestrian and cycle use will also be supported by Policy CNP7 (Green Infrastructure), which seeks to protect, enhance and expand multifunctional green infrastructure networks in the parish.

Conclusions at this current stage

- 5.45 The assessment has concluded that the current version of the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan is likely to lead to significant long term positive effects in relation to the 'population and community' and 'health and wellbeing' SEA themes. These benefits largely relate to the Neighbourhood Plan's focus on providing new housing to meet local needs, the provision of new open spaces and enhancement of green infrastructure networks in the area, and the protection and enhancement of the quality of the public realm and neighbourhood distinctiveness.
- 5.46 The Neighbourhood Plan also has a close focus on conserving and enhancing landscape and villagescape character in the parish, and on protecting and enhancing the setting and fabric of the historic environment. Taken together, these will have the potential to lead to long term positive effects in relation to the 'landscape' and 'historic environment' SEA themes. Longer term, this includes through limiting negative effects from potential new development areas in the parish, and securing enhancements to local distinctiveness.
- 5.47 In relation to the 'biodiversity' SEA theme, the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to implement measures which will avoid potential effects from new development on the Askham Bog SSSI. It also supports the premise of biodiversity net gain within the Neighbourhood Plan area. The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan will also initiate a number of beneficial approaches regarding the 'climate change' SEA theme given provisions which will support mitigation and adaptation. These are not though considered to be significant in the context of the SEA process given the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan and the scale of proposals.
- 5.48 In conformity with the provisions of the Local Plan, the Neighbourhood Plan takes forward allocations on significant areas of greenfield land. This land has been assessed as comprising areas of the best and most versatile agricultural land. Given the loss of productive agricultural land at these locations, this will lead to significant negative effects in relation to the 'land, soil and water resources' SEA theme.

6. What are the next steps?

- 6.1 This Environmental Report accompanies the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan for submission to the Local Planning Authority, City of York Council, for subsequent Independent Examination.
- 6.2 At Independent Examination, the Neighbourhood Plan will be considered in terms of whether it meets the Basic Conditions for Neighbourhood Plans and is in general conformity with the City of York Local Plan.
- 6.3 If Independent Examination is favourable, the Neighbourhood Plan will be subject to a referendum, organised by City of York Council. If more than 50% of those who vote agree with the Neighbourhood Plan, then it will be 'made'. Once made, the Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the Development Plan for Copmanthorpe Parish.

Appendix A Context Review and Baseline

A1 – Air Quality

Context Review

At the European level, the EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) defines and establishes objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment, assessing quality on the basis of common methods and criteria.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁷ (NPPF) include:

- *'Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement. So far as possible these opportunities should be considered at the plan-making stage, to ensure a strategic approach and limit the need for issues to be reconsidered when determining individual applications. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones is consistent with the local air quality action plan.'*
- *'Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. This can help to reduce congestion and emissions and improve air quality and public health.'*
- New and existing developments should be prevented from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of air pollution.

Published in January 2018 by the UK Government, 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'⁸ sets out a number of goals and policies in order to help the natural world regain and retain good health. In this context, Goal 1 'Clean Air' and the policies contained within 'Chapter 4: Increasing resource efficiency and reducing pollution and waste' within the 25-year plan directly relate to the air quality SEA theme.

The following policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the air quality SEA theme:

- Policy ENV1: Air Quality; and
- Policy ENV2: Managing Environmental Quality.

Summary of Current Baseline

Generally, air pollution is low, and most emissions are generated by traffic generated from the A64 that passes through the ward. There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

City of York Council has developed a Low Emission Strategy, Air Quality Action Plan and draft Low Emission Planning Guidance to address air quality issues across the wider city and promote the use of

⁷ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 13/06/19]

⁸ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-

[environment-plan.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

low emission vehicles and technologies. These are consistent with the Interim SA. Such measures will supplement and enhance York's existing sustainable transport policies, aimed at encouraging the uptake of walking, cycling and public transport in the city.

Air quality monitoring was undertaken on Top Lane using diffusion tubes (just north east of the junction with Merchant Way) until 2014. Monitoring of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) between 2010 and 2014 demonstrated a steady downward trend in concentrations from 35µg/m³ to 27µg/m³ (expressed as an annual mean concentration - the health-based objective is 40µg/m³). Air Quality at in Copmanthorpe would currently be described as 'good' and well below the health-based objectives.

Summary of Future Baseline

Without development, the situation will remain unchanged, or possibly improve as technology improves especially with regard to modes of transport and emissions. Air Quality in the area is good and well below health-based objectives. Alternatively, development may reduce air quality if not properly managed through national strategies.

Whilst no significant air quality issues currently exist in the Neighbourhood Area, new development both within and outside the parish has the potential to have adverse effects on air quality through increasing traffic flows, and associated levels of pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter. The main areas of concern are any areas where traffic flows increase significantly, and these areas are in close proximity to residential areas, schools, care homes, hospitals etc

With development, there brings increased traffic and transport requirements. This can reduce air quality in some areas, but it can also increase demand for public transport which is considered beneficial in terms of air quality. Development in the wider area could also impact on climate change and may affect flooding in the longer term. There are objectives to reduce carbon emissions internationally to try and offset this risk, and there are targets from international to local levels in this respect.

The emerging Local Plan, plus NPPF ensures that there is scope to consider air quality as part of the development proposals and seek travel plans and monitoring where required. This should ensure that development does not create material harm to air quality. There is also an Adopted Air Quality Action Plan which can be referred to and applications tested against.

Due to the absence of any significant air quality issues within the Neighbourhood Plan area, the air quality theme has been scoped out for the purposes of the SEA process.

A2 – Biodiversity

Context Review

At the European level, the EU Biodiversity Strategy⁹ was adopted in May 2011 in order to deliver an established new Europe-wide target to '*halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020*'. Additionally, the EU Habitats and Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (92/43/EEC and 79/409/EEC) ensures the conservation of a wide range of habitats and species.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework¹⁰ (NPPF) include:

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is an environmental objective *to 'contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment' including by 'helping to improve biodiversity.'*

⁹ European Commission (2011) Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 [online] available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/pdf/EP_resolution_april2012.pdf> [accessed 13/06/19]

¹⁰ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_20

[18.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

- *'Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value [...], take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.'*
- *'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with the statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); and minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.'*
- *'To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:*
 - a. Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and*
 - b. Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity'.*

The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)¹¹ sets out the importance of a healthy, functioning natural environment to sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. It was in part a response to the UK's failure to halt and reverse the decline in biodiversity by 2010 and it signalled a move away from the traditional approach of protecting biodiversity in nature reserves to adopting a landscape approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity. The NEWP also aims to create a green economy in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other and markets, business and Government better reflect the value of nature. It includes commitments to:

- Halt biodiversity loss and support functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks by 2020;
- Establish a new voluntary approach to biodiversity offsetting to be tested in pilot areas;
- Enable partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations to establish new Nature Improvement Areas; and
- Address barriers to using green infrastructure to promote sustainable growth.

Reflecting the commitments within the Natural Environment White Paper and the EU Biodiversity Strategy, 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services' aims to *'halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people'*¹².

The recently published 25 Year Environment Plan¹³ sets out the Government's environmental plan of action over the next quarter century, in the context of Brexit. The Plan aims to tackle the growing problems of waste and soil degradation, improving social justice through tackling pollution and promoting the mental and physical health benefits of the natural world. It also sets out how the

¹¹ Defra (2012) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (Natural Environment White Paper) [online] available at: <<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm80/8082/8082.pdf>> [accessed 20/02/19]

¹² DEFRA (2011): 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services', [online] Available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/biodiversity-2020-a-strategy-for-england-s-wildlife-and-ecosystem-services>> [accessed 13/06/19]

¹³ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-

[environment-plan.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

Government will address the effects of climate change. These aims are supported by a range of policies which are focused on the following six key areas:

- Using and managing land sustainably;
- Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes;
- Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing;
- Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste;
- Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans; and
- Protecting and improving the global environment.

In this context, Goal 3 'Thriving plants and wildlife' and the policies contained within Chapter 2 'Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes' and Chapter 5 'Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans' directly relate to the Biodiversity SEA theme.

The following policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the biodiversity SEA theme:

- Policy GI2: Biodiversity and Access to Nature; and
- Policy GI4: Trees and Hedgerows.

The initial 'City of York Biodiversity Audit' in 1996 was commissioned by the then English Nature and City of York Council as a first step towards implementing Government policy at the local level and was essentially a review of the City's known wildlife resource. This audit has formed the basis of conserving sites of nature conservation interest in York since it was produced. A new Biodiversity Audit for York has been completed (2010) and this identifies new potential Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and assesses these alongside existing ones to see if they have sufficient value to be designated as a SINC.

Summary of Current Baseline

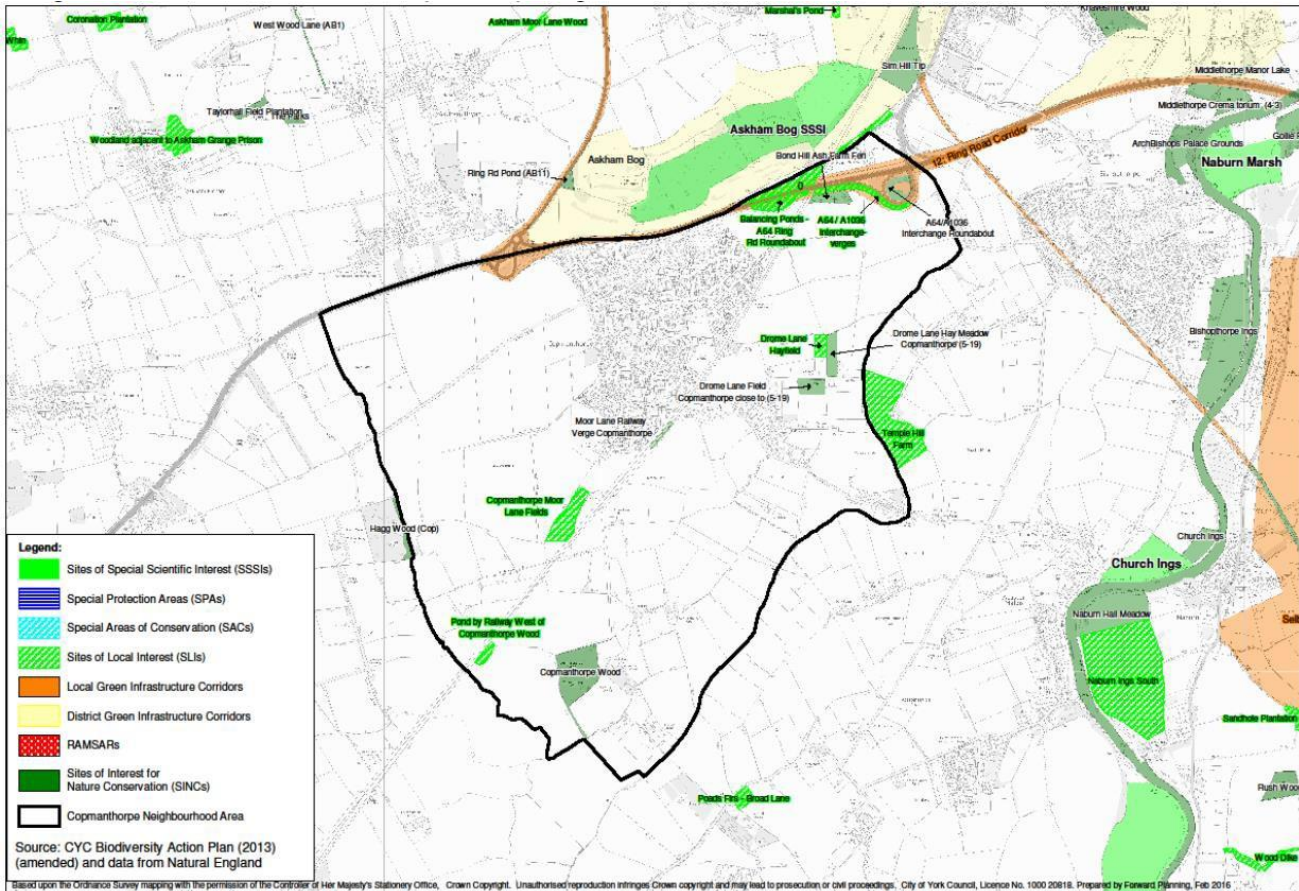


Figure A2.1: Designated nature conservation sites in Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan area

Within the Parish there are several designated SINCs and Sites of Local Interest (SLI). There are no statutory nature conservation designations. However, the nationally designated Askham Bog SSSI is adjacent to the neighbourhood area. This is outside the Parish but may be affected by development to the northern end of the village.

The protection of this area is very important, and the understanding of the effect of groundwater and water flows on the site is critical for any area nearby. Askham Bog is the remnant of a valley-mire which formed between two ridges of glacial moraine in the Vale of York just southwest of the City. Base-rich ground-water draining the moraines has led to the development of a rich-fen community which demonstrates stages in seral succession to fen woodland. In the central areas there is a poor-fen community, thought to represent incipient raised-bog, where vegetation has grown above the influence of the ground-water and conditions have become acidic through the leaching action of rain-water and the growth of bog mosses *Sphagnum* spp.

The present habitats are considered to be secondary, raised-bog having largely replaced the original fen before peat-cutting in the Middle Ages brought the vegetation back within the influence of base-rich ground-water with the consequent reversion to fen conditions.

The majority of the site consists of birch (*Betula pubescens*) and oak (*Quercus robur*) woodland with alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) at the dyke margins. There is extensive willow carr (*Salix cinerea*), and the shrub layer also includes alder buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) and bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*). The open fen communities are very rich in flowering plants such as meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), common meadow rue (*Thalictrum flavum*), yellow loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*), common marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) and woody nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*). Sedges are particularly well represented

and include fibrous tussock-sedge (*Carex appropinquata*), elongated sedge (*C. elongata*) and great fen-sedge (*Cladium mariscus*). The site is also noted for the occurrence of royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*) and marsh fern (*Thelypteris thelypteroides*). More acidic elements of the ground flora include broad buckler-fern (*Dryopteris dilatata*), narrow buckler-fern (*D. carthusiana*), purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) and bog mosses (*Sphagnum fimbriatum*), (*S. squarrosum* and (*S. palustre*). In addition to the peatland habitats there is grassland along the northern and southern margins which has several species of interest such as adder's-tongue fern (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*) and early marsh-orchid (*Dactylorhiza incarnata*), and the dykes are rich in aquatic plants, in particular the water violet (*Hottonia palustris*). The site is renowned for its insect fauna which includes the scarce beetles (*Dromius sigma*) and (*Agabus undulatus*) and the fen square-spot moth (*Diarsia florida*).

Summary of Future Baseline

Without further development in the Parish, existing and potential sites will retain their nature conservation value, although lack of management of sites may adversely affect their value.

Any proposed development on the periphery of the village may have potential negative effects on Askham Bog SSSI and Balancing Ponds (Adjacent to A64) SLI due to their proximity to Copmanthorpe. The Copmanthorpe Neighbourhood Plan plans to contain policies on the protection of Askham Bog which will have a positive effect because it will ensure that any issues of groundwater flow in the area will not adversely affect the habitat of the Bog. In addition, the emerging Local Plan will provide protection through emerging policies relating to Green Infrastructure.

Future development may affect important biodiversity sites and allocations. The extent of development could increase or decrease risk. There is potential for negative effects in relation to the proximity of the nearby SSSI or SLI as a result of development in the Copmanthorpe Area. This area of land is important for both biodiversity and human characteristics and that information already known about the sites should be considered within the SEA, along with other guidance, to lead to a policy of protection in the Neighbourhood Plan.

A3 – Climate Change

Context Review

The UK Climate Change Act¹⁴ was passed in 2008 and established a framework to develop an economically credible emissions reduction path. It also highlighted the role it would take in contributing to collective action to tackle climate change under the Kyoto Protocol, and more recently as part of the UN-led Paris Agreement. The Climate Change Act includes the following:

- The Act commits the UK to reducing emissions by at least 80% in 2050 from 1990 levels.
- The Act requires the Government to set legally binding 'carbon budgets' - a cap on the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the UK over a five-year period. The carbon budgets are designed to reflect the cost-effective path to achieving the UK's long-term objectives. The first five carbon budgets have been put into legislation and run up to 2032.
- The Committee on Climate Change was set up to advise the Government on emissions targets, and report to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The National Adaptation Programme requires the Government to assess the risks to the UK from climate change, prepare a strategy to address them, and encourage key organisations to do the same.

The UK Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future (2011) sets out the Government's plan for achieving the emissions reductions it has committed to, including actions and milestones.

The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment is published on a 5-yearly cycle in accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2008. It required the Government to compile an assessment

¹⁴ GOV.UK (2008) Climate Change Act 2008 [online] available at:

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents?sm_au=iVvt4Hr6tbjngNj [accessed 13/06/19]

of the risks for the UK arising from climate change, and then develop an adaptation programme to address those risks and deliver resilience to climate change on the ground. For both the 2012 and the 2017 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, the Adaptation Sub-Committee commissioned an evidence report aiming to understand the current and future climate risks and opportunities. The evidence report¹⁵ contains six priority risk areas requiring additional action in the next five years, identified below:

- Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure;
- Risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high temperatures;
- Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry;
- Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity;
- Risks to domestic and international food production and trade; and
- New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals.

Published in January 2018 by the UK Government, 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'¹⁶ sets out a number of goals and policies in order to help the natural world regain and retain good health. In this context, policies contained within Chapter 1 'Using and managing land sustainably' and Chapter 6 'Protecting and improving the global environment', Goal 4 'A reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought' and Goal 7 'Mitigating and adapting to climate change' directly relate to the Climate Change SEA theme.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework¹⁷ (NPPF) include:

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is an environmental objective to '*contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment*' including by '*mitigating and adapting to climate change*' and '*moving to a low carbon economy.*' The planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings; and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.'
- '*Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. Policies should support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts, such as providing space for physical protection measures, or making provision for the possible future relocation of vulnerable development and infrastructure.*'
- '*Local planning authorities should support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments outside areas identified in local plans or other strategic policies that are being taken forward through neighbourhood planning.*'
- Direct development away from areas at highest risk of flooding (whether existing or future). '*Where development is necessary, it should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere.*'

¹⁵ GOV.UK (2017) UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report January 2017 [online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017> [accessed 13/06/19]

¹⁶ HM GOV (2019) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 13/06/19]

¹⁷ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_20

[18.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

The Flood and Water Management Act¹⁸ highlights that alternatives to traditional engineering approaches to flood risk management include:

- Incorporating greater resilience measures into the design of new buildings, and retro-fitting properties at risk (including historic buildings);
- Utilising the environment to reduce flooding, for example through the management of land to reduce runoff and through harnessing the ability of wetlands to store water;
- Identifying areas suitable for inundation and water storage to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere;
- Planning to roll back development in coastal areas to avoid damage from flooding or coastal erosion; and
- Creating sustainable drainage systems.

Further guidance is provided in the document 'Planning for SuDS'. This report calls for greater recognition of the multiple benefits that water management can present. It suggests that successful SuDS are capable of 'contributing to local quality of life and green infrastructure'.

The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) assesses the different levels of flood risk in the York Unitary Authority area and maps these to assist with statutory land use planning. It provides concise information on flood risk issues, which will assist planning officers in the preparation of the City of York's emergent new Local Plan (ultimately supporting the Local Plan) and in the assessment of future planning applications.

The following policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version)¹⁹ directly relate to the climate change SEA theme:

- Policy GI1: Green Infrastructure;
- Policy CC1: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation;
- Policy CC2: Sustainable Design and Construction of New Development; and
- Policy EN4: Flood Risk

¹⁸ Flood and Water Management Act (2010) [online] available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/contents> [accessed 13/06/19]

¹⁹ City of York Council (2018): 'City of York Local Plan Publication Draft (Regulation 19 Consultation) (February 2018)' [online] available to access via: <https://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/15869/cd001_-

[city of york local plan publication draft regulation 19 consultation february 2018](#)> last accessed [13/06/19]

Summary of Current Baseline

Figure A3.1 and Figure A3.2 below shows the location of known flood risks in the plan area. The flood risks are predominantly to the south east of the railway and is based on the 2013 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, which sets out the different levels of flood risk in the York Unitary Authority Area as well as guidance on applying national policy, such as the requirement to apply a risk-based approach to the preparation of development plans and development management decisions through a sequential test.

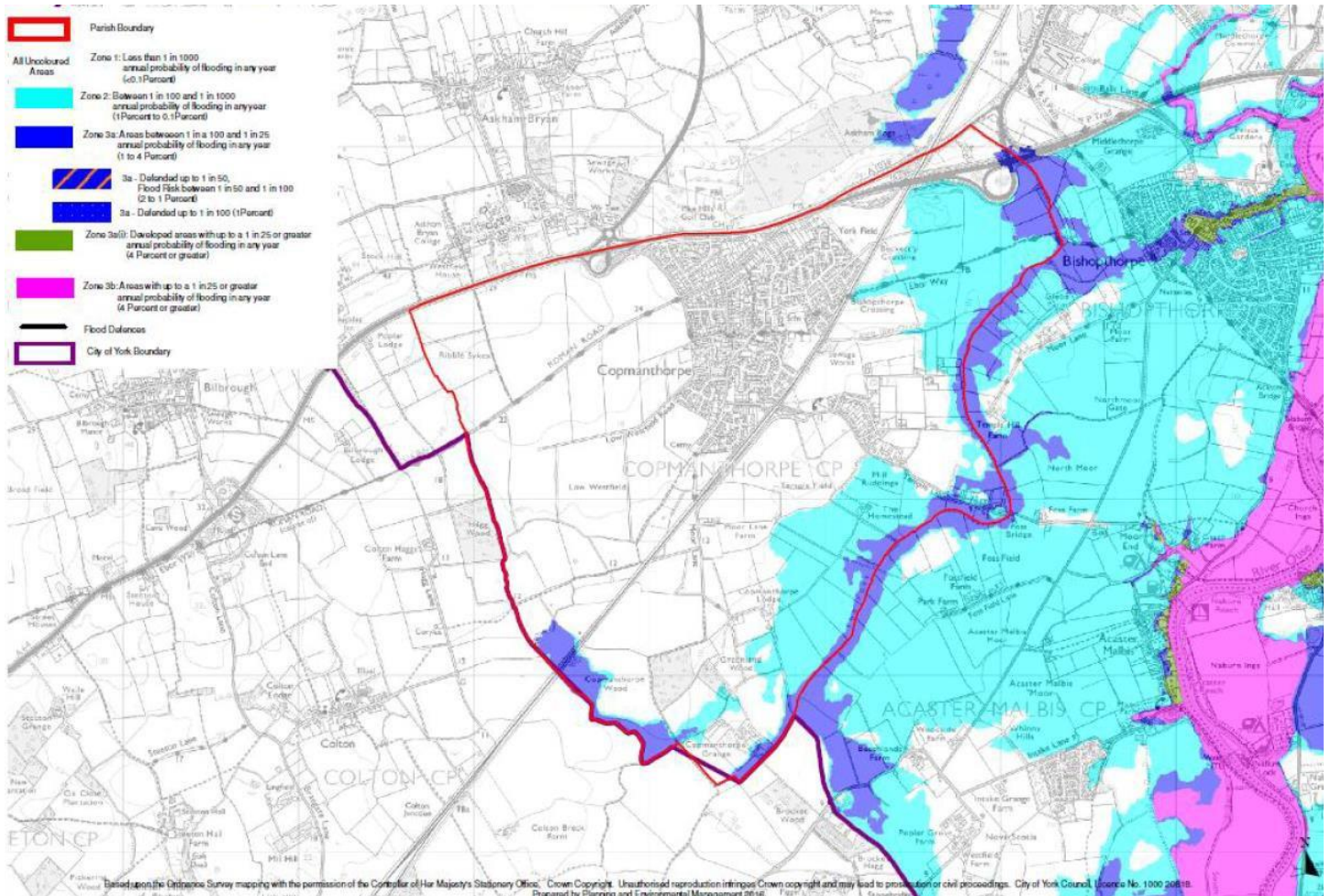


Figure A3.1: Flood Risk within Copmanthorpe Parish based on 2013 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

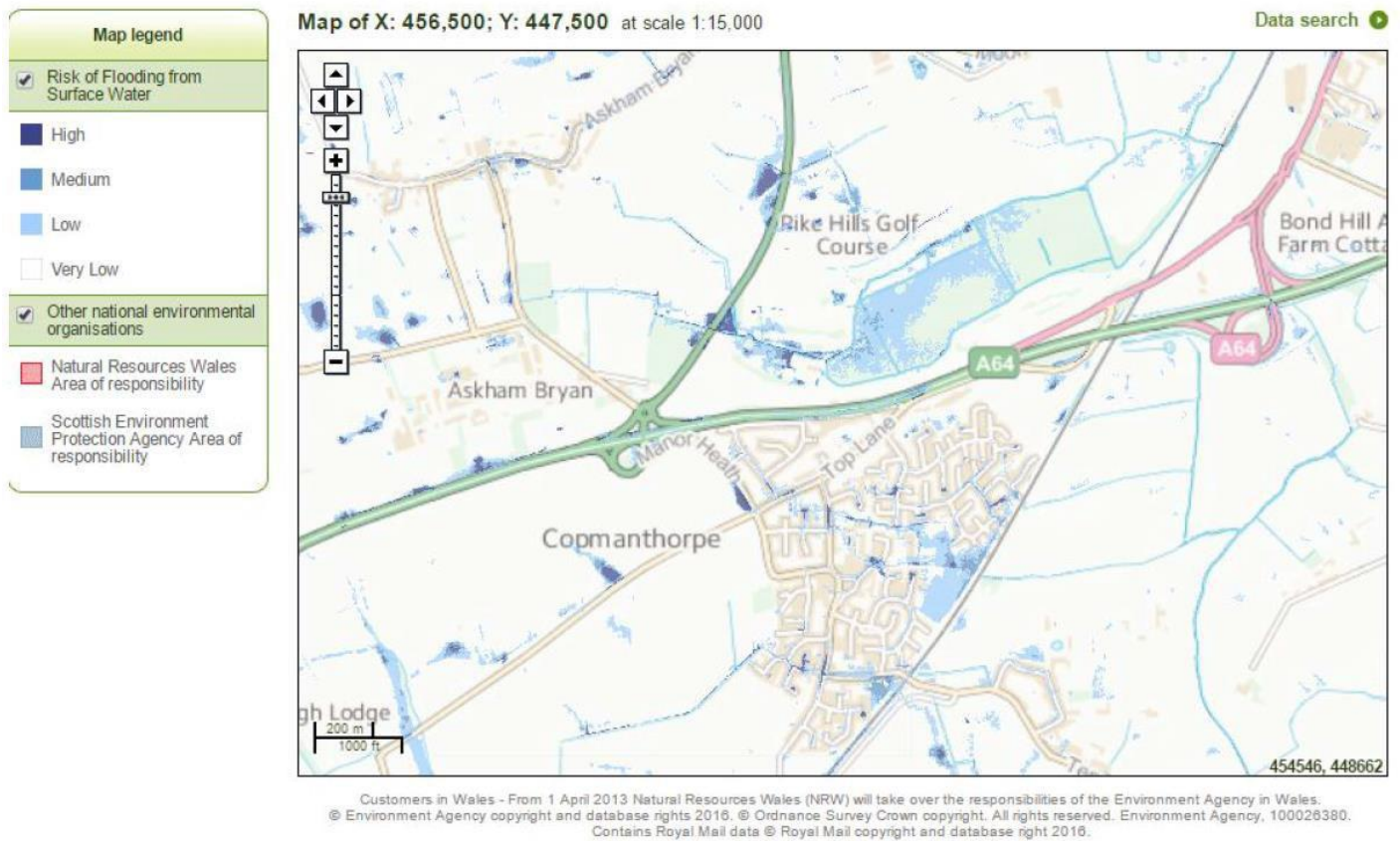


Figure A3.2: Surface water flood risk in Copmanthorpe, based on Environment Agency mapping

Summary of Future Baseline

Any development of land near waterways or flood risk areas may affect surface and ground water flows, but there are appropriate policies in the emerging Local Plan to ensure that flooding and water issues are appropriately covered, which would meet stated SA objectives, although the village itself is not affected by known flooding so risks are very low.

The planning system will also ensure that sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) schemes are properly implemented as part of detailed designs for site development. All major developments, which covers all allocated sites, now requires a drainage statement to show how all sources of flooding will be considered and SUDS schemes implemented.

The Neighbourhood Plan is not seeking to offer detailed policies on the development of sites, as these details (including drainage, flooding, and groundwater vulnerability) are all covered by the emerging Core Strategy and other legislation. Copmanthorpe has no abstraction designations, groundwater issues or drinking water safeguarding zones. The allocated sites are not subject to flood zones although some surface water issues may be present.

A4 – Landscape

Context Review

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework ²⁰ (NPPF) include:

- *'Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty [...]. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited.'*
- Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy making provision for *'conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure.'*
- Planning policies and decisions should ensure that *developments 'are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation of change (such as increased densities).'*
- *'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*
 - i. *protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils*
 - ii. *recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland; and*
 - iii. *remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.'*

The following policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the landscape SEA theme:

- Policy D2: Landscape and Setting;
- Policy GB1: Development in the Green Belt; and
- Policy GB3: Development in Settlements within the Green Belt.

Summary of Current Baseline

Copmanthorpe is an historic rural village located to the South West of York, south of the A64. It is largely surrounded by arable fields. The village is constrained by the railway to the eastern side, with fields beyond. It is within the Green Belt of York, although the exact extent of the Green Belt remains undefined.

A detailed landscape character assessment has been carried out for the Neighbourhood Plan Area. This builds on earlier more general landscape character assessments done by York Council as part of their evidence base at various stages. This has resulted in micro-scale character areas being created from the wider rural landscape which is predominantly an arable landscape with single village.

A more detailed assessment of the urban landscape was completed as part of the heritage assessment. In general, the settlement has a historic core and a clear development pattern north and east of the core. As you move eastwards, the village becomes increasingly modern.

²⁰ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_20

[18.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

The Council has an evidence base that sets out areas important for the historic character and setting of the city which is set out in the Green Belt Appraisal (2003) and the historic character and setting updates (2011, 2013). Within this document they identify several categories, including areas preventing coalescence. This evidence base is one of the key spatial shapers to the spatial development of York as identified in the emerging Local Plan.

Furthermore, the principle of setting a Green Belt around York is based upon conserving its historic character and setting. This evidence is therefore also a key component of ongoing work to help define inner greenbelt boundaries around York. In the Preferred Sites Consultation document, they have used the evidence base to help identify more preferable sites for development.

Specifically, in relation to Copmanthorpe, the north western edge of the village is identified in the Historic Character and Setting (2003, 2011, 2013) evidence base as an area preventing coalescence. Further analysis of the site undertaken for the historic character and setting work considers that the site is severed from the wider G3 area (designated as an area preventing coalescence) by the East Coast Mainline railway. The area is considered to be well contained and is bounded by the existing settlement of Copmanthorpe to the west, the East Coast Mainline railway line to the south east and to the north by Tadcaster Road and the A64 on a raised embankment beyond. It is therefore not considered to serve Green Belt purposes.

The Interim SEA for the Preferred Sites Consultation identifies that there are potentially negative to significantly negative effects for landscape. In addition, it is recognised that the topography of the site raises up towards the existing development line and may also present additional visual impacts from development. Mitigation will be required to minimise effects of any development of this land.

However, the Coalescence Policy is unadopted, and the landscape character assessments for the area are large scale. It is uncertain where the landscape assessment in the Interim SEA has come from. The various policies states that coalescence with Bishopthorpe is an issue in one document, and Dringhouses in another. There is therefore interpretation of coalescence and landscape impact in this area, which would benefit from a more detailed and small-scale assessment.

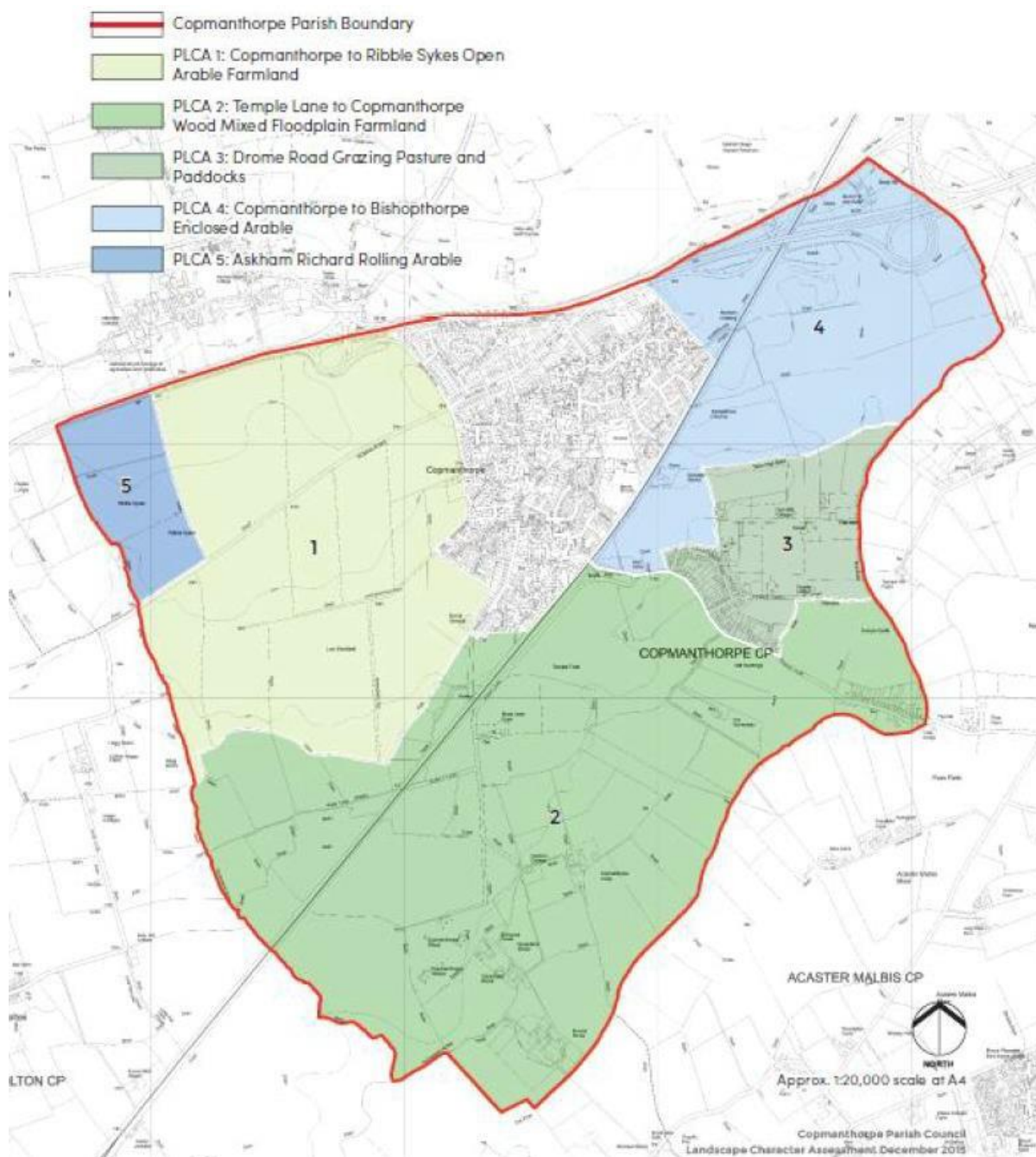


Figure A4.1: Parish Landscape Character Areas

PLCA 1: Copmanthorpe to Ribble Sykes Open Arable Farmland

- Medium to large scale arable farmland, with a regular, rectilinear field pattern;
- Uniform and simple land use;
- Gently undulating landform, falling to the south;
- Field boundaries typically defined by gappy hedgerows with few hedgerow trees, creating a sense of openness and long views, particularly to the south;
- Complete absence of built structures; and
- Is well valued for informal recreation, in particular the eastern parts which form the basis of many local walking circuits from the village.

PLCA 2: Temple Lane to Copmanthorpe Wood Mixed Floodplain Farmland

- Medium-small scale mixed farmland on flat low-lying land;
- Predominantly arable, interspersed with occasional grazing pasture which add some diversity;
- Field patterns are of irregular shape and size, in places geometric and in others sinuous when bounded by ditches;
- Fields bounded by ditches or gappy hedgerows with occasional hedgerow trees create a sense of openness across the landscape;
- Views possible across field boundaries due to gappy hedgerows, but generally restricted in the middle distance by the coalescence of hedgerow trees of woodland blocks;
- The area has a quiet and isolated feel, and there is little public access; and
- Occasional farms and dwellings are located in the area.

PLCA 3: Drome Road Grazing Pasture and Paddocks

- Intimate, small scale pasture fields and paddocks on flat low-lying land;
- Small geometric fields bounded by post and wire fences, some of which are lined with frequent but irregularly spaced outgrown native shrubs (not forming continuous hedgerows);
- Interspersed with a number of farm buildings and individual houses of varying sizes and architectural styles, often with barns, outbuildings, sheds and associated yards;
- Relatively open views within the area but enclosed as a whole by tall vegetation along Town Ings Drain and The Foss, and residential built form; and
- A calm, quiet area.

PLCA 4: Copmanthorpe to Bishopthorpe Enclosed Arable

- Medium scale irregular shaped arable fields;
- Tall, dense, mature field boundary hedgerows which provide a strong sense of enclosure;
- Largely flat topography, rising towards the A64 in the west;
- The A64 along the northern boundary and the train line along the western boundary are prominent transport corridors which create a sense of modernity and busy activity;
- Views are generally short distance, being enclosed by field boundary hedgerows; and
- The area lacks accessibility.

PLCA 5: Askham Richard Rolling Arable

- Medium to small scale arable fields with a regular, rectilinear field pattern;
- Uniform and simple land use;
- Gently undulating landform, falling to the south;
- Field boundaries typically defined by hedgerows with hedgerow trees;
- Linear tree belts provide some sense of enclosure to the area.

Summary of Future Baseline

There is clearly risk for any development on the periphery of the village to have an adverse impact on landscape character, both in its historic value and loss of openness. There is also coalescence with neighbouring settlements to be considered for development on the eastern end of the village.

The Neighbourhood Plan through its evidence base will assess impact on openness, Green Belt, landscape character and historic values with appropriate reports. It will also cautiously use the

information contained in the City of York Council (CYC) evidence base, plus their frameworks for assessing impact, as part of the allocations process. This will ensure that there is no adverse harm to the character of the landscape. They will also include a policy on protection of green infrastructure and Green Belt, to ensure the landscape is protected whilst allowing appropriate growth.

In addition, the emerging Local Plan will provide protection through emerging policies relating to Green Infrastructure/Green Belt protection. The Preferred Sites Consultation Document shows a willingness to reconsider the merits of the extent of Coalescence policy and are looking to allocate land at Tadcaster Road, accepting that the risk of coalescence in this location is not significant, but acknowledging some landscape harm.

It is therefore likely that the Neighbourhood Plan will not have significant impacts on landscape character within the Parish.

However, there is an implicit connection between landscape and heritage which needs further exploration as part of any allocations to ensure that any changes to the landscape do not harm the Green Belt, which was principally agreed to protect the Historic Character and Setting of the York. Historic England have identified a possible risk that needs to be explored further.

A5 – Historic Environment

Context Review

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework²¹ (NPPF) include:

- Heritage assets should be recognised as an 'irreplaceable resource' that should be conserved in a 'manner appropriate to their significance', taking account of 'the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits' of conservation, whilst also recognising the positive contribution new development can make to local character and distinctiveness.
- Plans should set out a 'positive strategy' for the 'conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment', including those heritage assets that are most at risk.
- 'When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss of less than substantial harm to its significance.'

The policies contained within Chapter 2 'Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes' and Goal 6 'Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment' directly relates to the Landscape and Historic Environment SEA theme.

The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England²² sets out its vision for the historic environment. It calls for those who have the power to shape the historic environment to recognise its value and to manage it in an intelligent manner in light of the contribution that it can make to social, economic and cultural life.

Historic England is the statutory body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's spectacular historic environment. Guidance and advice notes provide essential information for local planning authorities, neighbourhood groups, developers, consultants, landowners and other interested parties on historic environment considerations, and are regularly reviewed and updated in light of

²¹ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_2018.pdf [accessed 13/06/19]

²² HM Government (2010) The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England [online] available at: http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/6763.aspx accessed

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legislative changes. The following guidance and advice notes are particularly relevant and should be read in conjunction with the others.

Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management: Historic England Advice Note 1 (February 2016)²³ outlines ways to manage change that conserves and enhances historic areas in order to positively contribute to sustainable development. Principally, the advice note emphasises the importance of:

- Understanding the different types of special architectural and historic interest which underpin the designations; and
- Recognising the value of implementing controls through the appraisal and/or management plan which positively contribute to the significance and value of conservation areas.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA): Historic England Advice Note 8 (December 2016)²⁴ provides support to all stakeholders involved in assessing the effects of certain plans and programmes on the historic environment. It offers advice on heritage considerations during each stage of the SA/SEA process and helps to establish the basis for robust and comprehensive assessments.

Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (2nd Edition) (December 2017)²⁵ provides general advice on understanding setting, and how it may contribute to the significance of heritage assets and allow that significance to be appreciated, as well as advice on how views can contribute to setting. Specifically, Part 2 of the advice note outlines a five stepped approach to conducting a broad assessment of setting:

- Step 1: Identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected;
- Step 2: Assess the degree to which these settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s) or allow significance to be appreciated;
- Step 3: Assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance or on the ability to appreciate it;
- Step 4: Explore ways to maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm; and
- Step 5: Make and document the decision and monitor outcomes.

Neighbourhood Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic England Advice Note 11 (October 2018)²⁶ outlines the importance of considering the historic environment whilst preparing the plan (section 1), which culminates in a checklist of relevant issues to consider, followed by an overview of what this means in terms of evidence gathering (section 2). Sections 3 to 5 of the advice note focus on how to translate evidence into policy, understand the SEA process and Historic England's role in neighbourhood planning.

The following policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the historic environment SEA theme:

- Policy D3: Cultural Provision;
- Policy D4: Conservation Areas;

²³ Historic England (2016): 'Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management: Advice Note 1', [online] available to download via: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/conservation-area-designation-appraisal-management-advice-note-1/>> [accessed 13/06/19]

²⁴ Historic England (2016): 'SA and SEA: Advice Note 8' [online] available to download via: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>> last accessed [13/06/19]

²⁵ Historic England (2017): 'Setting of Heritage Assets: 2nd Edition', [online] available to download via: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/>> last accessed [13/06/19]

²⁶ Historic England (2018): 'Neighbourhood Planning and the Historic Environment', [online] available to download via: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/neighbourhood-planning-and-the-historic-environment/>> last

accessed [13/06/19]

- Policy D5: Listed Buildings;
- Policy D6: Archaeology;
- Policy D7: The Significance of Non-Designated Heritage Assets;
- Policy D8: Historic Parks and Gardens; and
- Policy D9: City of York Historic Environment Record.

Summary of Current Baseline

It is important to acknowledge that York is one of only a few places that has been designated a Green Belt to preserve the historic character and setting of the city. The Green Belt in York has never been adopted. Although the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Spatial Strategy was revoked, the policies relation to York's Green Belt were retained. These set the general extent of Green Belt around York and it is the role of the emerging Local Plan to set the detailed inner boundaries of the Green Belt. There are a number of baseline studies and evidence base documents relating to the Green Belt and Heritage Assets. There is also the unadopted Coalescence Policy, and associated report, which has been explained in its wider context earlier under the Landscape SEA theme.

The evidence base produced is used to understand the areas that contribute to the city's setting and special character and forms a key component of the emerging Local Plan's Spatial Strategy.

As shown in Figure A5.1 below, there is a designated Conservation Area in Copmanthorpe, and the village can trace its roots back beyond the Domesday Book. Additionally, there are seven nationally designated Grade II Listed Buildings in the village, as follows: Milestone approximately 80 metres west of Askham Fields Lane; 4, Main Street; Milestone; Church of St Giles; Ashfield Grange; 6, Main Street; and Oak Lea. There are also a number of HER records of finds within the Plan area.

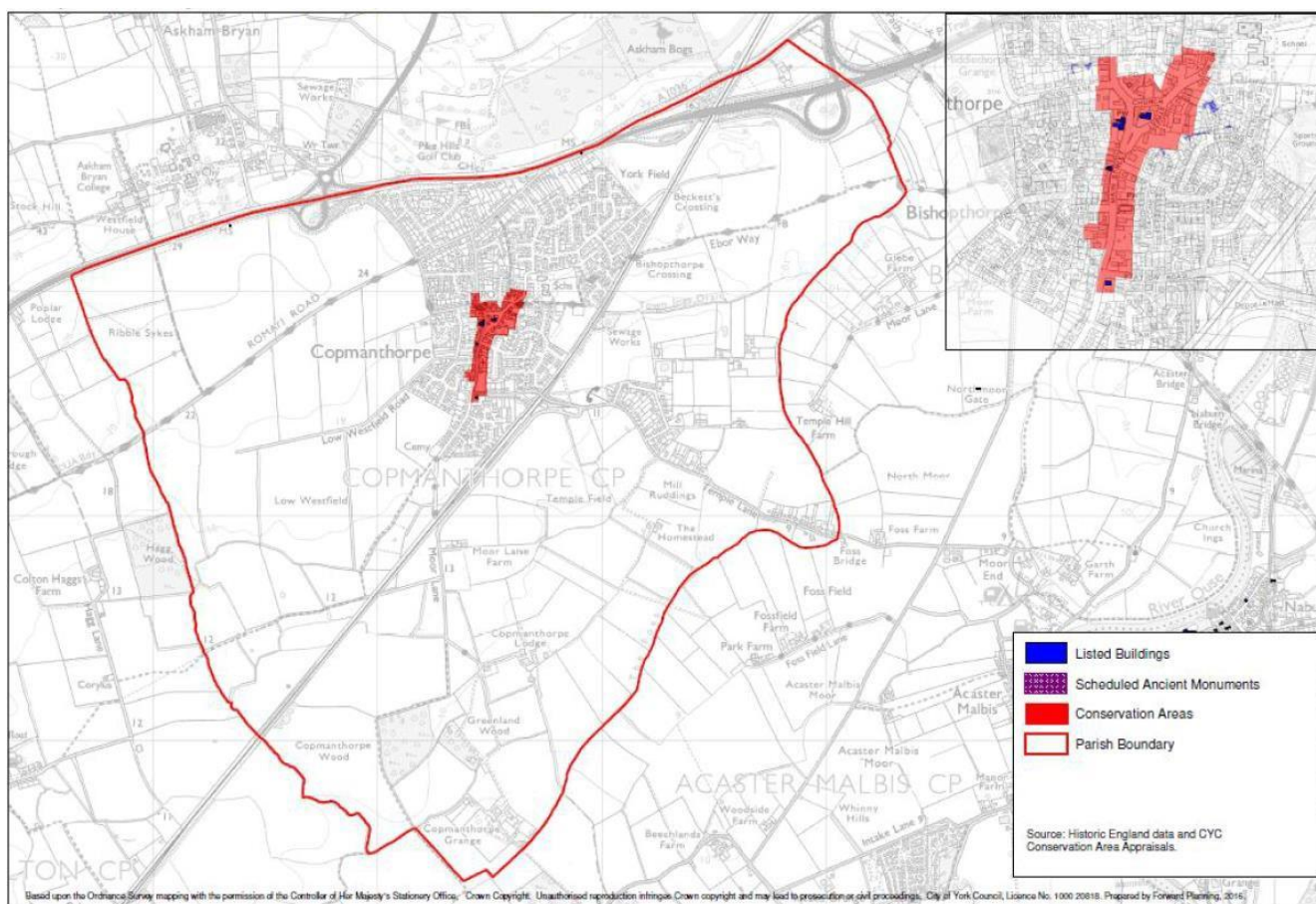


Figure A5.1: Designated heritage assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area

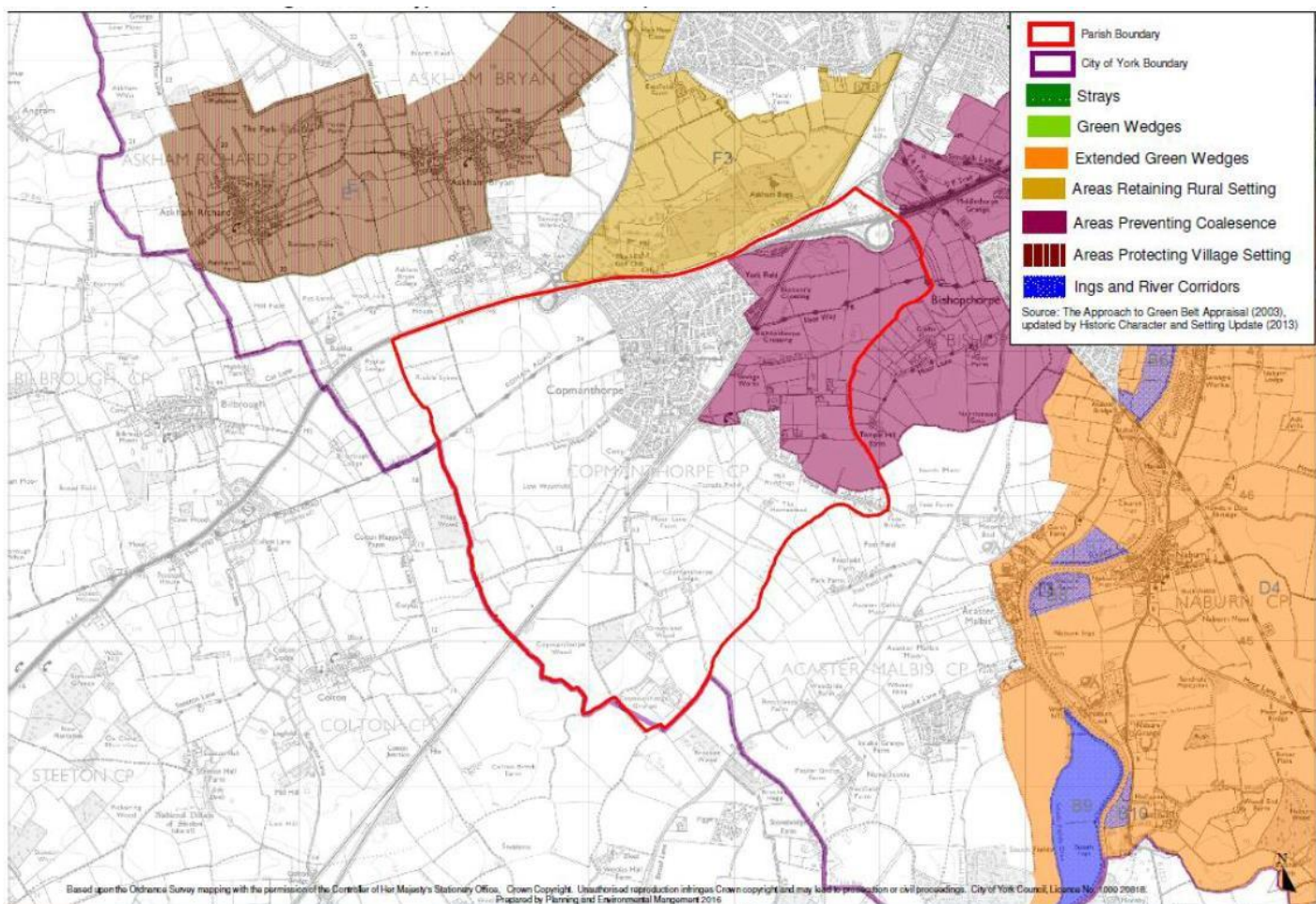


Figure A5.2: Historic Character and Setting Character Types within Copmanthorpe Parish

Summary of Future Baseline

Because of the importance of the wider context around Copmanthorpe, and its proximity to York, there are wider Historic Character and Setting Types that affect the Plan area. These are as suggested during the 2003 Approach to Green Belt Appraisal and updated Historic Character and Setting Update 2013. However, the original Green Belt appraisal was not adopted and the choice and extent of these designations is therefore open for further detailed assessment and interpretation.

Without further development there will be no harm to the character and setting of the heritage assets. However, as development is required to support growth in the area, any development, especially on the periphery of the village carries the risk of harm to both immediate and wider heritage context issues.

Historic England during the Screening exercise considered that 'two of the development sites identified with the Neighbourhood Plan have not to our knowledge been evaluated by the City of York Council to evaluate the impact of any development upon the historic environment within and around Copmanthorpe, nor the historic environment and nationally significant heritage assets within the city.

Notwithstanding this, the Neighbourhood Plan appears to be putting sites forward for development which could impact upon the Green Belt. Given that the primary purpose of the Green Belt is to safeguard the special character and setting of the historic city, a development in the Green Belt, therefore, has the potential to impact upon elements which contribute towards the significance of York.

It will be important for the SEA to evaluate the possible impacts of the proposed development sites might have upon the historic environment (in particular those elements which contribute to the special historic character and setting of York). For consistency, the plan should to use the same framework that York has developed for evaluating the sites that they are proposing to put forward in the emerging Local Plan.'

Since the screening, CYC have issued an amended Allocations document, and this includes the allocation of land at Tadcaster Road. There is now a compliance between the Neighbourhood Plan and emerging allocations document. CYC suggest that the land now does not serve 'Green Belt purposes'. This evidence base is a key shaper in the spatial strategy within emerging Local Plan. It also feeds into the assessment of green belt in helping to define those areas of most importance for the historic character and setting of the city. Further assessment and consideration of evidence of these areas will inform ongoing work in relation to site allocations and in defining the Green Belt boundaries for York.

Whilst CYC have expressed changes in relation to sites in the Preferred Sites Consultation document, it should also be documented that issues in relation to the potential impact of development due to the topography of the land has been identified in relation to visual effect and in addition, that the interim SEA recognises that there may be negative to significantly negative effects in relation to the rural setting of Copmanthorpe. Consequently, mitigation is likely to be required for this site should it be developed according to CYC.

A6 – Land, Soil and Water Resources

Context Review

The EU's Soil Thematic Strategy²⁷ presents a strategy for protecting soil resources in Europe. The main aim of the strategy is to minimise soil degradation and limit associated detrimental effects linked to water quality and quantity, human health, climate change, biodiversity, and food safety.

The EU Water Framework Directive²⁸(WFD) drives a catchment-based approach to water management. In England and Wales there are 100 water catchments and it is Defra's intention is to establish a 'framework for integrated catchment management' across England. The Environment Agency is establishing 'Significant Water Management Issues' and recently presented second River Basin Management Plans to ministers. The plans seek to deliver the objectives of the WFD namely:

- Enhance the status and prevent the further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands which depend on aquatic ecosystems;
- Promote the sustainable use of water;
- Reduce the pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances; and
- Ensure the progressive reduction of groundwater pollution.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework²⁹ (NPPF) include:

- *'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*
 - a. *Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils*

²⁷ European Commission (2006) Soil Thematic Policy [online] available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index_en.htm> last accessed [13/06/19]

²⁸ European Commission (2016) The EU Water Framework Directive – integrated river basin management for Europe [online] available at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html last accessed [13/06/19]

²⁹ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_20

[18.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

- b. *recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland’; and*
- c. *Prevent new or existing development from being ‘adversely affected’ by the presence of ‘unacceptable levels’ of soil pollution or land instability and be willing to remediate and mitigate ‘despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate’.*
- *‘Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions. Strategic policies should set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously-developed or ‘brownfield’ land.’*
- *‘Encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains.’*
- *Planning policies and decisions should ‘give substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other identified needs’, and ‘promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings.’*
- Taking a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for water supply.
- Prevent new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of water pollution.
- The government has produced a separate plan that specifically deals with planning policy in relation to waste management; this should be read in conjunction with the NPPF.
- Encourage the effective use of land’ through the reuse of land which has been previously developed, *‘provided that this is not of high environmental value’*. Whilst there is no longer a national requirement to build at a minimum density, the NPPF requires local planning authorities to *‘set out their own approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances’*.
- Produce strategic policies to deliver the provision of a variety of infrastructure, including that necessary for water supply.
- With regards to waste, the NPPF does not contain any specific waste policies as waste planning policy will be published as part of the National Waste Management Plan.

Along with the policies contained within Chapter 1 ‘Using and managing land sustainably’ and Chapter 4 ‘Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste’, Goal 2 ‘Clean and plentiful water’, Goal 5 ‘Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently’ and Goal 8 ‘Minimising waste’ of the Government’s ‘A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment’³⁰ directly relates to the land, soil and water resources SEA theme.

Other key documents at the national level include Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England³¹, which sets out a vision for soil use in England, and the Water White Paper³², which sets out the Government’s vision for a more resilient water sector. It states the measures that will be taken to tackle issues such as poorly performing ecosystems, and the combined impacts of climate change and population growth on stressed water resources.

³⁰ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 13/06/19]

³¹ DEFRA (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A strategy for England [online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-our-soils-a-strategy-for-england> [accessed 13/06/19]

³² DEFRA (2011) Water for life (The Water White Paper) [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228861/8230.pdf

[accessed 13/06/19]

In terms of waste management, the Government Review of Waste Policy in England³³ recognises that environmental benefits and economic growth can be the result of a more sustainable approach to the use of materials.

The National Waste Management Plan³⁴ provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England and evaluates how it will support the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised Waste Framework Directive³⁵. This includes an assessment of the need for new collection schemes, additional waste infrastructure and investment channels, as well as providing general or strategic waste management policies.

Published in February 2016, the Humber River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) sets out the current state and pressures of the water environment, environmental objectives for protecting and improving waters, and a programme of measures to achieve the objectives.

The following policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the land, soil and water resources SEA theme:

- Policy ENV2: Managing Environmental Quality;
- Policy ENV3: Land Contamination;
- Policy ENV5: Sustainable Drainage;
- Policy WM1: Sustainable Waste Management; and
- Policy WM2: Sustainable Minerals Management.

Summary of Current Baseline

The River Ouse lies east of the Parish, and the low lying flat eastern parts of the Parish form the floodplain, and drainage ditches are present delineating field boundaries. The Foss, a local drain, forms the eastern boundary of the Parish. The eastern parts of the Parish forming the Ouse floodplain are largely flat at around 9m AOD, with gentle undulations forming as the ground rises to around 27m AOD to the west.

Yorkshire Water's Water Resource Management Plan (2013) suggest they will have a surplus of water over the 25-year plan period and they have a duty to provide clean, safe water. There appears to be sufficient water, with careful management although increased housing numbers and development will increase pressure on resources. This is not directly influenced by the Neighbourhood Plan or the Local Plan although there is a correlation which must be borne in mind. It is worth noting that that policies and development proposed in the plan and the emerging Local Plan (as an in-combination effect) may have a negative effect on water usage and consumption. However, it is understood that Yorkshire Water's Management Plan has used a set of assumptions based upon population growth to understand water surplus/ deficit over the plan period and therefore concur that this the effects from the Neighbourhood Plan or Local Plan have been taken into consideration.

The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland to enable informed choices to be made about its future use within the planning system. Published by Natural England, the ALC provides a classification in 5 grades using a number of criteria including climate (temperature, rainfall, aspect, exposure, and frost risk), site (gradient, micro-relief, flood risk) and soil (depth, structure, texture, chemicals, stoniness). The scales ranges from 1 (high quality) to 5 – poorest.

³³ DEFRA (2011) Government Review of Waste Policy in England [online] available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69401/pb13540-waste-policy-review110614.pdf [accessed 13/06/19]

³⁴ DEFRA (2013) Waste Management Plan for England [online] available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/265810/pb14100-waste-management-plan-20131213.pdf [accessed 13/06/19]

³⁵ Directive 2008/98/EC

The area is underlain predominantly by mixed alluvial and blown sands and gravels. The north of the Parish is bounded by a moraine ridge formed of bunter sandstone covered with boulder clay. This results in soils of Agricultural Land Classification Grades 2 and 3, which are used predominantly for arable landscape, with only occasional pasture. The arable land to the west, south and south east, around Copmanthorpe represents land of very good or good quality.

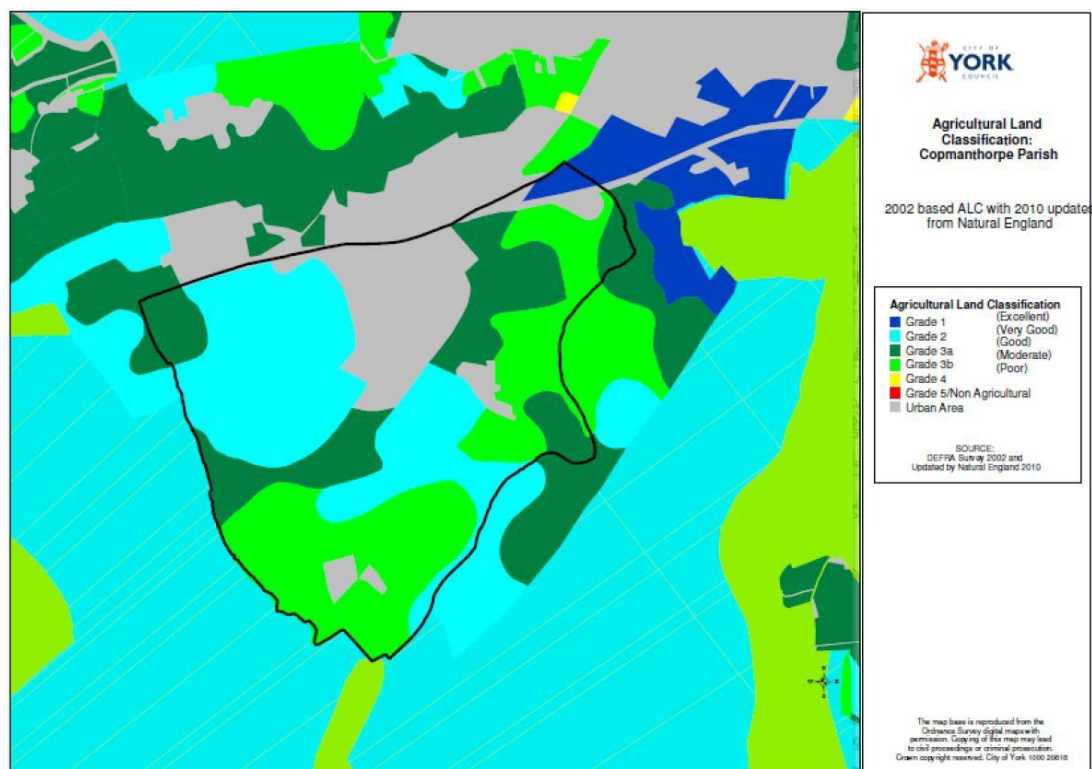


Figure A6.1: Agricultural Land Classification in Copmanthorpe Parish

Mineral resources are defined as natural concentrations of minerals or, in the case of aggregates, bodies of rock that are, or may become, of potential economic interest due to their inherent properties. They make an essential contribution to the country's prosperity and quality of life. Since minerals are a non-renewable resource, minerals safeguarding is the process of ensuring that non-minerals development does not needlessly prevent the future extraction of mineral resources, of local and national importance³⁶.

Published in November 2016, the Publication Draft of the Minerals and Waste Joint Local Plan (JLP)³⁷ sets out policies for the development and use of land in the three mineral and waste planning authority areas of North Yorkshire, the City of York and the North York Moors National Park. Policy S01 'Safeguarding mineral resources' outlines provisions to safeguard surface mineral resources and deep mineral resources (along with their associated buffer zones) to protect these resources for the future. As shown on the CYC layers on the interactive policies map for the Publication Draft of the JLP³⁸:

- Areas of land within the northern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area are within a brick clay surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer; and
- Areas of land within the north eastern section of the Neighbourhood Plan area are within a sand and gravel surface mineral resource safeguarded area with an additional 250m buffer.

³⁶ GOV.UK (2014): 'Minerals Guidance', [online] available to access via: <<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/minerals>> last accessed [11/03/19]

³⁷ North Yorkshire County Council, City of York Council, North York Moors National Park Authority (2016): 'Publication Draft of the Minerals and Waste Joint Local Plan', [online] available to access via: <<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/minerals-and-waste-joint-plan-examination>> last accessed [13/06/19]

³⁸ North Yorkshire County Council (2017): 'Interactive Policies Map', [online] available to access via: <<https://maps.northyorks.gov.uk/connect/analyst/?mapcfg=mwjp>> last accessed [13/06/19]

Summary of Future Baseline

The protection of soil quality is important for both environmental and habitat reasons, but also for agriculture which is an important feature of the landscape and economy. However, there is a large amount of agricultural land and some modest losses could be absorbed without undue harm, although this must be a balanced decision. The better-quality agricultural land is to the north west of the plan area and thus should be protected from development in terms of hierarchy of protecting better quality agricultural land. The quality of land is a factor in site assessments.

Loss of important agricultural land to development has a risk to the local economy and environment and should be carefully considered. There is appropriate policy with the NPPF and general policies with the emerging Local Plan, which are consistent with the Interim SA, to ensure that this is given due consideration and thought.

A7 – Population and Community

Context Review

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework³⁹ (NPPF) include:

- *'One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is a social objective to; 'support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural wellbeing.'*
- To support the Government's objective of significantly boosting the supply of housing, strategic policies *'should be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance. In addition to the local housing need figure, any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account in establishing the amount of housing to be planned for.'*
- The size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies. Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required, and expect it to be met on-site where possible.
- Recognise the important contribution of small and medium sized development sites in meeting housing needs. Local Plans should identify land to accommodate at least 10% of their housing requirement on sites no larger than one hectare, and neighbourhood planning groups should also consider the opportunities for allocating small and medium-sized sites.
- In rural areas, planning policies and decisions should be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate. Authorities should consider whether allowing some market housing would facilitate the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs.
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.
- Ensure that developments create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. Places should contain clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high-quality public spaces, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.

³⁹ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_20

[18.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

- Ensuring that there is a 'sufficient choice of school places' and taking a 'proactive, positive and collaborative approach' to bringing forward 'development that will widen choice in education'.

The 'Ready for Ageing?' report, published by the Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change⁴⁰ warns that society is underprepared for an ageing population. The report states that 'longer lives can be a great benefit, but there has been a collective failure to address the implications and without urgent action this great boon could turn into a series of miserable crises. The report recognises that the supply of specialist housing for the older generation is insufficient for the demand. There is a need for central and local Government, housing associations, and house builders to ensure that these housing needs are better addressed, giving as much priority to promoting an adequate market of social housing for the older generation as is given to the younger generation.

Policies contained in Chapter 1 'Using and managing land sustainably' and Chapter 4 'Increasing resource efficiency and reducing pollution and waste' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'⁴¹ directly relates to the Population and Communities SEA theme.

Most of the policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the population and community SEA theme.

Summary of Current Baseline

Copmanthorpe has the following community infrastructure assets: primary school, nursery, churches, shops/service centre, cafes, library, community centre/hall, public house, doctors/health centre and sports/recreation areas.

The Parish compiled a full list of facilities and organisations in September 2014 as part of the evidence base. They also did a community audit which identified that green spaces and allotments are highly valued within the village.

Copmanthorpe has experienced a moderate decline in population between 2001 and 2011, from 4262 to 4173, according to Census data. The number of households increased by just 2, from 3407 to 3409. Population is therefore largely stable although the breakdown of age is more revealing. Between 2001 and 2011 there was a decline in population of the under 60's, and an increase of those above 60 years old. Therefore, Copmanthorpe has an increasingly aging population, and younger people are moving away.

The Housing Needs Survey, commissioned as part of the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan, lists the type of accommodation needed and sizes required. This sets the current baseline for housing needs in the village, based on current population need.

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and SHMA Addendum (part of the technical information underpinning the Preferred Sites Consultation document) concludes that the objectively assessed need for housing between 2012-2032 to be 841 dwellings per annum. This figure includes the provision of affordable homes as part of the overall housing delivery. In addition, the SHMA identifies that there is a need for a mix of house sizes across the city. The conclusions drawn take account of how the structure of the population and households are expected to change over the plan period to 2032 and how people occupy homes. In summary, this identifies that 2 and 3 bedroomed homes are in most demand. The distribution development across York to meet the identified need is guided by the following spatial principles as opposed to a settlement distribution model:

- Conserving and enhancing York's historic and natural environment, including the City's character and setting, nature conservations and areas of importance for recreation;

⁴⁰ Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change (2013) Ready for Ageing? [online] available at: <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldselect/ldpublic/140/140.pdf> [accessed 13/06/19]

⁴¹ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-

[environment-plan.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

- Ensuring access to sustainable modes of transport and a range of services;
- Preventing unacceptable levels of congestion, pollution and/or air quality; and
- Ensuring flood risk is appropriately managed.

Summary of Future Baseline

Without development, the situation will remain unchanged with all open spaces and facilities to remain as they are, subject to the role of the economy and funding as necessary.

Increased development and housing will increase use of many of the facilities and the Neighbourhood Plan proposes a policy to increase allotment space, acknowledging that modern gardens are much smaller, and to protect land for play space and playing fields. These could be provided through planning gain/Community Infrastructure Levy/Obligations, as specified by the emerging Local Plan.

The Neighbourhood plan not only wishes to protect existing infrastructure, encouraging development to support shops, school, library etc., but also provide enhanced green spaces for all ages. Development therefore has the potential to protect and support existing and new infrastructure for local needs.

The Housing Needs Survey clearly sets out there is a need for more housing in the village. This is echoed by York Council who also accept the need for growth. Windfall development in the village is unlikely to have any impact on the needs of the current village population, or the growing population in the wider area, and is not guaranteed to come forward in any case.

Allocation of sites for housing will ensure that housing needs are met, at least in part. Copmanthorpe cannot be expected to meet the needs of the entire district and allocations will be spread throughout the district. It will be for the City Council to ensure that they meet their targets for housing. The Neighbourhood Plan proposes sites for housing which are considered appropriate for the needs of the area and also proposes a local occupancy condition to ensure that those who have a connection to the village can remain, return or move, and that new housing will meet the proven need in the village. Given most people in the village work in York or wider area, this will also meet the wider housing needs for the area, and thus meet the emerging Local Plan needs. The evidence base studies completed by the Parish Council indicate the level of demand within the village and whilst residents can come from across the district, the Housing Needs Survey is a good evidence base.

The emerging Local Plan recognises that the key drivers for development in the city are housing and employment as a result of population growth and the economic ambitions of the city. City of York Council has commissioned an evidence base to understand the requirements for growth in respect of each. The Neighbourhood Plan itself will set out data on housing need, as well as using evidence bases and surveys to determine what, if any extra services will be required, and looking at growth data in relation to allocations. Furthermore, the Plan will encourage local needs and affordable housing to comply with the emerging Local Plan, which will meet wider targets for the population of the district.

A8 – Health and Wellbeing

Context Review

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁴² (NPPF) include:

- One of the three overarching objectives of the NPPF is a social objective to; *'support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed*

⁴² MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_20

[18.pdf](#) [accessed 13/06/19]

and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural wellbeing.'

- *'Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling.'*
- Policies and decisions should take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community.
- Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and wellbeing of communities. Development should avoid building on existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields.
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.

The policies contained in Chapter 3 'Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing' of the Government's 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'⁴³ directly relates to the health and wellbeing SEA theme.

Other key national messages in relation to health include; Fair Society, Healthy Lives⁴⁴ ('The Marmot Review') which investigated health inequalities in England and the actions needed in order to tackle them. Subsequently, a supplementary report was prepared providing additional evidence relating to spatial planning and health on the basis that there is *'overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities'*.

The increasing role that local level authorities are expected to play in providing health outcomes is demonstrated by recent government legislation. The Health and Social Care Act 2012⁴⁵ transferred responsibility for public health from the NHS to local government, giving local authorities a duty to improve the health of the people who live in their areas. This will require a more holistic approach to health across all local government functions.

Most of the policies within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the health and wellbeing SEA theme.

Summary of Current Baseline

The respondents of the 2011 Census were asked to rate their health. The percentage of residents in Copmanthorpe rating their health as 'very good' is higher than the national average. Also, the percentage of residents in Copmanthorpe rating their health as 'very bad' is less than the national average, suggesting that the health of residents of Copmanthorpe is generally good.

Noise or contamination of development sites may be a factor for existing and proposed residents from existing road and rail networks. There are some records within CYC of noise disturbance from the A64 to existing houses on Tadcaster Road, leading to the provision of an acoustic barrier alongside the A64.

⁴³ HM GOV (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [accessed 13/06/19]

⁴⁴ The Marmot Review (2011) The Marmot Review: Implications for Spatial Planning [online] available at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20170106161952/http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=106106> [accessed 19/02/19]

⁴⁵ Health and Social Care Act (2012) [online] available at: <<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/7/contents/enacted>> last

accessed [13/06/19]

There are a number of footpaths, cycle ways and recreational opportunities in Copmanthorpe, as well as access to medical services. The evidence base and studies completed by the Parish Council show how well used and well valued these are.

Summary of Future Baseline

Without development, the situation will remain unchanged.

With development comes opportunities to improve facilities that can improve general health and wellbeing as part of contributions and planning gain, where there is felt to be a lack.

Neighbourhood surveys completed as part of the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan have not identified any significant health problems or related needs in the parish.

The emerging Local Plan contains policies to allow issues of noise, contamination and other risks to human health to be fully considered through the planning process, ensuring that there will be appropriate controls to protect human health. In relation to existing infrastructure, the issues relate to potential for noise disturbance from existing road and rail routes. This can be addressed with individual applications and noise assessments and mitigation with those proposals.

A9 – Transportation

Context Review

European and UK transport policies and plans place emphasis on the modernisation and sustainability of the transport network. Specific objectives include reducing pollution and road congestion through improvements to public transport, walking and cycling networks and reducing the need to travel. National policy also focuses on the need for the transport network to support sustainable economic growth.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework⁴⁶ (NPPF) include:

- *'Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, so that:*
 - a. *The potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed*
 - b. *Opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and changing transport technology and usage, are realised*
 - c. *Opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use are identified and pursued*
 - d. *The environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account*
 - e. *Patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes and contribute to making high quality places.'*
- *'Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. This can help to reduce congestion and emissions and improve air quality and public health. However, opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary between urban and rural areas, and this should be taken into account in both plan-making and decision-making.'*

Policy T1-T9 within the emerging City of York Local Plan (Regulation 19 submission version) directly relate to the transportation SEA theme.

⁴⁶ MHCLG (2019) National Planning Policy Framework [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728643/Revised_NPPF_20

[18.pdf](#) [accessed 19/02/19]

Summary of Current Baseline

The local roads serving Copmanthorpe are small and inappropriate for carrying significant volumes of traffic. The village is however immediately accessed off the A64 at both ends of the village allowing quick access to York and Leeds.

The village no longer has a train station but does have a regular bus service. The nearest train station is at Poppleton or York, the latter being within 17 minutes by bike (google maps), and quick access to the Park & Ride facility to York (3 minutes by bike, google maps, 14 minutes on foot).

At present, Copmanthorpe generates nearly 9000 total vehicle movements each weekday. Almost 70% of these trips use Manor Heath, along the western boundary of the village, as access to and from the Copmanthorpe interchange junction (A64/A1237/Manor Heath) which already suffers high congestion at peak periods.

Many people travel from the village to Leeds and West Yorkshire, as well as York.

The Housing Needs Survey commissioned by the Parish Council in July 2014 showed the car to be the dominant form of transport, followed by bus and then bike. Of these 46% used the Manor Heath junction to leave the village. 88% of the village population leaves the village each day for work.

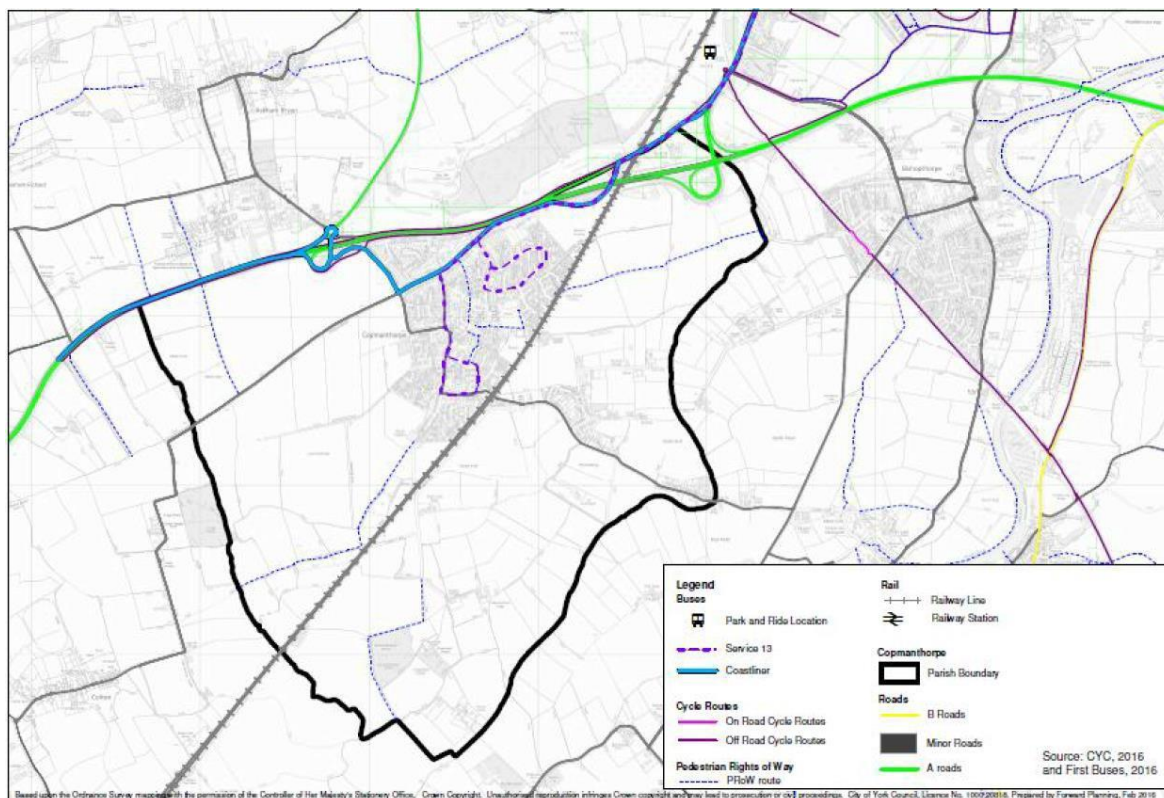


Figure A9.1: Transport connections within and surrounding the Neighbourhood Plan area

Summary of Future Baseline

Without development, the situation will remain unchanged. There will be congestion at Manor Heath and the dominance of the car will remain.

With development, there brings increased traffic and transport requirements. Increased use of private cars in rural locations is inevitable, but new development can be used to fund transport improvements. The emerging Local Plan has appropriate controls to try and reduce reliance on private vehicles. The Neighbourhood Plan is also seeking to control development, encouraging development away from a known point of congestion at Manor Heath and also to restrict the type of employment uses in the village to prevent large vehicles accessing the village.

The vision and spatial strategy in the emerging Local Plan aim to support low carbon lifestyles in the future by aiming to locate development where the community has access to services and facilities as well as sustainable modes of transport to enable a reduction in reliance on the car. It is recognised that future development should not lead to an unconstrained increase in traffic and therefore the emerging Local Plan will support development that favours and facilitates the use of more sustainable transport to minimise the future growth in traffic.

Any new or large development will have traffic implications, but these are specific to the development and there are appropriate local plan controls proposed to manage this. The allocation process to be used by the Neighbourhood Plan will use the allocation criteria adopted by CYC which includes access and distance to specific services.

